

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

EEB(F)125

(Question Serial No. 1344)

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 (Donald NG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Environment and Ecology

Question:

Regarding illegal shop front extension (SFE) and obstruction problems, please advise this Committee of:

1. the staff establishments of the Hawkers Sections and the Cleansing Sub-sections of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in each of the past 3 years;
2. the numbers of complaints against SFE received, fixed penalty notices issued, prosecutions initiated (including those with summonses served and arrests instituted), and seizures of goods or articles made by the Department in each of the past 3 years, with a breakdown by District Council district;
3. the number of body-worn video cameras procured by the Department and whether the personal equipment of law enforcement officers has been reviewed to meet actual operation needs; if yes, the details; if no, the reason(s); and
4. whether the Department will consider introducing to the blackspots the monitoring and detection system for occupation of roads for business operation adopted in the Mainland in order to facilitate law enforcement after the Public Health and Municipal Services (Amendment) Bill 2024 came into effect; if yes, the details; if no, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon YANG Wing-kit (LegCo internal reference no.: 22)

Reply:

1. Information on the staff establishments of the Hawkers Sections and the Cleansing Sub-sections of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in the past 3 years is provided in Annex I.
2. The numbers of complaints against shop front extension (SFE) received, fixed penalty notices (FPNs) issued, prosecutions initiated (including those with summonses served and arrests instituted), and seizures of goods or articles made by the Department in the past 3 years, with a breakdown by year and District Council district, are provided in Annex II.
3. The Department reviews the equipment of law enforcement officers from time to time in order to meet actual needs. In 2024, the Department further procured 700 sets of body-

worn video cameras (BWVCs) for Hawker Control Officers. Together with the 920 sets procured in 2023, a total of 1 620 sets of BWVCs have been put to use.

4. The Government has introduced the Public Health and Municipal Services (Amendment) Bill 2024 into the Legislative Council to empower the Department to address SFE situations independently. Apart from adopting the existing enforcement approach, the Department will also consider using images/videos captured by video cameras as evidence in accordance with actual needs, with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of law enforcement actions.

Overall staff establishment of the Hawkers Sections and Cleansing Sub-sections

Financial year	Staff establishment of Hawkers Sections ^{Note 1}	Staff establishment of Cleansing Sub-sections ^{Note 2}
2022-23	2 610	3 165
2023-24	2 572	3 165
2024-25	2 593	3 119

Note 1: Including members from the Health Inspector and Hawker Control Officer grades as well as Workmen I and II

Note 2: Including members from the Health Inspector, Foreman and Ganger grades as well as Workmen I and II

**Numbers of complaints against SFE received,
FPNs issued, prosecutions initiated, and seizures of goods or articles**

Table 1: Number of complaints

District	No. of complaints		
	2022	2023	2024
Central & Western	1 879	1 159	731
Wan Chai	677	463	512
Eastern	2 232	1 216	1 237
Southern	571	289	170
Islands	203	219	198
Yau Tsim Mong	2 819	3 210	2 379
Sham Shui Po	2 633	2 118	1 426
Kowloon City	1 515	633	508
Wong Tai Sin	1 325	703	333
Kwun Tong	705	902	1 015
Kwai Tsing	1 038	635	380
Tsuen Wan	903	738	523
Tuen Mun	707	466	768
Yuen Long	4 202	3 753	1 407
North	587	231	156
Tai Po	1 096	1 161	620
Sha Tin	477	366	420
Sai Kung	632	387	188
Total	24 201	18 649	12 971

Table 2: Number of FPNs issued

District	No. of FPNs issued		
	2022	2023	2024
Central & Western	185	219	92
Wan Chai	615	109	33
Eastern	775	192	40
Southern	358	63	2
Islands	0	1	0
Yau Tsim Mong	2 491	1 626	216
Sham Shui Po	1 893	1 003	133
Kowloon City	586	447	152
Wong Tai Sin	674	186	51
Kwun Tong	1 197	607	76
Kwai Tsing	905	358	55
Tsuen Wan	1 360	706	132
Tuen Mun	888	600	33
Yuen Long	2 201	1 173	181
North	282	120	12
Tai Po	963	141	26
Sha Tin	229	113	35
Sai Kung	186	49	21
Total	15 788	7 713	1 290

**Table 3: Number of prosecutions initiated
(Including the breakdown figures of summonses served and arrests instituted)**

District	2022			2023			2024		
	No. of summonses	No. of arrests	Total no. of prosecutions	No. of summonses	No. of arrests	Total no. of prosecutions	No. of summonses	No. of arrests	Total no. of prosecutions
Central & Western	39	0	39	26	0	26	55	0	55
Wan Chai	70	10	80	50	0	50	51	2	53
Eastern	216	34	250	125	0	125	39	2	41
Southern	71	2	73	3	0	3	6	1	7
Islands	26	0	26	35	0	35	42	0	42
Yau Tsim Mong	384	4	388	460	0	460	183	14	197
Sham Shui Po	225	105	330	251	12	263	189	0	189
Kowloon City	83	1	84	65	2	67	38	0	38
Wong Tai Sin	187	0	187	117	0	117	59	0	59
Kwun Tong	105	505	610	74	98	172	25	14	39
Kwai Tsing	85	15	100	120	0	120	57	0	57
Tsuen Wan	189	22	211	326	4	330	21	1	22
Tuen Mun	656	3	659	190	0	190	88	4	92
Yuen Long	188	2 037	2 225	203	550	753	134	72	206
North	49	0	49	71	0	71	41	0	41
Tai Po	183	20	203	85	10	95	30	2	32
Sha Tin	81	8	89	72	6	78	70	0	70
Sai Kung	150	47	197	105	10	115	32	0	32
Total	2 987	2 813	5 800	2 378	692	3 070	1 160	112	1 272

Table 4: Number of seizures of goods or articles

District	No. of seizures of goods or articles ^{Note}		
	2022	2023	2024
Central & Western	0	0	0
Wan Chai	8	0	2
Eastern	32	0	0
Southern	1	0	0
Islands	0	0	0
Yau Tsim Mong	6	2	0
Sham Shui Po	0	0	0
Kowloon City	0	2	0
Wong Tai Sin	5	0	2
Kwun Tong	253	49	7
Kwai Tsing	9	8	2
Tsuen Wan	14	0	0
Tuen Mun	33	0	4
Yuen Long	1 231	496	57
North	0	0	0
Tai Po	28	84	113
Sha Tin	115	86	77
Sai Kung	15	7	1
Total	1 750	734	265

Note: Including goods or articles seized as a result of arrests instituted and goods or articles that have been abandoned.

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