

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**S-FHB(FE)03**

**(Question Serial No. S0063)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to "Reply Serial No. FHB(FE)144", please provide further information on the following:

1. the current staff establishment and expenditure for processing various licence applications in the Licensing Offices of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department), with a breakdown by type of licence; and the staff establishment of the Licensing Offices, their ranks and salaries, as well as the ratio between the number of licensing staff and the number of licence applications, in the past 3 years;
2. apart from the Licensing Offices that are responsible for processing applications for activities requiring the issue of a Temporary Places of Public Entertainment Licence and/or a Temporary Food Factory Licence, what section(s) or unit(s) in the Department is/are responsible for liaising with the organisers and the relevant policy bureaux ; and
3. given the Department's reply that there is currently no plan to set up a dedicated team or a dedicated establishment for processing applications relating to bazaars, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon LAU Siu-lai

Reply:

1. A total of 115 staff in 3 licensing offices (LOs) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) are responsible for handling applications for food business and other trade licences. They include Health Inspectorate Officers at Superintendents of Environmental Health, Chief Health Inspectors, Senior Health Inspectors and Health Inspectors ranks, Executive Officers, Clerical Officers, etc. The Department does not have a prescribed staff to licence application ratio. Information on the manpower in the 3 LOs and the number of licence applications received in the past 3 years is given below –

	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
Manpower of 3 LOs	117	115	115
Expenditure #	\$53.886 million	\$56.002 million	\$60.590 million
Number of applications for food business licence	5 875	6 220	6 057
Number of applications for other trade licence	62	82	101
Number of applications for alteration	629	569	466
Number of applications for outside seating accommodation	121	88	98

# Expenditure are for Financial years 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively

The salary range of various grades/ranks of staff in the LOs is given below:

<b>Grade/Rank</b>	<b>Salary Range</b>
Superintendent of Environmental Health	\$84,385 – \$99,205
Chief Health Inspector	\$65,740 – \$80,905
Senior Health Inspector	\$56,755 – \$65,150
Health Inspector	\$26,700 – \$54,230
Executive Officer	\$28,040 – \$65,150
Clerical Officer	\$13,735 – \$37,570

2. Applications for Temporary Places of Public Entertainment Licence (TPPEL) and Temporary Food Factory Licence (TFFL) are now handled by concerned District Environmental Hygiene Offices and LOs of the Department respectively. The said offices have been providing a “one-stop shop” service for the TPPEL and TFFL applications, which includes liaison with the applicants and making referrals of the applications to concerned government departments for comments, etc.
3. 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 TFFL. The staff concerned are also involved in other duties. The current set up and workflow has been working well.

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