Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2013-14

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)144

Question Serial No.

1983

Head:	49 Food and Environmental HygieneSubhead (No. & title):Department				
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 enforcement against street obstruction and illegal posting activities, please provide data broken down by district on the following:

- (a) the number of complaints received relating to street obstruction (including obstruction caused by onstreet promotional activities involving the use of easy-mount frames and illegal extension of business by shops or restaurants) and illegal posting activities (including display of posters or banners) in 2010, 2011 and 2012; and
- (b) the number of inspections or enforcement actions carried out by the Department in respect of the obstruction and activities mentioned above, as well as the number of prosecutions initiated and the total amount of fines imposed in 2010, 2011 and 2012.

Asked by: Hon. HO Chun-yin, Steven

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

(a)		No. of complaints received		
		2010	2011	2012
	Causing obstruction in public places	15 606	19 535	16 240
	Display of bills and posters in public place without permission	2 978	3 399	3 651

Breakdown by district is not available.

(b) Staff of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) take prosecution actions during routine patrol and operations. Statistics on inspections carried out are not available. Figures showing the number of prosecutions taken against obstruction in public places and the total amount of fines are as follows -

	2010	2011	2012
No. of prosecutions taken against causing obstruction in public place	18 624	19 703	19 021
Total fines	about \$14.3 million	about \$18.6 million	about \$14.3 million

Since 1 March 2011, the Department starts issuing \$1,500 Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) to offenders displaying bills and posters, including those displayed on easy-mount frames, in public place without permission. A total of 1 716 and 1 563 FPNs were issued in 2011 and 2012 respectively. Breakdown by district is not available.

Name in block letters: Clement LEUNG

Director of
Post Title: Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date: 28.3.2013