

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FHB(FE)202**

**(Question Serial No. 2902)**

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:

In relation to the "licensing regime and management of hawker permitted places and hawker bazaars", please advise this Committee on:

1. the number of licensed tradesmen (including cobblers, locksmiths and watch repairers) registered in each of the past 10 years with a breakdown by district;
2. the number of fixed-pitch hawker licence applications received in each of the past 10 years with a breakdown by district and category of licences;
3. the number of fixed-pitch hawker licences newly issued in each of the past 10 years with a breakdown by district and category of licences; and
4. the date, details and related expenditure of the latest survey on street tradesmen conducted by the Department.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 93)

Reply:

1. Information on the number of licensed tradesmen in the territory in the past 5 years is provided at Annex I.
- 2-3. It has been the established policy of the Government that no new hawker licences will be issued under normal circumstances. Following a review in 2008-09, and having consulted relevant stakeholders, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) issued a total of 218 on-street fixed-pitch hawker licences in 2010 and 2011, out of 9 510 applications received. A breakdown of the licences issued by district is provided at Annex II.

As at 31 December 2018, there were a total of 425 vacant hawker pitches identified to

be suitable for re-allocation after the conclusion of the five-year Assistance Scheme for Hawkers in Fixed-pitch Hawker Areas in June 2018. The Department proposes to allocate these hawker pitches to 4 categories of applicants, namely, licensed newspaper hawkers, licensed itinerant hawkers, registered assistants with 5 years or more experience at the same hawker pitch and members of the general public satisfying certain basic criteria. The Department has briefed the Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene and is now consulting relevant District Councils. The Department aims to finalise the allocation arrangement as soon as possible and invite applications for the hawker licences in 2019.

4. The Department conducted a fact-finding exercise in 2009 to take stock of the number of unlicensed street traders conducting tradesman activities, their trading locations, type of business, length of services at the relevant locations, etc. The exercise was conducted with the resources available then, and no breakdown on the expenditure was available.

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### Number of Licensed Tradesmen in the past 5 years

<b>Calendar Year</b>	<b>Central &amp; Western</b>	<b>Wan Chai</b>	<b>Eastern</b>	<b>Yau Tsim Mong</b>	<b>Sham Shui Po</b>	<b>Kowloon City</b>	<b>Kwun Tong</b>	<b>Tuen Mun</b>	<b>Yuen Long</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>2014</b>	87	14	16	53	2	2	1	0	1	<b>176</b>
<b>2015</b>	85	14	15	52	2	2	1	0	1	<b>172</b>
<b>2016</b>	81	15	13	52	2	2	1	0	0	<b>166</b>
<b>2017</b>	75	15	13	50	2	2	1	3	0	<b>161</b>
<b>2018</b>	73	15	11	49	2	3	6	7	0	<b>166</b>

### Number of Fixed-Pitch Hawker Licences Issued in 2010 and 2011

District	Number of Licences Issued	
	2010	2011
Central & Western	10	0
Kowloon City	82	0
Sham Shui Po	110	0
Yau Tsim Mong	11	0
Southern	2	3
Total	215	3

During the application period from 10 March 2010 to 30 March 2010, a total of 9 510 applications were received.