

**Fifty-third 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 22 September 2023.

**Work Progress of the FRSTF**

***Expanding the scope of the “Professional Certification System” to cover General Restaurants***

2. At the FRSTF meeting on 4 January 2024, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) briefed the FRSTF on expanding the scope of the “Professional Certification System” (PCS) to cover General Restaurants (GRs) as an additional option for obtaining full licences issued by the FEHD.

3. The FEHD will expand the scope of the PCS to cover GRs in the first quarter of 2024. Applicants of Light Refreshment Restaurants, Food Factories and GRs of full licences can choose either to follow the original system or the PCS for issue of full licence. Subject to the smooth implementation and support from the trade, the FEHD will extend the new measure to other food business licences.

4. The FRSTF welcomed the above enhancement measure to facilitate the trade to obtain relevant licences.

5. Separately, members suggested the FEHD further digitalising its licence application processing, especially in case referral and layout plan approval and briefing FRSTF members on the enhancement measures and implementation plan as appropriate.

## **Way Forward**

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

**Business Facilitation Team  
Efficiency Office  
Innovation, Technology and Industry Bureau  
January 2024**