

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)161

(Question Serial No. 3138)

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

Question:

1. Regarding the operation of the Liquor Licensing Board, please advise on the staff establishment and the actual, revised and estimated expenditure for 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16.
2. Please advise on the locations of the environmental hygiene blackspots in 2014 and 2015, as well as the corresponding measures taken by the Department in relation to these blackspots.
3. Please advise on the number of complaints against environmental nuisances caused by dripping air-conditioners and water seepage received in 2013 and 2014 respectively; among them, the number of cases where the nuisances were successfully abated; and the conditions under which a nuisance is considered to have been abated.
4. Regarding the sludge collected by gully emptiers, please advise on the reason(s) for the decrease of nearly 2 200 tonnes in the estimated volume for 2015 as compared with 2014.

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (Member Question No. 69)

Reply:

1. In the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department), nine staff were/are deployed to provide secretariat support to the Liquor Licensing Board (LLB) in 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16. The actual expenditure in 2013-14, revised estimated expenditure in 2014-15 and estimated expenditure in 2015-16 involved in manning the LLB Secretariat was/is \$5.1 million, \$5.6 million and \$5.7 million respectively.
2. With a view to improving environmental hygiene and enhancing the roles of District Councils (DCs), the Department, in consultation with the relevant DCs, identified 94 hygiene blackspots in the territory in 2014 for enhanced clean-up operations. A list

of the blackspots is given at Annex. The Department has yet to identify new hygiene blackspots in 2015.

3. The statistics on dripping air-conditioners are tabulated below -

	2013	2014
No. of complaints received	18 215	19 722
No. of nuisance notices issued	725	840
No. of nuisance notices not complied with	6	3

Water dripping nuisance from air-conditioners is considered as abated if the dripping water has been properly collected and drained away in such a manner as to not cause any nuisance to the public. In most cases, when the Department issues a rectification request (verbal warning or advisory letter) or nuisance notice after investigation, the flat owners or occupants would rectify the water dripping problem on their own accord. Where such is the case, no further follow-up action is required. If a nuisance notice is not complied with, we would instigate prosecution against the person to whom the nuisance notice was issued.

The statistics on water seepage cases are tabulated below -

	2013	2014
(a) Number of complaints received ⁽¹⁾	28 504	27 896
(b) Number of cases screened out ⁽²⁾	13 062	10 961
(c) Number of cases resolved		
(i) Number of cases with source of seepage identified and abatement action taken	4 692	4 816
(ii) Number of cases where seepage ceased during investigation	4 766	4 146
(d) Number of cases where investigation is ceased because the source of seepage cannot be identified after completion of tests	2 336	2 133

- (1) As there is a lapse of time between the receipt of a complaint and the completion of investigation work, the number of complaints handled in a year does not necessarily correspond to the number of complaints received in that year.
- (2) Cases where the complaints are falsified, the moisture content of the seepage area is less than 35%, the seepage has stopped or the complainants have withdrawn their complaints before investigation starts, etc. will be screened out by the Joint Office, and investigation will not be conducted.

For water seepage complaints, the nuisance is considered as abated if the defects leading to seepage identified have been rectified by the owners or occupants of the flat under complaint and the moisture content of the seepage area is less than 35%.

4. The estimated volume of sludge collected by gully emptiers in 2015 is, by weight, 40% less than that collected in 2014. This is mainly attributable to the fact that since July 2014 the Department has, upon the advice of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD), stepped up actions to drain away the water content of collected sludge thoroughly before delivering it to the EPD's disposal site.

- End -

List of Hygiene Blackspots in 2014

District	Location of Hygiene Blackspots
Central/ Western	Rear lane of Hang Yu Building, nos. 45-55, Cadogan Street, Kennedy Town
	Rear lane of nos. 5-21, Centre Street, Sai Ying Pun
	Tung Loi Lane and New Market Street, Sheung Wan
	Side lane at no. 14, North Street
	Hing Lung Street and Tit Hong Lane, Central
Wanchai	T-shape rear lane of Bowrington Road and Canal Road West
	Rear lane of nos. 477-491, Jaffe Road (near Shining Building)
	Open area in front of no. 2, O'Brien Road (Methadone Clinic)
	Surrounding of Gloucester Road Refuse Collection Point
	Rear lane of no. 6, Cannon Street
Eastern	Rear lanes of nos. 62-193, Sai Wan Ho Street (between Hoi Lee Street and Tai Cheong Street)
	Rear lanes and side lanes of nos. 121-147 Shau Kei Wan Main Street East (at side of Shau Kei Wan Market)
	Rear lanes and side lanes of Kam Wah Street (between Mong Lung Street and Aldrich Street)
	Rear lane and side lane of Marble Road (between Tong Shui Road and Shu Kuk Street)
	Rear lanes and side lanes of Chun Yeung Street (between Tong Shui Road and North Point Road)
Southern	Rear lane of nos. 53-81, Shek Pai Wan Road
	Rear lanes of Wu Nam Street
	Pavement at nos. 56-82 and nos. 112-158, Old Main Street Aberdeen (including Old Main Street Rest Garden)
	Side lane and staircase beside Manly House at nos. 115-117, Main Street, Ap Lei Chau
	Pavement at Stanley New Street near Stanley Market Road

