

**Replies to initial written questions  
raised by Finance Committee Members  
in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11**

**Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health  
Session No.: 11**

<b>Reply Serial No.</b>	<b>Question Serial No.</b>	<b>Name of Member</b>	<b>Head</b>	<b>Programme</b>
<a href="#">FHB(FE)001</a>	0055	WONG Yung-kan	22	3-Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)002</a>	0048	WONG Yung-kan	22	1-Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
<a href="#">FHB(FE)003</a>	0052	WONG Yung-kan	22	3-Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)004</a>	0053	WONG Yung-kan	22	3-Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)005</a>	0054	WONG Yung-kan	22	3-Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)006</a>	0042	WONG Yung-kan	49	2-Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)007</a>	0043	WONG Yung-kan	49	2-Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)008</a>	0044	WONG Yung-kan	49	4-Public Education and Community Involvement
<a href="#">FHB(FE)009</a>	0045	WONG Yung-kan	49	2-Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)010</a>	0046	WONG Yung-kan	49	3-Market Management and Hawker Control
<a href="#">FHB(FE)011</a>	0047	WONG Yung-kan	49	3-Market Management and Hawker Control
<a href="#">FHB(FE)012</a>	0056	WONG Yung-kan	49	1-Food Safety and Public Health
<a href="#">FHB(FE)013</a>	0175	WONG Kwok-hing	22	N/A
<a href="#">FHB(FE)014</a>	1255	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	48	1-Statutory Testing
<a href="#">FHB(FE)015</a>	0245	LAU Wong-fat	22	1-Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
<a href="#">FHB(FE)016</a>	0261	EU Yuet-mee, Audrey	22	3-Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)017</a>	1227	CHAN Hak-kan	22	3-Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)018</a>	1228	CHAN Hak-kan	22	3-Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

<b>Reply Serial No.</b>	<b>Question Serial No.</b>	<b>Name of Member</b>	<b>Head</b>	<b>Programme</b>
<a href="#">FHB(FE)019</a>	1272	CHAN Hak-kan	22	3-Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)020</a>	1324	WONG Kwok-hing	22	N/A
<a href="#">FHB(FE)021</a>	1325	WONG Kwok-hing	22	N/A
<a href="#">FHB(FE)022</a>	1326	WONG Kwok-hing	22	N/A
<a href="#">FHB(FE)023</a>	0442	LEE Wai-king, Starry	49	2-Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)024</a>	0577	LI Wah-ming, Fred	22	1-Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
<a href="#">FHB(FE)025</a>	0578	LI Wah-ming, Fred	22	1-Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
<a href="#">FHB(FE)026</a>	1440	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	22	N/A
<a href="#">FHB(FE)027</a>	1441	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	22	3-Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)028</a>	1442	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	22	1-Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
<a href="#">FHB(FE)029</a>	1444	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	22	1-Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
<a href="#">FHB(FE)030</a>	0494	LI Fung-ying	49	2-Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)031</a>	0495	LI Fung-ying	49	1-Food Safety and Public Health
<a href="#">FHB(FE)032</a>	0573	LI Wah-ming, Fred	49	2-Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)033</a>	0574	LI Wah-ming, Fred	49	2-Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)034</a>	0575	LI Wah-ming, Fred	49	1-Food Safety and Public Health
<a href="#">FHB(FE)035</a>	0576	LI Wah-ming, Fred	49	1-Food Safety and Public Health
<a href="#">FHB(FE)036</a>	1421	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	49	3-Market Management and Hawker Control
<a href="#">FHB(FE)037</a>	1422	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	49	3-Market Management and Hawker Control
<a href="#">FHB(FE)038</a>	1425	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	49	3-Market Management and Hawker Control
<a href="#">FHB(FE)039</a>	1426	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	49	2-Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)040</a>	1427	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	49	2-Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)041</a>	1428	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	49	2-Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)042</a>	1429	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	49	2-Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)043</a>	1430	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	49	N/A
<a href="#">FHB(FE)044</a>	1431	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	49	1-Food Safety and Public Health
<a href="#">FHB(FE)045</a>	1432	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	49	1-Food Safety and Public Health

<b>Reply Serial No.</b>	<b>Question Serial No.</b>	<b>Name of Member</b>	<b>Head</b>	<b>Programme</b>
<a href="#">FHB(FE)046</a>	1433	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	49	3-Market Management and Hawker Control
<a href="#">FHB(FE)047</a>	1434	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	49	3-Market Management and Hawker Control
<a href="#">FHB(FE)048</a>	1435	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	49	1-Food Safety and Public Health
<a href="#">FHB(FE)049</a>	1436	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	49	1-Food Safety and Public Health
<a href="#">FHB(FE)050</a>	1437	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	49	2-Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)051</a>	1438	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	49	2-Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)052</a>	1439	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	49	2-Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)053</a>	1445	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	49	1-Food Safety and Public Health
<a href="#">FHB(FE)054</a>	1461	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	49	1-Food Safety and Public Health
<a href="#">FHB(FE)055</a>	1462	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	49	1-Food Safety and Public Health
<a href="#">FHB(FE)056</a>	0570	LI Wah-ming, Fred	48	N/A
<a href="#">FHB(FE)057</a>	1443	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	48	1-Statutory Testing
<a href="#">FHB(FE)058</a>	1446	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	48	1-Statutory Testing
<a href="#">FHB(FE)059</a>	1447	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	48	1-Statutory Testing
<a href="#">FHB(FE)060</a>	1448	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	48	1-Statutory Testing
<a href="#">FHB(FE)061</a>	1449	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	48	1-Statutory Testing
<a href="#">FHB(FE)062</a>	0496	LI Fung-ying	139	N/A
<a href="#">FHB(FE)063</a>	0571	LI Wah-ming, Fred	139	2-Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety
<a href="#">FHB(FE)064</a>	0572	LI Wah-ming, Fred	139	1-Director of Bureau's Office
<a href="#">FHB(FE)065</a>	1420	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	139	2-Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety
<a href="#">FHB(FE)066</a>	1423	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	139	3-Environmental Hygiene
<a href="#">FHB(FE)067</a>	1424	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	139	3-Environmental Hygiene
<a href="#">FHB(FE)068</a>	1460	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	139	3-Environmental Hygiene
<a href="#">FHB(FE)069</a>	0690	CHAN Kin-por	139	3-Environmental Hygiene
<a href="#">FHB(FE)070</a>	0841	CHAN Kin-por	49	1-Food Safety and Public Health
<a href="#">FHB(FE)071</a>	1711	WONG Kwok-hing	139	2-Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety
<a href="#">FHB(FE)072</a>	1710	WONG Kwok-hing	139	3-Environmental Hygiene
<a href="#">FHB(FE)073</a>	1491	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	49	3-Market Management and Hawker Control
<a href="#">FHB(FE)074</a>	1590	EU Yuet-mee, Audrey	49	2-Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)075</a>	1596	EU Yuet-mee, Audrey	49	2-Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)076</a>	1712	WONG Kwok-hing	49	1-Food Safety and Public Health
<a href="#">FHB(FE)077</a>	1713	WONG Kwok-hing	49	2-Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)078</a>	1957	LAU Kin-ye, Miriam	22	1-Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
<a href="#">FHB(FE)079</a>	1974	HO Sau-lan, Cyd	139	N/A
<a href="#">FHB(FE)080</a>	1935	TAM Yiu-chung	139	3-Environmental Hygiene

<b>Reply Serial No.</b>	<b>Question Serial No.</b>	<b>Name of Member</b>	<b>Head</b>	<b>Programme</b>
<a href="#">FHB(FE)081</a>	1936	TAM Yiu-chung	139	3-Environmental Hygiene
<a href="#">FHB(FE)082</a>	1937	TAM Yiu-chung	49	1-Food Safety and Public Health
<a href="#">FHB(FE)083</a>	1938	TAM Yiu-chung	49	1-Food Safety and Public Health
<a href="#">FHB(FE)084</a>	1939	TAM Yiu-chung	49	1-Food Safety and Public Health
<a href="#">FHB(FE)085</a>	1940	TAM Yiu-chung	49	1-Food Safety and Public Health
<a href="#">FHB(FE)086</a>	1941	TAM Yiu-chung	49	2-Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)087</a>	1942	TAM Yiu-chung	49	2-Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)088</a>	1943	TAM Yiu-chung	49	2-Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)089</a>	1961	LAU Kin-ye, Miriam	49	2-Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)090</a>	1934	LI Fung-ying	49	2-Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)091</a>	1030	CHAN Hak-kan	22	3-Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)092</a>	0980	FANG Kang, Vincent	48	1-Statutory Testing
<a href="#">FHB(FE)093</a>	0964	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	49	N/A
<a href="#">FHB(FE)094</a>	0978	FANG Kang, Vincent	49	1-Food Safety and Public Health
<a href="#">FHB(FE)095</a>	0969	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	49	N/A
<a href="#">FHB(FE)096</a>	0970	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	49	3-Market Management and Hawker Control
<a href="#">FHB(FE)097</a>	0965	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	49	1-Food Safety and Public Health
<a href="#">FHB(FE)098</a>	0966	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	49	1-Food Safety and Public Health
<a href="#">FHB(FE)099</a>	0967	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	49	1-Food Safety and Public Health
<a href="#">FHB(FE)100</a>	0968	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	49	1-Food Safety and Public Health
<a href="#">FHB(FE)101</a>	1042	CHAN Hak-kan	49	2-Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)102</a>	0974	FANG Kang, Vincent	139	2-Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety
<a href="#">FHB(FE)103</a>	0975	FANG Kang, Vincent	139	2-Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety
<a href="#">FHB(FE)104</a>	0976	FANG Kang, Vincent	139	2-Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety
<a href="#">FHB(FE)105</a>	0977	FANG Kang, Vincent	139	2-Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety
<a href="#">FHB(FE)106</a>	1041	CHAN Hak-kan	139	3-Environmental Hygiene
<a href="#">FHB(FE)107</a>	2457	EU Yuet-mee, Audrey	139	N/A
<a href="#">FHB(FE)108</a>	2458	EU Yuet-mee, Audrey	139	N/A
<a href="#">FHB(FE)109</a>	2606	LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla	139	3-Environmental Hygiene
<a href="#">FHB(FE)110</a>	2607	LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla	139	3-Environmental Hygiene
<a href="#">FHB(FE)111</a>	1130	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	49	3-Market Management and Hawker Control
<a href="#">FHB(FE)112</a>	1131	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	49	2-Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)113</a>	1161	LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla	49	1-Food Safety and Public Health

<b>Reply Serial No.</b>	<b>Question Serial No.</b>	<b>Name of Member</b>	<b>Head</b>	<b>Programme</b>
<a href="#">FHB(FE)114</a>	2316	WONG Kwok-hing	49	N/A
<a href="#">FHB(FE)115</a>	2317	WONG Kwok-hing	49	N/A
<a href="#">FHB(FE)116</a>	2318	WONG Kwok-hing	49	N/A
<a href="#">FHB(FE)117</a>	2319	WONG Kwok-hing	49	N/A
<a href="#">FHB(FE)118</a>	2461	EU Yuet-mee, Audrey	49	N/A
<a href="#">FHB(FE)119</a>	2462	EU Yuet-mee, Audrey	49	N/A
<a href="#">FHB(FE)120</a>	2891	FANG Kang, Vincent	49	3-Market Management and Hawker Control
<a href="#">FHB(FE)121</a>	2892	FANG Kang, Vincent	49	3-Market Management and Hawker Control
<a href="#">FHB(FE)122</a>	2570	WONG Kwok-hing	49	3-Market Management and Hawker Control
<a href="#">FHB(FE)123</a>	2660	FANG Kang, Vincent	22	1-Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
<a href="#">FHB(FE)124</a>	2661	FANG Kang, Vincent	22	1-Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
<a href="#">FHB(FE)125</a>	2662	FANG Kang, Vincent	22	1-Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
<a href="#">FHB(FE)126</a>	2844	LI Wah-ming, Fred	22	3-Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)127</a>	2324	WONG Kwok-hing	22	N/A
<a href="#">FHB(FE)128</a>	2459	EU Yuet-mee, Audrey	22	N/A
<a href="#">FHB(FE)129</a>	2460	EU Yuet-mee, Audrey	22	N/A
<a href="#">FHB(FE)130</a>	2325	WONG Kwok-hing	22	N/A
<a href="#">FHB(FE)131</a>	2326	WONG Kwok-hing	22	N/A
<a href="#">FHB(FE)132</a>	2327	WONG Kwok-hing	22	N/A
<a href="#">FHB(FE)133</a>	2953	LI Wah-ming, Fred	22	3-Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)134</a>	2954	LI Wah-ming, Fred	22	3-Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)135</a>	2955	LI Wah-ming, Fred	22	3-Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)136</a>	3080	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	22	1-Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
<a href="#">FHB(FE)137</a>	3031	NG Margaret	139	3-Environmental Hygiene
<a href="#">FHB(FE)138</a>	3032	NG Margaret	139	3-Environmental Hygiene
<a href="#">FHB(FE)139</a>	2969	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	139	2-Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety
<a href="#">FHB(FE)140</a>	2968	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	139	2-Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety
<a href="#">FHB(FE)141</a>	2967	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	139	2-Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety
<a href="#">FHB(FE)142</a>	3144	LAU Sau-shing, Patrick	703	N/A

<b>Reply Serial No.</b>	<b>Question Serial No.</b>	<b>Name of Member</b>	<b>Head</b>	<b>Programme</b>
<a href="#">FHB(FE)143</a>	2949	LI Wah-ming, Fred	49	3-Market Management and Hawker Control
<a href="#">FHB(FE)144</a>	2950	LI Wah-ming, Fred	49	3-Market Management and Hawker Control
<a href="#">FHB(FE)145</a>	2951	LI Wah-ming, Fred	49	N/A
<a href="#">FHB(FE)146</a>	2952	LI Wah-ming, Fred	49	N/A
<a href="#">FHB(FE)147</a>	2964	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	49	1-Food Safety and Public Health
<a href="#">FHB(FE)148</a>	2965	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	49	1-Food Safety and Public Health
<a href="#">FHB(FE)149</a>	2966	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	49	4-Public Education and Community Involvement
<a href="#">FHB(FE)150</a>	3077	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	49	4-Public Education and Community Involvement
<a href="#">FHB(FE)151</a>	3088	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	49	2-Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)152</a>	3131	CHAN Hak-kan	49	2-Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
<a href="#">FHB(FE)153</a>	3153	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	49	3-Market Management and Hawker Control
<a href="#">FHB(FE)154</a>	3154	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	49	3-Market Management and Hawker Control
<a href="#">FHB(FE)155</a>	3155	TONG Ka-wah, Ronny	49	3-Market Management and Hawker Control

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)001**

Question Serial No.

0055

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) What are the staffing and expenditure involved in inspection of farms keeping food animals?
- (b) Following the decrease in the number of farms keeping live chickens and live pigs in recent years, has the Administration made any review on the relevant staffing arrangement? If yes, what was the outcome of the review? If no, what were the reasons for not doing so?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yung-kan

Reply:

- (a) A total of 24 staff and \$11.3 million are allocated to farm inspection and related supporting duties.
- (b) The staffing arrangements for inspection of farms keeping food animals are reviewed from time to time. In the past few years, there has been a decrease in the number of pig and poultry farms in operation. The existing resources have been redeployed to (a) strengthen the control of the livestock industry through more intensive inspections to pig and poultry farms with a view to promoting good husbandry and environmental hygiene practices; and (b) step up patrol against backyard poultry and enforce tightened biosecurity requirements in view of the continued threat of zoonotic diseases such as avian influenza. Moreover, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department has to keep de-licensed farms under surveillance to prevent illegal keeping of livestock.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 11 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)002**

Question Serial No.

0048

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What is the amount of expenditure involved in the fishermen training programme? What is the estimated number of trained fishermen each year?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yung-kan

Reply:

\$4.3 million has been earmarked in 2010-11 for the fishermen training programme which will provide some 900 training places for fishermen and fish farmers.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ ALAN WONG

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 11 March 2010



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)003**

Question Serial No.

0052

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) Please provide the number of stray animals caught by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department over the past 2 years (2008 and 2009) by species.
- (b) Please provide the ways the Government employed to handle stray animals over the past two years (2008 and 2009) by species.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yung-kan

Reply:

- (a) Major types and numbers of stray animals caught by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) in 2008 and 2009 are as follows:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Dog</b>	<b>Cat</b>	<b>Cattle</b>
2008	8 375	4 642	45
2009	7 850	4 570	46

- (b) Generally speaking and health conditions permitting, stray dogs and cats caught by AFCD will stay at an AFCD Animal Management Centre for four days, pending possible retrieval by their owners. Unclaimed dogs and cats will be passed to animal welfare organisations collaborating with AFCD for re-homing if they are found to be healthy and of an acceptable temperament. Only animals which are assessed to be unsuitable for re-homing due to health or temperament reasons, or could not be rehomed by animal welfare organisations will be euthanised.

