

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)302

(Question Serial No. 6587)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
(3) Market Management and Hawker Control

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the problem of shop front extensions (SFEs), please advise this Committee on the following:

- a) the number of complaints against SFEs received by the Department in the past three years, with a breakdown by District Environmental Hygiene Office;
- b) the number of enforcement actions taken, the number of verbal or written warnings issued and the number of prosecutions instituted by the Department against SFEs in the past three years, with a breakdown by District Environmental Hygiene Office; and
- c) whether resources will be allocated in 2016-17 for holding multi-party discussion about the SFE problem with the local community, local residents and persons-in-charge of the shops, with a view to facilitating co-ordination and striking a balance between law enforcement by the Department and protection of interests of the shops and residents; if yes, the specific work plan; if not, the reason(s).

Asked by: Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok (Member Question No. 439)

Reply:

- (a) and (b) The number of complaints and prosecutions against shop front extensions (SFEs) in the past three years is at Annex 1 and Annex 2 respectively. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) does not keep statistics on the number of verbal or written warnings issued against SFE.
- (c) Following the passage of the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness Offences) (Amendment) Bill in March 2016, a fixed penalty system will come into force in September 2016 to provide an additional enforcement tool for tackling the SFE problem. During the six-month period from March to September 2016, the Government will step up public education and publicity to allow sufficient

time for the trade and other stakeholders to make necessary preparation for the implementation of the fixed penalty system. As one of the enforcement departments, FEHD will continue to deploy existing resources to work with the District Offices under the Home Affairs Department in actively engaging the community, including District Councils and shop operators, and in launching a new round of publicity campaign.

- End -

Number of complaints against SFEs (2013 to 2015)

District	2013	2014	2015
Central and Western	445	631	563
Wan Chai	537	700	688
Eastern	2 946	2 655	1 615
Southern	211	155	282
Islands	132	94	125
Yau Tsim	1 202	944	767
Mong Kok	1 246	1 108	1 777
Sham Shui Po	2 023	2 401	2 204
Kowloon City	1 254	1 234	1 152
Wong Tai Sin	822	456	377
Kwun Tong	1 010	651	409
Kwai Tsing	541	410	290
Tsuen Wan	2 695	921	893
Tuen Mun	594	386	373
Yuen Long	1 755	4 087	1 517
North	520	710	468
Tai Po	973	622	340
Shatin	758	436	333
Sai Kung	259	250	201
Total	19 923	18 851	14 374

Number of prosecutions against SFEs (2013 to 2015)

District	2013	2014	2015
Central and Western	422	660	780
Wan Chai	2 134	1 403	1 470
Eastern	2 952	2 841	1 657
Southern	714	633	593
Islands	21	28	30
Yau Tsim	748	140	140
Mong Kok	3 001	2 112	2 298
Sham Shui Po	1 720	2 307	2 156
Kowloon City	1 369	1 330	891
Wong Tai Sin	527	675	869
Kwun Tong	991	488	242
Kwai Tsing	608	417	338
Tsuen Wan	2 249	1 597	1 739
Tuen Mun	1 369	1 484	684
Yuen Long	3 770	3 738	2 878
North	196	189	328
Tai Po	2 169	1 185	755
Shatin	1 767	1 056	690
Sai Kung	169	211	166
Total	26 896	22 494	18 704