

# Consumer Liaison Group Newsletter 11

## ~ Meetings ~

The Consumer Liaison Group (CLG) convened a discussion meeting on the evening of 29 July 2019 at the Communication Resource Unit of the Centre for Food Safety (CFS). The meeting, under the theme of “Members’ views on measures against African Swine Fever (ASF)”, covered the following main points:

**Members’ general knowledge of ASF:** In general, members knew that ASF did not infect human and that bringing any raw meat into Hong Kong without an official health certificate was illegal. Most of them also knew that ASF posed no threat to food safety.

**Members’ perceptions of local ASF cases and control measures in slaughterhouses:** Members were all aware of the two local ASF cases, but only few of them had learned of the newly implemented daily clearance arrangement. Some members reckoned that increased information transparency could help them have a better understanding of the mechanism and workflow of ASF control measures and alleviate their concerns.

**Members’ perceptions of experts’ proposal to cull only the infected pigs as a new measure against ASF in slaughterhouses:** Some members had reservations about the proposal due to personal psychological fear on the one hand and a lack of an

effective way to obtain relevant information on the other hand. Members opined that a more proactive role taken by the Government in explaining their policies would help enhance public understanding.

**Members’ views on rising pork prices and consumption of chilled/frozen pork:** Most members noticed the shortage of fresh pork on the market, along with its soaring retail prices. They showed minimal concern on switching from fresh pork to frozen/chilled pork in their meals.

**Members’ views on effective channels for receiving information on ASF:** Some members suggested producing visual aids such as infographics and short videos to explain how ASF was controlled. They also agreed that whenever there were major incidents or policy announcements, press conferences conducted by high-level management or experts would help provide information that was more professional and reliable. Besides, some members suggested keeping on advising the trade to cook pork (including pork liver) thoroughly on different occasions.

## ~ Food Safety Day 2019 ~

The Food Safety Day is an annual signature event organised by the CFS. This year, it was held on 2 June (Sunday) under the theme of “Empower Consumers to Ensure Food Safety”. A series of

# Consumer Liaison Group Newsletter 11

activities were conducted, including exhibition, sharing sessions and game booths so as to encourage public engagement in food safety issues. For details of the activities, please visit:

[https://www.cfs.gov.hk/english/whatsnew/whatsnew\\_act/Food\\_Safety\\_Day\\_2019\\_Opening.html](https://www.cfs.gov.hk/english/whatsnew/whatsnew_act/Food_Safety_Day_2019_Opening.html)



A number of CLG members showed up to support the Food Safety Day 2019.



Dr. YEUNG Tze-kiu, the Consultant of the CFS (third right), and guests kicked off the Food Safety Day 2019.

## ~ Recruitment of the 6<sup>th</sup> term CLG Members ~

You are cordially invited to be a member of the 6<sup>th</sup> term CLG. The membership form is available for download from our website:

[https://www.cfs.gov.hk/english/committee/committee\\_clg\\_recruitment.html](https://www.cfs.gov.hk/english/committee/committee_clg_recruitment.html)



Reputable chef Ms. Kit MAK shared her experience of food preparation and raw material selection.