Stray cattle caught by AFCD will also be kept in an AFCD Animal Management Centre and the public will be notified by gazette. If the cattle is not claimed by its owner within seven days of notice, arrangements will be made for the cattle to be sold or euthanised.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ **ALAN WONG**

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 11 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)004**

Question Serial No.

0053

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide the number of non-quarantined and illegally imported animals for sale seized by the Administration over the past two years (2008 and 2009).

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yung-kan

Reply:

The numbers of illegally imported animals, including those not meeting the quarantine requirements, seized by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department in 2008 and 2009 are listed below:

<b>Year</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
Number of animals seized	2 180	1 765

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 11 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)005**

Question Serial No.

0054

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What were the numbers of complaints involving cruelty to and abandonment of animals received by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) in the past 2 years (2008 and 2009)? What is the manpower involved in safeguarding animal welfare?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yung-kan

Reply:

The numbers of complaints involving animal cruelty/welfare and stray/abandoned animals received by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) in 2008 and 2009 are as follows:

<b>Nature of Complaints</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
Animal Cruelty/Welfare	1 586	1 361
Stray/Abandoned Animals	6 329	3 823

A total of 18 AFCD staff including 1 Senior Veterinary Officer, 5 Veterinary Officers, 4 Field Officers I and 8 Field Officers II are directly involved in safeguarding animal welfare and related duties.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 11 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)006**

Question Serial  
No.

0042

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the number of complaints received about hygiene blackspots in the past two years (i.e. in 2008 and 2009).

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yung-kan

Reply:

Following the outbreak of Human Swine Influenza in May 2009, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, in consultation with District Councils, identified 105 hygiene blackspots in the territory for enhanced clean-up operations. These blackspots were identified mainly because they were under repeated complaints for environmental hygiene problems. The total number of complaints received in respect of these blackspots in 2008 and 2009 are 6 160 and 6 920 respectively.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)007**

Question Serial  
No.

0043

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the number of hygiene blackspots identified by the Department at present and their locations, as well as the estimated expenditure for dealing with these blackspots for 2010-11.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yung-kan

Reply:

Following the outbreak of Human Swine Influenza in May 2009, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, in consultation with District Councils, identified 105 hygiene blackspots in the territory (including 24 in Hong Kong and Islands, 37 in Kowloon and 44 in the New Territories) for enhanced clean-up operations. A list of these blackspots is at Annex. By drawing on the special fund approved by the Finance Committee in July 2009 to step up environmental hygiene measures to combat Human Swine Influenza, enhanced cleansing and street washing services were provided to these blackspots. As a result, the hygiene condition of these areas has much improved. All 105 blackspots have been eradicated by the end of February 2010.

The Department will upkeep the cleanliness and hygiene condition of these locations by utilising the aforesaid allocated resources for continuing with enhanced cleansing and street washing on top of routine cleansing services. The estimated expenditure for the additional cleansing and street washing services in 2010-11 is about \$16.3 million.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**List of environmental hygiene blackspots as at May 2009**

<b>Hong Kong and Islands</b>	
1	Rear lane of 33 Graham Street and 22 Peel Street
2	Rear lane at 73-76 Connaught Road West
3	Rear lane between 288 Queen's Road West and 55-61 First Street
4	Rear lane at 17-19 Wellington Street and Chuk On Lane
5	Rear lane of 134, 136 and 138 Jervois Street
6	Rear lane of 39-55 Cadogan Street
7	Rear lane of Sai Wan New Apartments, 177-185 Belcher's Street
8	Chun Yeung Street (between Tong Shui Road and North Point Road), and Java Road (between Tong Shui Road and North Point Road)
9	Electric Road (between Oil Street and Power Street) and adjacent rear lanes, and Kam Ping Street and adjacent rear lanes
10	Shing On Street (between Shaukeiwan Road and Yiu Hing Road), and Sai Wan Ho Street (between Hoi An Street and Tai Ning Street) and adjacent rear lanes
11	Kam Wa Street (between Shau Kei Wan Main Street East and Aldrich Street), Mong Lung Street and Tai Tak Street and adjacent rear lanes
12	Siu Sai Wan Road (Harmony Garden) and Fu Yee Road (Cheerful Garden)
13	Vacant area near 1 Tai San Street
14	Lane at rear of Pak She Praya Road between Pak She Fourth Lane and Pak She Sixth Lane
15	Back lane at 1-15 Wing Hing Street
16	Rear lane of 1-23 Tung Shing Road
17	Rear lane of 12-26 Wu Pak Street
18	Rear Lane of 53-81 Shek Pai Wan Road

19	Rear Lane and Side Lane 181-185 of Aberdeen Main Road
20	Lane at rear of Tai Wong Street East and Swatow Street
21	Lane at rear of Burrows Street (Ming Fung Building)
22	Lane at rear of Yee Wo Street and Jardine's Bazaar
23	Lane at rear of Jaffe Road and Lockhart Road (between Fleming Road and O'Brien Road)
24	Lane at rear of Jaffe Road and Lockhart Road (between Canal Road and Marsh Road)
<b>Kowloon</b>	
25	Area bounded by Tokwawan Road, Lok Shan Road, Yuk Yat Street and Kwei Chow Street
26	Area bounded by Bailey Street, Sung On Street, Ngan Hon Street, Tokwawan Road and Ma Tau Wai Road
27	Area bounded by Mok Cheong Street, Ma Tau Chung Road, Ma Tau Wai Road, Ma Hang Chung Road, Pau Chung Street, San Shan Road and Pak Tai Street
28	Area bounded by Whampoa Street, Bulkeley Street, Chatham Road North and Winslow Street
29	Area bounded by Junction Road, Nga Tsin Wai Road, Tak Ku Ling Road and Carpenter Road
30	Shui Wo Street and the vicinity
31	Yue Man Square and the vicinity
32	Ngau Tau Kok Road, On Wah Street, Ngau Tau Kok Market and the vicinity
33	Tsun Yip Street, Tsun Yip Lane and the vicinity
34	Ting On Street, Ting Fu Street, Tai Yip Street and the vicinity
35	Rear lane of Wai Yip Street between How Ming Street and Hoi Yuen Road
36	Lane at rear of 7-39 Fa Yuen Street
37	Lane at rear and side of 165-203 Sai Yee Street
38	Lane at rear of Tai Shing Building and Tai Chuen Building, Cosmopolitan Estate

39	Lane at rear and side of 78-80 Fuk Tsuen Street
40	Lane at rear of 33 Mong Kok Road
41	Lane at rear and at side of 132-158 Sai Yeung Choi Street South
42	Lane at rear and at side of 61-91 Sai Yee Street
43	Lane at rear of 1061-1103 Canton Road and 1-3 Argyle Street
44	Lane at side of 30 Ka Tsin Street
45	Area bounded by Tai Po Road, Yen Chow Street, Cheung Sha Wan Road and Nam Cheong Street
46	Area bounded by Cheung Sha Wan Road, Nam Cheong Street, Lai Chi Kok Road and Yen Chow Street
47	Area bounded by Lai Chi Kok Road, Yen Chow Street, Tung Chau Street and Nam Cheong Street
48	Area bounded by Po On Road, Wing Lung Street, Un Chau Street and Hing Wah Street
49	Tai Shing Street, Tseuk Luk Street, Yin Hing Street, Foo Yuen Street, Kam Wing Street, Yan Oi Street, Hong Keung Street, Yi Lun Street, Shung Ling Street and Ning Yuen Street
50	Sheung Fung Street, Fei Fung Street, Ming Fung Street, Tsui Fung Street, Lung Fung Street, Ngan Fung Street, Wan Fung Street and Kam Fung Street
51	Lung Chi Path, Fu Chi Path, Kwai Chi Path, Kam Chi Path and Wah Chi Path
52	Yuk Wah Street, Yuk Wah Crescent, Tsz Wah Lane, Fong Wah Lane and Koon Wah Lane
53	Rear lane of 33C-45 Portland Street
54	Rear lane of 3-5 Tung Fong Street
55	Rear lane between Hau Fook Street and Granville Road
56	Rear lane of Granville Circuit
57	Rear lane of 77-107 Parkes Street
58	Rear lane of 2-32 Parkes Street
59	Rear lane of Woosung Street between Jordan Road to Nanking Street
60	Rear lane of 123-149 Temple Street



61	Rear lane of 222 – 250 Reclamation Street
<b>New Territories</b>	
62	Rear lane of Lai Fong Street
63	Rear lane of Shing Fong Street
64	Rear lane of Kwong Fai Circuit
65	Rear lane of Tai Ha Street
66	Rear lane of Shek Yam Road
67	Chung Mei Lo Uk Village
68	Public area in the vicinity of Shek Wu Hui Farmers' Produce Retailing Point
69	Lane between San Fung Avenue and San Fat Street
70	Public area behind Luen Cheong Street Public Toilet
71	Path between San Hong Street and Royal Jubilee
72	Lane between Siu Yat Building and Kam Po Court, King Man Street
73	Nin Chun Street
74	Tong Ming Street (public pavement in front of Beverly Garden)
75	Lane between 50-76 Po Tung Road and 2-28 Yi Chun Street
76	Public carpark at Chun Cheong Street
77	Chik Fai Street and Mei Tin Road
78	Tai Wai Road and lanes in the vicinity
79	Sha Tin Centre Street including the vicinity of Sha Tin Market
80	Yi Shing Square and Kong Pui Street
81	On Yuen Street and On Chun Street (Fok On Garden to Marbella)
82	Four Lanes and rear lanes
83	Kwong Fuk Road and rear lanes
84	Kwong Fuk Square Carpark
85	Tai Wo Public Transport Interchange

86	Open spaces between Tai Yuen Estate and Jade Plaza (including On Chee Road Bus Terminus)
87	Rear lane of 101-123 Chuen Lung Street and Yi Pei Square
88	Rear lane of 105-139 Sha Tsui Road and Tso Kung Square
89	Rear lane of 27-59 Tsuen Wan Market Street
90	Rear lane of 16-64 Heung Wo Street and 19-47 Tai Pa Street
91	Rear lane of 94-122 Chung On Street (Sam Pei Square)
92	Rear lane of Nos.44-64 Ho Pui Street & Nos.55-77 Yeung Uk Road
93	Rear lane of Cheong Hei Bldg., No 105-111 Hoi Pa Street
94	Kai Man Path
95	Vicinity of San Hui Market
96	Vicinity of Tsing Ho Square
97	Leung Tak Street
98	Tsing Yeung Circuit
99	Lane at rear of and aside 19-37 Fuk Ting Street between Man Wah Building and Kit Man House
100	Lane at rear of Wing Light Building at 68-76 Yuen Long Castle Peak Road between Tai Tong Road and Yat San Street
101	Lane at rear of Yee On Building at 51-73 Fau Tsoi Street between Tai Tong Road and Hop Choi Street
102	Lane at rear of Kuen Yick Building at 138-160 Yuen Long On Ning Road
103	Lane at rear of 47-79 Yuen Long On Ning Road between Sau Fu Street and Tung Lok Street
104	Lane at rear of Yuen Long Trade Centre(near Fook Hong Street)
105	Lane between No. 33-71, Sau Fu Street, Yuen Long (between Holly Building and Yuen Fat House)

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)008**

Question Serial  
No.

0044

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Public Education and Community Involvement

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010-11, it is stated that the Department will strengthen health promotional activities on nutrition labelling. What are the specific activities to be carried out? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yung-kan

Reply:

To tie in with the commencement of the nutrition labelling law on 1 July 2010, a three-year (2008 – 2011) Publicity and Education Campaign on Nutrition Labelling is in place to promote the use of nutrition labelling in achieving a healthy diet. In 2010-11, the Department will concentrate its efforts on publicizing the commencement of the law as well as motivating behavioural changes in reading and understanding nutrition labels as a shopping routine. We will undertake territory-wide programmes including TV and Radio Announcements of Public Interest, radio programmes, advertising campaign at public transport system and public housing estates, and in the on-line media. We will also collaborate with Consumer Council to jointly publish a series of articles on nutrition labelling in the Choice Magazine. On the education front, joint activities will be organised with educational stakeholders including Consumer Council, dietitians, school teachers, to disseminate health messages to clients, students and the general public. The promotion work is undertaken by existing staff and the expenditure cannot be separately identified.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in  
block letters \_\_\_\_\_  
W H CHEUK

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_  
15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)009**

Question Serial No.

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

0045

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

At present, how many licences in respect of private swimming pools have been issued by the Department? What is the frequency of inspections conducted by the Department to each of these private swimming pools on average? How many cases of irregularities concerning water quality, number of lifeguards and other issues were found in private swimming pools and how many prosecutions were instituted over the past three years (i.e. from 2007 to 2009)?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Yung-kan

Reply :

As at 31.12.2009, the number of private swimming pool licences issued by the Department was 1 036.

Private swimming pools are inspected monthly from April to October or during such other periods as the pools remain open for use. Between 2007 and 2009, there were three cases of unsatisfactory water quality, one case of inadequate provision of lifeguards and three cases of effecting alteration of premises without permission in private swimming pools. The Department took out six prosecutions and issued one warning letter.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ **W H CHEUK**

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)010**

Question Serial  
No.

0046

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out in a table the number of stalls and vacant stalls in each market and cooked food centre.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yung-kan

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annex.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**Annex****Total no. of stalls and no. of vacant stalls in FEHD markets and cooked food centres****(Position as at 31.12.2009)**

<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>Name of Market</b>	<b>Total No. of Stalls</b>	<b>No. of Vacant Stalls<sup>Note</sup></b>
1	Aberdeen Market cum Cooked Food Centre	335	24(1)
2	Aldrich Bay Market cum Cooked Food Centre	71	16
3	Ap Lei Chau Market cum Cooked Food Centre	59	2
4	Bowrington Road Market cum Cooked Food Centre	296	11
5	Bridges Street Market	27	19(19)
6	Causeway Bay Market	51	8
7	Centre Street Market cum Cooked Food Centre	80	51(51)
8	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	32	8
9	Chai Wan Market cum Cooked Food Centre	173	15
10	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	17	1
11	Cheung Chau Market	237	28
12	Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market	28	16(16)

Note

Figures in brackets refer to the number of vacant stalls that are frozen due to various reasons e.g. pending market closure, market improvement works, etc.

<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>Name of Market</b>	<b>Total No. of Stalls</b>	<b>No. of Vacant Stalls<sup>Note</sup></b>
13	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	12	0
14	Choi Hung Road Market cum Cooked Food Centre	116	8(2)
15	Electric Road Market cum Cooked Food Centre	96	26
16	Fa Yuen Street Market cum Cooked Food Centre	180	16(1)
17	Fo Tan Cooked Food Market (East)	24	0
18	Fo Tan Cooked Food Market (West)	15	0
19	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	96	37
20	Heung Che Street Market cum Cooked Food Centre	223	46
21	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	11	3
22	Hung Hom Market cum Cooked Food Centre	224	11
23	Hung Shui Kiu Temporary Market	215	112(112)
24	Java Road Market cum Cooked Food Centre	194	37
25	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	17	4
26	Kam Tin Market cum Cooked Food Centre	41	8
27	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	14	0
28	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	20	7
29	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	14	0

Note

Figures in brackets refer to the number of vacant stalls that are frozen due to various reasons e.g. pending market closure, market improvement works, etc.

<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>Name of Market</b>	<b>Total No. of Stalls</b>	<b>No. of Vacant Stalls<sup>Note</sup></b>
30	Kowloon City Market cum Cooked Food Centre	581	52
31	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	11	0
32	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	12	1
33	Kwong Choi Market	81	65(56)
34	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre cum Cooked Food Centre	98	0
35	Kwun Chung Market cum Cooked Food Centre	216	68
36	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	29	10
37	Lai Wan Market	41	0
38	Lam Tei Market	7	0
39	Lau Fau Shan Market	25	5
40	Lei Yue Mun Market	20	4
41	Lockhart Road Market cum Cooked Food Centre	166	19
42	Luen Wo Hui Market cum Cooked Food Centre	338	58
43	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	14	1
44	Mong Kok Market	128	91(91)
45	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	20	0
46	Mui Wo Market	33	4

Note

Figures in brackets refer to the number of vacant stalls that are frozen due to various reasons e.g. pending market closure, market improvement works, etc.



