

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)034**

Question Serial No.

Head : 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

0564

Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Food and Health

Question :

Regarding application for licences issued by the Department, please advise on the types of licence whose applications cannot be submitted by electronic means as at present? Will the Department consider extending the electronic submission scheme to these licence applications? If yes, please advise on the time frame of implementation for each type of licence and the expenditure required.

Asked by : Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply :

At present, no food business-related licence (including liquor licence) applications and trade licence (such as swimming pool licence and commercial bathhouse licence) applications can be submitted by electronic means. The Department and the Efficiency Unit are working on the development of a platform for on-line submission and processing of liquor licence applications. It is expected that the system will be launched in the second half of 2009, at an estimated expenditure of \$7.7 million. Depending on the outcome of its implementation, the feasibility of extending the new system to other types of food business and trade licences will be considered.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ W H CHEUK

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 17.3.2009