

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)114

(Question Serial No. 0817)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health
(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
(3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) According to the latest information (in 2019) provided in the reply of the Food and Environmental Department (the Department) in 2020-21, only 40 public markets of the Department were installed with close-circuit televisions (CCTVs) for security purposes. How does the Department protect the safety and property of market stall owners and the public in public markets under its management outside the patrolling hours without CCTVs? Please provide details of the solution to the above problem.
- (b) In the reply of the Department in 2020-21, it was stated that “the Department will consider upgrading facilities in public markets, including the installation of CCTVs, taking into account operational needs and actual circumstances of individual public markets”. Please explain in detail why it is not suitable to install CCTVs in those public markets which have no CCTVs at present. Can the problems be solved so as to facilitate the installation of CCTVs and enhance the basic protection of the public?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 21)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will consider upgrading facilities in public markets to meet the needs of all parties, taking into account the actual circumstances and operational needs of individual public markets, as well as the views of market stall tenants or local residents. In general, in deciding the installation of close-circuit televisions in public markets, the Department needs to consider not only the actual operational needs and availability of suitable space, but also the public's concern over privacy protection.

All entrances will be closed after the operating hours of markets. Security guards will be on duty to conduct regular patrols therein. The outsourced service contractors of the Department are responsible for the security of markets (including patrolling, maintaining

order and calling for police assistance in case of occurrence of crime). The Department deploys staff to monitor the work and performance of the contractors to ensure their compliance with the terms and conditions of the service contracts. Moreover, individual market tenants may apply to the Department for installation of roller shutters to protect their property if necessary.

- End -