<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>Name of Market</b>	<b>Total No. of Stalls</b>	<b>No. of Vacant Stalls<sup>Note</sup></b>
47	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	28	0
48	Ngau Chi Wan Market cum Cooked Food Centre	404	79
49	Ngau Tau Kok Market cum Cooked Food Centre	466	67
50	North Kwai Chung Market	222	36
51	North Point Market	42	7
52	On Ching Road Flower Market	13	0
53	Pei Ho Street Market cum Cooked Food Centre	227	5
54	Peng Chau Market	41	25
55	Plover Cove Road Market	244	46
56	Po On Road Market cum Cooked Food Centre	449	74
57	Quarry Bay Market cum Cooked Food Centre	115	39
58	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	13	2
59	Sai Kung Market	207	20
60	Sai Wan Ho Market cum Cooked Food Centre	273	61
61	Sai Ying Pun Market	102	15(4)
62	San Hui Market	324	30
63	Sha Tau Kok Market cum Cooked Food Centre	64	9

Note

Figures in brackets refer to the number of vacant stalls that are frozen due to various reasons e.g. pending market closure, market improvement works, etc.

<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>Name of Market</b>	<b>Total No. of Stalls</b>	<b>No. of Vacant Stalls<sup>Note</sup></b>
64	Sha Tin Market	174	11
65	Sham Tseng Temporary Market cum Cooked Food Centre	36	12
66	Shau Kei Wan Market	82	17
67	Shek Tong Tsui Market cum Cooked Food Centre	153	56(2)
68	Shek Wu Hui Market cum Cooked Food Centre	392	7
69	Sheung Fung Street Market	73	12
70	Sheung Wan Market cum Cooked Food Centre	226	30(4)
71	Shui Wo Street Market cum Cooked Food Centre	304	59
72	Smithfield Market cum Cooked Food Centre	218	20(4)
73	Stanley Waterfront Mart	20	0
74	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	17	0
75	Tai Kiu Market	378	43
76	Tai Kok Tsui Market cum Cooked Food Centre	135	21
77	Tai O Market	26	4
78	Tai Po Hui Market cum Cooked Food Centre	314	10
79	Tai Shing Street Market cum Cooked Food Centre	455	25
80	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	18	0

Note

Figures in brackets refer to the number of vacant stalls that are frozen due to various reasons e.g. pending market closure, market improvement works, etc.

<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>Name of Market</b>	<b>Total No. of Stalls</b>	<b>No. of Vacant Stalls<sup>Note</sup></b>
81	Tai Wai Market	196	17
82	Tai Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	20	15
83	Tang Lung Chau Market	53	21(20)
84	Tin Wan Market cum Cooked Food Centre	171	14(1)
85	To Kwa Wan Market cum Cooked Food Centre	267	39
86	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	18	3
87	Tsing Yi Market	74	13
88	Tsuen King Circuit Market	241	117
89	Tsuen Wan Market	381	67
90	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	56	3
91	Tui Min Hoi Market	34	11
92	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	359	170(164)
93	Tung Yick Market	448	243(243)
94	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	8	0
95	Wan Chai Market	50	0
96	Wing Fong Street Market	112	38(38)
97	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	18	1
98	Wong Nai Chung Market cum Cooked Food Centre	66	7
99	Yan Oi Market	106	16

Note

Figures in brackets refer to the number of vacant stalls that are frozen due to various reasons e.g. pending market closure, market improvement works, etc.

<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>Name of Market</b>	<b>Total No. of Stalls</b>	<b>No. of Vacant Stalls<sup>Note</sup></b>
100	Yau Ma Tei Market	131	26
101	Yee On Street Market	65	18
102	Yeung Uk Road Market	320	15
103	Yue Kwong Road Market cum Cooked Food Centre	192	13(1)
104	Yue Wan Market cum Cooked Food Centre	382	56

Note

Figures in brackets refer to the number of vacant stalls that are frozen due to various reasons e.g. pending market closure, market improvement works, etc.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)011**

Question Serial  
No.

0047

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department      Subhead  
(No. & title):

Programme:                    (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out in a table the number of markets and cooked food centres whose actual rental is 0-10%, 11-20%, and so forth, of the open market rental.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yung-kan

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annex.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters                    W H CHEUK

Post Title                    Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date                    15.3.2010

**Actual rental compared to Open Market Rental of leased stalls in all  
FEHD public markets and cooked food centres  
(Position as at 31.12.2009)**

<b>Actual Rent as % of Open Market Rental</b>	<b>No. of Stalls</b>
10% or below	168
11%-20%	137
21%-30%	528
31%-40%	1 133
41%-50%	1 245
51%-60%	1 282
61%-70%	1 500
71%-80%	1 245
81%-90%	795
91% or above	4 071
<b>Total:</b>	<b>12 104</b>

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)012**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

0056

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- a. At present, how much progress has been made by the Department in implementing the notification scheme for food importers and distributors? What is the number of food importers and distributors registered under the scheme, and how much in percentage terms does it account for the total number of food importers and distributors?
- b. Does the Department have any plan to expedite the implementation of the scheme? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yung-kan

Reply:

The Pre-statutory Voluntary Registration Scheme (the Scheme) for Food Importers/Distributors has been extended to cover all categories of food in 2008-09. Up to 1 March 2010, around 2 200 importers and 2 800 distributors have registered under the Scheme, representing 43% and 22% of the estimated total number of importers and distributors respectively.

To enhance participation in the Scheme, the Department has deployed a designated team to reach out to traders. The full-year cost for this measure is estimated to be \$0.31 million for 2010-11.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)013**

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead : 000 Operational  
expenses

Question Serial No.

0175

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding Subhead 000 Operational expenses of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, please provide the following information on the procurement of services of employment agencies (EAs) in the past three years (i.e. 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10) and 2010-11 (see the attached table):

- the number of contracts signed with the EAs;
- the contract sum and term of service for each EA;
- the number of workers supplied by each EA and their duties;
- details of the workers' salaries payable by each EA. What is the range of monthly salaries and that of daily or hourly wages?
- with regard to (a), (b) and (c) above, please provide the respective numbers and percentages of change for each year:

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of contracts signed with EAs	( )	( )	( )	( )
Contract sum for each EA	( )	( )	( )	( )
Term of service for each EA	( )	( )	( )	( )
Number of workers supplied by each EA and their duties	( )	( )	( )	( )
The workers' salaries (maximum, median and minimum salaries) payable by each EA	( )	( )	( )	( )

( ) percentage of change

- the proportion of workers supplied by the EAs in the existing staff in the department; and
- the proportion of expenditure on procuring the services of the EAs in departmental expenses.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing



Reply:

- (a) – (e) The details on the procurement of services offered by employment agencies (EAs) in the past three years (i.e. 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10) and 2010-11 are as follows:

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
		Note 1(iii)	Note 1(ii)	
Number of contracts signed with EAs (Note 1)	N/A  Note 1(iv)	1 (-)	1 (-)	N/A  Note 1(i)
Contract sum for each EA		A maximum of \$1,065,600 (-1%)	A maximum of \$1,076,400 (-)	
Term of service for each EA		12 months (-)	12 months (-)	
Number of workers supplied by each EA and their duties		A maximum of 12 workers for providing general office support service (-)	A maximum of 12 workers for providing general office support service (-)	
The workers' salaries (maximum, median and minimum salaries) payable by each EA	N/A. Note 2			

( ) percentage of change

- Note 1: (i) Contract for agency service was awarded since 1.1.2009.  
(ii) Contract awarded in 2008-09 covered the period 1.1.2009 to 31.12.2009.  
(iii) Contract awarded in 2009-10 covered the period 1.1.2010 to 31.12.2010.  
(iv) Statistics for 2010-11 are not yet available as the number of agency workers varies from time to time in the light of changing service and operational requirements.

Note 2: The contracts the Department enters into with employment agencies specify the service fee charged by the latter in providing agency workers. The Department normally does not specify the wages of agency workers, except with regard to the wages of non-skilled workers. As a measure to protect non-skilled workers, the Administration promulgated a mandatory requirement on wage rates for government service contracts in May 2004. Under this requirement, service providers are required to offer monthly wages to non-skilled workers which are no less than the average monthly wages for the relevant industry/occupation as published in the latest Census and Statistics Department's Quarterly Report of Wage and Payroll Statistics at the time when tenders are invited. This requirement applies to service contracts in respect of supply of non-skilled agency workers. Hence we are unable to provide the information requested.

- (f), (g) The proportion of workers supplied by the EAs constitutes 0.6% of the existing staff in the Department and the proportion of expenditure on procuring the services of the EAs accounts for 0.1% of departmental expenses.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 11 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)014**

Question Serial No.

1255

Head: 48 Government Laboratory      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:                    (1) Statutory Testing

Controlling Officer:      Government Chemist

Director of Bureau:      Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With the introduction of the Nutrition Labelling Scheme and food safety legislation, what does the Administration assess the number of food samples to be tested and the funding requirements in the next three years (i.e. 2010-11 to 2012-13) to be? What is the estimated number of accredited laboratories which will enter the market and provide food testing services in the same period? What are the initiatives, estimated funding and staff establishment in connection with promoting and monitoring the food testing industry?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

The total number of food samples to be collected by the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) for surveillance testing will be around 65 000 samples each year in the coming three years, including samples related to nutrition labelling and other statutory compliance testing. A financial provision of \$52.7 million has been earmarked for food surveillance work of the CFS in 2010-11. As for the Government Laboratory (GL), a financial provision of \$56.1 million has been earmarked for food testing work in 2010-11. The funding requirement for 2011-12 and 2012-13 will be reviewed nearer the time.

There are now 14 local private laboratories which have been accredited by the Hong Kong Accreditation Service (HKAS) for conducting various types of food tests. In 2008 and 2009, there were four accredited private laboratories which extended their scope of accreditation to food testing and one new private laboratory which obtained accreditation for food testing. The number of new laboratories will depend on a number of factors, such as the market demand for testing services, the existing and future capacity of existing service providers, and their capability in using new technology to maintain their competitiveness. With the commencement of the legislative work for the Food Safety Bill as well as the progressive setting of various food safety standards, it is believed that more private laboratories may also enter the food testing market and obtain relevant accreditation from the HKAS.

Starting from 2009-10, the Government has allocated \$1.6 million per year to HKAS to strengthen its accreditation service for food testing. HKAS is now able to carry out on-site assessments within two weeks of receiving an application. HKAS will also raise the standard of accredited food testing laboratories and promote the use of accredited food testing services through organising seminars, conference and workshops in conjunction with other organisations, such as the GL and the CFS.

The GL also helps enhance the capability of the local food testing industry by sharing testing methods through conducting technical seminars, proficiency tests and inter-laboratory comparison studies on a more regular basis, as well as undertaking more chemical metrology work. In addition, GL will increase outsourcing of routine food testing work from about 79 000 tests in 2009-10 to 107 000 tests in 2010-11 with funding increasing from \$7 million to \$11.8 million. The outsourcing is opened to laboratories that have obtained accreditation from HKAS in the test parameters concerned and maintain the accreditation status throughout the contract period. During the contract period, GL would undertake a number of quality

assurance measures including on-site audits and quality control means such as introduction of blind samples/split samples and control checks to monitor the performance of the contract laboratories including the quality of the test results as well as review of test data. An Outsourcing Management Section was established in 2009-10 to perform the above activities. The Section consists of seven professional and technical staff with annual expenditure \$4.1 million.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters Dr LAU CHAU MING

Post Title Government Chemist (Acting)

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)015**

Question Serial No.

0245

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In comparison with the original estimated expenditure, the actual expenditure of last year (2009-10) was significantly decrease by 17.5%. Please give an account of the areas concerned. Was there any reduction in the manpower involved?

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply:

The estimated expenditure of 2009-10 was reduced from \$240.8 million to \$198.6 million. This was mainly attributed to the smaller than expected amount of ex-gratia payments to live poultry farmers and one-off grants to assist affected local workers of the live poultry wholesale and transport industry and departmental expenses.

There was no reduction in the manpower involved because the reduction in workload was insignificant.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ ALAN WONG

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 11 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)016**

Question Serial No.

0261

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The "Indicators" of this programme state that the actual number of stray animals caught in 2009 was 13 781. Please provide information on the numbers of dogs and cats caught and the number of euthanised animals. The estimated number of stray animals caught in 2010 is 14 000. Please set out the estimated number of animals to be euthanised.

Asked by: Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply:

The numbers of stray dogs and cats caught and euthanised by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) in 2009 are as follows:

<b>Type of animals</b>	<b>Number caught</b>	<b>Number euthanised</b>
<b>Dog</b>	7 850	6 322
<b>Cat</b>	4 570	3 292

Generally speaking and health conditions permitting, stray dogs and cats caught by AFCD will stay at an AFCD Animal Management Centre for four days, pending possible retrieval by their owners. Unclaimed dogs and cats will be passed to animal welfare organisations collaborating with AFCD for re-homing if they are found to be healthy and of an acceptable temperament. Only animals which are assessed to be unsuitable for re-homing due to health or temperament reasons, or could not be re-homed by animal welfare organisations will be euthanised. The estimated number of stray dogs and cats to be euthanised in 2010 would be similar to that in 2009 assuming the percentage of successful reclaimed/re-homed cases is similar to that in 2009.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 11 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)017**

Question Serial No.

1227

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In connection with tightening the control on the sources of dogs offered for sale in pet shops by revising the conditions of the Animal Trader Licence, please provide information on the progress and the expenditure involved. Will the Administration consider extending the work to tighten the control on the sources of other animals?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

The additional licensing conditions for animal traders, aiming at tightening the control of the sources of dogs offered for sale, took effect from 1 February 2010. To allow the trade and pet owners to familiarise themselves with the new requirements, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will continue its efforts in publicising the new arrangements through various channels including uploading the relevant information on its website, dissemination of leaflets and other publicity materials as well as setting up a one-stop "Hotline" service to answer enquiries. AFCD has also stepped up the inspection of licensed pet shops to ensure their compliance with the new licensing conditions. Where necessary, enforcement actions will be taken against illegal dog trading activities. \$1.8 million will be allocated for this task in 2010-11.

The Department will review the effectiveness of the additional licensing conditions later, and subject to the review results, we may consider whether similar arrangements should be extended to other pet animals.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 12 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)018**

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Question Serial No.

1228

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide information on the numbers of licensed premises and establishments where animals were kept for trading purposes over the past 3 years (2007-2009). How many inspections were carried out and how many irregularities were found during the period? Please give a detailed breakdown of the cases by nature.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

The numbers of licensed animal trading premises over the past 3 years (2007-2009) are as follows:

Year	Number of Licensed Premises
2007	532
2008	433
2009	418

The numbers of inspections carried out and cases of prosecutions over the past three years are as follows:

Year	Number of Inspections	Number of Prosecutions	
		Trading without licence	Breaching licence condition
2007	11 104	10	13
2008	4 999	5	22
2009	7 523	3	4

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ **ALAN WONG** \_\_\_\_\_

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_ **11 March 2010** \_\_\_\_\_



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)019**

Question Serial No.

1272

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What were the expenditures of various animal management centres run by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department under the above subhead? Please list out the relevant operational expenses in 2008-09 and 2009-10 respectively.

Please provide in table form the numbers and types of animals received by various animal management centres over the past 3 years (namely 2007, 2008 and 2009) as well as the numbers of cases in which the animals were euthanised or treated otherwise during their stay in those centres? What was the expenditure involved in euthanasia of animals?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department operates four animal management centres (AMC) which are located in the North New Territories (NTN), South New Territories (NTS), Kowloon (K) and Hong Kong Island (HK) respectively. Their expenditures in 2008-09 and 2009-10 are as follows:

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>AMC/NTN</b>	<b>AMC/NTS</b>	<b>AMC/K</b>	<b>AMC/HK</b>
<b>2008-09</b>	\$14.41 million	\$9.78 million	\$12.35 million	\$9.78 million
<b>2009-10</b>	\$14.78 million	\$10.03 million	\$12.67 million	\$10.03 million

Major types and numbers of animals received, euthanised and treated otherwise by the four AMCs in 2007, 2008 and 2009 are as follows:

Number of animals received

<b>Year</b>	<b>Dog</b>	<b>Cat</b>	<b>Others</b>	<b>Total</b>
2007	14 497	6 340	2 933	23 770
2008	13 225	5 240	1 087	19 552
2009	12 015	4 910	1 228	18 153

Number of animals euthanised

<b>Year</b>	<b>Dog</b>	<b>Cat</b>	<b>Others</b>	<b>Total</b>
2007	11 613	4 813	2 039	18 465
2008	10 240	3 923	825	14 988
2009	9 085	3 497	1 161	13 743

Number of animals treated otherwise

<b>Year</b>	<b>Dog</b>	<b>Cat</b>	<b>Others</b>	<b>Total</b>
2007	2 884	1 527	894	5 305
2008	2 985	1 317	262	4 564
2009	2 930	1 413	67	4 410

The expenditures involved in euthanasia of animals in 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 are as follows:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Expenditure involved</b>
2007-08	\$1.4 million
2008-09	\$1.5 million
2009-10	\$1.5 million

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 11 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION****FHB(FE)020**Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation DepartmentSubhead : 000 Operational  
expenses

Question Serial No.

