

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)305

(Question Serial No. 5612)

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:

Regarding the operation of public markets under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, please advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) the number of vacant stalls and vacancy rates of public markets in the past 3 years, with a breakdown by year and public market;
- (b) the number of complaints against public market stalls about suspected breach of tenancy agreement received by the Department in the past 3 years, with a breakdown by year and public market;
- (c) the number of verbal and written warnings issued by the Department against public market stalls with irregularities, the number of re-possessed stalls with serious irregularities, and the number of stalls against which warnings were issued, in the past 3 years, with a breakdown by year and public market;
- (d) whether the Department will increase manpower in 2018-19 for handling complaints concerning public markets and matters in respect of illegal operation of stalls (if yes, the number of additional staff and the estimated expenditure in this respect; if not, the reason(s)); and
- (e) whether the Department has measures in place to reduce the vacancy rate of public markets in 2018-19 (if yes, the work plan and timetable of such measures; if not, the reason(s)).

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 143)

Reply:

- (a) The information sought is provided at Annex.
- (b) The number of complaints in public markets for the past 3 years is given below -

Year	Number of complaints
2015	2 122
2016	2 283
2017	2 330

The above figures cover different sorts of complaints, including breach of tenancy agreement. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) does not keep a breakdown of the complaints against breach of tenancy agreement, or further breakdown by each of the public markets.

- (c) Statistics on enforcement action taken against public market stalls with irregularities for the past 3 years are given below -

Year	2015	2016	2017
Number of prosecutions	1 658	2 065	1 893
Number of verbal warnings	691	1 180	1 395
Number of warning letters	2 195	2 763	2 675
Number of notice of terminations	41	42	52
Number of stalls repossessed	28	35	44

Further breakdown by each of the public markets is not readily available.

- (d) The Department has created an additional 13 civil service foreman posts in 2016-17 to strengthen the existing manpower in market management. We will review the manpower situation from time to time in the light of operational needs.
- (e) As an on-going initiative, the Department has been taking forward measures to improve the operating environment of public markets, including replacement of aged lifts and escalators, improvement of ventilation, lighting systems and fire services, refurbishment of external walls, refurbishment of toilets, etc. as appropriate. Promotional activities are also conducted to enhance the patronage of public markets. These include festive celebration and thematic activities, display of multi-language recipes as well as publication of booklets which provide updated market information. The Department will continue to let out long-standing vacant stalls at reduced upset auction prices and introduce a greater variety of service trade stalls to enhance the occupancy rate of public markets. A dedicated team, headed by a D2 officer, has also been set up in the Department to draw up a programme to modernise, revitalise and consolidate existing public markets as appropriate and undertake other reviews, with a view to upgrading market facilities and identifying other management measures to improve the overall viability of the markets concerned.

Serial No.	Name of Market@	No. of stalls			No. of Vacant Stalls (of which frozen#) as at 31 December			Vacancy rate* as at 31 December		
		2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017
1	Aberdeen Market	335	335	335	2(0)	4(0)	10(0)	1%	1%	3%
2	Aldrich Bay Market	71	71	71	11(0)	10(0)	4(0)	15%	14%	6%
3	Apleichau Market	63	63	63	1(0)	0(0)	2(0)	2%	0%	3%
4	Bowrington Road Market	296	296	296	2(0)	10(0)	14(14)	1%	3%	5%
5	Causeway Bay Market	51	51	51	1(0)	1(0)	1(1)	2%	2%	2%
6	Centre Street Market	46	46	46	7(5)	10(5)	10(5)	15%	22%	22%
7	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	32	32	32	2(2)	2(2)	2(2)	6%	6%	6%
8	Chai Wan Market	173	173	174	9(0)	9(0)	8(0)	5%	5%	5%
9	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	17	17	17	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0%	0%	0%
10	Cheung Chau Market	237	240	240	0(0)	5(0)	5(3)	0%	2%	2%
11	Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market	28	28	28	16(16)	16(16)	17(17)	57%	57%	61%
12	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	12	12	12	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0%	0%	0%
13	Choi Hung Road Market	116	116	116	30(28)	36(36)	38(38)	26%	31%	33%
14	Electric Road Market	99	99	99	5(0)	3(0)	3(0)	5%	3%	3%
15	Fa Yuen Street Market	180	180	180	0(0)	0(0)	3(1)	0%	0%	2%
16	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	24	24	24	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0%	0%	0%
17	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	15	15	15	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0%	0%	0%
18	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	88	88	86	30(30)	30(30)	26(14)	34%	34%	30%
19	Heung Che Street Market	223	223	225	9(9)	10(8)	5(5)	4%	4%	2%
20	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	11	11	11	0(0)	1(0)	0(0)	0%	9%	0%
21	Hung Hom Market	224	224	224	0(0)	0(0)	3(1)	0%	0%	1%
22	Hung Shui Kiu Market	215	174	172	135 (133)	44(38)	58(37)	63%	25%	34%
23	Java Road Market	194	194	194	7(0)	9(0)	10(3)	4%	5%	5%
24	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	16	16	15	5(0)	6(0)	6(6)	31%	38%	40%
25	Kam Tin Market	41	41	41	0(0)	1(0)	0(0)	0%	2%	0%
26	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	1(0)	0(0)	0(0)	7%	0%	0%
27	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	17	17	17	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0%	0%	0%
28	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0%	0%	0%

