

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FHB(FE)107**

**(Question Serial No. 0873)**

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 250 (if applicable)

Question (Member Question No. 11):

Regarding the Liquor Licensing Board, please provide information on the following:

- (a) the expenditure and manpower involved in handling the work of the Liquor Licensing Board in 2014-15;
- (b) the number of existing liquor licences in the territory, the location of liquor-licensed premises and the type of buildings (residential, commercial or composite commercial / residential buildings) in which these premises are located; and
- (c) the total number of liquor licence applications received in the past three years (i.e. from 2011-12 to 2013-14); among them, the number of applications granted and refused, the number of appeals lodged and the success rate of appeals.

Asked by: Hon. HO Chun-yin, Steven

Reply:

- (a) In the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, 37 staff (including contract staff) in three licensing offices are responsible for handling liquor and club liquor licence applications as part of their licensing-related duties. There is no separate breakdown of the expenditure involved in the handling of liquor licence applications and appeals. Besides, nine staff (including contract staff) are deployed for providing secretariat service to the Liquor Licensing Board (LLB) as their main duties. The estimated expenditure involved in manning the LLB Secretariat in 2014-15 is \$5.3 million.

- (b) The number of liquor licences in the territory (broken down by district) as at end-2013 is provided in the table below. There is no separate breakdown on the type of buildings in which the licensed premises are located.

District	No. of Liquor Licences (as at end-2013)		Total
	Liquor Licences	Club Liquor Licences	
Central and Western	763	75	838
Eastern	346	15	361
Southern	120	25	145
Wanchai	846	118	964
Islands	216	19	235
Yau Tsim Mong	1 498	97	1 595
Sham Shui Po	219	9	228
Kowloon City	337	20	357
Wong Tai Sin	144	3	147
Kwun Tong	242	10	252
Tsuen Wan	192	10	202
Kwai Tsing	101	3	104
North	80	7	87
Tai Po	123	3	126
Sai Kung	176	6	182
Shatin	200	12	212
Tuen Mun	154	5	159
Yuen Long	218	12	230
Total	5 975	449	6 424

(c) Relevant statistics are provided as follows :

Year	2011	2012	2013
Total number of liquor licence applications <sup>1</sup>	7 274 (930)	7 789 (1 077)	8 179 (1 087)
Total number of liquor licence granted by LLB <sup>2</sup>	6 570	7 359	7 221
Total number of applications refused by LLB <sup>2</sup>	46	50	69
Total number of appeals lodged with Municipal Services Appeals Board (MSAB)	29	48	55
Success rate of appeals (i.e. appeals allowed by MSAB) <sup>3</sup>	47%	51%	49%

<sup>1</sup> The figure in bracket denotes the number of applications for new liquor licence.

<sup>2</sup> Applications for liquor licence received in one year may be carried forward with the processing completed in the subsequent year.

<sup>3</sup> Only appeal cases in that year with MSAB's decision issued at the end of that year are taken into account for calculating the success rate of appeals in that year.