1324

Programme:Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and ConservationDirector of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please provide the following information on the employment of temporary staff to provide services:

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Breakdown of the number of temporary staff employed	( )	( )	( )	( )
Breakdown of posts taken up by temporary staff employed	( )	( )	( )	( )
Breakdown of salaries of temporary staff employed	( )	( )	( )	( )
Benefits of temporary staff employed	( )	( )	( )	( )
Length of employment of temporary staff in years, months and days	( )	( )	( )	( )
Percentage of temporary staff employed in the total number of staff in the department	( )	( )	( )	( )

Figures in ( ) denote year-on-year changes

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hingReply:

In the past three fiscal years, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department did not employ any temporary staff. The Department has no plan to employ such staff in 2010-11.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters ALAN WONGPost Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and ConservationDate 11 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)021**

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead : 000 Operational  
expenses

Question Serial No.

1325

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide the following information on the employment of non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff to provide services:

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Breakdown of the number of NCSC staff	( )	( )	( )	( )
Breakdown of posts taken up by NCSC staff	( )	( )	( )	( )
Breakdown of salaries of NCSC staff	( )	( )	( )	( )
Benefits of NCSC staff	( )	( )	( )	( )
Length of employment of NCSC staff in years	( )	( )	( )	( )
Were there any chances for NCSC staff to convert to civil servants on permanent terms?	( )	( )	( )	( )
If there were chances for conversion, the number of NCSC staff who failed to do so	( )	( )	( )	( )
Percentage of NCSC staff in the total number of staff in the department	( )	( )	( )	( )

*Figures in ( ) denote year-on-year changes*

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

Details of the information are as follows:

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Breakdown of the number of NCSC staff	N/A	321 (-13%)	370 (-28%)	514 ( - )
Breakdown of posts taken up by NCSC staff	Please see Note	42 (-19%)	52 (-9%)	57 ( - )
Breakdown of salaries of NCSC staff	The salaries of NCSC staff range from \$6,400 to \$70,000.			
Benefits of NCSC staff	NCSC staff are entitled to the statutory benefits and protection stipulated in the Employment Ordinance.			
Length of employment of NCSC staff in years	The length of employment of NCSC staff varies from less than six months to 10 years.			
Were there any chances for NCSC staff to convert to civil servants on permanent terms?	It is the Government's policy to fill civil service vacancies through an open, fair and competitive recruitment process, under which qualified candidates are selected on the basis of their individual merits. Any NCSC staff interested in the job and meeting the entry requirement may apply.			
If there were chances for conversion, the number of NCSC staff who failed to do so.	All applicants for civil service posts, including NCSC staff and other members of the public, would be selected on the basis of their individual merits. The Department does not have any information on the number of NCSC staff not selected for appointment in civil service recruitment exercises.			
Percentage of NCSC staff in the total number of staff in the department	N/A	18% (-14%)	21% (-28%)	29% (-)
	Please see Note			

Note - Statistics for 2010-11 are not yet available as the number of NCSC staff varies from time to time in the light of changing service and operational requirements.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 11 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)022**

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead : 000 Operational  
expenses

Question Serial No.

1326

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide information on outsourced services (including property management, security, cleansing, telecommunications and information technology, statistics, etc., but excluding construction works) in the format set out below:

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Contents of outsourced service contracts	( )	( )	( )	( )
Number of outsourced service contracts	( )	( )	( )	( )
Value of outsourced service contracts	( )	( )	( )	( )
Number of workers employed under outsourced service contracts	( )	( )	( )	( )
Number of outsourced service contracts that can be replaced by employment of permanent staff by the Government	( )	( )	( )	( )

*Figures in ( ) denote year-on-year changes*

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

Details of the information are as follows:

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Contents of outsourced service contracts	Property management, security, cleansing and information technology services			
Number of outsourced service contracts		23 (-28%)	32 (-9%)	35 (-)
Value of outsourced service contracts		\$22.1 million (-46%)	\$41.3 million (-62%)	\$107.4 million (-)
Number of workers employed under outsourced service contracts	N/A Note	196 (-15%)	231 (-48%)	444 (-)
Number of outsourced service contracts that can be replaced by employment of permanent staff by the Government		0	0	0

*Figures in ( ) denote year-on-year changes*

Note: Statistics for 2010-11 are not yet available as the requirements vary from time to time in the light of changing service and operational needs.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 12 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)023**

Question Serial No.

0442

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Ombudsman commented earlier that on-street promotional activities involving the use of easy-mount frames and setting up of publicity stands were rampant. As the obstruction caused by easy-mount frames, A-shape boards and placards has become increasingly serious, will the Government inform this Committee of:

- (a) the respective number of complaints involving publicity materials such as easy-mount frames received in various districts of the territory in each of the past two years (i.e. in 2008 and 2009), the nature of complaints, and among the complaints received, the number of those involving publicity materials in pedestrian precincts, the quantity of publicity materials such as easy-mount frames seized in various districts of the territory each year over the same period, the number of verbal warnings issued, prosecutions initiated and cases convicted, and the penalties imposed; and
- (b) the respective number of portable publicity placards seized in various districts of the territory over the past year (i.e. in 2009), the number of verbal warnings issued, prosecutions initiated and cases convicted, and the penalties imposed as it is noted that salespersons have instead used portable publicity placards to evade prosecution and the problem of obstruction still exists?

Asked by: Hon. LEE Wai-king, Starry

Reply:

- (a) In 2008 and 2009, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department received 1 964 and 2 399 complaints respectively against unauthorised display of bills and posters in public places with the use of easy-mount frames and A-shape boards, etc. The complaints were related to the visual impact of such displays on streetscape, public cleanliness and obstruction. Other information sought is provided as follows –



	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
No. of complaints related to displays in pedestrian precincts	334	295
No. of easy-mount frames and A-shape boards, etc, seized	8 377	15 664
No. of verbal warnings issued	6 067	10 971
No. of prosecutions initiated	919	1 082
No. of cases convicted	898	824
Penalties imposed	Fine : \$80 - \$800	Fine : \$800 - \$1,500

Further breakdowns by district are summarised at Annex.

- (b) It is an offence under section 104A(1)(a) of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132) to display or affix bills and posters on any Government land without the written permission of the Authority. Hand- holding a publicity placard however does not amount to an act of displaying or affixing. No prosecution has hence been taken out against such acts.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

District	Year	Complaints and Actions Against Unauthorised Display of Bills and Posters Using Easy Mount Frames and A-shape boards, etc									
		No. of complaints	No. of complaints related to display in pedestrian precincts	No. of easy-mount frames and A-shape boards, etc seized	No. of verbal warnings issued	No. of summonses issued		No. of cases convicted		Average Fine (\$)	
						4A*	104A <sup>@</sup>	4A*	104A <sup>@</sup>	4A*	104A <sup>@</sup>
Central/ Western	2008	223	0	68	22	0	0	0	0	-	-
	2009	195	0	641	468	0	6	0	0	-	-
Wanchai	2008	259	42	1 095	910	601	0	582	0	300	-
	2009	189	13	742	820	75	0	52	0	300	-
Eastern	2008	100	0	452	533	0	0	0	0	-	-
	2009	274	0	735	993	75	0	0	0	#	-
Southern	2008	22	0	20	14	0	0	0	0	-	-
	2009	33	0	135	21	0	0	0	0	-	-
Islands	2008	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	--
	2009	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	-	-
Kwun Tong	2008	115	0	3 463	0	190	0	188	0	380	-
	2009	137	0	2 032	0	318	0	263	0	325	-
Wong Tai Sin	2008	115	0	6	92	10	0	10	0	250-400	-
	2009	132	0	21	102	31	0	25	0	250-400	-
Sham Shui Po	2008	125	42	19	1 258	59	0	59	0	300-400	-
	2009	199	30	144	924	102	0	98	0	250-330	-
Kowloon City	2008	56	0	0	50	0	0	0	0	-	-
	2009	84	0	609	142	4	4	4	0	250-600	-
Mong Kok	2008	468	250	1 990	1 610	59	0	59	0	200-500	-
	2009	466	252	3 583	5 995	419	0	347	0	250-800	-
Yau Tsim	2008	141	0	297	217	0	0	0	0	-	-
	2009	108	0	259	153	6	26	5	18	300	800-1,500
Tsuen Wan	2008	100	0	873	1 068	0	0	0	0	-	-
	2009	149	0	6 155	990	1	8	0	5	#	1,500
Kwai Tsing	2008	34	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	-	-
	2009	79	0	42	30	0	0	0	0	-	-
Sha Tin	2008	12	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	-	-
	2009	48	0	18	30	2	0	2	0	80-100	-
Sai Kung	2008	35	0	0	174	0	0	0	0	-	-
	2009	45	0	0	132	0	0	0	0	-	-
Tai Po	2008	40	0	0	40	0	0	0	0	-	-
	2009	39	0	0	32	0	0	0	0	-	-
North	2008	23	0	5	10	0	0	0	0	-	-
	2009	84	0	22	45	0	0	0	0	-	-
Tuen Mun	2008	20	0	70	25	0	0	0	0	-	-
	2009	44	0	102	40	0	0	0	0	-	-
Yuen Long	2008	76	0	15	30	0	0	0	0	-	-
	2009	92	0	424	52	5	0	5	0	200-300	-
Total	2008	1 964	334	8 377	6 067	919	0	898	0	-	-
	2009	2 399	295	15 664	10 971	1 038	44	801	23	-	-

Remarks \* Prosecutions under section 4A of the Summary Offences Ordinance, Cap.228

@ Prosecutions under section 104A(1) of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance, Cap.132

# Pending court hearing

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)024**

Question Serial No.

0577

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide the respective figures of vegetables produced by organic cultivation and intensive greenhouse production in terms of tonnes over the past three years (from 2007-08 to 2009-10).

Asked by: Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply:

The quantity of vegetables produced by organic cultivation and intensive greenhouse production over the past three years is estimated as follows:

	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b>	<b>2009-10</b>
Organic produce (tonne)	1 380	1 460	1 530
Greenhouse produce (tonne)	30	33	36

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 11 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)025**

Question Serial No.

0578

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide the number of loans in each of the past three years (from 2007-08 to 2009-10). How many of them were related to organic cultivation and intensive greenhouse production respectively?

Asked by: Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply:

The number of loans issued and those related to organic cultivation and intensive greenhouse production in each of the past three years are as follows:

	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b>	<b>2009-10</b> <b>(as at 31.1.2010)</b>
Total number of agricultural loans issued	77	81	90
Related to organic cultivation	8	4	7
Related to greenhouse production	7	2	6

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 11 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)026**

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Question Serial No.

1440

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks  
(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment  
Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In connection with the 31 non-directorate posts to be created in 2010-11, please give in table form a breakdown of such posts by job title, rank, work area and annual salary.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

Details of the 31 posts to be created in 2010-11 are as follows:

Rank of Post	Number of Post	Annual Staff Cost	Main Duties/Justifications/Work Arrangements
<b>I. Animal Control</b>			
Field Officer II	7	\$1.3 million	To set up a permanent team to further enhance rabies control measures, step up inspections to pet shops and enforcement actions against offenders following the introduction of additional licensing conditions for dog traders in early February 2010, and strengthen education and publicity efforts to further promote public awareness of animal welfare.
<b>II. Nature Conservation</b>			
Forestry Officer	1	\$0.7 million	To carry out inspection work and enforcement of the Genetically Modified Organisms (Control of Release) Bill to be enacted in 2010.
Field Officer II	1		
Field Officer II	3	\$0.6 million	
<b>III. Management of Geopark</b>			
Forestry Officer	2	\$5.4 million	To manage, operate and promote the Hong Kong National Geopark which was opened in November 2009.
Senior Field Officer	4		

Rank of Post	Number of Post	Annual Staff Cost	Main Duties/Justifications/Work Arrangements
Fisheries Officer	1		
Fisheries Supervisor I	1		
Senior Field Assistant	1		
Field Assistant	6		
Artisan	1		
IV. Country Parks			
Forestry Officer	1	\$1.4 million	To carry out inspection and maintenance of trees alongside non-expressways that are within or directly adjacent to country parks.
Senior Field Officer	1		
Field Officer I	1		
Total	31	\$9.4 million	

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 12 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)027**

Question Serial No.

1441

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under "Matters requiring special attention in 2010-11", it is stated that the facilities to provide diagnostic tests for animal diseases including avian influenza have to be strengthened. Please provide the relevant details, including the functions of the facilities, the number of tests, the effectiveness of such facilities and the expenditure required.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department will set up a new modular biosafety Level-3 laboratory that satisfies the requirements of the World Health Organisation for handling pathogens with high zoonotic potential such as the highly pathogenic avian influenza virus. It will enhance the Department's ability and safety standards in conducting diagnostic tests for animal diseases. About 1 000 tests will be conducted in the laboratory per year. The estimated expenditure for setting up the facility is \$7 million.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ ALAN WONG \_\_\_\_\_

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 11 March 2010 \_\_\_\_\_

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)028**

Question Serial No.

1442

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

As mentioned under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010-11, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department will assist farmers to capture high-value-market niches by providing technical advice on organic cultivation and intensive greenhouse production. Please provide the respective figures of the actual expenditure and manpower required in 2009-10 and the estimated expenditure and manpower in 2010-11. What were the annual figures of organic farms in the past 3 years (from 2007 to 2009)? Please give information on the annual market share and price trend of local organic produce.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

The manpower deployed and the expenditure incurred in the development of organic farming and intensive greenhouse production in 2009-10 are 26 staff and \$9.9 million respectively. Similar level of manpower and expenditure will be required in 2010-11. The numbers of organic farms in Hong Kong in 2007, 2008 and 2009 were 106, 123 and 135 respectively. Local organic vegetable production accounts for about 0.2% of the fresh vegetables consumed in the last 3 years. Over the same period, the average wholesale price of local organic vegetables has risen from \$8,250 to \$9,040 per tonne.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 11 March 2010



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)029**

Question Serial No.

1444

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide the annual quantities of fresh vegetables consumed by Hong Kong people over the past 3 years (from 2007 to 2009). What were the annual ratios of quantities of vegetables marketed through the Vegetable Marketing Organization to the total vegetable sales in Hong Kong in the same period? What are the estimated figures for 2010?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

The annual consumption of fresh vegetables from 2007 to 2009, and the relevant quantity and percentage marketed through the Vegetable Marketing Organization (VMO) in the same period, are tabulated below:

Year	Total consumption (tonne)	Throughput in VMO (tonne)	VMO throughput over total consumption (%)
2007	648 654	195 000	30%
2008	654 858	176 796	27%
2009	657 892	172 764	26%

We expect the total consumption of vegetables in 2010 will be around 660 000 tonnes with 172 000 tonnes (26%) to be marketed through VMO.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 11 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)030**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

0494

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

For environmental hygiene and related services, the work involves abating environmental nuisances relating to dripping air-conditioners and water seepage as well as nuisances at environmental hygiene blackspots. Please provide details of the environmental hygiene blackspots concerned (excluding dripping air-conditioners and water seepage), the number of cases completed, pending action and not processed over the past three years (i.e. from 2007 to 2009), and the estimated financial provision and manpower for the work from 2007-08 to 2009-10 and for 2010-11.

Asked by: Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply:

Following the outbreak of Human Swine Influenza in May 2009, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, in consultation with District Councils, identified 105 hygiene blackspots in the territory (including 24 in Hong Kong and Islands, 37 in Kowloon and 44 in the New Territories) for enhanced clean-up operations. These blackspots were identified mainly because they were under repeated complaints for environmental hygiene problems. A list of these blackspots is at Annex. By drawing on the special fund approved by the Finance Committee in July 2009 to step up environmental hygiene measures to combat Human Swine Influenza, enhanced cleansing and street washing services were provided to these blackspots. As a result, the hygiene condition of these areas has much improved. All 105 blackspots have been eradicated by the end of February 2010.

