

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FHB(FE)127**

**(Question Serial No. 1017)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under Section 31(1)(d) of the Food Business Regulation (Cap. 132X), any person who carries on any food business which involves the sale of fresh, chilled or frozen beef, mutton, pork, reptiles, fish or poultry must obtain a fresh provision shop licence. In this connection, please provide information on the following:

- (a) the number of fresh provision shop licences in force in Hong Kong in 2014-15, with a breakdown by licence type (fresh, chilled and frozen); and
- (b) the number of inspections conducted by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department to licensed fresh provision shops from 2012-13 to 2014-15, with a breakdown by licence type (fresh, chilled and frozen); the number and nature of cases of irregularities detected; and the number of prosecutions instituted.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (Member Question No. 34)

Reply:

- (a) The information sought is given below, showing the position as at end-2014:

<b>Type of commodities permitted to be sold</b>	<b>Number of fresh provision shops (FPS)</b>
Fresh commodities	963
Chilled commodities	95
Frozen commodities	268
Fresh and chilled commodities	174
Fresh and frozen commodities	103
Chilled and frozen commodities	414
Fresh, chilled and frozen commodities	713
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 730</b>

- (b) In general, inspections of licensed FPS are conducted once every four, ten or 20 weeks according to the risk type of individual premises as assessed under the “Risk-based Inspection System” (the System). The licence type (fresh, chilled and frozen) is only one of the design criteria of the System. Criteria such as the track record of the licensees and the risks inherent in the products sold are also relevant. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department keeps statistics on the overall number of inspections and prosecutions pertaining to licensed food premises. A separate breakdown for licensed FPS is not available.

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