

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

FHB(FE)103

Question Serial No.

2998

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:

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2012-13, the Department will enhance law enforcement at hawker areas with fixed pitches to ensure compliance and to contain obstruction and fire safety risk. In this connection, when will the Department formulate a set of clear and coherent guidelines to facilitate better understanding and compliance by traders?

Asked by: Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply:

In the wake of the fire at the hawker stalls at Fa Yuen Street on 30 November last year, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has strengthened law enforcement actions against non-compliance with the relevant legislation and licensing conditions in hawker areas with a large number of hawker stalls. Such actions are targeted at the following irregularities to reduce fire risks posed by hawker stalls:

- (i) stall canopies made of or covered with combustible materials;
- (ii) overnight storage of goods outside the approved stall areas;
- (iii) obstruction of passageways; and
- (iv) stall subletting.

The stall hawkers are obliged to comply with the law and licensing conditions. The primary objectives of the Department's enforcement actions are to ensure environmental hygiene and to reduce fire safety risks. The Department maintains regular dialogue with hawker associations and stall hawkers to address their concerns.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Clement LEUNG

Post Title _____ Director of
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date _____ 1.3.2012