The Department will upkeep the cleanliness and hygiene condition of these locations by utilising the aforesaid allocated resources for continuing with enhanced cleansing and street washing on top of routine cleansing services. The estimated expenditure for the additional cleansing and street washing services in 2009-10 and 2010-11 is

about \$10 million and \$16.3 million respectively, mainly for engaging some 210 contractors' staff to provide the above services since August 2009.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ W H CHEUK \_\_\_\_\_

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ Director of  
\_\_\_\_\_ Food and Environmental Hygiene \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 15.3.2010 \_\_\_\_\_

List of environmental hygiene blackspots as at May 2009

<b>Hong Kong and Islands</b>	
1	Rear lane of 33 Graham Street and 22 Peel Street
2	Rear lane at 73-76 Connaught Road West
3	Rear lane between 288 Queen's Road West and 55-61 First Street
4	Rear lane at 17-19 Wellington Street and Chuk On Lane
5	Rear lane of 134, 136 and 138 Jervois Street
6	Rear lane of 39-55 Cadogan Street
7	Rear lane of Sai Wan New Apartments, 177-185 Belcher's Street
8	Chun Yeung Street (between Tong Shui Road and North Point Road), and Java Road (between Tong Shui Road and North Point Road)
9	Electric Road (between Oil Street and Power Street) and adjacent rear lanes, and Kam Ping Street and adjacent rear lanes
10	Shing On Street (between Shaukeiwan Road and Yiu Hing Road), and Sai Wan Ho Street (between Hoi An Street and Tai Ning Street) and adjacent rear lanes
11	Kam Wa Street (between Shau Kei Wan Main Street East and Aldrich Street), Mong Lung Street and Tai Tak Street and adjacent rear lanes
12	Siu Sai Wan Road (Harmony Garden) and Fu Yee Road (Cheerful Garden)
13	Vacant area near 1 Tai San Street
14	Lane at rear of Pak She Praya Road between Pak She Fourth Lane and Pak She Sixth Lane
15	Back lane at 1-15 Wing Hing Street
16	Rear lane of 1-23 Tung Shing Road

17	Rear lane of 12-26 Wu Pak Street
18	Rear Lane of 53-81 Shek Pai Wan Road
19	Rear Lane and Side Lane 181-185 of Aberdeen Main Road
20	Lane at rear of Tai Wong Street East and Swatow Street
21	Lane at rear of Burrows Street (Ming Fung Building)
22	Lane at rear of Yee Wo Street and Jardine's Bazaar
23	Lane at rear of Jaffe Road and Lockhart Road (between Fleming Road and O'Brien Road)
24	Lane at rear of Jaffe Road and Lockhart Road (between Canal Road and Marsh Road)
<b>Kowloon</b>	
25	Area bounded by Tokwawan Road, Lok Shan Road, Yuk Yat Street and Kwei Chow Street
26	Area bounded by Bailey Street, Sung On Street, Ngan Hon Street, Tokwawan Road and Ma Tau Wai Road
27	Area bounded by Mok Cheong Street, Ma Tau Chung Road, Ma Tau Wai Road, Ma Hang Chung Road, Pau Chung Street, San Shan Road and Pak Tai Street
28	Area bounded by Whampoa Street, Bulkeley Street, Chatham Road North and Winslow Street
29	Area bounded by Junction Road, Nga Tsin Wai Road, Tak Ku Ling Road and Carpenter Road
30	Shui Wo Street and the vicinity
31	Yue Man Square and the vicinity
32	Ngau Tau Kok Road, On Wah Street, Ngau Tau Kok Market and the vicinity
33	Tsun Yip Street, Tsun Yip Lane and the vicinity
34	Ting On Street, Ting Fu Street, Tai Yip Street and the vicinity
35	Rear lane of Wai Yip Street between How Ming Street and Hoi Yuen

	Road
36	Lane at rear of 7-39 Fa Yuen Street
37	Lane at rear and side of 165-203 Sai Yee Street
38	Lane at rear of Tai Shing Building and Tai Chuen Building, Cosmopolitan Estate
39	Lane at rear and side of 78-80 Fuk Tsuen Street
40	Lane at rear of 33 Mong Kok Road
41	Lane at rear and at side of 132-158 Sai Yeung Choi Street South
42	Lane at rear and at side of 61-91 Sai Yee Street
43	Lane at rear of 1061-1103 Canton Road and 1-3 Argyle Street
44	Lane at side of 30 Ka Tsin Street
45	Area bounded by Tai Po Road, Yen Chow Street, Cheung Sha Wan Road and Nam Cheong Street
46	Area bounded by Cheung Sha Wan Road, Nam Cheong Street, Lai Chi Kok Road and Yen Chow Street
47	Area bounded by Lai Chi Kok Road, Yen Chow Street, Tung Chau Street and Nam Cheong Street
48	Area bounded by Po On Road, Wing Lung Street, Un Chau Street and Hing Wah Street
49	Tai Shing Street, Tseuk Luk Street, Yin Hing Street, Foo Yuen Street, Kam Wing Street, Yan Oi Street, Hong Keung Street, Yi Lun Street, Shung Ling Street and Ning Yuen Street
50	Sheung Fung Street, Fei Fung Street, Ming Fung Street, Tsui Fung Street, Lung Fung Street, Ngan Fung Street, Wan Fung Street and Kam Fung Street
51	Lung Chi Path, Fu Chi Path, Kwai Chi Path, Kam Chi Path and Wah Chi Path
52	Yuk Wah Street, Yuk Wah Crescent, Tsz Wah Lane, Fong Wah Lane and Koon Wah Lane
53	Rear lane of 33C-45 Portland Street

54	Rear lane of 3-5 Tung Fong Street
55	Rear lane between Hau Fook Street and Granville Road
56	Rear lane of Granville Circuit
57	Rear lane of 77-107 Parkes Street
58	Rear lane of 2-32 Parkes Street
59	Rear lane of Woosung Street between Jordan Road to Nanking Street
60	Rear lane of 123-149 Temple Street
61	Rear lane of 222 – 250 Reclamation Street
<b>New Territories</b>	
62	Rear lane of Lai Fong Street
63	Rear lane of Shing Fong Street
64	Rear lane of Kwong Fai Circuit
65	Rear lane of Tai Ha Street
66	Rear lane of Shek Yam Road
67	Chung Mei Lo Uk Village
68	Public area in the vicinity of Shek Wu Hui Farmers' Produce Retailing Point
69	Lane between San Fung Avenue and San Fat Street
70	Public area behind Luen Cheong Street Public Toilet
71	Path between San Hong Street and Royal Jubilee
72	Lane between Siu Yat Building and Kam Po Court, King Man Street
73	Nin Chun Street
74	Tong Ming Street (public pavement in front of Beverly Garden)
75	Lane between 50-76 Po Tung Road and 2-28 Yi Chun Street
76	Public carpark at Chun Cheong Street

77	Chik Fai Street and Mei Tin Road
78	Tai Wai Road and lanes in the vicinity
79	Sha Tin Centre Street including the vicinity of Sha Tin Market
80	Yi Shing Square and Kong Pui Street
81	On Yuen Street and On Chun Street (Fok On Garden to Marbella)
82	Four Lanes and rear lanes
83	Kwong Fuk Road and rear lanes
84	Kwong Fuk Square Carpark
85	Tai Wo Public Transport Interchange
86	Open spaces between Tai Yuen Estate and Jade Plaza (including On Chee Road Bus Terminus)
87	Rear lane of 101-123 Chuen Lung Street and Yi Pei Square
88	Rear lane of 105-139 Sha Tsui Road and Tso Kung Square
89	Rear lane of 27-59 Tsuen Wan Market Street
90	Rear lane of 16-64 Heung Wo Street and 19-47 Tai Pa Street
91	Rear lane of 94-122 Chung On Street (Sam Pei Square)
92	Rear lane of Nos.44-64 Ho Pui Street & Nos.55-77 Yeung Uk Road
93	Rear lane of Cheong Hei Bldg., No 105-111 Hoi Pa Street
94	Kai Man Path
95	Vicinity of San Hui Market
96	Vicinity of Tsing Ho Square
97	Leung Tak Street
98	Tsing Yeung Circuit
99	Lane at rear of and aside 19-37 Fuk Ting Street between Man Wah Building and Kit Man House
100	Lane at rear of Wing Light Building at 68-76 Yuen Long Castle Peak



	Road between Tai Tong Road and Yat San Street
101	Lane at rear of Yee On Building at 51-73 Fau Tsoi Street between Tai Tong Road and Hop Choi Street
102	Lane at rear of Kuen Yick Building at 138-160 Yuen Long On Ning Road
103	Lane at rear of 47-79 Yuen Long On Ning Road between Sau Fu Street and Tung Lok Street
104	Lane at rear of Yuen Long Trade Centre(near Fook Hong Street)
105	Lane between No. 33-71, Sau Fu Street, Yuen Long (between Holly Building and Yuen Fat House)

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)031**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

0495

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide information on the following items mentioned under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010-11:

- (a) regarding the commencement of field work of the first Total Diet Study in Hong Kong to assess risks of various food hazards, please provide details, including the scope and directions of the Study, use of Study results, as well as the financial and manpower requirements.
- (b) regarding the pursuance of a new regulation on the control of pesticide residues in food, please set out the types of pesticides covered by the regulation being formulated and the pesticides to be included in future.

Asked by: Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

- (a) Total Diet Study (TDS) is internationally recognised as the most cost-effective way to estimate the dietary intake of various substances including contaminants and nutrients across the total diet for a range of population groups. The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) is conducting the first TDS in Hong Kong to estimate the dietary exposures of the Hong Kong population to a range of substances and assess any associated health risks.

CFS has commissioned the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) to carry out the fieldwork of the TDS which includes sampling and food sample preparation work, at a contract value of about HK\$1.24 million. CUHK has started the fieldwork in March 2010 for completion in February 2011. CFS would perform laboratory analysis of the food samples collected in the fieldwork of over 110 substances, including persistent organic pollutants, pesticide residues, heavy metals, processing contaminants, mycotoxins, other contaminants and nutrients to estimate the dietary exposures of the Hong Kong population. The

laboratory analysis work would be undertaken by CFS' existing staff. Reports on the TDS will be released by phases starting from 2011.

(b) The proposed regulatory framework covers some 400 pesticides, including commonly used pesticides in the following types:

- organochlorine (有機氯) (e.g. endosulfan (硫丹));
- organophosphorus (有機磷) (e.g. chlorpyrifos (毒死蜱));
- carbamate (氨基甲酸酯) (e.g. carbosulfan (丁硫克百威)); and
- pyrethroid (擬除蟲菊酯) (e.g. cypermethrin (氰氰菊酯)).

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)032**

Question Serial No.

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

0573

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

For the suspension and cancellation of food business licence, what is the respective number of licence suspensions and cancellations in 2008 and 2009?

Among the cases of licence cancellation, how many appeals were allowed and the licences were ultimately not cancelled in 2008 and 2009 respectively?

Asked by: Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply:

In 2008 and 2009, 219 and 164 food business licences were suspended, while 17 and 10 were cancelled.

In 2008 and 2009, there were respectively 15 and 11 appeals against food business licence cancellation. Of the 15 appeal cases in 2008, the Licensing Appeals Board allowed three (i.e. the licence was not cancelled). Of the 11 appeal cases in 2009, seven were heard with one allowed, while four are pending hearing.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)033**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

0574

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the number of users of the on-line Application Tracking Facility in 2009 and details of improvement to the Facility.

Asked by: Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply:

The on-line Application Facility System (AFT) was developed to enable applicants for food business-related licences to monitor on-line the progress of their applications. In 2009, nearly 3 700 applications for food business-related licences were covered by the ATF, and some 2 200 applicants or their authorized persons made use of it.

We will continue to promote the awareness and usage of the ATF among existing and prospective food business operators through regular seminars on restaurant licensing organized by the Department using existing resources. The ATF will be extended to cover liquor licence applications in the second half of 2010.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_

W H CHEUK

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_

Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_

15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)034**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental  
Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

0575

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) In regard to the target of conducting inspections of farms exporting food animals to Hong Kong, the Department's target is 35 farms each year. However, according to the figures of the years from 2008 to 2010, the number of farms inspected or to be inspected each year was or will be 50 or more. Will the target be increased to reflect the actual situation?
- (b) Please advise on the actual expenditure in 2008-09, the revised expenditure in 2009-10 and the estimated expenditure in 2010-11 involved in conducting inspections of these farms.
- (c) Please advise on the average time taken for inspecting a farm and how the Department assesses whether the suggestions made by its staff are accepted and implemented after the inspection.

Asked by: Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows-

- (a) Farm inspections are conducted on a need basis. The average number of annual farm inspection in 2005 to 2007 was about 36 and that for 2008 and 2009 was around 50. The number planned for 2010 is 50 to provide for maximum operation flexibility. We shall continue to plan farm inspections based on risk assessment and review the target as necessary.
- (b) The expenditure was \$3.7 million (actual) for 2008-09; \$5.8 million (revised) for 2009-10; and is \$6.8 million (estimate) for 2010-11.
- (c) Each farm inspection takes half a day to one whole day to complete. After inspection, a letter will be issued to the relevant Mainland authority to request for follow-up action should there be any non-conformity observed. The Centre for Food Safety will be informed of the progress of the follow up actions.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)035**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

0576

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the commencement of the field work of the Total Diet Study, what is the expenditure involved in respect of the field work? What is the anticipated date of completion of the field work and release of the study report?

Asked by: Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply:

Total Diet Study (TDS) is internationally recognised as the most cost-effective way to estimate the dietary intake of various substances including contaminants and nutrients across the total diet for a range of population groups. The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) is conducting the first TDS in Hong Kong to estimate the dietary exposures of the Hong Kong population to a range of substances and assess any associated health risks.

CFS has commissioned the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) to carry out the fieldwork of the TDS which includes sampling and food sample preparation work, at a contract value of about HK\$1.24 million. CUHK has started the fieldwork in March 2010 for completion in February 2011. CFS would perform laboratory analysis of the food samples collected in the fieldwork of over 110 substances, including persistent organic pollutants, pesticide residues, heavy metals, processing contaminants, mycotoxins, other contaminants and nutrients to estimate the dietary exposures of the Hong Kong population. The laboratory analysis work would be undertaken by CFS' existing staff. Reports on the TDS will be released by phases starting from 2011.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ W H CHEUK \_\_\_\_\_

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 15.3.2010 \_\_\_\_\_

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)036**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1421

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out in tabular form the number of fixed pitch hawkers and vacant pitches, as well as the vacancy rate of fixed pitches in each of the 18 districts in 2008 and 2009.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annex.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ W H CHEUK

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 15.3.2010



**On-street Hawker Fixed Pitches and Vacant Pitches  
(other than cooked food hawkers)**

District	2008 (as at December 31)			2009 (as at December 31)		
	No. of Occupied Pitches	No. of Vacant Pitches*	Vacancy Rate	No. of Occupied Pitches	No. of Vacant Pitches*	Vacancy Rate
Central/Western	665	149	18%	665	89	12%
Eastern	496	125	20%	486	62	11%
Southern	36	5	12%	34	6	15%
Wan Chai	482	84	15%	480	25	5%
Islands	1	0	0%	1	0	0%
Yau Tsim	1 289	417	24%	946	0	0%
Mong Kok	1 665	354	18%	1 656	18	1%
Sham Shui Po	1 026	358	26%	1 019	376	27%
Kowloon City	133	115	46%	122	105	46%
Wong Tai Sin	24	18	43%	25	18	42%
Kwun Tong	96	0	0%	95	0	0%
Kwai Tsing	19	0	0%	18	0	0%
Tsuen Wan	25	0	0%	25	0	0%
Tuen Mun	10	0	0%	8	0	0%
Yuen Long	30	0	0%	24	0	0%
North	9	0	0%	8	0	0%
Tai Po	11	0	0%	11	0	0%
Sha Tin	3	0	0%	3	0	0%
Sai Kung	3	0	0%	3	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6 023</b>	<b>1 625</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>5 629</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>11%</b>

Remarks: \* The figures have excluded fixed pitches frozen for purposes such as anticipated resite commitments and planned deletion.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)037**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1422

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What are the criteria adopted by the Department in identifying the 45 hawker blackspots in 2010? Please list in tabular form the location of these 45 blackspots.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

For better deployment of hawker control resources, the Department conducts quarterly surveys to identify and update hawker blackspots. Whether a certain location is classified as a hawker blackspot depends on the number of unlicensed hawkers assembling there at any one time of the day during the survey.

