

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

EEB(F)119

(Question Serial No. 0042)

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:

During 2024-25, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will continue to implement the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP). In this connection, please advise this Committee of:

1. the progress of the MMP, the specific work during the year and the expenditure involved; and
2. whether the effectiveness and impact of the MMP will be reviewed; if yes, the details; if no, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 14)

Reply:

1. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is taking forward the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP), including overhaul or redevelopment projects, the pilot scheme on stall enhancement, as well as minor refurbishment or improvement works.

Regarding overhaul or redevelopment projects, Aberdeen Market and Lai Wan Market officially re-opened in May 2023 and March 2024 respectively after overhaul works. In addition, the Department is carrying out the preparatory and consultation work, including technical feasibility studies upon confirmation of the scope of works, for the proposed overhaul or redevelopment projects of Ngau Tau Kok Market, Kowloon City Market, Yeung Uk Road Market and North Kwai Chung Market. The works timetable and project costs could only be confirmed upon completion of the technical feasibility studies and assessment as well as the detailed design. As for the preliminary suggestion of carrying out overhaul for Causeway Bay Market, the Department is maintaining close communication with the relevant stakeholders to gauge their views with a view to formulating a suitable proposal.

For stall enhancement projects, the Department is implementing a pilot scheme to enhance market stalls and carry out auxiliary renovation works. The first venue under the pilot scheme is Queen Street Cooked Food Market. The works commenced in

February 2024 and are expected to be completed in the third quarter of 2024. The Department will confirm the other venues under the pilot scheme as soon as possible.

As for minor refurbishment or improvement works, the Department has carried out the relevant works in 16 markets. Among which, 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. The works of the other 2 markets (Luen Wo Hui Market and Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market) are underway, with completion expected in 2024.

Up to the 2023-24 financial year, the expenditure on projects under the MMP is around \$291 million. For the projects in the pipeline, the preliminary estimate of the project costs in the 2024-25 financial year is around \$68.13 million. This amount does not include the construction costs of the afore-mentioned overhaul or redevelopment projects of which the scope of works is pending confirmation.

2. In continuing to take forward the MMP, the Department will maintain liaison with the stakeholders, incorporate suitable improvement proposals and review the effectiveness of the programme at an appropriate time.

- End -