

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**EEB(F)061**

**(Question Serial No. 0359)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Ms Irene YOUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Environment and Ecology

Question:

On taking forward the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP), what is the estimated amount to be allocated for implementation of the programme in the next 3 years? How many markets will be included in the MMP in the coming year? Please provide the name of these markets, the scope of improvement and details of modernisation work concerned, as well as the timetable and progress of the works for each market undergoing the MMP.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Han-pan (LegCo internal reference no.: 27)

Reply:

The Department is pressing ahead with 6 overhaul or redevelopment projects under the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP). The pioneering project is the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. The project scope comprises re-configuring the overall layout of the market (including re-planning the stalls, and widening the passageways, escalators and entrances); installing air-conditioning system and new lifts; refurbishing the façade of the market; refurbishing the refuse collection point; as well as other improvements (e.g. providing more public space and seating, a baby care room and a breast-feeding room, increasing the number of toilets and upgrading the barrier-free facilities). The works officially commenced in November 2021 and will be generally completed in the first quarter of 2023. The market will re-open afterwards.

The Government will also proceed with the overhaul of Lai Wan Market. The project scope includes re-configuring the overall layout of the market, enhancing the stall design, widening the market passageways, installing false ceilings, installing air-conditioning system, improving drainage facilities, as well as re-planning the ventilation system in the market, etc. The market was closed in February 2023 for overhaul works and is expected to re-open before the Lunar New Year in 2024 at the earliest.

In addition, the preparatory and consultation work for 4 proposed overhaul or redevelopment projects in Yeung Uk Road Market, Ngau Tau Kok Market, Kowloon City Market and North Kwai Chung Market is underway. Upon deciding on the scope of works, the Department will conduct technical feasibility studies with the relevant departments. The works timetable

and project cost will be confirmed upon completion of the technical feasibility studies and assessment as well as the detailed design.

The MMP also includes minor refurbishment or improvement works to upgrade market facilities as soon as possible. Out of the 16 markets currently covered, the works in 14 markets (including Ngau Tau Kok Market, Yeung Uk Road Market, Fa Yuen Street Market, Quarry Bay Market, Shui Wo Street Market, Tsuen Wan Market, Mong Kok Cooked Food Market, Ngau Chi Wan Market, Shek Tong Tsui Market, Yan Oi Market, Sai Kung Market, Po On Road Market, Wong Nai Chung Market and Smithfield Market) have been completed. For the remaining 2 markets (Luen Wo Hui Market and Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market), the works and relevant preparatory work are underway, with completion expected in 2023 and in phases in 2024 respectively. Depending on the circumstances, the scope of minor refurbishment or improvement works generally includes renovation of internal facilities, beautification of external walls, replacement of floor tiles, repainting, repairing facilities, refurbishing the toilets, maintenance of drainage systems and piping, as well as installation of rodent-proof devices, etc.

Up to the 2022-23 financial year, the expenditure on projects under the MMP is around \$225 million. For the projects in the pipeline, the preliminary estimate of the project costs in the next 3 years (i.e. 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26) is around \$170 million. This amount does not include the project costs of the 4 afore-mentioned overhaul or redevelopment projects of which the scope of works is pending confirmation.

We will continue to take follow-up actions in a proactive manner and identify more suitable markets for inclusion in the MMP, so as to improve the operating environment of markets.

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