

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FHB(FE)200**

**(Question Serial No. 0978)**

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 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will start planning new market facilities at suitable locations from 2018-19. Please provide information on the details of the plans, the location sites of such facilities, the work schedules and the estimated expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 20)

Reply:

In her maiden Policy Address in October 2017, the Chief Executive pledges that the Government would make available resources for building new public markets to offer wider choices of fresh provisions to the public in Tung Chung, Tin Shui Wai and Hung Shui Kiu. The Government has initially identified suitable sites in the east of Tung Chung New Town Extension Area as well as in the southwest of Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area to build sizable public markets. Well-connected by public transport and close to future train stations and public transport interchanges, these two new market sites will be accessible to more members of the public. As regards the proposed new public market in Tin Shui Wai, we are actively exploring the possible locations.

The Government will also study the need and feasibility of providing new public markets in districts where relevant facilities are alleged to be insufficient. The Government will consider factors including the population and demographic mix of the area; community needs; the availability of market facilities and the number of fresh provision retail outlets in the vicinity. On the suitability of any potential sites for a new public market when the need for it is confirmed, consideration will be given to their geographical location, existing and planned uses, usable area and ancillary transport facilities nearby, in order to ensure that, upon completion, the markets will be of a substantial scale and viability and that public finances and land resources can be optimised.

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has set up a dedicated team in 2017 to take forward the planning of new markets among other duties, with regard to the schedules

for the new town developments and availability of suitable sites. The capital expenditure of any project could only be determined at a later stage, upon completion of technical feasibility studies.

- End -