

**Forty-fifth Meeting of
the Business Facilitation Advisory Committee**

***Agenda Item 3(b): Report on the work of the
Food Business and Related Services Task Force***

Purpose

This paper reports on the work progress of the Food Business and Related Services Task Force (FRSTF) since the last Business Facilitation Advisory Committee (BFAC) meeting on 29 January 2021.

Work Progress of FRSTF

Public Consultation on Strengthening Regulation of Harmful Substances in Food

2. The Government published a public consultation document in December 2020 on the proposed amendments to the Harmful Substances in Food Regulations (Cap. 132AF) for strengthening the regulation of harmful substances such as industrially-produced trans fats and mycotoxins. The consultation period lasted from 11 December 2020 to 15 March 2021. The discussion paper was circulated to members for comments on 2 February 2021 as the period could not fit in the FRSTF meeting schedule. The Secretariat subsequently forwarded the views received to the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD).

Requirement on Ventilation in Seating Area of Catering Premises under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F) (the Regulation)

3. The FEHD briefed the FRSTF on the ventilation requirement in seating area of catering premises and the action required by the licencees in complying with the requirement as stipulated in the Regulation in the meeting on 15 April 2021.

4. The FRSTF thanked the FEHD for the briefing and appreciated the department's effort in listening and addressing the trade's concern.

5. Some FRSTF members took the opportunity to reflect the trade's concerns on 'vaccine bubble'. As directed by the Convenor, the Secretariat forwarded the concerns to the Food and Health Bureau.

Phase 3 of the Love Upgrading Special Scheme

6. To tie in with the Government's measures to support enterprises and safeguard jobs, the Employees Retraining Board (ERB) briefed members the 'Love Upgrading Special Scheme 3', including the "Enterprise-based Training" arrangement for trade associations or employers with a view to supporting the underemployed or employees on no-pay leave in skills upgrading and the disbursement of special allowance.

7. The FRSTF thanked the ERB for the briefing and its work on supporting the employees affected by economic downturn.

Way Forward

8. Members are invited to note the work progress of FRSTF. FRSTF will continue to monitor the development of the above issues.

Business Facilitation Team
Efficiency Office
Innovation and Technology Bureau
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