

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

FHB(FE)151

Question Serial No.

0500

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene
Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the indicators for various types of hawkers, please provide information on the following:

- (a) the number of fixed pitch hawkers and itinerant hawkers as well as the estimated number of unlicensed hawkers in the past three years (i.e. from 2010 to 2012), with a breakdown by district and commodities sold;
- (b) whether the number of hawkers in various districts will be reviewed and facilitation policies for hawkers will be formulated; and
- (c) whether public markets and open bazaars will be provided according to the needs of individual districts (such as Tung Chung, Tin Shui Wai, Ma On Shan and Tseung Kwan O) to alleviate the problem of unlicensed hawkers; if yes, the details and the expenditure to be involved.

Asked by: Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

- (a) The number of licensed fixed pitch hawkers and itinerant hawkers as well as the estimated number of unlicensed hawkers in the past three years from 2010 to 2012, with a breakdown by district/region and commodities sold, are provided at Annex. There was no breakdown on the commodities sold by unlicensed hawkers.
- (b) The Government reviewed its hawker licensing policy in 2008 and 2009 and consulted the Legislative Council, District Councils, hawker associations and relevant stakeholders. As a result of the review, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) issued a limited number of hawker licences, including licences for vacant fixed hawker pitches and for itinerant (frozen confectionery) hawkers (commonly known as "small ice-cream vendors"). The Administration has currently no plan to further issue new hawker licences having regard to the fire-safety, environmental hygiene and general nuisance concerns.

- (c) The Department has currently no plan to construct new public market in individual districts to accommodate unlicensed hawkers. As for open-air bazaars, the Department stands ready to provide, in collaboration with the relevant departments, appropriate assistance to the proponents if they have obtained local support, and have identified suitable sites for establishing and operating these bazaars, and have satisfied the requirements on food safety and environmental hygiene.

Name in block letters: Clement LEUNG

Post Title: Director of
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date: 5.4.2013

No. of Licensed Fixed Pitch and Itinerant Hawkers and Estimated No. of Unlicensed Hawkers
(Position as at 31.12.2010)

		Hong Kong Island & Kowloon									New Territories & Islands									Total
		Central/ Western	Wan Chai	Eastern	Southern	Yau Tsim Mong	Sham Shui Po	Kowloon City	Wong Tai Sin	Kwun Tong	Kwai Tsing	Tsuen Wan	Tuen Mun	Yuen Long	North	Tai Po	Sha Tin	Sai Kung	Islands	
Fixed Pitch Hawker Licence	Barber	2	4	3	1	17	10	1	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	43
	Bootblack	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
	Cooked Food/Light Refreshment	10	3	0	3	35	32	7	12	26	22	26	31	0	6	8	34	0	1	256
	Newspaper	80	58	52	5	134	27	34	19	56	17	22	8	20	8	11	3	3	1	558
	Tradesman	94	16	16	0	59	2	5	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	195
	Wall Stall	33	17	20	14	153	61	36	3	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	364
	Other Classes	459	379	386	34	2 598	1 053	108	0	113	0	92	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	5 226
	Itinerant Hawker Licence	Frozen Confectionery	37									34								
Mobile Van		10									6									16
Newspaper		2									0									2
Other Classes		219									214									433
Estimated No. of Unlicensed Hawkers		161	182	140	58	368	249	74	121	126	92	19	65	25	70	6	75	11	34	1 876

No. of Licensed Fixed Pitch and Itinerant Hawkers and Estimated No. of Unlicensed Hawkers
(Position as at 31.12.2011)

		Hong Kong Island & Kowloon									New Territories & Islands									Total
		Central/ Western	Wan Chai	Eastern	Southern	Yau Tsim Mong	Sham Shui Po	Kowloon City	Wong Tai Sin	Kwun Tong	Kwai Tsing	Tsuen Wan	Tuen Mun	Yuen Long	North	Tai Po	Sha Tin	Sai Kung	Islands	
Fixed Pitch Hawker Licence	Barber	2	3	3	1	15	10	1	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	40
	Bootblack	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
	Cooked Food/Light Refreshment	10	3	0	3	35	30	6	11	26	21	26	16	0	6	7	32	0	1	233
	Newspaper	77	57	49	5	132	27	32	17	51	16	21	8	18	8	8	3	3	1	533
	Tradesman	95	16	17	0	58	2	3	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	194
	Wall Stall	31	16	19	14	147	61	33	3	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	351
	Other Classes	454	380	382	34	2 573	1 031	63	0	113	0	91	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	5 124
	Itinerant Hawker Licence	Frozen Confectionery	44									33								
Mobile Van		10									6									16
Newspaper		2									0									2
Other Classes		206									204									410
Estimated No. of Unlicensed Hawkers		165	173	125	39	384	286	59	126	144	91	22	52	32	77	27	59	13	30	1 904

No. of Licensed Fixed Pitch and Itinerant Hawkers and Estimated No. of Unlicensed Hawkers
(Position as at 31.12.2012)

		Hong Kong Island & Kowloon									New Territories & Islands								Total	
		Central/ Western	Wan Chai	Eastern	Southern	Yau Tsim Mong	Sham Shui Po	Kowloon City	Wong Tai Sin	Kwun Tong	Kwai Tsing	Tsuen Wan	Tuen Mun	Yuen Long	North	Tai Po	Sha Tin	Sai Kung		Islands
Fixed Pitch Hawker Licence	Barber	2	3	2	1	14	9	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	36
	Bootblack	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
	Cooked Food/Light Refreshment	10	3	0	3	32	30	6	11	26	20	24	16	0	6	7	31	0	1	226
	Newspaper	75	52	48	4	128	26	29	16	48	16	21	8	18	8	7	3	3	1	511
	Tradesman	90	15	17	0	56	2	3	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	186
	Wall Stall	30	15	18	14	143	60	32	2	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	336
	Other Classes	447	375	379	33	2 551	1 020	56	0	64	0	39	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	4 967
	Itinerant Hawker Licence	Frozen Confectionery	39									33								72
		Mobile Van	9									6								15
Newspaper		2									0								2	
Other Classes		186									195								381	
Estimated No. of Unlicensed Hawkers		158	140	128	28	355	279	61	23	131	87	21	51	33	79	22	24	24	29	1 673