

Air-conditioned market to open

THE first air-conditioned public market in Shek Wu Hui, Sheung Shui, will open from 1 October, the Regional Council says.

The \$206 million complex will put all the 382 tenancy stalls, licensed fixed pitch and cooked food hawkers currently operating in six different places in the Sheung Shui area under one roof.

"Such a large concentration of market stalls will mean the fullest display of a wide array of goods, and inevitably keen competition among traders," Regional Services Department (North District) hygiene superintendent Ip Shing-tong said.

"It will certainly be to the

advantage of consumers, who will also be able to shop in the cool comfort of the air-conditioned complex."

Mr Ip said once the new market in Chi Chong Street opened for business, the old market places would be closed down and the fixed pitch stands removed.

Some 360 of the stalls and hawkers to be resited have already signed up for the new market, which provides 392 stall places in all.

"We will step up enforcement against illegal hawking in the area to ensure there is no unfair competition against legitimate stall tenants," Mr Ip said.