

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

EEB(E)028

(Question Serial No. 0826)

Head: (39) Drainage Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): Not specified

Programme: (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services (Alice PANG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Environment and Ecology

Question:

How many appeals against sewage charge and trade effluent surcharge were filed in 2020, 2021 and 2022? Of the appeals filed, how many were lodged by the restaurant trade? How many appeals were allowed? Of the appeals allowed, how many were lodged by the restaurant trade? What is the average time needed to complete the processing of an appeal?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 21)

Reply:

		2020	2021	2022
Reassessment of Trade Effluent Surcharge (TES) rate	Number of applications received			
	<i>All trades</i>	4	0	13
	<i>Restaurant trade</i>	3	0	8
	Number of applications approved ^{Note}			
	<i>All trades</i>	78	3	0
	<i>Restaurant trade</i>	18	3	0
Reassessment of Discharge Factor (DF)	Number of applications received			
	<i>All trades</i>	17	24	8
	<i>Restaurant trade</i>	0	0	0
	Number of applications approved ^{Note}			
	<i>All trades</i>	12	14	16
	<i>Restaurant trade</i>	0	0	0

Note: As there is a time lag for processing the applications, the number of applications approved does not correspond to the number of applications received within the same financial year.

Normally, upon receipt of all the necessary information, it takes 3 to 4 months to process a case of reassessment of TES rate, while it takes 1 to 2 months to process a case of reassessment of DF. Furthermore, some businesses have ceased or reduced their operations during the epidemic and the Government waived TES from 2020 to 2022. As a result, the number of

applications received by the Drainage Services Department for reassessment of TES rate dropped during this period.

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