

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

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(Question Serial No. 3947)

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 the approval of application for the setting up of food and beverage stalls, is it possible for a single department to coordinate the processing work, thereby streamlining the application procedures and shortening the processing time?

Asked by: Hon YIM Kong (LegCo internal reference no.: 26)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department provides one-stop services to applicants for food business licences (including temporary food factory licences (TFFLs) for food and beverage stalls) by coordinating with the relevant departments to process the applications in parallel, thereby shortening the time required. At present, the Department usually completes the processing of a TFFL application within 12 working days. In addition, the Department will exercise the greatest flexibility in processing the applications for TFFLs. Stalls only need to fulfil some basic requirements for safeguarding food safety and public health to obtain a licence. The Department will also explain the licensing requirements in detail to the stall owners as necessary to facilitate their accurate understanding of the relevant information.

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