

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)144

(Question Serial No. 2136)

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:

The work of market management and hawker control involves managing licensed hawker pitches, hawker permitted places and hawker bazaars. Given that the Secretary for Food and Health has stated that the Government adopts a positive attitude towards specific bottom-up proposals for organising bazaars, please advise this Committee on the following:

1. the number of successful and unsuccessful applications for “Temporary Places of Public Entertainment Licence” under the category of bazaars or temporary bazaars, as well as the reason(s) for the unsuccessful applications, in each of the past 3 years (i.e. 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17), with a breakdown by District Council district;
2. the number and types of organisations which submitted applications for holding bazaars or temporary bazaars in each of the past 3 years, with a breakdown by District Council district;
3. the Programme under which the issues of bazaars are currently handled by the Department, and the manpower involved; and
4. whether there is any plan to allocate resources to set up a dedicated team or a dedicated establishment for processing applications relating to bazaars; if yes, the details and the establishment in this respect; if not, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon LAU Siu-lai (Member Question No. 3064)

Reply:

The information sought is as follows –

1. In 2014, 2015 and 2016, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) issued 1 504, 1 473 and 1 532 Temporary Places of Public Entertainment Licences (TPPEL) respectively. The Department did not compile

statistics on the number of successful and unsuccessful applications for TPPEL by nature of the events or activities.

2. The project proponent of a bazaar proposal should provide details of his/her specific proposal in the application for permission to use the venue. If the owner/department in charge of the venue gives consent, the project proponent would need to apply for the relevant licence/permission required from the respective departments separately. The Department does not have a breakdown of the numbers and types of organisations which submitted applications for holding bazaars or temporary bazaars in each of the past 3 years. In the proposals received by the Government since November 2015, the proposed locations of holding bazaars include Sham Shui Po, Islands District, North District, Eastern District, Yuen Long and Central and Western District. Thus far, bazaars have already been successfully held in some of these districts.
3. and 4. Work related to bazaars is subsumed under Programme (3): Market Management and Hawker Control. The Department has its established mechanisms and staff for liaison with the relevant bureaux and departments regarding the use of sites for bazaars and for processing applications for holding activities which require a TPPEL and/or Temporary Food Factory Licence. The staff concerned are involved in other duties. The Department does not have a separate breakdown of the manpower involved in bazaar-related work. There is currently no plan to set up a dedicated team or a dedicated establishment for processing applications relating to bazaars.

The Government adopts a positive attitude towards proposals for organising bazaars. Depending on the specific details of the bazaar proposals, the policy bureaux concerned will, according to the roles they play, give comments on matters related to their policy areas respectively while the departments concerned will process bazaar proposals according to standing procedures and criteria.

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