

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

EEB(F)089

(Question Serial No. 0137)

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 (Ms Irene YOUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Environment and Ecology

Question:

Currently, the Liquor Licensing Board (LLB) has the authority to approve liquor licence applications and revoke any liquor licence as it considers necessary. In this connection, please advise this Committee of:

- (1) the number of liquor-licensed premises, the number of liquor-licensed premises holding a one-year licence and the number of liquor-licensed premises holding a two-year licence in the territory in each of the past 3 years, with a breakdown by the 18 districts;
- (2) the number of liquor licences for which imposition of additional licensing conditions was recommended by the Police, and the number of liquor licences on which the LLB decided to impose additional licensing conditions as recommended by the Police in each of the past 3 years, with a breakdown by the 18 districts;
- (3) the number of liquor licences the revocation of which was recommended by the Police, and the number of liquor licences revoked by the LLB as per such recommendations in each of the past 3 years, with a breakdown by the 18 districts;
- (4) the number of liquor licences revoked in each of the past 3 years, with a breakdown by the 18 districts and reason for revocation;
- (5) the average time taken for processing an application for (i) a one-year liquor licence and (ii) a two-year liquor licence in each of the past 3 years;
- (6) the average time taken to list an appeal case for hearing in each of the past 3 years; and
- (7) the success rate of appeal in the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon LAI Tung-kwok (LegCo internal reference no.: 24)

Reply:

- (1) The number of liquor-licensed premises in each of the past 3 years, with a breakdown by the 18 districts, is as follows:

District	Number of liquor-licensed premises					
	2021		2022		2023	
	One-year liquor licence	Two-year liquor licence	One-year liquor licence	Two-year liquor licence	One-year liquor licence	Two-year liquor licence
Central and Western	566	603	638	642	573	691
Eastern	199	221	190	250	176	256
Southern	66	95	61	107	54	108
Wan Chai	565	712	587	752	576	755
Islands	123	185	119	199	108	218
Yau Tsim Mong	1 040	1 065	1 076	1 109	1 102	1 111
Sham Shui Po	248	153	271	146	246	152
Kowloon City	223	243	243	247	272	248
Wong Tai Sin	95	97	116	88	112	95
Kwun Tong	189	191	178	212	169	206
Tsuen Wan	209	149	203	164	176	182
Kwai Tsing	78	95	83	94	94	81
North	63	67	72	68	73	72
Tai Po	93	110	97	111	91	119
Sai Kung	195	106	206	120	190	126
Sha Tin	191	173	165	201	198	199
Tuen Mun	113	131	135	134	138	130
Yuen Long	222	217	216	223	227	220
Total	4 478	4 613	4 656	4 867	4 575	4 969

- (2) The number of liquor licences for which imposition of additional licensing conditions was recommended by the Police, and the number of liquor licences on which the Liquor Licensing Board (LLB) decided to impose additional licensing conditions as recommended by the Police in each of the past 3 years, with a breakdown by the 18 districts, are as follows:

District	Number of liquor licences for which imposition of additional licensing conditions was recommended by the Police			Number of liquor licences on which the LLB agreed to impose additional licensing conditions as recommended by the Police		
	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023
Central and Western	109	131	103	107	131	102
Eastern	7	12	10	7	12	10
Southern	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wan Chai	43	28	19	42	28	19
Islands	2	2	2	0	2	2
Yau Tsim Mong	23	22	22	23	22	20
Sham Shui Po	0	1	3	0	1	3
Kowloon City	2	1	2	2	1	2
Wong Tai Sin	0	1	0	0	1	0
Kwun Tong	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tsuen Wan	4	0	0	4	0	0
Kwai Tsing	2	1	1	2	1	1
North	0	0	1	0	0	1
Tai Po	1	0	1	1	0	1
Sai Kung	28	4	14	28	4	14
Sha Tin	2	0	2	2	0	2
Tuen Mun	2	0	3	2	0	3
Yuen Long	6	3	2	6	3	2
Total	231	206	185	226	206	182

- (3) The number of liquor licences the revocation of which was recommended by the Police, and the number of liquor licences revoked by the LLB as per such recommendations in each of the past 3 years, with a breakdown by the 18 districts, are as follows:

District	Number of liquor licences the revocation of which was recommended by the Police			Number of liquor licences revoked by the LLB as recommended by the Police		
	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023
Central and Western	0	0	0	0	0	0

District	Number of liquor licences the revocation of which was recommended by the Police			Number of liquor licences revoked by the LLB as recommended by the Police		
	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023
Eastern	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southern	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wan Chai	0	0	0	0	0	0
Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yau Tsim Mong	2	1	2	1	0	2
Sham Shui Po	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kowloon City	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wong Tai Sin	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kwun Tong	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tsuen Wan	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kwai Tsing	0	0	0	0	0	0
North	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tai Po	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sai Kung	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sha Tin	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tuen Mun	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yuen Long	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2	1	2	1	0	2

- (4) The number of liquor licences revoked in each of the past 3 years, with a breakdown by the 18 districts and reason for revocation, is as follows:

District	Number of liquor licences revoked					
	Cessation of business			Contravention of legislation ¹		
	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023
Central and Western	4	1	3	0	0	0
Eastern	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southern	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wan Chai	2	1	3	0	0	0
Islands	0	0	1	0	0	0
Yau Tsim Mong	6	1	9	1	0	2

District	Number of liquor licences revoked					
	Cessation of business			Contravention of legislation ¹		
	2021	2022	2023	2021	2022	2023
Sham Shui Po	0	0	2	0	0	0
Kowloon City	1	2	1	0	0	0
Wong Tai Sin	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kwun Tong	1	3	1	0	0	0
Tsuen Wan	0	0	2	0	0	0
Kwai Tsing	0	0	0	0	0	0
North	2	0	0	0	0	0
Tai Po	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sai Kung	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sha Tin	1	0	2	0	0	0
Tuen Mun	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yuen Long	0	2	2	0	0	0
Total	17	10	26	1	0	2

¹ Involves dangerous drug trade.

- (5) The average time taken for processing an application for a one-year liquor licence and a two-year liquor licence in each of the past 3 years is as follows:

	2021		2022		2023	
	One-year liquor licence	Two-year liquor licence	One-year liquor licence	Two-year liquor licence	One-year liquor licence	Two-year liquor licence
Average time taken for processing a liquor licence application	45 days ²	41 days	40 days ²	37 days	40 days ²	37 days

² The majority of applications for one-year liquor licence were contested cases and the processing time was therefore longer.

- (6) In each of the past 3 years, the average time taken for the Municipal Services Appeals Board (MSAB) to list an appeal case for hearing is as follows:

	2021	2022	2023
Average time taken to list an appeal case for hearing (day)³	65	69	78

³ This is counted from the date of the MSAB receiving the appeal application to the date of the first scheduled hearing.

(7) The success rate of appeal to the MSAB in the past 3 years is as follows:

	2021	2022	2023
Success rate of appeal (i.e. appeals allowed by the MSAB)⁴	100%	25%	33.3%

⁴ Only cases with the MSAB's decision issued before the end of a year are taken into account for calculating the success rate of appeal in that year.

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