



NEA senior environment health executive Alvin Chew inspecting a stall at a coffeeshop in Compassvale Bow to ensure it complies with cleanliness and hygiene standards. OOI BOON KEONG

# Unclean food stall? The fine is double

SINGAPORE — Stallholders who flout food hygiene rules face higher composition fines that took effect yesterday.

Some 65 National Environment Agency (NEA) office were deployed to check that standards were up to mark, looking out for things like whether stallholders wore gloves, the chopping boards were clean and fridge storage conditions.

Stallholders who do not practise good hygiene standards get two demerit points and a composition fine of \$200 for

a minor offence — double what they had to pay previously.

A serious offence will cost them four times more: A composition fine of \$400 and six demerit points.

Those who accumulate 12 demerit points in a year will have their licences suspended for two weeks.

As of 4pm yesterday, 12 fines had been handed out. The NEA said 621 fines were handed out in the first three months of this year. HETTY MUSFIRAH