

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FHB(FE)080**

**(Question Serial No. 3042)**

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the Management Scheme for the Display of Roadside Non-commercial Publicity Materials Implementation Guidelines, please advise this Committee of:

1. the quantity and type of publicity materials removed, the reason(s) for removal and the cost recovered, with a breakdown by District Council district, in the past 3 years;
2. the breakdown of the publicity materials removed above under the categories of commercial advertisements and publicity materials displayed by members of the Legislative Council, members of District Councils and non-profit-making organisations;
3. the details of the manpower and expenditure involved under the above items, with a breakdown by District Council district;
4. the average, longest and shortest time for handling a case, from receipt of reports to enforcement taken, under the above items, with a breakdown by District Council district;
5. the manpower, vehicles and equipment deployed, the expenditure involved, the number of publicity materials removed, as well as the number and fine of penalty notices issued on average under the above items;
6. whether a review of the cost-effectiveness of the operations has been conducted. If yes, what are the details? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?
7. the number of reports received, quantity removed, average processing time and details of penalty notices issued against illegal display of publicity materials under the Law of the People's Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (National Security Law) at a number of places with media coverage;
8. whether consideration will be given to strengthening the reporting mechanism and setting performance pledge targets to further combat display of obviously non-compliant publicity materials, such as those with contents in breach of the National Security Law, in a more efficient manner in view of the slow progress under

the current removal procedures which involve a number of government departments. If yes, what are the details? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 20)

Reply:

1.&2. With the powers and functions delegated by the Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene under section 104A(1)(b) of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132), relevant officers of the Lands Department (LandsD) assign designated spots to members of the Legislative Council (LegCo) and the District Councils (DCs) for display of publicity materials through the Management Scheme for the Display of Roadside Non-commercial Publicity Materials (Management Scheme). The Management Scheme aims to allow members of the LegCo and DCs to display non-commercial publicity materials (NCPMs) related to community affairs, for the purpose of promoting public awareness and participation in matters of district administration and community building, and ensuring that roadside public space is utilised in a safe and orderly manner.

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) has been taking joint operations with LandsD to remove NCPMs that are unauthorised or non-compliant with the Management Scheme for the Display of Roadside Non-commercial Publicity Materials Implementation Guidelines (Guidelines). During the operations, LandsD is responsible for identifying and verifying those NCPMs that are unauthorised or non-compliant with the Guidelines. Removal actions will then be taken by FEHD under section 104C(1) of Cap. 132. The number of NCPMs removed in various districts and the removal cost recovered by FEHD from 2018 to 2020 are provided at Annex I. There is no breakdown of the type of publicity materials removed, category of persons making the display or reason(s) for removal.

3. FEHD does not keep a separate breakdown of the manpower and expenditure involved in the removal actions concerned.

4.&5. FEHD conducts a joint operation with LandsD every week, including during holidays. The number of demand notes for recovery of removal cost in various districts by FEHD from 2018 to 2020 is provided at Annex II. There is no breakdown of the average time for a joint operation, the manpower and other expenses involved, the number of publicity materials removed, the number of demand notes for recovery of removal cost and the amount recovered.

6.-8. There are public complaint channels under the current mechanism. Members of the public may report any suspected non-compliant publicity materials under the Management Scheme to LandsD, District Lands Offices or via the 1823 hotline. There is no separate breakdown by content of NCPMs under complaint. FEHD has been removing NCPMs that are unauthorised or non-compliant with the Guidelines through joint operations with LandsD. Besides, the implementation of the Management Scheme is reviewed from time to time and revised where necessary.

**Number of non-commercial publicity materials (NCPMs) removed in various districts and the removal cost recovered by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department from 2018 to 2020**

District	2018		2019		2020	
	No. of NCPMs removed	Removal cost recovered (\$)	No. of NCPMs removed	Removal cost recovered (\$)	No. of NCPMs removed	Removal cost recovered (\$)
Central and Western	117	7,275	238	18,788	243	7,632
Eastern	129	13,714	325	35,563	439	13,398
Southern	59	12,140	284	19,519	317	6,914
Wan Chai	38	13,139	506	39,445	130	8,380
Kowloon City	298	41,229	497	25,432	93	10,221
Kwun Tong	120	31,671	166	22,286	118	3,084
Wong Tai Sin	23	6,539	164	18,876	117	9,897
Sham Shui Po	150	16,267	241	11,160	237	1,317
Mong Kok	249	1,805	245	12,412	346	11,461
Yau Tsim	35	6,128	190	15,541	94	4,354
Sha Tin	784	99,695	2 185	130,773	1 007	51,467
Tai Po	447	82,587	293	50,553	235	21,534
North	157	12,437	992	25,960	114	10,336
Kwai Tsing	46	6,570	209	28,291	242	6,982
Tsuen Wan	111	19,809	436	30,445	245	14,534
Tuen Mun	220	32,886	601	83,982	339	19,750
Yuen Long	419	40,270	988	80,551	689	11,193
Sai Kung	174	51,674	2 106	58,521	733	65,349
Islands	30	2,720	71	11,848	44	1,903

**Number of demand notes for recovery of removal cost in various districts  
by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department from 2018 to 2020**

District	2018	2019	2020
	No. of demand notes for recovery of removal cost	No. of demand notes for recovery of removal cost	No. of demand notes for recovery of removal cost
Central and Western	13	38	12
Eastern	22	77	47
Southern	36	48	18
Wan Chai	25	60	20
Kowloon City	65	39	12
Kwun Tong	89	49	10
Wong Tai Sin	14	51	30
Sham Shui Po	24	18	2
Mong Kok	3	20	28
Yau Tsim	15	33	10
Sha Tin	339	460	139
Tai Po	241	150	63
North	58	115	47
Kwai Tsing	20	77	20
Tsuen Wan	52	102	49
Tuen Mun	83	217	47
Yuen Long	123	198	33
Sai Kung	180	207	248
Islands	7	34	5

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