The locations of the 45 hawker blackspots is listed at Annex.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**Location of Hawker Blackspots**

District	Location
Central/Western	1. The vicinity of Statue Square and Legislative Council Building
	2. The vicinity of Chater Garden and Murray Road
	3. Footbridge along Connaught Road Central and its vicinity
Wan Chai	4. Wan Chai Road (between Johnston Road and Cross Street), Tai Yuen Street, Cross Street, Stone Nullah Lane (between Johnston Road and Cross Street) and the vicinity
	5. Bowrington Road (between Hennessy Road and Sharp Street West) and Wan Chai Road (between Canal Road West and Tin Lok Lane)
Eastern	6. Area near Chai Wan Market including the open space outside Walton Estate, Yee Shun Street, Yee Tai Street, Yee Fung Street and the lane in front of Winner Centre
	7. Kam Wa Street area including Mong Lung Street and Tai Tak Street
	8. Marble Road area including North Point MTR Exits, Kam Hong Street, Shu Kuk Street, a section of King's Road between Kam Hong Street and Tin Chiu Street as well as the vicinity of Java Road Market
	9. Chun Yeung Street area including North Point Road, Tong Shui Road, a section of King's Road around Kam Hong Street, and Fortress Hill MTR Exits
	10. Siu Sai Wan area along Siu Sai Wan Road from Bus Terminus up to Fullview Garden
	11. Kut Shing Street and Chai Wan Footbridge outside Chai Wan MTR Station
	12. The streets around Sai Wan Ho Market including Tai On Street and a section of Shau Kei Wan Road in front of Tai On Building, the vicinity of Quarry Bay Market including Quarry Bay Footbridge, a section of King's Road between Finnie Street and Hong On Street and outside Jusco area

District	Location
Southern	13. Pavement between Aberdeen West Typhoon Shelter and Aberdeen Promenade
Islands	14. The vicinity of Cheung Chau Ferry Pier and Praya Street, Cheung Chau
	15. The areas at the junction of Yat Tung Street and Chung Yan Road, Tung Chung, Lantau Island
Yau Tsim Mong	16. Nathan Road section between Argyle Street and Dundas Street
	17. Sai Yeung Choi Street South section between Argyle Street and Dundas Street
	18. The vicinity of FEHD Mong Kok Market bounded by Nelson Street, Canton Road, Argyle Street and Tong Mi Road
	19. Fa Yuen Street section between Nullah Road and Dundas Street
	20. Sai Yee Street section between Argyle Street and Soy Street
	21. Portland Street section between Argyle Street and Dundas Street
Sham Shui Po	22. Tung Chau Street (between Yen Chow Street and Nam Cheong Street)
	23. Pei Ho Street (between Un Chau Street and Lai Chi Kok Road)
	24. Kweilin Street (between Apliu Street and Yu Chau Street)
Kowloon City	25. Bulkeley Street (between Gillies Avenue South and Dock Street)
Wong Tai Sin	26. Tai Shing Street, Tai Tung Street and its vicinity
	27. Ngau Chi Wan Village and its vicinity
	28. Lung Cheung Road and Shatin Pass Road
	29. Lok Fu MTR Station area near Wang Tau Hom East Road and its vicinity

District	Location
	30. Ching Tak Street and its vicinity
	31. Tai Yau Street and its vicinity in San Po Kong Industrial Area
Kwun Tong	32. Tsun Yip Street/ How Ming Street / Hip Wo Street / Shui Wo Street / Hoi Yuen Road
	33. Footbridges of Telford Plaza linking Kowloon Bay MTR / Ngau Tau Kok Road of Amoy Plaza / Wang Hoi Road
	34. Lam Tin Estate passage way between Tak Tin Street and Ping Tin Street at side of Lam Tin Estate Bus Terminus
	35. On Wah Street / On Tak Road / Jordan Valley Road North / Ngau Tau Kok Road adjacent to Lower Ngau Tau Kok Estate, Kwun Tong
Kwai Tsing	36. Sheung Ko Tan Street, Chung Mei Village, Tsing Yi
Tuen Mun	37. The vicinity of Sam Shing Estate
	38. Kai Man Path
	39. Mei Lok Lane
Yuen Long	40. Hop Choi Street
North	41. Sheung Shui MTR Station and its vicinity (including surrounding footbridges, Choi Yuen Road and San Wan Road)
	42. Fanling MTR Station and its vicinity (including Fanling Station Road and from adjoining footbridge to Pak Wo Road and Yat Ming Road)
Sha Tin	43. Under flyover between Lung Hang Estate and Sun Chui Estate
	44. Near Fun City, Lek Yuen Street
	45. Mei Tin Road

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)038**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1425

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

During 2010-11, the Department will enhance the facilities and management of public markets, inter alia, by continuing improvement works and market promotion. Please provide details, including detailed information about, progress on and respective expenditure of the improvement works and promotional activities, as well as the number of public markets involved.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

In 2010-11, the Department will carry out general improvement works in seven public markets at an estimated total cost of about \$33.2 million. The works mainly include upgrading of drainage, lighting, ventilation, signage and fire services provisions. These improvement works are expected to be completed in one to two years.

Expenditure on promotional activities in public markets in 2010–11 is estimated to be about \$3.5 million and will include festive celebration activities covering over 70 markets as well as roving exhibitions and thematic workshops to be held in 66 markets. Quarterly newsletters will also be published to provide updated market information and publicise promotional activities. In addition, the Department will follow up on relevant suggestions received at the three regional retreats on public markets held in December 2009, such as installing more signages and directional signs at market entrances, publishing multi-language booklets on market services and displaying recipes of chef's daily recommendations for market patrons' reference.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_

W H CHEUK

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_

Director of

Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_

15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)039**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1426

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the average time taken for processing restaurant licence applications in 2007, 2008 and 2009 respectively.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

The average processing time for issuing a full restaurant licence was 194 working days in 2007, and 168 working days in 2008 and 2009, while that for issuing a provisional restaurant licence was 54, 45 and 42 working days respectively in 2007, 2008 and 2009.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_

W H CHEUK

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_

Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_

15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION****FHB(FE)040**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department      Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1427

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out in tabular form the number of applications by restaurant licensees for outside seating accommodation and the average time taken for processing the applications in 2007, 2008 and 2009 respectively. Please also list the respective number of applications rejected, appeals lodged and applications withdrawn in each of the above three years.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows –

Year	2007	2008	2009
Number of applications for outside seating accommodation	67	71	88
Average time taken for processing an application	15 months	16 months	11 months
Number of applications approved	28	7	23
Number of applications rejected	28	19	31
Number of applications withdrawn/abandoned	11	45	34
Number of appeals lodged	0	0	0

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_

W H CHEUK

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_

Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_

15.3.2010



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)041**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1428

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the number of applications for revision of layout plans submitted by restaurant licensees and the number of approved applications in 2007, 2008 and 2009 respectively.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

In 2007, 2008 and 2009, there were 864, 728 and 569 applications respectively for alteration to the approved layout of licensed restaurants. The corresponding numbers of approvals were 396, 650 and 749.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)042**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1429

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the number of applications for transfer of restaurant licences, the average time taken for processing the applications as well as the number of applications withdrawn in 2007, 2008 and 2009 respectively.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

In 2007, 2008 and 2009, there were 716, 609 and 701 applications respectively for transfer of restaurant licences, of which 18, 15 and 5 cases were withdrawn respectively. The average time for processing the applications in 2007 – 09 was 46 working days.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_

W H CHEUK

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_

Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_

15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)043**

Question Serial  
No.

1430

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question :

There will be a decrease of one post in the establishment in 2010-11. Please set out the title, duty and salaries of the posts and give reasons for the deletion in 2010-11.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply :

There will be a net decrease of one post as a result of creation and deletion of posts. The posts to be deleted are in the grades of Ganger, Workman I and Workman II, which are mainly responsible for carrying out environmental hygiene duties. All are however vacant posts, and there is no operational need for their retention. The annual salary of a Ganger, Workman I and Workman II post is \$0.13 million, \$0.13 million and \$0.12 million respectively.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

**FHB(FE)044**

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Question Serial No.

1431

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 Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the manpower and expenditure involved or to be involved in the work on import control for food from 2007-08 to 2009-10 and in 2010-11 respectively.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply :

The expenditures and establishment involved in food import control in 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 (as at 1.3.2010) are provided as follows-

Financial Year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Establishment
2007-08	64.2	172
2008-09	76.9	177
2009-10	86.3	182
2010-11	87.7	182

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)045**

Question Serial  
No.

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department      Subhead (No. & title):

1432

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question :

How many Mainland processing plants supply chilled pork to Hong Kong at present ? What was the number of inspections conducted to the above plants in 2009?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply :

At present, there are four processing plants in the Mainland approved for supplying chilled pork to Hong Kong.

In 2009, officers of the Centre for Food Safety conducted five inspections on the four chilled pork processing plants.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)046**

Question Serial No.

1433

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the stalls in public market (excluding cooked food markets) under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, please provide data on the following (as at 31 December 2009):

1. number of stalls let out;
2. number of vacant stalls;
3. total number of stalls;
4. vacancy rate;
5. highest stall rental;
6. lowest stall rental;
7. average stall rental; and
8. median rent.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

The data sought are as follows -

1. Number of stalls let out : 11 693
2. Number of vacant stalls : 2 582 (including 814 stalls frozen)
3. Total number of stalls : 14 275
4. Vacancy rate : 18.09%
5. Highest stall rental : \$64,295
6. Lowest stall rental : \$10.34

- 7. Average stall rental : \$2,561.53
- 8. Median rent : \$1,728

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)047**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1434

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please list in tabular form the number of live poultry stalls in operation in each of the public markets under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annex.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ W H CHEUK

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 15.3.2010



**Number of live poultry stalls in operation in public markets  
managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
(Position as at 31.12.2009)**

<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>Name of Market</b>	<b>Number of Live Poultry Stalls</b>
1	Aberdeen Market	1
2	Bowrington Road Market	1
3	Causeway Bay Market	2
4	Chai Wan Market	2
5	Fa Yuen Street Market	1
6	Heung Che Street Market	1
7	Hung Hom Market	2
8	Java Road Market	3
9	Kowloon City Market	2
10	Kwun Chung Market	1
11	Lai Wan Market	1
12	Lockhart Road Market	3
13	Luen Wo Hui Market	2
14	Mong Kok Market	1
15	Ngau Chi Wan Market	1
16	Ngau Tau Kok Market	3
17	North Kwai Chung Market	1
18	Pei Ho Street Market	5
19	Po On Road Market	3
20	Quarry Bay Market	1
21	San Hui Market	2

<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>Name of Market</b>	<b>Number of Live Poultry Stalls</b>
22	Sha Tin Market	2
23	Shek Wu Hui Market	2
24	Sheung Fung Street Market	1
25	Sheung Wan Market	7
26	Shui Wo Street Market	1
27	Tai Kiu Market	2
28	Tai Kok Tsui Market	1
29	Tai Po Hui Market	5
30	Tai Shing Street Market	2
31	Tai Wai Market	2
32	Tang Lung Chau Market	1
33	To Kwa Wan Market	1
34	Tsuen Wan Market	3
35	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	4
36	Tung Yick Market	3
37	Wing Fong Street Market	1
38	Yan Oi Market	2
39	Yau Ma Tei Market	2
40	Yeung Uk Road Market	5
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>86</b>

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)048**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department      Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1435

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please give a breakdown by farm types of the number of Mainland farms exporting food animals to Hong Kong and the estimated number of inspections to be conducted by the Department in 2010. Please provide the number of inspections conducted for each type of farms in 2009. Please also advise on the expenditure and manpower required for 2009-10 (actual) and 2010-11 (estimated).

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply :

The type and number of registered Mainland farms exporting live food animals to Hong Kong in 2009 is tabulated as follows-

Farm Type	Poultry	Pig	Cattle	Goat	Aquatic Food Animals
Number of Registered Farms	91	296	77	5	61

In 2009, a total of 52 Mainland farms were inspected. Fifty farm inspections are planned for 2010. The breakdown of farms inspected in 2009 by type is tabulated as follows-

Farm Type	Poultry	Pig	Aquatic Food Animals
Number of Inspections	35	9	8

Farm inspections are carried out by inspection teams comprising veterinary officers, field officers and research officer. About \$5.8 million in 2009-10 and \$6.8 million in 2010-11 is estimated to be spent on farm inspections.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)049**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1436

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under the registration system for Mainland fresh water fish farms for supply to Hong Kong, please advise on the number of fish farms inspected/to be inspected and inspection visits made/to be made, as well as the expenditure and manpower required in 2008, 2009 and 2010 respectively.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety inspected 22 and 12 Mainland fish farms in 2008 and 2009 respectively, and plan to inspect 25 in 2010. The inspection will be carried out by inspection teams comprising veterinary officers, field officers and research officer. The inspections in 2008-09 and 2009-10 cost \$0.4 million and \$0.5 million respectively. The estimated expenditure for 2010-11 is about \$0.6 million.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ **W H CHEUK**

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)050**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1437

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What is the number of appeal cases against the suspension of food business licences in 2009, and how many cases were allowed? Of the appeal cases against licence suspension, what is the average period of suspension? What is the longest and shortest period of licence suspension?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

In 2009, there were 22 appeals against food business licence suspension; 16 were heard and six are pending hearing. Of the cases heard, the Licensing Appeals Board shortened the suspension period in three and upheld the suspension decision in 13. The average suspension period after appeal was eight days. The longest period was 14 days and the shortest was three.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)051**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1438

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What is the usage rate of the on-line Application Tracking Facility (ATF) in 2008 and 2009 respectively? What is the financial provision earmarked for system improvement? Will additional resources be provided in the future to extend the ATF to other licence and endorsement applications?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

The on-line Application Tracking Facility System (AFT) was developed to enable applicants for food business-related licences to monitor on-line the progress of their applications. In 2008 and 2009, 49% and 59% of the applicants or their authorised persons have made use of it respectively.

We will continue to promote the awareness and usage of the ATF among existing and prospective food business operators through regular seminars on restaurant licensing organized by the Department using existing resources. The ATF will be extended to cover liquor licence applications in the second half of 2010.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ **W H CHEUK** \_\_\_\_\_

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ **Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene** \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ **15.3.2010** \_\_\_\_\_

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)052**

Question Serial  
Number

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department      Subhead (Number & title):

1439

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the number of liquor licence applications received and appeals lodged, the average time taken for processing the applications and listing the appeals for hearing, as well as the success rate of appeals in 2007, 2008 and 2009 respectively.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows –

Year	2007	2008	2009
Number of applications for liquor licence (including club liquor licence)	854	856	874
Average time taken for processing an application	43 days	41 days	38 days
Number of appeals lodged with Municipal Services Appeals Board (MSAB)	13	7	14
Average time taken for listing an appeal for hearing	72 days	85 days	67 days
Success rate of appeals (i.e. appeals allowed by MSAB)	23%	14%	50%

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_

W H CHEUK

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_

Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_

15.3.2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)053**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1445

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the financial provision and manpower involved or to be involved in conducting food surveillance by the Centre for Food Safety over the past two years (i.e. in 2008-09 and 2009-10) and in 2010-11 respectively.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

The expenditure on food surveillance in 2008-09 and 2009-10 are \$45.2 million and \$51.3 million respectively. A financial provision of \$52.7 million has been earmarked for 2010-11.

The manpower including health inspectors, administration and supporting staff involved in conducting food surveillance is 102.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)054**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1461

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The incidence of poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks rose from 45 131 in 2008 to 48 180 in 2009, and the number of trappings also rose from 9 147 in 2008 to 26 872 in 2009. What are the reasons for the considerable increase on both counts? Please advise on the respective manpower and expenditure involved for the years concerned.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

To further improve the effectiveness of rodent control work, we made a wider use of poison treatments and rodent trappings in 2009. Hence the increase in both numbers in 2009 over 2008.

The staffing and expenditure of in-house and contractor staff engaged in providing rodent control services are as follows –

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total No. of Staff</u>	<u>Total Direct Expenditure (\$ million)</u>
2008-09	2 300	121
2009-10	2 230	136

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_

W H CHEUK

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_

Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_

15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)055**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1462

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the commencement of field work of the first Total Diet Study in Hong Kong to assess risks of various food hazards by the Department in 2010-11, please provide details, including specific contents of the field work, timetable, financial provision and manpower required.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

Total Diet Study (TDS) is internationally recognised as the most cost-effective way to estimate the dietary intake of various substances including contaminants and nutrients across the total diet for a range of population groups. The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) is conducting the first TDS in Hong Kong to estimate the dietary exposures of the Hong Kong population to a range of substances and assess any associated health risks.

