Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13

## CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

49 Food and Environmental Subhead (No. & title): Head: Hygiene Department

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

**Controlling Officer:** Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the average time taken for processing a restaurant licence application and a provisional restaurant licence application in 2009, 2010 and 2011 respectively.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

In 2009 to 2011, the average processing time for issuing a full restaurant licence was 168, 166 and 167 working days respectively, while that for issuing a provisional restaurant licence was 42 working days in both 2009 and 2010, and 57<sup>Note</sup> working days in 2011.

(Note : Since 2011, the Buildings Department has implemented a Minor Works Control System in food business licence applications whereby applicants are required to submit copies of minor works certificates to the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department before provisional restaurant licences are issued. The additional requirement has resulted in longer processing time.)

Signature

Name in block letters Clement LEUNG

Director of Post Title Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 29.2.2012

Session 18 FHB(FE)

Question Serial No. 0185

Reply Serial No. FHB(FE)077