

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FHB(FE)225**

**(Question Serial No. 3897)**

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:

Local views have expressed that the barbecue establishments in Kau Wa Keng of Kwai Tsing district have caused odour and noise nuisances to residents in the neighbourhood. In this connection, please advise on the following:

- (a) the monitoring measures taken by the Department over the barbecue establishments in Kau Wa Keng, the number of complaints received and handled relating to the above issue, as well as the manpower and expenditure involved, in each of the past three years; and
- (b) whether the Department will introduce any measures to improve the above situation; if yes, the manpower and expenditure in this respect, together with the details; if not, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon CHAN Han-pan (Member Question No. 60)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows –

- (a) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has been closely monitoring the operation of two unlicensed fresh provision shops (FPSs) at two barbecue sites in the Kau Wa Keng Old Village area. Apart from carrying out regular inspections and prosecution actions, the Department has mounted joint operations with the Hong Kong Police Force (the Police) regularly to take enforcement actions against the unlicensed FPSs. Stringent enforcement actions, including arrests of the operators of the unlicensed FPSs with seizure of food items and paraphernalia, have been effected to achieve greater deterrence.

In addition, the Department has referred the case to other departments concerned, including the Environmental Protection Department, the Police and Lands Department, for parallel actions on noise, odour, illegal sale of liquor, suspected unauthorised

occupation of unleased Government land and breach of lease conditions in private land, etc.

Between 2012 and 2014, 96 complaints were received and the Department mounted 70 enforcement operations against the unlicensed FPSs. A total of 129 prosecutions, including 87 summonses and 42 arrests for contravention of the Food Business Regulation (Cap. 132X), were taken.

The above work was taken up by existing staff members. There is no breakdown of the expenditure involved.

- (b) The Department will continue to closely monitor the two unlicensed FPSs and take stringent enforcement actions to curb the illegal food business.

- End -