Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2013-14

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

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<u>Head:</u> 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene <u>Subhead (No. & title):</u>

Department

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

<u>Controlling Officer:</u> Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

<u>Director of Bureau:</u> Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under this programme, it is mentioned that the Department will continue to enhance the viability of public markets by improving management, upgrading facilities, providing a more flexible mix of trade, and carrying out promotional activities. Please provide details of the market improvement works and promotional activities to be carried out in 2013-14, as well as the expenditure and manpower to be involved.

Asked by: Hon. HO Chun-yin, Steven

Reply:

In 2013-14, in addition to regular maintenance and daily management of markets, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) will carry out improvement works in six markets, namely, Kwun Chung Market, Ngau Chi Wan Market, Smithfield Market, Tai Wai Market, Haiphong Road Temporary Market and Tsing Yi Market. The estimated cost of these improvement works is \$31.05 million. The works include upgrading of fire services facilities, improvement of ventilation and lighting systems, and refurbishment of toilets.

At the same time, as an on-going initiative, the Department will continue to conduct promotional activities to attract patronage in its public markets. These include festive celebration activities, thematic exhibitions and workshops, display of multi-language recipes as well as publication of booklets and quarterly newsletters to provide updated market information. The estimated cost of these promotional activities is \$4 million.

The Department will continue to let out vacant stalls at reduced upset auction prices and introduce more service trade stalls to enhance the occupancy rates of public markets.

The above measures will be undertaken by existing staff. No additional manpower and resources will be required.

Name in block letters:	Clement LEUNG
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Date:	28.3.2013