

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

S-FHB(FE)09

(Question Serial No. S0021)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (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:

1. It is noted from the reply that the Aberdeen Market and the Ngau Tau Kok Market have received a support rate of over 80% for the installation of air-conditioning facilities. Please advise how the Department will follow up the work concerned; whether a work schedule is available; and when is the earliest possible time air-conditioning facilities can be installed. It is believed that the tenants are very much concerned about the matters and waiting eagerly.
2. As regards the remaining markets which have conducted questionnaire surveys, please advise on their work schedules.

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-hing (Member Question No.)

Reply:

The Government has lowered the threshold of tenants' support for the installation of air-conditioning facilities in public markets from 85% to 80% with effect from 1 July 2015. The results of questionnaire surveys show that the Aberdeen Market has a support rate of 80.36% and the Ngau Tau Kok Market Cooked Food Centre has a support rate of 90%. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) is following up with the Architectural Services Department to conduct preliminary technical feasibility studies for these two markets. We will take into account the technical feasibility, the extent of works required, cost effectiveness, length of business disruption and tenants' views in taking forward any capital works in accordance with the established mechanism.

The Department completed in December 2015 the consultation with the respective Market Management Consultative Committees (MMCC) of 74 markets without air-conditioning facilities (including 11 markets which have installed air-conditioning systems only at their cooked food centres). The MMCC for 27 of these markets supported conducting a questionnaire survey. The questionnaire surveys are now being conducted. For those markets with a support rate of at least 80%, we will follow up according to the arrangement as mentioned above.

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