

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

FHB(FE)099

Question Serial No.

0192

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 usage rate of the on-line Licence Application Tracking Facility (ATF) in respect of food business licences in each of the past three years (i.e. in 2010, 2011 and 2012), and the usage rate of the on-line Liquor Licence Processing System since 1 August 2011.

Please also advise on the usage rate of the on-line licence application services since the extension of such services to food business licence and other relevant endorsement applications in January 2013, and provide details on the publicity work, the manpower arrangement and the expenditure required in promoting such services.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

In 2010, 58% of the applicants for food business-related licences or their authorised persons made use of the online Application Tracking Facility system to monitor the progress of their applications. The corresponding usage rate in 2011 and 2012 was 51% and 54% respectively. In 2011, 30% of the liquor and club liquor licence applicants or their authorised persons made use of the on-line services on the Liquor Licence Processing System. The corresponding usage rate in 2012 was 35%.

Starting from 1 January 2013, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) accepts online submission of applications for food business licences and permits. From 1 January to 28 February 2013, 9% of the applicants (75 applicants out of a total of 869) made use of the new service. The Department has conducted briefings for the trade to introduce and promote the new online service and will continue to do so as appropriate. There is no separate breakdown of the manpower and expenditure involved in the promotion work.

Name in block letters: Clement LEUNG

Post Title: Director of
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date: 28.3.2013