

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: 39 – Drainage Services DepartmentSubhead:Programme: (2) Sewage ServicesControlling Officer: Director of Drainage ServicesDirector of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question How many appeal cases of sewage charge and trade effluent surcharge were there in 2007-08 and 2008-09? Of which, how many were from the restaurant trade? How many appeal cases were approved? Of which, how many were from the restaurant trade? What is the average time needed to complete the processing of a case?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, TommyReply:

The number of applications and approved cases for reassessment of trade effluent surcharge (TES) rate and discharge factor for sewage charge and TES in 2007-08 and 2008-09 are as follows:

	2007-08	2008-09 (for 11 months only) ⁽²⁾
Number of applications received for reassessment of TES rate		
All trades	335	188
Restaurant trade	264	121
Number of applications approved⁽¹⁾		
All trades	471	181
Restaurant trade	449	113
Number of applications received for reassessment of discharge factor		
All trades	37	23
Restaurant trade	0	0
Number of applications approved		
All trades	39	8
Restaurant trade	0	0

Notes:

- As there is a time lag for processing the applications, the number of applications approved within a year may exceed the number of applications received.
- The drop in the number of applications received in 2008-09 is mainly due to the extension of the validity period of TES reassessments from one year to two years with effect from 1 July 2007 and then from two years to three years with effect from 1 August 2008.

It normally takes three to four months to process a case.

Signature _____

Name in block letters K K LAUPost Title Director of Drainage ServicesDate 17 March 2009