

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)159

(Question Serial No. 0325)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Has the Department enhanced community cleansing in the light of the novel coronavirus epidemic? If yes, what are the details; if no, what is/are the reason(s)?

Asked by: Hon WONG Ting-kwong (LegCo internal reference no.: 17)

Reply:

In view of the coronavirus disease 2019 epidemic, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has stepped up the cleansing of public facilities under its management, including public markets, cooked food centres, hawker bazaars, public toilets and refuse collection points (RCPs).

For public toilets with attendant service, the Department has instructed toilet attendants on duty to cleanse and disinfect the floor, water closets, urinals, wash hand basins, toilet seats, door handles, handrails, etc. every 2 hours with 1:99 diluted household bleach. For other public toilets, cleansing workers also carry out cleansing and disinfection with 1:99 diluted household bleach at least twice a day in performing routine cleansing service to ensure their cleanliness. In performing routine cleansing service of RCPs, cleansing workers will also cleanse and disinfect the floor, walls, large refuse bins, handrails, etc. with 1:99 diluted household bleach to ensure the cleanliness of RCPs.

The Department has stepped up cleansing for public markets with the use of 1:99 diluted household bleach to cleanse and disinfect the common areas and facilities in public markets at least 4 times every day. Cleansing and disinfection are performed hourly for lift button panels and escalator handrails and every 2 hours for the toilets in the markets.

The Department also strengthens street cleansing services on a need basis, including enhancing cleansing of locations where littering and other public cleanliness offences are prevalent. It has arranged cleansing and disinfection of the residences of confirmed patients by cleansing workers according to the instructions of the Centre for Health Protection of the Department of Health and enhanced sweeping and washing of public places in the vicinity of the buildings concerned to maintain environmental hygiene.

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