

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FHB(FE)203**

**(Question Serial No. 2906)**

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:

With regard to hawker control and the issue of hawker licences, please advise this Committee on the following:

1. What is the number of itinerant hawker licences in the territory? Please provide the information with a breakdown by district and licence category;
2. What are the respective numbers of itinerant hawkers of different age groups? Please provide the information with a breakdown by age group of the licensees (aged under 35, aged 35-44, aged 45-54, aged 55-64, aged 65-74, aged 75 or above);
3. Is there any plan to re-issue itinerant hawker licences? If yes, the details; if no, the reason(s). Will the Department conduct public consultation on hawker policy?
4. Will the Department identify suitable sites in new towns or new development areas (such as Sha Tin District, Tai Po District and Islands District where only a small number of hawkers are found) to set up on-street fixed pitches for licensed hawkers and issue new hawker licences?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 105)

Reply:

1. Information on the number and type of licensed itinerant hawkers in the territory is provided at Annex I.
2. Information on the age of licensed itinerant hawkers in the territory is provided at Annex II.
3. Itinerant hawkers usually operate at prime locations. They may impede pedestrian and/or vehicular flow with their trolleys and goods and bring about environmental

hygiene and general nuisance concerns. Hence, the Government maintains the existing policy of not issuing new itinerant hawker licences.

4. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department's priority task is to expeditiously re-allocate vacant hawker pitches in existing fixed-pitch hawker areas so as to respond to the stakeholders' aspirations upon conclusion of the Hawker Assistance Scheme. We have no plans to set up new hawker areas at the moment.

- End -

**Itinerant Hawker Licences (IHLs)**  
**(Position as at 31.12.2018)**

<b>Type</b>	<b>Number of IHLs in Hong Kong Island, Kowloon and Islands</b>	<b>Number of IHLs in New Territories</b>	<b>Total</b>
Frozen Confectionary	34	30	64
Mobile Van	9	6	15
Newspaper	2	0	2
Other Classes	139	163	302
Total	184	199	383

**Age Distribution of Licensed Itinerant Hawkers  
(Position as at 31.12.2018)**

	<b>Age Distribution</b>						<b>Total</b>
	<b>Below 35</b>	<b>35-44</b>	<b>45-54</b>	<b>55-64</b>	<b>65-74</b>	<b>75 or above</b>	
Number of Hawkers	1	8	19	35	126	194	383