Regarding the survey of ships, please advise on:

(a) the quotas which the Marine Department (MD) allots to fishermen each time by district for application for inspection of locally-licensed and river trade vessels respectively in the past three years (2017-18 to 2019-20) and the respective schedules;

(b) the time required from documents vetting to the issue of a certificate of survey if a vessel has been inspected by an authorised surveyor; and

(c) the number of staff and expenditure involved for flexibly deploying manpower as MD has promised to deploy its staff flexibly to conduct surveys of ships in various districts having regard to the industry’s demand, since there have been views from some fishermen that the surveys and issue of licences take considerable time; and also the criteria for determining whether additional manpower is required.

Reply:

(a) In the past three years, MD’s schedule and quotas for the survey of locally-licensed vessels (including river trade vessels) at designated survey locations are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designated Survey Location</th>
<th>Schedule (Except Public Holidays)</th>
<th>Quota for Locally-Licensed Vessels</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Yau Ma Tei Typhoon Shelter</td>
<td>Monday to Friday</td>
<td>No quota is set</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aberdeen Typhoon Shelter</td>
<td>Every Tuesday and Thursday</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Designated Survey Location** | **Schedule (Except Public Holidays)** | **Quota for Locally-Licensed Vessels**
--- | --- | ---
Shau Kei Wan Typhoon Shelter | First and third Tuesday of every month | 10
Cheung Chau Typhoon Shelter | Second and fourth Tuesday of every month | 10
Sai Kung (off Sai Kung Hoi Pong Street) | First and third Wednesday of every month | 10
Tai Po (off Sam Mun Tsai Marine Office) | Second Wednesday of every month | 10
Tuen Mun Kadoorie Pier | Second and fourth Friday of every month | 10
Sha Tau Kok Pier at Yim Liu Ha | Third Friday of every three months | 20 (Additional quota is available according to actual situations)
Tsing Yi (North) (opened in December 2019 for enhancement of service) | Monday to Friday | No quota is set.

(b) Upon completion of an inspection, an authorised surveyor is required to submit the declaration of survey and relevant supporting document to MD within 14 days for verification. For existing vessels, if the documents submitted are in order, MD will normally complete the verification process and issue the Certificate of Survey within three working days. For a newly constructed vessel, given the need to conduct detailed document checking and input data into the computer system, MD will normally take ten working days to complete the verification process and issue the Certificate of Survey upon receipt of all the required documents from the authorised surveyor.

(c) MD has been flexibly deploying staff to conduct surveys of ships in various districts having regard to the industry’s demand. For example, when there is an increase in demand for surveys, we will deploy additional staff to process the applications or set a special re-inspection period to conduct re-inspections for vessels which have failed an earlier inspection. We will continue to suitably deploy our manpower resources to cope with the demand.

Inspections of locally-licensed vessels (including river trade vessels) are performed by 20 ship surveyors and ship inspectors of the Local Vessels Safety Section. There is no separate breakdown of the expenditure involved in the above flexible staff deployment.