<u>Application for vacant fixed hawker</u> <u>pitches opens</u>

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) will re-allocate a total of 435 vacant fixed hawker pitches and issue new licences. Persons who meet the application requirements can submit their applications from today (September 30) to October 20, 2019.

An FEHD spokesman said today, "With the release of vacant hawker pitches due to completion of the FEHD's Hawker Assistance Scheme and of those within or outside the hawker areas falling vacant due to other reasons, the FEHD will re-allocate 435 fixed hawker pitches with the issuance of new licences, which will be open for application by persons who are interested in the hawking business and able to meet relevant requirements."

The pitches, located in Eastern District (22 pitches), Central and Western District (22 pitches), Wan Chai District (60 pitches), Yau Tsim district (113 pitches), Mong Kok district (84 pitches), Sham Shui Po District (65 pitches), Kowloon City District (18 pitches) and Tsuen Wan District (51 pitches), will be allocated equally among four categories of applicants, namely holders of the Fixed-Pitch (Newspaper) Hawker Licence, holders of the Itinerant Hawker Licence (Other Classes/Newspaper), eligible registered assistants meeting the application requirements, and members of the public satisfying certain basic criteria.

Applicants can download the application form from the FEHD website (<u>www.fehd.gov.hk</u>), or obtain the form from the FEHD District Environmental Hygiene Offices or Hawkers and Markets Section Offices during office hours in the application period from today to October 20.

The spokesman said, "Each applicant should submit one application only and an application number will be given to individual applicants in each category. The pitch selection priority order of eligible applicants will be generated in a fair and impartial manner by way of open computer random sequencing and manual ballot."

Upon completion of the ballot, eligible applicants will receive written notification of their pitch selection priority numbers or they can also check the results on the FEHD website (www.fehd.gov.hk) the next day after balloting. The FEHD will then issue letters in batches according to the pitch selection priority numbers to invite successful applicants for pitch selection and completion of the formalities for issue of a new licence.

"Except for applicants under the categories of licensed fixed-pitch newspaper hawkers or licensed itinerant hawkers, the hawker licence operation period of a newly issued hawker licence is seven years and the licence will not be renewed upon expiry," he added. The completed application form together with the required documents shall be submitted within the application period through the FEHD website (<u>www.fehd.gov.hk</u>), by fax (3007 6415), by email (hawker_hpao@fehd.gov.hk), by post to the Hawker Pitch Allocation Office, or in person to the FEHD Hawkers and Markets Section (Hong Kong and Islands Office/Kowloon Office) or the Tsuen Wan Environmental Hygiene Office.

For details, please visit the FEHD website, or call 2348 6944 or 2868 0000 or email <u>enquiries@fehd.gov.hk</u> for enquiries.

Information on the Hawker Pitch Allocation Office and the Hawkers and Markets Section Offices is as follows:

Hawker Pitch Allocation Office Address: M/F, Rumsey Street Multi-storey Carpark Building, 2 Rumsey Street, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong Tel: 2348 6944

Hawkers and Markets Section (Hong Kong and Islands Office) Address: 8/F, Lockhart Road Municipal Services Building, 225 Hennessy Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong Tel: 2879 5695

Hawkers and Markets Section (Kowloon Office) Address: Room 301, 3/F, FEHD Nam Cheong Offices, 87 Yen Chow Street West, Kowloon Tel: 2309 2043