

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

FHB(FE)135

Question Serial No.

1974

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the number of inspections conducted by the Department in respect of illegal sale of chilled meat (including sale of chilled meat and chilled poultry without permission or sale of chilled meat as fresh meat) in 2010, 2011 and 2012, as well as the number of illegal cases detected.

Asked by: Hon. HO Chun-yin, Steven

Reply:

Licensed food premises selling chilled meat/poultry are inspected once every four, ten or 20 weeks depending on their respective risk types under the "Risk-based Inspection System". Stalls in public markets with permission to sell chilled meat/poultry are inspected once every eight weeks. In addition, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) conducts inspections to follow up complaints. Appropriate actions will be taken should any irregularities come to light during such inspections. The Department does not keep separate statistics on inspections concerning illegal sale of chilled meat/poultry.

In 2010, 2011 and 2012, the number of prosecutions taken against licensed food premises and stalls in public markets for selling chilled meat/poultry without permission was five, 18 and three respectively. As regards actions taken against the selling of chilled/frozen meat/poultry as fresh meat/poultry, they have resulted in the cancellation of one food premise licence in 2010; the termination of two market stall tenancy agreements in 2011; and the termination of one market stall tenancy agreement in 2012.

Name in block letters: Clement LEUNG

Director of
Post Title: Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date: 28.3.2013