

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**EEB(F)163****(Question Serial No. 3793)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related ServicesControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Donald NG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Environment and EcologyQuestion:

With regard to the enforcement against shop front extension (SFE), please advise this Committee of:

- (a) the number of prosecutions initiated and the number of fixed penalty notices issued by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department against SFE in the past 3 years;
- (b) the number of complaints against SFE received by the Department in each of the past 3 years;
- (c) the average number of inspections and the number of enforcement actions against SFE blackspots in each month of the past year; and
- (d) the expenditures and staff establishments of the Hawkers Sections and Cleansing Sub-sections of the Department.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 83)Reply:

- (a) The number of prosecutions initiated and the number of fixed penalty notices (FPNs) issued by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) against shop front extension (SFE) in the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

	2022	2023	2024
Number of prosecutions ^{Note}	5 800	3 070	1 272
Number of FPNs	15 788	7 713	1 290

Note: Including prosecutions with summonses served and arrests instituted.

- (b) The numbers of complaints against SFE received by FEHD in the past 3 years (2022 to 2024) were 24 201, 18 649 and 12 971 respectively.

- (c) In 2024, FEHD and the Hong Kong Police Force (the Police) mounted nearly 1 690 joint enforcement operations against SFE blackspots in various districts across the territory. 1 138 FPNs and 391 summonses were issued to shops for obstruction of public places, unlicensed hawking and cleanliness offences; 6 persons in connection with the shops were arrested for alleged unlicensed hawking and obstruction in public places. The Police also issued 161 warning notices requiring owners to remove their goods or articles within a certain deadline, 124 of which were not observed. FEHD subsequently removed about 27 tonnes of goods or articles involved. It does not maintain a breakdown of the number of inspections against SFE blackspots.
- (d) The revised estimates of the expenditures and staff establishments of the Hawkers Sections and Cleansing Sub-sections of FEHD in the 2024-25 financial year are as follows:

Hawkers Sections		Cleansing Sub-sections	
Expenditure (\$ billion)	Staff establishment Note 1	Expenditure (\$ billion)	Staff establishment Note 2
1.362	2 593	5.205	3 119

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

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

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