CFS has commissioned the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) to carry out the fieldwork of the TDS which includes sampling and food sample preparation work, at a contract value of about HK\$1.24 million. CUHK has started the fieldwork in March 2010 for completion in February 2011. CFS would perform laboratory analysis of the food samples collected in the fieldwork of over 110 substances, including persistent organic pollutants, pesticide residues, heavy metals, processing contaminants, mycotoxins, other contaminants and nutrients to estimate the dietary exposures of the Hong Kong population. The laboratory analysis work would be undertaken by CFS' existing staff. Reports on the TDS will be released by phases starting from 2011.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)056**

Question Serial No.

0570

Head: 48 Government Laboratory

Subhead (No. & title): 661 Minor plant,  
vehicles and  
equipment (block  
vote)

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Government Chemist

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The estimate for Subhead 661 for 2010 represents an increase of more than \$7.7 million over the revised estimate for the previous year (i.e. 2009-10). What are the items to be replaced and procured? What are their life expectancies?

Asked by: Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply:

The equipment to be procured under Subhead 661 in 2010-11 is listed below –

For Replacement

- an electron spin resonance spectroscopy system;
- an integrated high performance liquid chromatography system with diode array detector and mass spectrometric detector;
- a gas chromatography system;
- a liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry system;
- a gas chromatograph with mass spectrometry system;
- a pyrolysis gas chromatography mass spectrometer system;
- a high performance liquid chromatograph coupled with diode array detector system;
- a gas chromatographic system equipped with an oxygen selective flame ionisation detector;
- a set of automatic ion analyser (flow injection analyser) system;
- a UV/Visible spectrophotometer;
- an inductively coupled plasma-optical emission spectrometer; and
- an integrated gas chromatography system with mass spectrometry detector.

New Acquisition

- a set of equipment for the compliance tests of proprietary Chinese medicines in accordance with quality specifications upon the commencement of s119 under the Chinese Medicine Ordinance (Cap. 549); and
- an isoteniscope system.

The estimated useful life of the above equipment is normally seven years.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Name in block letters Dr LAU CHAU MING  
Post Title Government Chemist (Acting)  
Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)057**

Question Serial No.

1443

Head: 48 Government Laboratory      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Statutory Testing

Controlling Officer: Government Chemist

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With respect to the outsourcing of some of the routine food testing work to the commercial sector, please provide the following information :

- (a) the scope of food testing and the number of samples outsourced in the past two years (i.e. 2008 and 2009) and expected to be outsourced in 2010, as well as the respective ratio of outsourcing.
- (b) the expenditure incurred in the past two years (i.e. 2008-09 and 2009-10) and the estimated expenditure to be incurred in 2010-11 for the outsourcing of food testing.
- (c) the cost of testing after outsourcing in the past two years (i.e. 2008-09 and 2009-10) and the estimated cost of testing after outsourcing in 2010-11.
- (d) the manpower and expenditure involved for supervising and spot-checking the outsourcing work in the past two years (i.e. 2008-09 and 2009-10) and the estimated manpower and expenditure for such purposes in 2010-11.
- (e) the resources and manpower released from the outsourcing exercise in 2009-10 and the re-deployment arrangement of such resources and manpower.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

- (a) The information on outsourcing of routine food testing work is as follows:

	No. of Tests	% of Routine Work	Test Area
2008-09 (actual)	22 000 (2 900 samples)	15%	sulphur dioxide, preservatives, pesticide residues
2009-10 (estimated)	79 000 (7 400 samples)	50%	sulphur dioxide, preservatives, trace metals, pesticide residues
2010-11 (estimated)	107 000 (11 500 samples)	70%	preservatives, trace metals, other additives and contaminants, pesticide and veterinary drug residues

(b) The expenditure on outsourcing is as follows:

	Expenditure on Outsourcing
2008-09 (actual)	\$1.5 million
2009-10 (projected)	\$7 million
2010-11 (estimated)	\$11.8 million

- (c) The cost per test varies to a great extent according to the test parameter. It is noted that there has been a reduction in cost for some of the test parameters in the private sector due to competition among private laboratories since the commencement of the outsourcing exercise in 2008-09. However, for the new parameters introduced to the outsourcing exercise in 2010-11 where fewer laboratories are accredited for such testing service, the cost may be higher.
- (d) The Outsourcing Management Section was established in 2009-10 to perform outsourcing related activities including contract management and monitoring the performance of the contract laboratories. The Section consists of seven professional and technical staff with annual expenditure \$4.1 million.
- (e) The resources released from the outsourcing of routine food testing work are deployed to focus on new test method development, to cope with new testing work arising from amendments of food legislation and to perform other duties including management of outsourcing activities, handling analytical tests for urgent food incidents as well as chemical metrology work and enhancing the testing capability of the local laboratories.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters Dr LAU CHAU MING

Post Title Government Chemist (Acting)

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)058**

Question Serial No.

1446

Head: 48 Government Laboratory      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:                    (1) Statutory Testing

Controlling Officer:      Government Chemist

Director of Bureau:      Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What is the number of food samples for regulatory compliance purposes in 2008-09 and 2009-10?

Asked by:    Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

The number of food tests (with the corresponding number of food samples in bracket) for regulatory compliance purposes conducted by the Government Laboratory for the years 2008, 2009 and the estimated output for 2010 is as follows:

2008 (actual)	2009 (actual)	2010 (estimated)
127 006 tests (29 321 samples)	175 761 tests (29 294 samples)	163 000 tests (30 000 samples)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters      Dr LAU CHAU MING

Post Title      Government Chemist (Acting)

Date      15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)059**

Question Serial No.

1447

Head: 48 Government Laboratory      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:                    (1) Statutory Testing

Controlling Officer:      Government Chemist

Director of Bureau:      Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What was the expenditure of the Food Safety Laboratory in 2008-09 and 2009-10? What is the current staff establishment? What are the estimated expenditure and manpower in 2010-11?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

The Food Safety Laboratory under the Government Laboratory is currently staffed by 30 professional and technical officers with an expenditure of \$36 million for 2008-09, a projected expenditure of \$23 million for 2009-10 and an estimated expenditure of \$25 million for 2010-11. There is no change in the staffing for the year 2010-11. Expenditure for the Food Safety Laboratory is higher in 2008-09 as more capital expenditure was incurred for procurement of equipment when the Laboratory was opened in 2008.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters      Dr LAU CHAU MING

Post Title      Government Chemist (Acting)

Date      15.3.2010



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)060**

Question Serial No.

1448

Head: 48 Government Laboratory      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:                    (1) Statutory Testing

Controlling Officer:      Government Chemist

Director of Bureau:      Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What was the average turn around time for the testing of a food complaint case in 2009? As food complaints are closely related to the operational crisis of the trade, is there any room for further shortening the current target testing time of 25 working days?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

In 2009, the average sample turn around time for the testing of a food complaint case was 20 working days, shorter than the target testing time of 25 working days.

The sample turn around time for testing varies according to the nature of the complaint cases that governs the types of tests required for the investigation. For example, for cases involving deteriorated food samples, the turn around time may be as short as four to six working days. On the other hand, for cases requiring detailed investigation using a variety of techniques such as those involving suspected foreign substances, the sample turn around time may take as long as two to three months.

Government Laboratory always strives at providing a timely testing service by streamlining work processes and adopting new technology whenever applicable. The target testing time will therefore be kept under constant review for shortening where possible.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters      Dr LAU CHAU MING

Post Title      Government Chemist (Acting)

Date      15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)061**

Question Serial No.

1449

Head: 48 Government Laboratory      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:                    (1) Statutory Testing

Controlling Officer:      Government Chemist

Director of Bureau:      Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Labelling Scheme on Nutrition Information is to take effect on 1 July 2010. In this connection, what are the estimated increase in the number of testings and the additional expenditure and manpower required?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

The number of food samples that the Centre for Food Safety will collect and send to the Government Laboratory for testing of nutrient content is about 400 samples in the coming year. The additional work involved will be absorbed by existing manpower and resources.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters      Dr LAU CHAU MING

Post Title      Government Chemist (Acting)

Date      15.3.2010



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)063**

Question Serial No.

0571

Head: 139 – Government  
Secretariat: Food and  
Health Bureau (Food  
Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding “continue to collaborate with the Mainland Authorities to explore the feasibility of applying information technology to enhance the traceability of food”, what is the expenditure for the study? How is the expenditure shared between Hong Kong and the Mainland Authorities? What is the progress of the study? Is there any timetable for implementation of the technology?

Asked by: Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply:

In 2009, FHB and FEHD continued to work with the Mainland authorities on a pilot programme to apply Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology on traceability of live pigs. Around 36 000 pigs in 17 000 consignments were tested.

FEHD has spent about \$1.5 million on the programme since it started in 2006. The estimated expenditure is about \$2.44 million in 2010-11. Hong Kong and the Mainland authorities are responsible for their own expenditure in the programme.

Technical enhancement on the system and testing of passageway reader device are to be implemented in 2010. The entire RFID system will be assessed after the completion of the further enhancement and testing.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ Mrs. Stella HUNG

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ Permanent Secretary for Food and  
Health (Food)

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 12 March 2010



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)065**

Question Serial No.

1420

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

Programme:                    (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer:      Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food)

Director of Bureau:      Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under Programme (2): Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety, why is the revised estimate significantly lower than the original estimate for 2009-10 by 57.1%? According to record, the actual expenditure under this programme in 2008-09 was also 44.8% lower than the original estimate. Has the Government reviewed the over-estimation of the expenditure?

Asked by: Hon.CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

The decrease of \$38.1 million (57.1%) in the 2009-10 revised estimate for Programme (2) : Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety as compared with the 2009-10 original estimate is mainly due to savings in meeting contingency arising from zoonotic diseases such as avian influenza, and coping with other emergency food incidents like the melamine incident in 2008. There is no need to deploy such contingency funding in 2009-10. We have reviewed the trend of past expenditure and adjusted the estimate for 2010-11.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters      Mrs Stella HUNG

Post Title      Permanent Secretary for Food and  
Health (Food)

Date      12.3.2010



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)067**

Question Serial No.

1424

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

Programme: (3) Environmental Hygiene

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

During 2010-11, the Administration will introduce subsidiary legislation for the relaxation of the food room requirements for licensed restaurants and factory canteens. Please provide the relevant details, including the timetables for the introduction and implementation of the legislation, and the manpower and funding required.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

The minimum food room requirement ensures food premises will provide reasonable space for food rooms (including the aggregate area of the kitchen, other food preparation areas and space used for cleansing of utensils) to safeguard food safety and hygiene. In view of the significant changes in the operation of food businesses over the years and suggestions from the food trade, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has reviewed the minimum food room requirement for licensed restaurants and factory canteens, including the scope for revising the area bands and their corresponding requirements without compromising food safety and hygiene. Details of the proposed relaxation of the food room requirements are at Annex.

Since briefing the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene on the proposed relaxation in June 2009, we have been working with relevant departments in drafting the amendment regulation for tabling at LegCo for negative vetting within the current legislative session. The new requirement should come into effect following completion of negative vetting. Preparation for the amendment regulation will be absorbed by our existing resources. No additional manpower and funding are required.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters Mrs Stella HUNG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Food and  
Health (Food)

Date 11.3.2010



## A Comparison between Existing and Proposed Food Room Requirements

### General Restaurants

Gross floor area (GFA) in m <sup>2</sup>		Minimum kitchen area in m <sup>2</sup>		Minimum aggregate area of kitchen, food preparation room and scullery accommodation in m <sup>2</sup>  (% of GFA or absolute size, whichever is the more)	
<i>Existing</i>	<i>Proposal</i>	<i>Existing</i>	<i>Proposal</i>	<i>Existing</i>	<i>Proposal</i>
100 or less	Ditto	6	Kitchen to be provided, but area requirement to be waived	30% or 9	25% or 8
101-150	> 100 – 150	10		25% or 27	22% or 25
151-250	> 150 – 250	10		23% or 36	19% or 33
251 or over	> 250 – 500	14		21% or 54	16% or 48
	> 500 – 1 000			13% or 80	
	> 1 000			10% or 130	

### Light Refreshment Restaurants

Gross floor area (GFA) in m <sup>2</sup>		Minimum aggregate area of kitchen, food preparation room and scullery accommodation in m <sup>2</sup>  (% of GFA or absolute size, whichever is the less)	
<i>Existing</i>	<i>Proposal</i>	<i>Existing</i>	<i>Proposal</i>
22 or less	23 or less	5	4.5
23 – 35	> 23 – 35	20% or 7	20% or 6
36 – 55	> 35 – 55	18% or 8	18% or 7.5
56 – 95	> 55 – 95	14% or 12	14% or 12
96 – 185	> 95 – 185	13% or 17	13% or 17
186 or over	> 185	9% or 28 (whichever is the more)	9% or 18 (whichever is the more)

## Factory Canteens

Gross floor area (GFA) in m <sup>2</sup>		Minimum aggregate area of kitchen, food preparation room and scullery accommodation in m <sup>2</sup>  (% of GFA or absolute size, whichever is the more)	
<i>Existing</i>	<i>Proposal</i>	<i>Existing</i>	<i>Proposal</i>
Any GFA	250 or less	15% or 6	14% or 5
	> 250 – 1 000		12% or 35
	> 1 000		10% or 120

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)068**

Question Serial No.

1460

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

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

During 2010-11, the Administration will continue to develop a Poultry Slaughtering Centre. In this connection, would the Administration please advise on the following:

- The Administration has indicated that it would engage a consultant to re-evaluate market interests in operating a Poultry Slaughtering Centre. What are the progress and findings of the study?
- What is the amount of consultancy fees involved?
- What are the expenditure and manpower involved in the preparatory work?
- Will the Poultry Slaughtering Centre come into operation in 2011-12 as expected?
- What are the types and number of jobs to be created by the Centre?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

Given the diminishing market share of live chickens and the changes the entire live poultry trade has undergone after the Buyout Scheme launched by the Government in 2008, the Government has commissioned a consultant to conduct a commercial viability study to re-assess market interest in operating the Poultry Slaughtering Centre (PSC). The consultancy fee is \$1.43 million.

The Administration has been continuing with the preparatory work on the development of the PSC. The work involved in taking forward this initiative will be absorbed by existing manpower of the Food and Health Bureau. The Administration is also reviewing the way forward for the PSC, taking into account various factors including the risks of avian influenza, the implementation of the ban on overnight keeping of live chickens at the retail level, the biosecurity measures instituted at the farms and the poultry wholesale market, the increased public preference for chilled and frozen chickens and the findings of the commercial viability study. We will consult the Legislative Council and the stakeholders in due course.

The types and number of jobs to be created after the PSC enters into operation could not be estimated at this stage.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs Stella HUNG</u>
	<u>Permanent Secretary for Food and</u>
Post Title	<u>Health (Food)</u>
Date	<u>9 March 2010</u>

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)069**

Question Serial No.

0690

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

Programme: (3) Environmental Hygiene

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is stated under Programme (3) that the Food and Health Bureau (Food Branch) will continue to implement measures to increase the supply of public columbarium and crematorium facilities. The Bureau has recently put forward some proposals, including converting industrial buildings which are far away from residential developments to columbarium and making use of the unused sites in the Wo Hop Shek Cemetery at Fanling to construct niches. Given the keen public demand for columbarium niches, these measures are probably unable to address the long-term need of the public. Has the Government earmarked resources for carrying out studies to resolve the problem in a long run?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN kin-por

Reply:

The Government will continue to adopt all feasible measures to increase the supply of public crematorium and columbarium facilities. Support from the Legislative Council, District Councils and local community is vital for timely development of these facilities. Over the past few years, a number of public columbarium projects involving over 240 000 niches have been shelved as a result of local objection. The Food and Health Bureau has set up an inter-departmental Working Group to coordinate with relevant bureaux and departments to examine measures to increase the supply of public columbarium facilities, including for example exploring whether additional columbarium niches could be added within existing public cemeteries and identifying potential sites in all districts / regions for columbarium development, as well as to explore alternative means for the disposal of cremains. Expenditure arising from early stage studies including technical feasibility studies would be absorbed by our existing resources or the departments concerned. Any public works projects involving public crematorium and columbarium development will be subject to funding approval by the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters Mrs Stella HUNG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Food and  
Health (Food)

Date 10.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)070**

Question Serial No.

