

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)181****(Question Serial No. 2407)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (3) Market Management and Hawker ControlControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Street obstruction caused by easy-mount frames displaying sale advertisements is far more serious than that caused by illegal hawkers (as can be seen at the exits of Kwun Tong MTR Station, Amoy Gardens and Kowloon Bay MTR Station). Please advise on the manpower and expenditure allocated for implementing the policies of controlling on-street hawking activities in each of the past 3 financial years.

In addition, please advise whether there are policies to control the rampant activities of displaying sale advertisements with the use of easy-mount frames, as well as the effectiveness of the policies concerned.

What are the estimated manpower and expenditure for the above policies in the 2017-18 financial year?

Asked by: Hon TSE Wai-chun, Paul (Member Question No. 14)

Reply:

The Hawker Control Teams of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) are responsible for hawker management and control. The number of staff and the expenditure for hawker management and control for the financial years 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 are tabulated as follows –

Financial Year	Number of staff	Expenditure on hawker management and control (\$ million)
2014-15	2 209	951.8
2015-16	2 210	1,025.2
2016-17	2 243	1,075.8

		(revised estimate)
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The Department takes enforcement action against unauthorised display of bills and posters including commercial publicity materials in accordance with sections 104A and 104D of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132) (the Ordinance). To address the increasingly rampant activities of unauthorised display of commercial publicity materials on the streets with the use of easy-mount frames, the Department has started since 2011 issuing fixed penalty notices under the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness Offences) Ordinance (renamed as the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness and Obstruction) Ordinance since 24 September 2016) (Cap. 570) to tackle unauthorised display of bills and posters. Having regard to the actual circumstances, the Department may also take prosecutions against promotional booths causing obstruction in public places under section 4A of the Summary Offences Ordinance (Cap. 228). The Department will continue to deploy staff to patrol the blackspots of unauthorised display of bills and posters, take out prosecutions as appropriate and remove unattended bills and posters. Special blitz operations will be mounted where necessary.

The Department's estimated expenditure on street cleansing services in 2017-18 is \$2,021 million. The Department does not keep separate breakdown on the expenditure and manpower provision for prosecution and removal of unauthorised bills and posters.

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