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		2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017
29	Kowloon City Market	581	581	581	11(0)	1(0)	3(0)	2%	0%	1%
30	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	11	11	11	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0%	0%	0%
31	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	12	12	11	1(0)	2(0)	1(1)	8%	17%	9%
32	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	98	98	98	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0%	0%	0%
33	Kwun Chung Market	218	218	218	3(2)	5(2)	18(5)	1%	2%	8%
34	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	29	29	29	0(0)	0(0)	1(1)	0%	0%	3%
35	Lai Wan Market	42	42	42	1(0)	1(0)	1(1)	2%	2%	2%
36	Lam Tei Market	7	7	7	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0%	0%	0%
37	Lau Fau Shan Market	25	25	25	3(3)	3(3)	3(3)	12%	12%	12%
38	Lei Yue Mun Market	20	20	20	2(0)	0(0)	0(0)	10%	0%	0%
39	Lockhart Road Market	166	166	166	28(0)	34(0)	38(38)	17%	20%	23%
40	Luen Wo Hui Market	338	338	338	2(0)	3(0)	0(0)	1%	1%	0%
41	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0%	0%	0%
42	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	20	20	20	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0%	0%	0%
43	Mui Wo Market	35	35	35	1(0)	1(0)	0(0)	3%	3%	0%
44	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	28	28	28	3(3)	4(3)	5(3)	11%	14%	18%
45	Ngau Chi Wan Market	402	402	402	27(0)	30(0)	41(16)	7%	7%	10%
46	Ngau Tau Kok Market	466	466	466	64(58)	59(58)	61(59)	14%	13%	13%
47	North Kwai Chung Market	222	222	222	4(0)	1(0)	6(0)	2%	0%	3%
48	North Point Market	42	42	42	1(0)	0(0)	3(0)	2%	0%	7%
49	On Ching Road Flower Market	13	13	13	0(0)	1(0)	0(0)	0%	8%	0%
50	Pei Ho Street Market	227	227	234	0(0)	4(0)	2(2)	0%	2%	1%
51	Peng Chau Market	18	18	18	1(0)	0(0)	1(0)	6%	0%	6%
52	Plover Cove Road Market	244	244	244	7(0)	10(0)	19(0)	3%	4%	8%
53	Po On Road Market	449	449	449	16(0)	31(1)	48(48)	4%	7%	11%
54	Quarry Bay Market	113	113	113	9(0)	20(0)	28(27)	8%	18%	25%
55	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	11	11	11	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0%	0%	0%