District	Location of Hygiene Blackspots
Islands	Streets near exits of Tung Chung MTR Station
	Subway and pavements of both sides between Fu Tung Estate and Tung Chung Crescent, Man Tung Road and Yu Tung Road (Section near Yat Tung Estate), Tung Chung
	Tai San Praya Road (Section between Shing Cheong Lane and Siu Sik Lane), Cheung Chau
	Lung Tsai Tsuen and Tai Tsoi Yuen Road, Cheung Chau
Yau Tsim	Rear lane of nos. 171-181, Woosung Street, Jordan
	Rear lane of nos. 100-126, Canton Road, Tsim Sha Tsui
	Rear lane of nos. 256-282, Reclamation Street, Yaumatei
	Kerb side and rear lane of nos. 46-58, Arthur Street, Yaumatei
	Rear lane of nos. 261-289, Temple Street, Jordan
Mong Kok	Rear lane between Oak Street and Pine Street
	Rear lane between nos. 1-5, Fa Yuen Street and Tung Choi Street
	Rear lane at Tak Cheung Building, 10-14, Fife Street
	Rear lane between Nelson Street and Nam Tau Street
	Rear lane between Chung Wui Street and Tai Tsun Street
Sham Shui Po	Rear lane of nos. 1-3, Un Chau Street and 18-20 Fuk Wing Street
	Rear lane of nos. 231-247, Un Chau Street (behind Yun Fat Building)
	Rear lane of nos. 31-33, Shek Kip Mei Street
	Rear lane of nos. 32-60, Fuk Wing Street
	Rear lane of nos. 287-327A, Tai Nan Street
Kowloon City	Section of To Kwa Wan Road, Mei King Street and Wai King Street next to Wyler Garden.
	Rear lanes near Maidstone Road
	Pavement of Hung Hom Road and Tai Wan Road (outside Hutchison Park)
	Pavement near Lux Theatre, Bulkeley Street
	Rear lane of Kar King Mansion, Baker Street, Hung Hom

District	Location of Hygiene Blackspots
Wong Tai Sin	Outside Lok Fu MTR Station (along Wang Tau Hom South Road)
	Ngau Chi Wan Village
	Yuk Wah Street and Yuk Wah Crescent
	Outside Wong Tai Sin MTR Station (at Ching Tak Street)
	Yin Hing Street, San Po Kong
Kwun Tong	Pavement and Sitting out area outside Block 3 of Yue Man Centre, Ngau Tau Kok
	Side lane and rear lane of Horse Shoe Lane, Ngau Tau Kok
	Rear lane of no. 94 Ting On Street
	Rear lane of no. 86B Ting On Street
	Pavement at Kung Lok Road from the junction of Kung Lok Road and Hong Ning Road to Kung Lok Road Playground
Kwai Tsing	Rear lane of Lai Fong Street
	Rear lane of Shing Fong Street
	Rear lane of Shek Yam Road
	Rear lane of Tai Ha Street
	Rear lane of Kwong Fai Circuit
Tsuen Wan	Pavement at Ma Sim Pai Road, near Pak Tin Pa Tsuen
	Pavement outside Block A, Allway Gardens, Tsuen King Circuit
	Lane at rear of no. 146E, Sha Tsui Road and Heung Wo Street
	Lane at rear of nos. 23-37, Shiu Wo Street
	Lane at rear of nos. 2-32, Hoi Pa Street
Tuen Mun	Tsing Ho Square and Tsing Shan Square
	Kai Man Path
	Wo Ping Path
	Leung Tak Street
	Yan Oi Tong Circuit

District	Location of Hygiene Blackspots
Yuen Long	Fook Tak Street
	Yuen Long New Street
	Fung Yau Street North
	Chun Yin Square
	Grandeur Terrace
North	Rear lane of nos. 17-35, Luen Hing Street, Fanling
	Rear lane of nos. 87-119, San Fung Avenue, Sheung Shui
	Rear lane of nos. 31-41, Fu Hing Street, Sheung Shui
	Open space in front of no. 43, San Hong Street, Sheung Shui
	Pavement at no. 1 San Kung Street, Sheung Shui
Tai Po	Lane at rear of no. 75, Po Heung Street
	Pavement junction of Wai Shin Street and Wai Yee Street
	Lane at rear of no. 101, Luk Heung Lane
	Lane at rear of Kwong Fuk Square (near Kwong Fuk Lane)
	Lane at rear of Wan Tau Square (near Tai Wan Building)
Sha Tin	Chik Fai Street and Mei Tin Road
	Tsuen Nam Road, Tai Wai Road and rear lanes in the vicinity
	Yi Shing Square and Kong Pui Street
	On Yuen Street and On Chun Street (from Fok On Garden to Marbella)
	Open space at side of Tai Shui Hang Village refuse collection point
Sai Kung	Rear lane of King Man Street (between Siu Yat Building and Kam Po Court), Sai Kung
	Nin Chun Street, Sai Kung
	Pavement along Po Shun Road outside Chung Ming Court and the Hau Tak Shopping Centre and its vicinity, Tseung Kwan O
	Shek Kok Road, Tseung Kwan O
	Public Carpark at Chun Cheong Street, Tseung Kwan O