

**Business Facilitation Advisory Committee  
Food Business and Related Services Task Force**

***Implementation Details of Waiver of Licence Fees for Restaurants  
and Fees for Restricted Food Permits for 6-month***

**Purpose**

This paper briefs the Food Business and Related Services Task Force on the arrangement of the 6-month waiver of the licence fees for restaurants and fees for restricted food permits.

**Background**

2. On 25 February 2015, the Financial Secretary announced in the 2015-16 Budget to launch some targeted short-term measures to support the sectors affected by the occupy movement including the waiver of the licence fees for restaurants and hawkers and fees for restricted food permits for six months. The concession period will last for one year, commencing on 1 July 2015 and ending on 30 June 2016 (both dates inclusive).

**Fee Waiver for Restaurants and Restricted Food Permits**

3. The fee waiver covers some 13 400 restaurant licences<sup>1</sup> and some 6 500 restricted food permits<sup>2</sup> issued by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD). The arrangement is as follows –

- (a) The fees payable for the issue or renewal of the aforesaid licences/ permits commencing during the concession period will be waived for a maximum period of six months. For restaurant licences, the issue

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<sup>1</sup> Restaurant licences include the full and provisional licences of General Restaurant, Light Refreshment Restaurant and Marine Restaurant.

<sup>2</sup> Restricted food permits involve the sale of any of the restricted foods such as non-bottled drinks, frozen confections, milk and milk beverages, cut fruit, Chinese herb tea, Leung Fan, sushi, sashimi, oysters to be eaten in raw state, meat to be eaten in raw state, live fish, shell fish and food sold by means of a vending machine as specified in Schedule 2 of the Food Business Regulation (Cap.132X).

of a full licence following a provisional licence is regarded as one licence and the combined fee waiver period is subject to the maximum period of six months.

- (b) Holders of licences/permits which have commenced before the concession period will enjoy the waiver when they next renew their licences/permits in the course of the concession period.
- (c) For licences/permits which only commence after the start date of the concession period but full fees have already been paid before their commencements, arrangement will be made for the refund of the fee paid for a period of six months.

4. FEHD has informed all eligible licensees and permittees of the fee waiver/refund arrangement in writing in July 2015. Eligible applicants will also be informed of the fee waiver at time of application.

### **Way Forward**

5. Members are invited to note the content of this paper and offer comments, if any.

**Food and Environmental Hygiene Department**  
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