

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)209

(Question Serial No. 1138)

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 2019-20, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will continue to implement the Market Modernisation Programme. Please provide in detail the indicators of the work, the schedule, the staff establishment involved (please set out in tabular form the number of staff with a breakdown by post) and the estimated expenditure.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 40)

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 has set up a dedicated team to take forward, among other duties, the planning and implementation of MMP projects with the support of 37 staff. They include 4 Administrative Officer Grade posts, 13 Health Inspector Grade posts, 2 Executive Officer Grade posts, 3 Clerical Officer Grade posts, 2 Personal Secretary Grade posts and 13 contract staff. The estimated expenditure to be incurred in 2019-20 is \$33.9 million. The capital works expenditure and recurrent costs of MMP projects can only be determined when the scope of works is finalised, and upon completion of technical feasibility studies and cost-effectiveness assessment.

- End -