

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

EEB(F)109

(Question Serial No. 0951)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Donald NG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Environment and Ecology

Question:

Regarding the prosecution against littering, please advise this Committee of:

1. the number of complaints received by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, the number of prosecutions instituted and penalties involved in the past 3 years, with a breakdown by year and the 18 administrative districts;
2. the number of proactive enforcement actions taken by the Department, the personnel mobilised and their effectiveness in the past 3 years, with a breakdown by year and the 18 administrative districts; and
3. the details of community education and publicity work conducted by the Department in the past 3 years, with a breakdown by year and the 18 administrative districts.

Asked by: Hon NGAN Man-yu (LegCo internal reference no.: 9)

Reply:

- 1&2. The number of complaints against littering received by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, the number of fixed penalty notices (FPNs) issued, the number of prosecutions instituted and the number of law enforcement officers involved in the past 3 years (2022 to 2024), with a breakdown by District Council district, are set out in **Annex**. In the court cases convicted for littering, the penalties imposed ranged from \$300 to \$10,000. The Department does not keep a separate breakdown of the proactive enforcement actions or follow-up actions on complaints.

According to the records, the Department issued 31 945 FPNs in 2024, a reduction of about 24% as compared with 2023. It was estimated that with the increase of fixed penalty against littering in October 2023, coupled with the enforcement actions by the Department, the deterrent effect against littering has been effectively enhanced.

3. Apart from taking enforcement actions, the Department has adopted various measures to promote environmental hygiene, including publicity and health education, community participation and enhanced cleansing services. For publicity and health education in the community, the Department raises the public awareness of environmental hygiene through various channels, including the issue of press releases,

Facebook and Instagram pages of “Keep Clean Ambassador Ah Tak”, Announcements in the Public Interest on television and radio, as well as display of posters and banners at government venues (such as public markets and public toilets) and public transport facilities (such as MTR stations and bus stops).

Moreover, the Health Education Exhibition and Resource Centre of the Department at Kowloon Park in Tsim Sha Tsui promotes environmental hygiene and food safety related information to the public, schools as well as centres and homes for the elderly through various hygiene education activities. The Department has a publicity vehicle which serves as a mobile education centre for making visits to schools, housing estates and public parks. Through different media and with an innovative and educational approach, it provides the public with knowledge about food, personal and environmental hygiene. The Department does not keep a separate breakdown of the community education and publicity work by year and District Council district.

**Table 1: Number of complaints received
against deposit of refuse or waste in public places**

District	2022	2023	2024
Central & Western	45	77	117
Wan Chai	22	41	68
Eastern	63	85	130
Southern	2	8	1
Yau Tsim Mong	170	300	559
Sham Shui Po	57	279	427
Kowloon City	1 847	2 693	2 869
Wong Tai Sin	31	61	95
Kwun Tong	35	45	90
Kwai Tsing	25	65	149
Tsuen Wan	9	7	5
Yuen Long	166	455	323
Tuen Mun	71	121	139
North	26	27	79
Tai Po	5	9	26
Sha Tin	42	68	108
Sai Kung	283	485	636
Islands	5	12	52
Unspecified district	3	0	2
Total	2 907	4 838	5 875

Table 2 : Number of FPNs issued

District	2022	2023	2024
Central & Western	2 782	2 657	2 228
Wan Chai	1 520	1 865	1 717
Eastern	6 402	4 621	2 936
Southern	604	671	537
Yau Tsim Mong	5 658	5 642	4 262
Sham Shui Po	3 437	3 436	3 001
Kowloon City	2 122	1 977	1 509
Wong Tai Sin	826	1 023	852
Kwun Tong	2 417	2 186	1 898
Kwai Tsing	704	673	858
Tsuen Wan	1 908	1 567	1 350
Yuen Long	6 809	5 380	3 745
Tuen Mun	1 233	977	884
North	1 688	1 958	1 751
Tai Po	1 007	1 549	1 437
Sha Tin	1 534	1 956	1 648
Sai Kung	884	930	725
Islands	600	591	607
Total	42 135	39 659	31 945

**Table 3: Number of prosecutions instituted
against illegal deposit of refuse or waste (including dumping from vehicles)**

District	2022	2023	2024
Central & Western	2	0	0
Wan Chai	22	89	52
Eastern	3	49	11
Southern	7	147	16
Yau Tsim Mong	35	96	39
Sham Shui Po	4	77	24
Kowloon City	19	109	44
Wong Tai Sin	10	52	3
Kwun Tong	27	38	31
Kwai Tsing	13	37	94
Tsuen Wan	47	29	67
Yuen Long	559	123	1 477
Tuen Mun	44	92	168
North	99	271	571
Tai Po	43	62	149
Sha Tin	64	52	128
Sai Kung	45	61	107
Islands	2	15	51
Total	1 045	1 399	3 032

Table 4: Number of law enforcement officers handling littering cases

District	2022	2023	2024
Central & Western	237	259	271
Wan Chai	212	210	221
Eastern	266	268	280
Southern	121	123	125
Yau Tsim Mong	413	441	462
Sham Shui Po	243	241	260
Kowloon City	201	205	213
Wong Tai Sin	141	146	152
Kwun Tong	181	179	187
Kwai Tsing	150	146	153
Tsuen Wan	176	173	181
Yuen Long	233	228	250
Tuen Mun	155	154	164
North	158	169	173
Tai Po	167	163	173
Sha Tin	178	173	184
Sai Kung	157	155	164
Islands	147	153	170
Total	3 536	3 586	3 783

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