

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)195

(Question Serial No. 2886)

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:

After implementing the Market Modernisation Programme mentioned in last year's Budget, will the Department extend the programme to other public markets and seek additional provisions? If yes, what is the estimated amount?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 55)

Reply:

Having regard to a preliminary assessment of existing markets and views gathered from the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Public Markets under the Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has proposed that, in the first phase of the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP), a fundamental overhaul for 4 markets and refurbishment and minor improvement works for at least another 3 will be taken forward.

The pioneering project of the MMP will be the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. We have been actively liaising with the tenants there and other stakeholders with a view to reaching a consensus on the way forward as soon as possible. The overhaul arrangements for the Aberdeen Market will set a model for future similar projects. After the details of the Aberdeen Market project are finalised, we will kick-start other first phase projects progressively from 2019 onwards.

The Department will continue to follow up on the first phase projects and identify more markets suitable for the MMP, so as to make the best use of the \$2 billion earmarked, to improve operating environment of the markets. We will assess the need for more funding at a later stage when the funds earmarked are about to be fully committed.

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