

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)348****(Question Serial No. 5146)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related ServicesControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

With regard to food business licences, please provide the following information:

1. the average time for processing and approving applications for the following licences after receipt of an application:

Type of Licence	2017	2018	2019
General Restaurant Licence			
Light Refreshment Restaurant Licence			
Marine Restaurant Licence			
Bakery Licence			
Cold Store Licence			
Factory Canteen Licence			
Food Factory Licence			
Fresh Provision Shop Licence			
Frozen Confection Factory Licence			
Milk Factory Licence			
Siu Mei and Lo Mei Shop Licence			
Liquor Licence			

2. the time for processing and approving applications for transfer of the following licences after receipt of an application:

Type of Licence	Sep 2019	Oct 2019	Nov 2019	Dec 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020
General Restaurant Licence						
Light Refreshment Restaurant Licence						
Marine Restaurant Licence						
Bakery Licence						
Cold Store Licence						

Factory Canteen Licence						
Food Factory Licence						
Fresh Provision Shop Licence						
Frozen Confection Factory Licence						
Milk Factory Licence						
Siu Mei and Lo Mei Shop Licence						
Liquor Licence						

3. The Wuhan pneumonia epidemic is affecting the operation of government departments. What measures are put in place by the Department to expedite the processing and approval of applications for food business licences and transfer of licences?

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 601)

Reply:

1. The average number of working days required for processing and approving applications for the following licences after receipt of an application is as follows:

Type of Licence	2017	2018	2019
General Restaurant Licence	170	170	170
Light Refreshment Restaurant Licence	178	170	169
Marine Restaurant Licence	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
Bakery Licence	153	166	160
Cold Store Licence	123	118	241
Factory Canteen Licence	195	247	212
Food Factory Licence	163	158	161
Fresh Provision Shop Licence	139	160	147
Frozen Confection Factory Licence	146	142	142
Milk Factory Licence	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
Siu Mei and Lo Mei Shop Licence	152	175	141
Liquor Licence (with club liquor licence in brackets)	36 (34)	34 (34)	42 (44)

Note: The processing time is contingent upon the time needed for complying with the relevant licensing requirements by the applicant, settling objections raised by the public or other departments concerned and addressing relevant land issues, if any.

- The number of working days required for processing and approving applications for transfer of food business licences after receipt of an application is as follows:

Type of Licence	Sep 2019	Oct 2019	Nov 2019	Dec 2019	Jan 2020	Feb 2020
Food Business Licence ^{Note}	54	55	52	60	52	59
Liquor Licence (with club liquor licence in brackets)	43 (46)	42 (41)	49 (27)	46 (43)	45 (47)	44 (40)

Note: The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not keep separate statistics on the average time required for processing applications for transfer of food business licences.

- The licensing offices and district environmental hygiene offices of the Department have continued to provide services in processing applications for food business licences and their transfer during the earlier implementation of special work arrangements by the Government in light of the Coronavirus Disease 2019.

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