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		2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017
56	Sai Kung Market	209	209	209	2(0)	2(0)	11(0)	1%	1%	5%
57	Sai Wan Ho Market	274	274	274	4(0)	7(0)	8(0)	1%	3%	3%
58	Sai Ying Pun Market	102	102	102	11(7)	11(7)	11(9)	11%	11%	11%
59	San Hui Market	324	324	324	0(0)	3(0)	5(0)	0%	1%	2%
60	Sha Tau Kok Market	66	66	66	0(0)	1(0)	1(0)	0%	2%	2%
61	Sha Tin Market	172	172	172	0(0)	3(0)	3(0)	0%	2%	2%
62	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	29	29	29	0(0)	3(3)	3(3)	0%	10%	10%
63	Shek Tong Tsui Market	151	151	151	9(0)	3(0)	8(8)	6%	2%	5%
64	Shek Wu Hui Market	392	392	393	1(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0%	0%	0%
65	Sheung Fung Street Market	71	71	71	1(0)	0(0)	1(0)	1%	0%	1%
66	Sheung Wan Market	222	222	223	3(0)	1(0)	3(0)	1%	0%	1%
67	Shui Wo Street Market	302	302	302	2(0)	0(0)	2(1)	1%	0%	1%
68	Smithfield Market	216	216	216	0(0)	0(0)	1(0)	0%	0%	0%
69	Stanley Waterfront Mart	20	20	20	2(0)	1(0)	1(0)	10%	5%	5%
70	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	17	17	17	2(0)	0(0)	2(2)	12%	0%	12%
71	Tai Kiu Market	379	379	379	8(0)	3(0)	12(0)	2%	1%	3%
72	Tai Kok Tsui Market	135	135	135	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0%	0%	0%
73	Tai O Market	26	26	26	3(0)	0(0)	4(0)	12%	0%	15%
74	Tai Po Hui Market	313	313	313	2(0)	2(0)	1(0)	1%	1%	0%
75	Tai Shing Street Market	446	442	442	21(16)	23(22)	29(29)	5%	5%	7%
76	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	18	18	18	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0%	0%	0%
77	Tai Wai Market	195	195	195	22(22)	23(23)	28(28)	11%	12%	14%
78	Tai Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	20	20	20	4(0)	9(3)	13(13)	20%	45%	65%
79	Tang Lung Chau Market	34	34	34	1(1)	2(1)	2(2)	3%	6%	6%
80	Tin Wan Market	180	180	180	0(0)	0(0)	6(0)	0%	0%	3%
81	Tokwawan Market	267	267	267	2(1)	5(1)	3(2)	1%	2%	1%
82	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	18	18	18	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0%	0%	0%
83	Tsing Yi Market	76	76	76	7(0)	0(0)	1(0)	9%	0%	1%

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		2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017
84	Tsuen Wan Market	381	381	381	25 (25)	27 (25)	38(38)	7%	7%	10%
85	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	56	56	56	0(0)	0(0)	4(4)	0%	0%	7%
86	Tui Min Hoi Market	34	34	34	0(0)	5(0)	14(14)	0%	15%	41%
87	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	359	359	359	178 (177)	212 (212)	238 (238)	50%	59%	66%
88	Tung Yick Market	446	446	446	259 (258)	262 (258)	262 (262)	58%	59%	59%
89	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	8	8	8	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0%	0%	0%
90	Wanchai Market	50	50	50	0(0)	2(0)	1(0)	0%	4%	2%
91	Wing Fong Street Market	112	112	112	8(0)	9(0)	2(0)	7%	8%	2%
92	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	18	18	18	1(0)	0(0)	0(0)	6%	0%	0%
93	Wong Nai Chung Market	69	69	69	2(0)	1(0)	2(2)	3%	1%	3%
94	Yan Oi Market	108	108	108	2(0)	3(0)	2(0)	2%	3%	2%
95	Yau Ma Tei Market	144	144	144	2(0)	6(0)	9(6)	1%	4%	6%
96	Yee On Street Market	65	65	65	3(0)	1(0)	1(0)	5%	2%	2%
97	Yeung Uk Road Market	318	318	318	7(7)	8(8)	7(7)	2%	3%	2%
98	Yue Kwong Road Market	197	197	197	0(0)	3(0)	6(0)	0%	2%	3%
99	Yue Wan Market	374	374	380	13(0)	22(0)	18(0)	3%	6%	5%

Remarks:

- @ The information in respect of two public markets is not included as they have been closed since 28.2.2018.
- # Including the number of vacant stalls that are frozen for reasons such as forthcoming improvement works.
- * Vacancy rate is the percentage of stalls not leased versus the total number of stalls in a market. The degree of active business operation of leased stalls is diverse.

- End -