

**Fifty-second Meeting of
the Business Facilitation Advisory Committee**

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

Purpose

This paper reports the work progress of the Food Business and Related Services Task Force (FRSTF) since the last Business Facilitation Advisory Committee (BFAC) meeting on 28 June 2023.

Work Progress of the FRSTF

***Enhancement Measures on the Existing Food Business Licence
Application Procedures***

2. At the FRSTF meeting on 17 August 2023, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) briefed the FRSTF on the following improvement measures to revise the current food business licensing system, shorten processing time and facilitate the applicants to comply with the licensing requirements to obtain relevant licences, in consideration that food safety is not compromised.

***Restricted Food Permit for Specific Types of Automatic Food Vending
Machines***

3. The FEHD proposes that if the prepackaged cooked food items are re-heated through automatic programs inside the vending machine, operators can apply for a restricted food permit instead of a food factory licence.

***Waived Application for a Connected Bakery Licence for preparation of
bakery products for sale***

4. The FEHD proposes to waive the application for a connected bakery licence for the licensed general or light refreshment restaurant with production of bread and other bakery products for sale in a separate counter / portion of the licensed premises for both consumption on premises and retail sale.

Relaxation of Submission of Particular Documents in Connection with Licence Application

5. For application involving the use of communal toilet facilities, the licensing requirement on submission of communal toilet certificate signed by the property management is proposed to be waived if the applicant can demonstrate to FEHD staff on site as well as on the proposed plans the location of the communal toilet facilities. Besides, for food factory licence applications, the submission of the food supply source certificate is proposed to be waived at time of licence application, while the need to observe the licensing condition related to the source of food supply will be maintained after licence issuance. In addition, the requirement on the submission of a copy of Business Registration Certificate for corporate applicant is proposed to be modified to submission thereof only when requested by the licensing authority.

Relaxation of Food Preparation Restriction in Temporary Food Factory and Simplification of the Application Form

6. Cooking of pre-prepared food supplied from lawful source on the premise, with no emission / generation of excessive oily fumes throughout the food preparation process will be allowed, on circumstances that the venue is equipped with suitable facilities such as electricity supply and scullery accommodation. In addition, the items to be filled in the application form will also be reduced. For example, for those large scale bazaar or food festival functions already announced through news media, the requirements for applicant to fill in the details will be waived.

7. The FRSTF welcomed the above enhancement measures to facilitate the trade to obtain relevant licences.

Way Forward

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

**Business Facilitation Team
Efficiency Office
Innovation, Technology and Industry Bureau
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