Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2021-22

Reply Serial No.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)121

(Question Serial No. 0250)

<u>Head</u>: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

<u>Programme</u>: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Diane WONG)

<u>Director of Bureau</u>: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding "fixed pitch hawkers" under the indicator "licensed hawkers", the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department commenced the re-allocation of 435 vacant fixed hawker pitches and issue of new licences in 2019. Please set out as per the table below the numbers of applicants, applicants granted with licence and successful applicants having abandoned the application, with a breakdown by category of applicants.

Category of applicants	Number of applicants	Number of applicants who have selected the pitches	Number of applicants granted with the licence	Number of applicants who have yet to collect the licence	Number of successful applicants having abandoned the application
Holder of Fixed-Pitch (Newspaper) Hawker Licence					
Holder of Itinerant Hawker Licence (Other Classes/Newspaper)					
Eligible Registered Assistant					
Member of the Public Satisfying Specific Criteria					
Total					

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 34)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department launched the scheme of Re-allocation of Fixed Hawker Pitches and Issue of New Licences (the Scheme) at the end of September 2019. Under the Scheme, 435 vacant fixed hawker pitches located at 7 districts were opened for application by persons who were interested in the hawking business and able to meet the required conditions. Successful applicants will operate at the pitches after a licence is granted. After launching the scheme, the Department received a total of 14 126 applications, of which 12 788 applicants were eligible. The Department conducted an open computer random sequencing cum manual ballot exercise to determine the priority order of applicants for pitch selection at the end of November 2019. Applicants have been invited for the selection of vacant pitches since early December 2019. The information sought (as at 1 March 2021) is provided as follows:

Category of applicants	Number of applicants ¹	Number of applicants who have selected the pitches	Number of applicants granted with the licence	Number of applicants who have yet to collect the licence	Number of applicants who gave up pitch selection/ collection of licence
Holder of Fixed-Pitch (Newspaper) Hawker Licence	6	4	4	0	2
Holder of Itinerant Hawker Licence (Other Classes/Newspaper)	24	6	6	0	18
Eligible Registered Assistant	1 313	103	102	1	104
Member of the Public Satisfying Specific Criteria	11 445	322	303	19	738
Total	12 788	435	415	20	862

Note:

¹ Applicants who are eligible.