

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)096

(Question Serial No. 0023)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health
This question originates from: Estimates on Expenditure Volume I Page 251 (if applicable)

Question (Member Question No. 15):

Please advise on the usage rate of the on-line Licence Application Tracking Facility (ATF) in respect of food business licences and the on-line Liquor Licence Processing System in each of the past two years (i.e. in 2012 and 2013).

Please also advise on the usage rate of the on-line licence application service since the extension of the service to food business licence and other relevant endorsement applications in January 2013, and provide details on the publicity work, the manpower arrangement and the expenditure required in promoting the service.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

In 2012, 54% of the applicants for food business-related licences or their authorised persons made use of the on-line Application Tracking Facility system to monitor the progress of their applications. The corresponding usage rate in 2013 was 51%. In 2012, 35% of the liquor and club liquor licence applicants or their authorised persons made use of on-line services on the Liquor Licence Processing System. The corresponding usage rate in 2013 was 37%.

Starting from 1 January 2013, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) accepts online submission of applications for food business licences and permits. In 2013, 9% of the applicants (589 applicants out of a total of 6 616) made use of the new service. The Department has conducted briefings for the trade and consultants and issued promotional flyers to the applicants to introduce and promote the online service and will continue to do so as appropriate. There is no separate breakdown on the manpower and expenditure involved in the promotion work.