

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

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(Question Serial No. 0069)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Environment and Ecology

Question:

Regarding the implementation of the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP), please advise this Committee of the following:

- 1) What are the latest progress of implementing the MMP and the expenditure involved in 2025-26? What are the results after modernisation in terms of occupancy rate and patronage of markets?
- 2) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will continue to implement the MMP in 2026-27. What are the details of the relevant work plan and the expenditure involved? What are the estimated results in terms of cost-effectiveness?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Chun, Jonathan (LegCo internal reference no.: 7)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is taking forward the Market Modernisation Programme to implement projects of various scales at suitable markets, including overhaul or redevelopment, stall enhancement, as well as minor refurbishment or improvement works.

Regarding overhaul or redevelopment projects, Aberdeen Market and Lai Wan Market officially re-opened in May 2023 and March 2024 respectively after overhaul works. The project costs were about \$254 million and \$46.77 million respectively. They have been operating smoothly since re-opening. The daily average patronage of Aberdeen Market from the date of resumption of operation to the end of February 2026 was about 12 000, an increase of about 15% from that before the overhaul works. The patronage of Lai Wan Market after resumption of operation has also remained at an average of over 8 000 per day, an increase of over 13% from that before the overhaul works. During the same period, the occupancy rates of Aberdeen Market and Lai Wan Market were 85% and 97% respectively. The Department will continue to prepare for the overhaul or redevelopment projects for Ngau Tau Kok Market and Kowloon City Market, etc.

As for stall enhancement, the first project was carried out in Queen Street Cooked Food Market at a cost of about \$9.5 million. Resumed full operation in September 2024, it has a

daily average patronage of about 1 400 from the date of resumption of operation to the end of February 2026, an increase of about 5% from that before the enhancement works, and its occupancy rate during the same period was 100%. In 2025-26, the Department commenced stall enhancement works in Ap Lei Chau Market Cooked Food Centre, Luen Wo Hui Market Cooked Food Centre and Yue Wan Market Cooked Food Centre at a total cost of about \$61.5 million. The Department will continue to identify other suitable markets for stall enhancement works.

With regard to minor refurbishment or improvement works, the Department has taken forward the relevant works in 16 markets. As at the end of February 2026, the works in 15 markets (including Ngau Tau Kok Market, Yeung Uk Road Market, Fa Yuen Street Market, Quarry Bay Market, Shui Wo Street Market, Tsuen Wan Market, Mong Kok Cooked Food Market, Ngau Chi Wan Market, Shek Tong Tsui Market, Yan Oi Market, Sai Kung Market, Po On Road Market, Wong Nai Chung Market, Smithfield Market and Luen Wo Hui Market) have been completed, while those in the remaining Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market are expected to be completed in the second quarter of 2026. The total estimated expenditure for taking forward the 16 aforementioned minor refurbishment or improvement projects is about \$81.46 million.

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