

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

EEB(F)145

(Question Serial No. 3471)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health
(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:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department holds Lunar New Year (LNY) fairs at designated venues in various districts across the territory every year. All the fair venues will be open to the successful bidders for setting up of stalls. In this connection, please advise this Committee of the following:

1. What were the respective numbers of visitors to each LNY fair in the past 3 years?
2. What were the respective numbers of successful bids in the first and subsequent rounds of auction for each LNY fair in the past 3 years?
3. Further to the above question, what were the respective vacancy rates (i.e. the percentages of stalls not let out eventually) of each LNY fair in the past 3 years?
4. For the LNY fairs in the past 3 years, how many cases were there across the territory where officers of the Department were required to make prompt rectification, issue warnings or institute prosecution due to non-compliance of stall licensees?
5. For the LNY fairs in the past 3 years, were any stall licensees made to leave the fair upon termination of their licence agreements due to non-compliance? If yes, what are the details?
6. At the LNY fairs in 2026, many dry goods stalls sold food to fair-goers for consumption on site, including cakes that required refrigeration and drinks prepared on site. Did such practice comply with the rental requirements for a dry goods stall? How will the Department ascertain the food source and safety, and make sure that the food on sale meets the quality requirements?

Asked by: Hon CHIK Kit-ling, Elaine (LegCo internal reference no.: 127)

Reply:

- 1-3. The information sought is provided at **Annex**.
- 4-5. The numbers of enforcement actions taken against non-compliance at the Lunar New Year (LNY) fairs of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in the past 3 years are as follows:

Number of enforcement actions		2024	2025	2026
(i)	Prompt rectifications	436	154	247
(ii)	Verbal warnings	122	95	421
(iii)	Warning letters	0	0	0
(iv)	Prosecutions	37	57	71
(v)	Termination of the stall's licence agreement due to non-compliance	0	0	0

6. Under the terms of the agreement, dry goods stalls are permitted to sell commodities specified in the licence agreement, including dried fruits, preserved fruits, nuts, prepackaged food, LNY confectionary and non-food dry goods such as LNY scrolls and festive decorations.

During the LNY fairs, the Department will arrange for staff to inspect the stalls daily to ensure their operations comply with the relevant laws and the terms of the licence agreement. Meanwhile, education on food safety and hygiene will be provided and promotional booklets will be distributed to persons-in-charge of fast food stalls, reminding them to strictly follow food safety guidelines and take appropriate measures during their operations to ensure that the food produced and supplied meets hygiene and safety standards. Where the Department's staff have concerns regarding the source of food, they will require the stall operators to provide relevant supporting documents, so as to ensure that the food they sell comes from reliable sources and complies with the relevant laws. In addition, if a LNY stall prepares and produces food for sale purposes without permission, contravening the Food Business Regulation (Cap. 132X) of the Laws of Hong Kong, a prosecution will be instituted immediately and the stall will be ordered to immediately cease the act of contravention.

**Numbers of visitors, successfully bid stalls and vacant stalls
at Lunar New Year Fairs of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
from 2024 to 2026**

Serial no.	LNY fair venue	Total number of visitors to LNY fairs			[Number of stalls let out through open auction ^a] and (Number of stalls let out on a first-come-first-served basis) for LNY fairs			Number of vacant stalls at LNY fairs		
		2024	2025	2026	2024	2025	2026	2024	2025	2026
1	Victoria Park	631 167	746 462	798 031	[352] (27)	[383] (11)	[400] (2)	8	1	0
2	Tat Tung Road Garden, Tung Chung	14 539	13 591	28 302	[16] (12)	[23] (3)	[19] (4)	0	1	4
3	Fa Hui Park, Sham Shui Po	164 793	162 993	192 537	[114] (15)	[110] (5)	[124] (4)	0	19	8
4	Cheung Sha Wan Playground, Sham Shui Po	67 596	71 838	102 582	[86] (0)	[88] (1)	[88] (0)	0	0	1
5	Kwun Tong Recreation Ground, Kwun Tong	102 322	131 087	150 991	[84] (0)	[88] (1)	[89] (1)	0	0	0
6	Morse Park, Wong Tai Sin ^b	75 919	N.A.	N.A.	[76] (0)	N.A.	N.A.	0	N.A.	N.A.
7	Tsz Wan Shan Estate Central Playground, Wong Tai Sin ^c	N.A.	47 095	N.A.	N.A.	[45] (8)	N.A.	N.A.	23	N.A.
8	To Kwa Wan Recreation Ground, Kowloon City ^d	N.A.	N.A.	67 327	N.A.	N.A.	[34] (3)	N.A.	N.A.	15
9	Kwai Chung Sports Ground, Kwai Tsing	100 016	124 401	157 049	[96] (0)	[98] (0)	[98] (0)	0	0	0
10	Sha Tsui Road Playground, Tsuen Wan	188 329	243 123	276 999	[116] (0)	[126] (0)	[126] (1)	0	0	0
11	Tin Hau Temple Plaza, Tuen Mun	73 805	88 135	119 662	[57] (0)	[57] (0)	[61] (1)	0	0	0
12	Tung Tau Industrial Area Playground, Yuen Long	181 278	170 208	226 437	[150] (0)	[158] (0)	[158] (0)	0	0	0

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		2024	2025	2026	2024	2025	2026	2024	2025	2026
13	Shek Wu Hui Playground, North District	172 289	192 407	205 253	[69] (0)	[73] (0)	[92] (0)	0	0	0
14	Tin Hau Temple Fung Shui Square, Tai Po	60 847	88 423	98 280	[61] (0)	[60] (0)	[61] (0)	0	1	0
15	Yuen Wo Playground, Sha Tin	82 955	122 695	126 147	[71] (0)	[74] (1)	[74] (1)	0	0	0
16	Man Yee Playground, Sai Kung ^c	9 906	16 533	N.A.	[20] (0)	[20] (0)	N.A.	0	0	N.A.
17	Po Hong Park, Tseung Kwan O	73 000	77 033	98 438	[88] (0)	[80] (6)	[88] (3)	0	3	0

“N.A.” denotes “Not applicable”.

Notes: ^a The LNY stalls were first let out through open auction, and the remaining stalls were open for application for rental on a first-come-first-served basis. [] indicates the number of stalls let out through open auction; () indicates the number of stalls let out on a first-come-first-served basis.

^b During the construction of a storage tank at the soccer pitch in Morse Park, Wong Tai Sin from 2025 to 2029, the LNY fair at Morse Park, Wong Tai Sin is suspended.

^c In 2025, the LNY fair in the Wong Tai Sin District was temporarily relocated to Tsz Wan Shan Estate Central Playground. After the event, an evaluation revealed that the venue and its actual operations were unsatisfactory. Taking into account the feedback from local communities and in accordance with the principle of making good use of public resources, the LNY fair in the Wong Tai Sin District has been suspended since 2026.

^d It was held for the first time in 2026.

^e The LNY fair has been discontinued since 2026.

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