

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

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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:

Regarding the Liquor Licensing Board, please provide information on the following:

- (a) the expenditure and manpower involved in handling the work of the Liquor Licensing Board in 2013-14;
- (b) the number of existing liquor licences in the territory, the location of liquor-licensed premises and the type of buildings (residential, commercial or composite commercial / residential buildings) in which these premises are located; and
- (c) the total number of liquor licence applications received in the past three years (i.e. 2010, 2011 and 2012); among them, the number of applications granted and refused, the number of appeals lodged and the success rate of appeals.

Asked by: Hon. HO Chun-yin, Steven

Reply:

- (a) In the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, there are 34 staff, including contract staff, in three licensing offices handling liquor and club liquor licence applications and appeals as part of their licensing-related duties. Besides, four staff are deployed for providing secretariat service to the Liquor Licensing Board (LLB). There is no separate breakdown of the expenditure involved in the handling of liquor licence applications and appeals.

- (b) The numbers of liquor licences in the territory by districts as at end-2012 are provided in the table below. There is no separate breakdown on the types of buildings in which the licensed premises are located.

District	No. of Liquor Licences (as at end-2012)		Total
	Liquor Licences	Club Liquor Licences	
Central and Western	738	79	817
Eastern	330	16	346
Southern	115	27	142
Wanchai	813	134	947
Islands	206	19	225
Yau Tsim Mong	1 453	104	1 557
Sham Shui Po	199	9	208
Kowloon City	329	23	352
Wong Tai Sin	145	3	148
Kwun Tong	224	10	234
Tsuen Wan	190	11	201
Kwai Tsing	102	3	105
North	79	7	86
Tai Po	115	3	118
Sai Kung	172	8	180
Shatin	189	11	200
Tuen Mun	149	4	153
Yuen Long	187	11	198
Total	5 735	482	6 217

(c) Statistics on the applications for 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
Number of liquor licences (including club liquor licences) approved by LLB ^{Note}	918	812	907
Number of applications refused by LLB ^{Note}	17	23	17
Number of appeals lodged with Municipal Services Appeals Board (MSAB)	13	14	17
Success rate of appeals (i.e. appeals allowed by MSAB)	23%	38%	38%

(Note : Applications for liquor licence received in one year may be carried forward with the processing completed in the subsequent year.)

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