

**Economic and Employment Council
Retail Task Force**

***Implementation Progress for Recommendations of the Review on
the Licensing Processes and Procedures for Food Retail Business***

Recommendations	Task	Progress
(1) Enhancing the public consultation mechanism	Extend membership of existing consultative mechanisms	FEHD conducts consultation with the trade on a regular basis on a range of regulatory control issues. We have at present some 50 associations/organizations on our consultation list. They include food trade representatives interviewed by the Economic and Employment Council Retail Task Force and the representatives who attended the meetings of LegCo Subcommittee to Study Streamlining of Food Business Licensing.

Recommendations	Task	Progress
(2) Composite licensing	(a) Consolidate the idea and framework for composite licensing (b) Consult public on details of composite licensing	<p>We are now working out the framework for composite licensing and will consult the food trade on our proposals in end 2005. Following that, we will submit legislative amendments to the Food Business Regulation (Cap 132 sub. leg.) to implement this proposal.</p>
(3) Streamlining licensing procedures	(a) Review licensing requirements	<p>FEHD has implemented some improvement measures since July 2005 as follows –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The requirement for applicant to highlight proposed changes on revised plans to facilitate prompt referral to relevant departments for comments.• Relaxation of licensing requirements on counter height and provision of drip-board to wash up sink.

Recommendations	Task	Progress
	<p>(b) Review details to be shown on layout plans</p> <p>(c) Introduce performance pledges for permit application</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have emphasized in the invitation letter to applicant the need to involve the consultant and contractor where applicable at an early stage and to include them at the Application Vetting Panel (AVP) meeting. • We issue the building and fire safety and health / hygiene requirements and conditions to the applicant before the AVP meeting to facilitate discussion at the AVP meeting. <p>FEHD has coordinated a list of items not required to be shown on layout plans in consultation with BD, FSD, HD and Arch SD. We consulted the trade on 19 October 2005 who welcomed the proposal. We are taking steps to introduce the new measure.</p> <p>1st quarter 2006.</p>

Recommendations	Task	Progress
	<p>(d) Accept private certification for the issue of full licences not involving fire services certification</p> <p>[Note: Amendment to the Food Business Regulation is necessary.]</p> <p>(e) Require applicants to highlight changes in applications for layout alteration</p> <p>(f) Improve internal communication process and data sharing</p>	<p>1st quarter 2006 to consult the trade.</p> <p>Implemented</p> <p>Implemented with launching of the Licensing Management Information System.</p>

Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
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