

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)339****(Question Serial No. 4711)**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:

Given that Tsuen King Circuit Market under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) was found having a low occupancy rate by the Audit Commission, please advise this Committee on the following:

1. the number of shops, occupancy rate, vacancy rate and expenditure on management of Tsuen King Circuit Market in the past 5 years; and
2. whether the Department has taken any measures to improve the occupancy rate (if not, the reason(s)).

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (Member Question No. 224)Reply:

1. There is no breakdown on the expenditure on market management for each of the public markets. The number of stalls, occupancy rate and vacancy rate of Tsuen King Circuit Market for the past 5 years are provided as follows -

No. of stalls					Occupancy rate* as at 31 December					Vacancy rate# as at 31 December				
2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
241	241	241	241	241	34%	31%	24%	21%	20%	66%	69%	76%	79%	80%

* Occupancy rate is the percentage of let-out stalls versus the total number of stalls in a market. Degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.

Vacancy rate is the percentage of stalls not leased versus the total number of stalls in a market.

2. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department plans to close Tsuen King Circuit Market in 2017-18 in the light of the consistently high vacancy rates and inactive operation of stalls there.

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