

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

FHB(FE)139

Question Serial No.

1196

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

This question is about the work on controlling and containing on-street obstruction caused by shop extensions. In fact, since the implementation of the smoking ban, there has been a rising number of unauthorized extension of business beyond the shop premises in order to attract smoking customers, hence turning public places outside the shops and rear lanes into smoking areas. Yet it seems that no effective control actions have been taken against the situation. In this connection, please advise on the enforcement programme to be launched in 2008-09. Has provision been earmarked for additional manpower to step up the enforcement action? If yes, what is the manpower and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. LAM Wai-keung, Daniel

Reply:

In 2007, we took out 9 820 prosecutions and issued 29 558 written warnings to control and contain on-street obstructions caused by unauthorized shop extensions. In relation to licensed food premises, 615 prosecutions were initiated against unauthorised extension of food business beyond licensed confines, and another 2 533 prosecutions against obstruction in public places. We will continue to deploy existing resources to address such problems and upkeep environmental hygiene in 2008-09, and will step up enforcement action as necessary.

There is no breakdown of resources spent on these enforcement works as they are subsumed in our overall control of on-street hawking and related activities as well as regulation of licensed food premises.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

W H CHEUK

Post Title _____

Director of
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date _____

20.3.2008