

## Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene

### List of outstanding items for discussion (position as at 14 October 2019)

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Proposed timing for discussion</b>
<p><b>1. Guidelines on the use of deep-frying oil for the trade</b></p> <p>At the meeting on 12 December 2017, the Panel received the Administration's briefing on the progress of the study on "cooking oils in use" and the formulation of the guidelines on good practice of using frying oils. According to the Administration, the study was expected to be completed in mid-2019.</p> <p>At the meeting between the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman and the Secretary for Food and Health to discuss the work plan of the Panel ("work plan meeting") for the 2018-2019 session held on 1 November 2018, having noted that the study would only be completed in mid-2019, the Chairman requested the Administration to report to the Panel on the subject matter in the third or fourth quarter of 2019.</p>	November 2019
<p><b>2. Construction of the Animal Management and Animal Welfare Building Complex in Kai Tak Development Area</b></p> <p>Item proposed by the Administration.</p> <p>The Administration plans to brief members on the above public works project in November 2019.</p>	November 2019
<p><b>3. Use of veterinary drugs in food animals and cultured fish and surveillance of veterinary drug residues in food and food animals</b></p> <p>At the meeting on 15 October 2015, concerns were raised about the regulation of animal feed for livestock and cultured fish and the presence of veterinary drug residues, including antibiotics, in meat and aquatic</p>	End of 2018-2019 session

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products for human consumption. On 3 January 2017, the Administration provided the Panel with an information paper on its work plan regarding antimicrobial resistance ("AMR") (LC Paper No. CB(2)519/16-17(01)).

In recognition of the major threat posed by AMR to global public health, the Administration has set up a High Level Steering Committee on AMR ("HLSC") to formulate strategies and action plans for tackling AMR in Hong Kong. The Expert Committee on AMR ("Expert Committee") formed under HLSC has made recommendations to HLSC. Taking into account the recommendations of the Expert Committee and the "One Health" framework which apprehends the correlation among human, animal and environment health and that AMR must be tackled at all three levels, HLSC has formulated a holistic action plan on AMR. On 10 July 2017, the Administration formally launched the Hong Kong Strategy and Action Plan on AMR ("Action Plan") (2017-2022). The issue was discussed by the Panel on Health Services at its meeting on 17 July 2017, and members of this Panel were invited to join the discussion.

On 6 August 2018, the Administration provided another information paper on the progress of work on tackling the threat of AMR in food animals by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department ("AFCD") under the Action Plan (LC Paper No. CB(2)1913/17-18(01)). At the work plan meeting for the 2018-2019 session on 1 November 2018, the Administration was requested to update members on the subject by the end of the 2018-2019 session.

In September 2019, the Administration provided the Panel with a further information paper updating members on the progress of work on tackling the threat of AMR in food animals by AFCD (LC Paper No. CB(2)1914/18-19(01)). According to the Administration, it will suitably report to the Panel on the progress, as necessary.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Proposed timing for discussion</b>
<b>4. Issues relating to the management of public markets, the implementation of the Market Modernization Programme and the provision of new markets</b>	Autumn of 2019
<p>The Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Public Markets has completed its work and provided the Panel with a report (LC Paper No. CB(2)1000/18-19), recommending the Panel to follow up with the Administration on various issues relating to the provision of new markets, the implementation of the Market Modernization Programme and the management reform of public markets (paragraphs 49 and 50 of the report refer).</p>	
<b>5. Outcome of the review of the Harmful Substances in Food Regulations</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> quarter of 2019
<p>At the meeting on 11 October 2018, Dr Hon Helena WONG suggested that the Administration should be requested to update members on the progress/outcome of the review of the Harmful Substances in Food Regulations (Cap. 132AF). At the work plan meeting for the 2018-2019 session on 1 November 2018, it was agreed that the item be tentatively scheduled for discussion in the second quarter of 2019.</p>	
<b>6. Improvements to the Information Technology Systems of the Centre for Food Safety</b>	To be confirmed
<p>Item originally proposed by the Administration and scheduled for discussion at the Panel meeting on 9 July 2019 which was subsequently cancelled.</p>	
<p>In early July 2019, the Administration provided the Panel with an information paper reporting on the enhancement of the information technology systems of the Centre for Food Safety ("CFS") (LC Paper No. CB(2)1786/18-19(02)).</p>	

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Proposed timing for discussion</b>
<b>7. Development of bazaar activities and re-issue of fixed pitch hawkker licences</b>	To be confirmed

The Administration has been requested to brief members on issues relating to the Government's policy on bazaar activities, including the Administration's next course of action and progress in following up various recommendations of the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Bazaars as set out in its report (Annex I to LC Paper No. CB(1)969/17-18). On 11 September 2018, the Administration provided the Panel with an information paper (LC Paper No. CB(2)2003/17-18(01)) reporting on the follow-up actions taken by the Administration in response to the Subcommittee's report.

