

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)343****(Question Serial No. 6249)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (3) Market Management and Hawker ControlControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

On the implementation of the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP) to improve facilities of existing public markets, the Department stated that it would consult the relevant District Council(s) and the market tenants to be affected on any market closure plans. In this respect, please provide information on the following:

- (a) With regard to the closure of Tsuen King Circuit Market and Shau Kei Wan Market last year, when will the District Councils concerned be consulted and what are the details of consultation?
- (b) As stated in a reply (Rely Serial No. FHB(FE) 193) related to the Estimates of Expenditure 2019-20, a fundamental overhaul for 4 markets and refurbishment and minor improvement works for at least another 3 would be taken forward in the first phase of the MMP. Please set out in the table below the details and expenditure involved for the 4 public markets to be overhauled:

Market	Year of refurbishment	Estimated expenditure	Details of refurbishment
Aberdeen Market			

- (c) Please set out in the table below details of all public markets where refurbishment and minor improvement works will be conducted:

Market	Year of refurbishment	Estimated expenditure	Details of refurbishment
Tsuen Wan Market			
Lockhart Road Market			
Sheung Fung Street			

Market			
Yau Ma Tei Market			
Wing Fong Street Market			

- (d) The revised estimate of \$853.1 million for the expenditure on market management in 2018-19 has been increased to \$949.7 million. What other expenses were covered by the difference of \$96.6 million?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 128)

Reply:

- (a) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department consulted the relevant committee of the Eastern District Council and Tsuen Wan District Council on the closure of Shau Kei Wan Market and Tsuen King Circuit Market in February and March 2017 respectively, and obtained their support to close the two markets with consistently high vacancy rates. Subsequently, we discussed with the market tenants the arrangements for closure of the markets. The two markets operated until 28 February 2018 and were officially closed on 1 March 2018.
- (b) The Government has earmarked \$2 billion for the implementation of the 10-year Market Modernisation Programme (MMP). The pioneering project of the MMP is the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. FEHD and the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) briefed the relevant committee of the Southern District Council on the details and progress of the project in February 2020. ArchSD is engaging consultants and will commence the work of detailed design of plan and preparation of tender documents, etc. as soon as possible. The expenditure of the works can only be accurately estimated upon completion of the design work. Upon completion of the preparatory work, we will seek funding approval from the Legislative Council as soon as practicable and expect to commence the overhaul works in 2021.

At the same time, we plan to overhaul another 3 public markets in Kowloon and the New Territories and expect to take forward the consultation and preparatory work later this year. We also plan to kick-start minor refurbishment and improvement works for at least 3 other public markets in different districts across the territory. The project estimates for taking forward the above minor refurbishment and improvement works, as well as engagement of consultants and the preliminary work for the Aberdeen Market project, is about \$68 million. The estimated expenditure of these projects in 2020-21 is about \$13 million.

Subject to the types of works and the situation of markets, the project scope of the MMP may include installation of air-conditioning systems; re-design and re-zoning of stalls; re-configuration of layout; drainage improvement; improvement of fire service installations, electricity supply, toilet facilities, ventilation, lighting, signage; replacement of floor tiles; provision of barrier free access; façade and external wall decoration and works for lifts and escalators, etc.

- (c) The 6 markets for which the Government consultant has conducted study and put forward improvement recommendations are Lockhart Road Market, Sheung Fung

Street Market, Yau Ma Tei Market, Wing Fong Street Market, Tsuen Wan Market and Ngau Chi Wan Market respectively. FEHD has completed the consultation with the Market Management Consultative Committees (MMCCs) of these markets. The MMCCs expressed support for some improvement works proposals that did not require temporary closure of stalls or suspension of business. Having considered the MMCCs' views and the results of the feasibility studies, FEHD has taken forward improvement works of different scales in Lockhart Road Market, Sheung Fung Street Market, Yau Ma Tei Market and Wing Fong Street Market, which include beautification of the façade; improvement of market toilets, ventilation system, fire service installations, barrier free access and lightings; replacement or provision of closed-circuit television system and directional signboards, and conversion of former poultry stalls into other stalls for business operation or storage. The total cost of works was about \$29.5 million. The works in Wing Fong Street Market and Yau Ma Tei Market were completed in 2019 while those in the other 2 markets are scheduled for completion in the first half of 2020. The improvement works in the remaining 2 markets will be considered under the context of the MMP.

- (d) The expenditure incurred by FEHD on market management has increased from \$839 million in 2018-19 to \$866 million (revised estimate) in 2019-20. This is mainly due to increased costs of outsourcing contracts of public markets.

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