

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

FHB(FE)121

Question Serial No.

1951

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:

With regard to the issue of licences relating to live chickens, please advise this Committee on the following:

- (a) the number of retail licences issued for selling of freshly slaughtered chickens in each of the past three years (i.e. 2010, 2011 and 2012), as well as the expenditure and manpower involved; and
- (b) in view of the reducing risk of avian influenza at present, whether the Government plans to issue more licences for selling of freshly slaughtered chickens to meet public demand for fresh chickens; and the estimated expenditure and manpower to be involved.

Asked by: Hon. HO Chun-yin, Steven

Reply:

- (a) In 2010, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department issued one fresh provision shop (FPS) licence with permission for selling fresh poultry carcass and granted permission to two FPS licensees for selling fresh poultry carcass. The corresponding figure for 2011 was one licence and one permission respectively. No FPS licence or permission to existing licensee for selling fresh poultry carcass was granted in 2012. There is no separate breakdown of the expenditure and manpower involved in the handling of applications for licence or permission for selling fresh poultry carcass.
- (b) The Government has to carefully weigh up the risk of avian influenza in determining whether there is room to issue more licences for selling fresh poultry carcass. The manpower involved in keeping the risk of avian influenza under review is absorbed within existing resources.

Name in block letters: Clement LEUNG

Post Title: Director of
Food and Environmental Hygiene

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