

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

FHB(FE)228

Question Serial No.

5352

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:

In recent months, a large number of unauthorised non-commercial banners are found on streets causing obstruction. In this connection, please advise on the number of complaints received relating to these banners, the manpower involved in the removal of banners in response to the complaints received, the average removal costs of each banner, the number of banners handled by the Department and its percentage in the total number of unauthorised non-commercial banners removed since last year (i.e. 2012). Please also provide figures in the table below.

Number of complaints received relating to unauthorised banners over the past year (i.e. in 2012) (listed by regions)	Number of banners removed in response to the complaints received over the past year (i.e. in 2012) (listed by regions)	Percentage of banners removed as compared with the number of complaints received (%)
Hong Kong Island: Kowloon East: Kowloon West: New Territories East: New Territories West:	Hong Kong Island: Kowloon East: Kowloon West: New Territories East: New Territories West:	

In reply to a question raised by a Legislative Council Member in January (i.e. at the Legislative Council meeting held on 9 January 2013), the Department mentioned that “FEHD and the relevant departments will continue to keep in view the situation (of the streets in Yau Tsim Mong District) and follow up as appropriate”. Given that a large number of non-commercial banners remain on streets, please advise whether the Department has estimated the number of existing non-commercial banners in the territory as well as the number of banners placed at street corners which may pose potential danger to the traffic; if not, please advise on the actions taken by the Department to keep the situation under review.

Asked by: Hon. MOK Charles Peter

Reply:

Under the Management Scheme for the Display of Roadside Non-commercial Publicity Materials (the Scheme), the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) conducts joint operations with the Lands Department (LandsD) to remove non-commercial banners (NCBs) which were displayed without authorisation or did not comply with the Implementation Guidelines of the Scheme. The manpower deployed and number of joint operations with LandsD is determined in accordance with the circumstances of individual districts. In January and February 2013, the number of complaints received against unauthorised NCBs and the number of unauthorised NCBs removed is 451 and 520 respectively. The average removal cost of each banner and the percentage of NCBs removed in response to complaints as compared with the total number of NCBs removed is not available. The figures sought are as follows –

Number of complaints received relating to unauthorised banners in 2012 (listed by region)	Total number of banners removed in 2012 (listed by region)	Percentage of banners removed as compared with the number of complaints received (%)
Hong Kong Island: 177 Kowloon East: 46 Kowloon West: 803 New Territories East: 74 New Territories West: 146	Hong Kong Island: 1 120 Kowloon East: 398 Kowloon West: 749 New Territories East: 2 038 New Territories West: 1 879	The required information is not available.

The Department will continue to closely monitor the situation and step-up operations and enforcement actions as necessary.

Name in block letters: Clement LEUNG

Post Title: Director of
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date: 5.4.2013