

Mobile printing fixed penalty notices for public cleanliness and obstruction offences introduced

The Government today (March 28) gazetted additional forms of fixed penalty notices (FPNs) under the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness and Obstruction) Ordinance (Cap. 570) (the Ordinance) to introduce mobile printing of FPNs to enhance enforcement efficiency and accuracy through the use of technology.

Currently, frontline enforcement officers of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) need to manually fill in information of the contravention on printed FPNs, which are then checked and inputted into the backend data system by backend officers.

The new Mobile Printing Fixed Penalty Notice System (Mobile Printing System) enables enforcement officers to scan offenders' Hong Kong identity cards through an application on department-issued mobile phones to instantly import identity information, along with automatic inputting of the date, time, location and details of enforcement officers. Officers can then print the notice on the spot using portable printers. The relevant data will be automatically uploaded to the backend system, reducing manual errors and improving enforcement efficiency. The mobile application only scans and imports information, but will not keep images of the identity cards. Data collected for enforcement remains unchanged.

To accommodate the printable size of portable printers, the forms of FPNs need to be streamlined. The Secretary for Environment and Ecology, empowered under section 17A of the Ordinance, has specified the forms of the relevant FPNs.

Starting from March 31, the FEHD will launch the trial of the Mobile Printing System in Southern, Wong Tai Sin and Kwai Tsing Districts.