At the work plan meeting for the 2018-2019 session on 1 November 2018, the Chairman requested the Administration to explore the feasibility of issuing specific permits/licences allowing bazaar activities at designated areas. In his letter dated 29 April 2019 (LC Paper No. CB(2)1326/18-19(01)), Hon Andrew WAN suggested discussion of the Government's hawkker policy (including the proposed arrangements for re-allocation of vacant hawkker pitches and issuance of new hawkker licences) under this item.

This subject item was originally scheduled for discussion at the Panel meeting on 9 July 2019 which was subsequently cancelled. In early July 2019, the Administration provided the Panel with an information paper updating members on (a) the outcome of consultation with District Councils on the re-allocation of existing suitable fixed hawkker pitches and the application arrangement concerned; and (b) the latest development of issues relating to bazaars (LC Paper No. CB(2)1786/18-19(01)).

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Proposed timing for discussion</b>
<b>8. Regulatory control of genetically modified food</b>	To be confirmed
<p>At the meeting on 12 March 2013, the Panel was briefed on the Administration's proposal on regulating genetically modified ("GM") food by introducing a mandatory pre-market safety assessment scheme ("PMSAS") in Hong Kong. At the meeting on 11 July 2017, the Administration advised that it would launch a public consultation on PMSAS in due course, taking into account the international development on regulation of GM food.</p>	
<p>At the work plan meeting for the 2018-2019 session on 1 November 2018, the Chairman requested the Administration to update members on the progress in taking forward PMSAS, the latest development in relation to GM food labelling and the inspection/testing work on GM food conducted by CFS.</p>	
<b>9. Government Laboratory's work in respect of food safety and other services</b>	To be confirmed
<p>Item proposed by the Administration.</p>	
<p>The Administration plans to brief members on the re-development of the Food Safety Laboratory of the Government Laboratory.</p>	
<b>10. Liquor licence fee adjustment: outcome of consultation</b>	To be confirmed
<p>At the meeting on 11 July 2017, the Panel was briefed on the Government's proposal to adjust liquor licence fees and the improvement measures introduced for processing liquor licensing applications. The Panel subsequently held a special meeting on 22 September 2017 to receive public views on the subject. The Administration concurrently consulted stakeholders on the fee adjustment proposal at liaison meetings with</p>	

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the trade in September and October 2017. The Administration has advised vide Annex H to LC Paper No. CB(2)804/17-18(01) that it is compiling the views received from various parties and will report to the Panel on the latest position at an opportune time.

At the work plan meeting for the 2018-2019 session on 1 November 2018, the Administration was requested to provide, before the end of the first quarter of 2019, the Panel with an information paper reporting on the latest development of the subject matter to facilitate members' consideration of whether the matter should be brought up for discussion at a Panel meeting.

In September 2019, the Administration provided the Panel with an information paper on issues relating to the liquor licensing regime (see also item 11 below) and the latest development of the liquor licence fee adjustment (LC Paper No. CB(2)1895/18-19(01)).

### **11. Issues relating to liquor licensing**

To be confirmed

At the meeting on 8 January 2019, Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan expressed concern about the liquor licensing policy in Hong Kong and suggested that the Panel should discuss the licensing criteria at a future meeting.

### **12. Regulating and monitoring the activities of oyster culture in Hong Kong**

To be confirmed

At previous meetings of the Panel, concern was expressed about the over-expansion of oyster culture in Shenzhen Bay and the need of introducing in Hong Kong a licensing mechanism for regulating the activities of oyster culture. There was a suggestion that the issue of regulating and monitoring the activities of oyster culture in Hong Kong should be discussed by the Panel.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Proposed timing for discussion</b>
<b>13. Wholesale market consultancy study</b>	To be confirmed
<p>At the meeting on 10 June 2014, members noted that the Administration had commissioned a consultancy study on the present-day functions and purpose of the wholesale business in the sale of fresh food produce, and analyse the geographical spread of the five existing wholesale markets from the perspectives of land use and food safety.</p>	
<p>At the meeting on 11 October 2018, members considered it necessary for the Administration to brief members on the outcome of the consultancy study (including the timetable, proposed sites and detailed plan for relocating Cheung Sha Wan Temporary Poultry Market and Yau Ma Tei Fruit Market). At the work plan meeting for the 2018-2019 session on 1 November 2018, the Administration advised that the study was expected to be completed in 2020.</p>	
<b>14. Ancillary facilities for storage and distribution of chilled meat and poultry</b>	To be confirmed
<p>At the meeting on 15 October 2015, concern was raised about the lack of ancillary facilities for wholesaling of chilled meat and poultry. Noting that the trade had made repeated requests to the Government for the setting up of an approved distribution and storage centre for chilled meat and poultry with a view to reducing food safety risks, members requested for early discussion of the subject.</p>	
<b>15. Measures to facilitate the establishment of co-operative societies</b>	To be confirmed
<p>In his letter dated 12 December 2016 (LC Paper No. CB(2)413/16-17(01)), Hon CHU Hoi-dick expressed concern on the need for the Administration to review the Co-operative Societies Ordinance (Cap. 33) and to draw up measures for promoting local community</p>	

