

**Replies to supplementary questions raised by Finance Committee Members
in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08**

**Director of Bureau : Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food
Session No. : 15**

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
S-HWFB(FE)01	SV016	KWOK Ka-ki	49	Food Safety and Public Health
S-HWFB(FE)02	SV017	TAM Yiu-chung	49	
S-HWFB(FE)03	S048	LAM Wai-keung, Daniel	139	Environmental Hygiene

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

S-HWFB(FE)01

Question Serial No.

SV016

Head : 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer : Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food

Question :

In relation to the 125 posts to be created to perform food safety regulatory functions and provide pest control services, Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki requested the Administration to confirm the number of new posts (with a breakdown by type of posts) to be created for the food surveillance work undertaken in the Mainland.

Asked by : Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply :

Of the net 125 posts provided under Programme (1) in 2007-08, 36 posts are to be created for strengthening import control of food from the Mainland and other exporting countries including enhancing farm inspections. These include 28 Health Inspector grade officers as well as 2 Veterinary Officers and 6 Field Officers. The resources to undertake food surveillance work in the Mainland is not separately identifiable.

Signature _____

Name in block letters **EDDY CHAN** _____

Post Title **Director of
Food and Environmental Hygiene** _____

Date **23.3.2007** _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

S-HWFB(FE)02

Head : 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Question Serial No.

SV017

Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food

Question :

Hon TAM Yiu-chung requested the Administration to provide the number of food poisoning cases in 2006 in each of the categories of food premises classified under the Risk-based Inspection System, namely Type I (low risk), Type II (medium risk) and Type III (high risk) premises.

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply :

In 2006, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department carried out 806 investigations at licensed food premises suspected to be involved in food poisoning outbreaks. Of them, the number of investigations to Type I (low risk), Type II (medium risk) and Type III (high risk) licensed food premises under the Risk-based Inspection System are 143, 235 and 428 respectively.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **EDDY CHAN** _____

Post Title _____ Director of
Food and Environmental Hygiene _____

Date _____ 23.3.2007 _____

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

S-HWFB(FE)03

Question Serial No.

S048

Head: Head 139 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Health, Welfare and Food Bureau (Food
and Environmental Hygiene Branch)

Programme: (3) Environmental Hygiene

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food (Food and Environmental Hygiene)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food

Question:

As an international metropolis in Asia, Hong Kong attracts a lot of tourists. Our rural areas are very popular with the tourists too. But many remaining aqua privies in the New Territories and outlying islands are in poor sanitary and environmental condition. Has the Government any plan for their improvement works? What is the projected cost?

Asked by: Hon. LAM Wai-keung, Daniel

Reply:

Since early 2005, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) has converted 60 aqua privies (APs) under its conversion programme to upgrade APs in the New Territories and outlying islands into flushing toilets. Another 37 APs under this programme will be converted by end 2007. The estimated cost for converting all these APs is \$92.8 million.

Subject to funding approval, FEHD will convert another 50 APs in 2008 – 09, at an estimated cost of \$108 million.

Signature _____

Name in block
letters _____
Mrs Carrie YAU
Permanent Secretary
for Health, Welfare and Food
Post Title (Food and Environmental Hygiene)

Date _____
23.3.2007