

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

FHB(FE)096

Question Serial No.

0189

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

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 number of liquor licence applications received and appeals lodged, the average time taken for processing an application and listing an appeal for hearing, the success rate of appeals, as well as the number of liquor licences revoked (with a breakdown by reasons for revocation) in 2010, 2011 and 2012 respectively.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

Statistics with regard to the applications for issue of new liquor licence are provided as follows –

Year	2010	2011	2012
Number of applications for issue of new liquor licence (including club liquor licence)	956	930	1 077
Average time taken for processing an application	37 days	33 days	35 days
Number of appeals lodged with Municipal Services Appeals Board (MSAB)	13	14	17
Average time taken for listing an appeal for hearing ¹	41 days	62 days	107 days ²
Success rate of appeals (i.e. appeals allowed by MSAB)	23%	38%	38%

¹ Counting from the date of MSAB receiving the appeal application to the date of hearing of the case concerned.

² The increase in average time is due to upsurge in the number of appeal cases in relation to liquor licences (including applications for new licences and for renewal, transfer or amendment of licences) handled by MSAB from 22 in 2010 to 29 in 2011 and 48 in 2012.

The number of liquor licences (including club liquor licences) revoked in 2010, 2011 and 2012 with breakdown by reasons is provided in the table below.

Reasons for revocation of liquor licence	Number of liquor licence revoked		
	2010	2011	2012
Cessation of business	16	19	9
Licensee leaving without transferring the licence	4	1	0
Death of licensee	0	1	0
Breach of licensing condition	7	6	5
Total	27	27	14

Name in block letters: Clement LEUNG

Director of
Post Title: Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date: 5.4.2013