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economy by facilitating the establishment of co-operative societies. He suggested that the Panel should discuss the subject matter at a future meeting. The Administration's response to issues raised in the letter from Hon CHU was set out in LC Paper No. CB(2)514/16-17(01) issued on 3 January 2017.

At the work plan meeting for the 2018-2019 session on 1 November 2018, it was agreed that the Administration would bring up this issue when it reported to the Panel on the progress of the initiatives under the New Agriculture Policy.

**16. Issues relating to the relocation of Yen Chow Street Temporary Hawker Bazaar to Tung Chau Street Market**

To be confirmed

At the meeting on 12 October 2017, Hon SHIU Ka-chun suggested that the Panel should follow up and discuss issues relating to the relocation of Yen Chow Street Temporary Hawker Bazaar to Tung Chau Street Market, including how the Administration would address the needs and concerns of street sleepers in the vicinity of Tung Chau Street Market arising from the Administration's plan to improve the surroundings of Tung Chau Street Market.

**17. Enforcement strategy and operational guidelines for handling street obstruction/environmental hygiene issues involving scavengers**

To be confirmed

At the meeting on 11 October 2018, Hon SHIU Ka-chun considered that the Administration should review Food and Environmental Hygiene Department ("FEHD")'s enforcement strategy and operational guidelines for frontline staff in handling street obstruction/environmental hygiene issues involving scavengers. He suggested that the matter be brought up for discussion at a future meeting.



<b>Subject</b>	<b>Proposed timing for discussion</b>
<p>At the work plan meeting for the 2018-2019 session on 1 November 2018, the Administration advised that the subject might cover discussion of practices of waste recycling and recovery. The Chairman subsequently suggested that when the item was discussed by the Panel, members of the Panel on Environmental Affairs should be invited to join the discussion.</p>	
<p><b>18. Provision of water dispensers at venues of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department</b></p>	To be confirmed
<p>At the work plan meeting for the 2018-2019 session on 1 November 2018, the Chairman expressed concern about the Administration's progress in installing water dispensers at the venues under the management of FEHD and the hygiene condition of the water dispensers.</p>	
<p>In response to the Chairman's request, the Administration provided the Panel in July 2019 with an information paper on the provision of water dispensers for public use in venues managed by FEHD (LC Paper No. CB(2)1816/18-19(01)).</p>	
<p><b>19. Licensing conditions and requirements for food factory licence</b></p>	To be confirmed
<p>At the work plan meeting for the 2018-2019 session on 1 November 2018, the Chairman expressed concern that as some food factories were not allowed to provide dining service under the existing licensing requirements, visitors had to use disposable plastic tableware even the food was consumed inside the factories, which resulted in wastage of tableware. The Chairman suggested that the Administration should review whether amendments should be made to the licensing conditions for food factories.</p>	

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In August 2019, the Administration provided the Panel with an information paper on the specifications and requirements for eating and drinking utensils under the Food Factory Licence ("FFL") (LC Paper No. CB(2)1859/18-19(01)). According to the Administration, FEHD has reviewed and revised the specifications and requirement for eating and drinking utensils under newly-issued FFLs.

**20. Establishment of an Agricultural Park**

To be confirmed

At the meeting on 8 January 2019, the Administration consulted members on the proposed construction of Phase 1 of the Agricultural Park ("Agri-Park") in Kwu Tung South. Noting that the Agri-Park is planned to be implemented in two phases, members, after taking into account its proposed scale, considered it necessary for the Administration to regularly report to the Panel on the progress of this works project.

To facilitate members' better understanding of the scope and nature of the project, the Panel conducted a visit on 28 February 2019 to the proposed site for establishing the Agri-Park.