

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

FHB(FE)070

Question Serial No.

Head : 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

1300

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 :

Please advise on the number of applications by restaurant licensees for outside seating accommodation, the average time required for processing the applications as well as the number of applications withdrawn in 2006, 2007 and 2008 respectively.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply :

In 2006, 2007 and 2008, there were 57, 67 and 71 applications respectively for outside seating accommodation (OSA). Depending on the location, scale and other aspects of such applications, their approval required consultation with and agreement of Buildings Department, Fire Services Department, Planning Department, Home Affairs Department, Lands Department, and Transport Department. The average processing time of an OSA application during the period from 2006 to 2008 was about 16 months. The number of withdrawn/abandoned cases in 2006, 2007 and 2008 was 13, 11 and 45 respectively.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ W H CHEUK

Post Title _____ Director of
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date _____ 17.3.2009