0841

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 Food and Health

Question:

It is stated under Programme (1) that the Department will commence field work of the first Total Diet Study (TDS) in Hong Kong to assess risks of various food hazards. The Department conducted a lot of field work on food each year in the past. How is the first TDS in Hong Kong different from other studies undertaken previously? What is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Kin-por

Reply:

The previous risk assessment studies conducted by the Department focused on individual food chemical hazards for a specific population group, the secondary school students in Hong Kong. Total Diet Study (TDS) is internationally recognised as the most cost-effective way to estimate the dietary intake of various substances including contaminants and nutrients across the total diet for a range of population groups. The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) is conducting the first TDS in Hong Kong to estimate the dietary exposures of the Hong Kong population to a range of substances and assess any associated health risks.

CFS has commissioned the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) to carry out the fieldwork of the TDS which includes sampling and food sample preparation work, at a contract value of about HK\$1.24 million. CUHK has started the fieldwork in March 2010 for completion in February 2011. CFS would perform laboratory analysis of the food samples collected in the fieldwork by existing staff.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ W H CHEUK

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)071**

Question Serial No.

1711

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

Programme:                    (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer:      Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food)

Director of Bureau:      Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In respect of the financial provision for 2009-10, what are the reasons for the substantial reduction of \$57.1% in the revised estimate of \$28.6 million as compared with the original estimate of \$66.7 million?

Asked by: Hon.WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

The decrease of \$38.1 million (57.1%) in the 2009-10 revised estimate for Programme (2) : Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety as compared with the 2009-10 original estimate is mainly due to the savings in 2009-10 for meeting contingencies arising from zoonotic diseases/emergency food incidents.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters      Mrs Stella HUNG

Post Title      Permanent Secretary for Food and  
Health (Food)

Date      12.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)072**

Question Serial No.

1710

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

Programme:                    (3) Environmental Hygiene

Controlling Officer:      Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food)

Director of Bureau:      Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the work to continue to develop a Poultry Slaughtering Centre, please advise on the following:

- a. What is the progress of the programme? Where is the proposed site of the Poultry Slaughtering Centre?
- b. The Administration once replied that the Poultry Slaughtering Centre would come into operation in 2011-12. Is this estimation still valid?
- c. What is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

The Administration has been continuing with the preparatory work on the development of the Poultry Slaughtering Centre (PSC). The Government has identified a piece of government land abutting Man Kam To Road in Sheung Shui for the development of the PSC. The estimated capital expenditure involved is being assessed.

Given the diminishing market share of live chickens and the changes the entire live poultry trade has undergone after the Buyout Scheme launched by the Government in 2008, the Government has commissioned a consultant to conduct a commercial viability study to re-assess market interest in operating the PSC.

The Administration is reviewing the way forward for the PSC, taking into account various factors including the risks of avian influenza, the implementation of the ban on overnight keeping of live chickens at the retail level, the biosecurity measures instituted at the farms and the poultry wholesale market, the increased public preference for chilled and frozen chickens and the findings of the commercial viability study. We will consult the Legislative Council and the stakeholders in due course.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters      Mrs Stella HUNG

Post Title      Permanent Secretary for Food and  
Health (Food)

Date      11.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)073**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1491

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The number of licensed itinerant hawkers will increase from 535 in 2009 to 560 in 2010. Please set out in tabular form the respective number of Itinerant Hawker Licences for selling wet and dry goods, Itinerant (Mobile Van) Hawker Licences and Itinerant (Frozen Confectionery) Hawker Licences involved. On what basis is the increase worked out? Please also advise on the number of Itinerant (Frozen Confectionery) Hawker Licences surrendered by new licensees since the re-issuance of the licence.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

The types and number of Itinerant Hawker Licences (IHLs) as at 31 December 2009 are set out as follows -

Type of IHLs	Number of IHLs
Frozen Confectionery	51
Mobile Van	16
Newspaper	3
Other Classes	465
<b>Total</b>	<b>535</b>

The estimated increase in the number of IHLs from 535 in 2009 to 560 in 2010 takes into account the re-issuance of Itinerant (Frozen Confectionery) Hawker Licences and the projected decrease due to natural attrition and surrender of existing licences under the Voluntary Surrender Scheme.



No Itinerant (Frozen Confectionery) Hawker Licence has been surrendered by new licensees since the re-issuance of the licences in mid 2009.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_

W H CHEUK

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_

Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_

15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)074**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1590

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide information on applications for Places of Public Entertainment Licence in the table below:

Number of Applications for Places of Public Entertainment Licence			
Year	Capacity of Cinemas / Theatres	Urban Area	New Territories
2008	Not more than 500 persons		
	Between 501 and 1 000 persons		
	Between 1 001 and 1 500 persons		
	Over 1 500 persons		
2009	Not more than 500 persons		
	Between 501 and 1 000 persons		
	Between 1 001 and 1 500 persons		
	Over 1 500 persons		

Asked by: Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

Number of Applications for Places of Public Entertainment Licence			
Year	Capacity of Cinemas / Theatres	Urban Area	New Territories
2008	Not more than 500 persons	1	0
	Between 501 and 1 000 persons	1	1
	Between 1 001 and 1 500 persons	0	0
	Over 1 500 persons	0	0

2009	Not more than 500 persons	2	0
	Between 501 and 1 000 persons	1	1
	Between 1 001 and 1 500 persons	1	0
	Over 1 500 persons	0	0

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_

W H CHEUK

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_

Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_

15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)075**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1596

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the reasons why the recurrent expenditure per tonne of refuse collected in 2009 is higher than that in 2008. Are there any plans to enhance recycling and recovery so as to reduce the relevant expenditure in 2010-11?

Asked by: Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply:

Waste collection service is provided by both in-house and contractor staff. The increase in recurrent expenditure per tonne of refuse collected by \$14, from \$186 in 2008 to \$200 in 2009, is mainly attributable to rising service contract prices.

In support of the Government's Waste Reduction Framework Plan 1998-2007 and the Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste 2005-2014 rolled out by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD), the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) began to set up recyclable collection points in public places and its venues in 2000 to collect recyclables, namely, metals, plastics and papers. By the end of February 2010, FEHD set up a total of 1 754 such collection points. To help reduce and recycle wastes, FEHD will continue to set up more recyclable collection points in public places and work closely with EPD.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_

W H CHEUK

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_

Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_

15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)076**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1712

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the indicator for “pest control surveys conducted”, the actual number of surveys conducted dropped from 8 385 in 2008 to 7 572 in 2009, and a further drop to 7 100 has been estimated for 2010.

- (a) Please advise on the reasons for the continuing decline in numbers, and whether this is related to a cutback in expenditure or manpower.
- (b) Please provide in the table below the rodent infestation rates for the whole territory and for each of the 19 districts over the past five years (i.e. from 2005 to 2009).

District	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Central & Western					
Eastern					
Southern					
Wan Chai					
Islands					
Kowloon City					
Kwun Tong					
Wong Tai Sin					
Sham Shui Po					
Mong Kok					
Yau Tsim					
Sai Kung					
Sha Tin					
Tai Po					
North					
Kwai Tsing					
Tsuen Wan					
Tuen Mun					
Yuen Long					
Territory-wide					

- (c) Please provide in the table below a breakdown of relevant figures for the whole territory and for each of the 19 districts over the past three years.

District	2007			2008			2009		
	No. of dead rodents collected	No. of live rodents collected	No. of rat holes destroyed	No. of dead rodents collected	No. of live rodents collected	No. of rat holes destroyed	No. of dead rodents collected	No. of live rodents collected	No. of rat holes destroyed
Central & Western									
Eastern									
Southern									
Wan Chai									
Islands									
Kowloon City									
Kwun Tong									
Wong Tai Sin									
Sham Shui Po									
Mong Kok									
Yau Tsim									
Sai Kung									
Sha Tin									
Tai Po									
North									
Kwai Tsing									
Tsuen Wan									
Tuen Mun									
Yuen Long									
Territory-wide									

- (d) Please advise on the Department's anti-rodent measures in place, details of the measures and the amount of expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

- (a) In 2008, additional surveys were conducted due to ad hoc requirements for the 2008 Olympic and Paralympic Equestrian Events. In 2009, additional surveys were also

carried out for improving the environmental hygiene conditions in connection with the outbreak of human swine influenza and strengthening of rodent control work. As the numbers of surveys conducted in 2008 and 2009 were higher than an average year, the estimate for 2010 is adjusted to bring it back to a normal level.

(b) The required figures are as follows -

District	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Central & Western	4.7%	1.5%	7.5%	5.7%	4.7%
Eastern	1.5%	1.8%	3.2%	4.4%	8.1%
Southern	3.1%	4.2%	6.0%	4.0%	6.5%
Wan Chai	6.0%	5.2%	8.5%	8.1%	1.6%
Islands	2.7%	7.3%	6.6%	7.9%	9.3%
Kowloon City	3.1%	2.6%	3.6%	4.2%	5.0%
Kwun Tong	4.4%	5.6%	5.3%	5.3%	12.4%
Wong Tai Sin	3.1%	1.6%	3.0%	6.9%	7.5%
Sham Shui Po	4.3%	1.2%	3.9%	6.5%	7.8%
Mong Kok	9.0%	1.7%	4.7%	6.8%	2.0%
Yau Tsim	6.6%	4.3%	3.0%	5.7%	5.4%
Sai Kung	4.1%	2.0%	9.0%	8.4%	5.4%
Sha Tin	3.6%	2.8%	0.5%	5.5%	5.5%
Tai Po	4.6%	0.5%	3.9%	11.0%	1.8%
North	5.3%	3.9%	5.9%	6.5%	7.2%
Kwai Tsing	4.7%	1.2%	1.7%	4.9%	3.1%
Tsuen Wan	5.6%	3.3%	5.9%	13.3%	5.1%
Tuen Mun	3.2%	3.6%	5.4%	1.7%	8.3%
Yuen Long	3.0%	4.4%	5.3%	5.3%	6.6%
<b>Rodent Infestation Rate</b>	<b>4.4%</b>	<b>2.9%</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>6.3%</b>	<b>6.1%</b>

(c) The required figures are as follows -

District	2007			2008			2009		
	No. of dead rodents collected	No. of live rodents collected	No. of rat holes destroyed	No. of dead rodents collected	No. of live rodents collected	No. of rat holes destroyed	No. of dead rodents collected	No. of live rodents collected	No. of rat holes destroyed
Central & Western	2 800	193	322	2 340	202	276	1 682	531	249
Eastern	2 425	459	221	2 254	665	200	2 476	318	172
Southern	979	97	182	850	118	140	534	333	74
Wan Chai	405	47	382	597	137	580	1 108	824	833
Islands	1 077	107	554	1 197	136	426	1 031	244	664
Kowloon City	430	26	563	467	83	359	1 201	219	280
Kwun Tong	1 905	0	284	2 103	29	400	1 922	87	306
Wong Tai Sin	998	51	306	789	107	222	998	188	94
Sham Shui Po	2 358	37	716	2 252	71	835	1 587	89	1 060
Mong Kok	1 903	22	383	2 579	151	319	1 724	630	336
Yau Tsim	1 227	11	80	1 670	31	248	1 121	189	248
Sai Kung	892	409	831	1 072	547	788	1 989	305	826
Sha Tin	277	26	480	546	128	535	554	350	498
Tai Po	605	4	845	850	66	663	690	152	1 068
North	923	139	626	898	290	471	1 059	613	465
Kwai Tsing	922	16	289	909	52	552	870	99	285



Tsuen Wan	559	16	350	740	434	228	915	1 049	114
Tuen Mun	879	95	238	1 233	482	349	1 408	409	1 135
Yuen Long	3 181	101	262	2 094	169	432	2 166	199	611
Total	24 745	1 856	7 914	25 440	3 898	8 023	25 035	6 828	9 318

- (d) The Department adopts an integrated rodent control approach, consisting of improvement to environmental conditions, application of poisonous baits and setting of traps. This approach is in line with the recommendations of the World Health Organization and practices adopted by other major cities.

The estimated direct expenditure involved in rodent control services in 2010-11 is \$137 million.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental      Subhead (No. & title):  
Hygiene Department

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The estimated financial provision for 2010-11 is \$ 2,427.4 million, representing an increase of 10% over the revised estimate of \$ 2,207.3 million for 2009-10. This is mainly due to additional capital expenditure on replacement of refuse collection vehicles, etc. Please advise on:

- (a) the number of new refuse collection vehicles to be procured;
- (b) the estimated expenditure for replacement of the vehicles;
- (c) the reasons for replacing the vehicles, the merits of the new vehicles as compared with the old ones, and the benefits for the public when new vehicles are used; and
- (d) the way of disposal of the old vehicles, and the amount of additional expenses, if any, incurred.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows –

- (a) 44 new refuse collection vehicles (RCV) will be procured.
- (b) The estimated expenditure for procurement is \$80 million.
- (c) The 44 RCVs need to be replaced as they have reached the end of their normal life span. The new vehicles will enable the Department to maintain operational efficiency in delivering refuse collection services to the public. In addition, the new vehicles comply with the Euro V emission standard and the latest statutory emission and noise requirements, which helps create a better environment.

- (d) The old RCVs will be disposed of by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) by tender. EMSD will levy a disposal service charge of about \$0.15 million.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)078**

Question Serial No.

1957

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In connection with the ageing and wastage problems faced by the agriculture and fisheries industries, has the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department adopted any specific measures to encourage the unemployed and the youngsters to join the training programmes on agriculture and fisheries? If yes, please provide the details and the amount of expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon. LAU Kin-ye, Miriam

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) regularly organises vocational training programmes for people engaged in agricultural and fisheries production. Most of these programmes are open to the public and the course materials can be obtained from the Department's website. AFCD also provides technical support to those social enterprises engaged in helping the unemployed and youngsters through setting up and operating organic farms. It also collaborates with the Federation of Vegetable Marketing Co-operative Societies in offering training courses on organic farming for beginners. Through the Agricultural Products Scholarship Fund of the Vegetable Marketing Organization and the Marine Fish Scholarship Fund of the Fish Marketing Organization, AFCD offers scholarship and grants for persons who wish to enter the agriculture, fisheries and related industries. In 2009, the total expenditure on training courses and scholarship/grants was \$2.3 million.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 11 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)079**

Head: 139 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title): 000 Operational  
Food and Health Bureau expenses  
(Food Branch)

Question Serial No.

1974

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the actual amount of resources spent in 2008-09 and 2009-10 and the amount earmarked in 2010-11 for the following items. What are the details and policy objectives of such activities?

- a) Expenditure on Mainland duty visits, exchanges and meetings attended by local officials
- b) Expenditure on exchanges, entertainment and meetings conducted locally with Mainland officials and departments
- c) Expenditure on overseas duty visits, exchanges and meetings attended by local officials
- d) Expenditure on exchanges, entertainment and meetings conducted locally with overseas officials and departments.

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply:

The actual expenditure in 2008-09 and estimated expenditure in 2009-10 on the four areas are as follows:

	<u>2008-09</u> (\$ Million)	<u>2009-10</u> (Estimated Expenditure) (\$ Million)
a) Duty visits to the Mainland	0.26	0.18
b) Meeting Mainland officials in Hong Kong	0.01	0.02
c) Duty visits to overseas	0.34	1.05
d) Meeting overseas officials in Hong Kong	-	0.01

In working out the expenditure for 2010-11, we have made an overall estimate and reserved a sum of \$0.9 Million for duty visits to the Mainland and overseas, and \$0.04 Million for meeting Mainland and overseas officials in Hong Kong.

The duty visits mainly comprised working meetings, study visits, exchange programmes and international conferences. Examples included the attendance at the World Health Organisation Annual Assembly and related gatherings, Food Safety Conference in Guangdong as well as duty visit to the UK to enhance our understanding on food safety policy covering food recall and traceability system, food testing and zoonotic diseases, etc. The key objectives of such visits are to strengthen collaboration with our overseas and Mainland counterparts, exchange expert views and keep abreast of the latest development of subjects under Food and Health Bureau's portfolio. Other subjects covered by such visits included the control of swine flu and avian flu, development of vaccines, and animal health, health care financing and drug regulation and columbarium services, etc.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ Ms Kitty CHOI

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Acting)

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 16.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)080**

Question Serial No.

1935

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

Programme:                      (3) Environmental Hygiene

Controlling Officer:      Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food)

Director of Bureau:      Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What is the work plan of the Food and Health Bureau for developing a Poultry Slaughtering Centre in 2010-11? What is the progress of the project?

Asked by: Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply:

The Administration has been continuing with the preparatory work on the development of the Poultry Slaughtering Centre (PSC). Given the diminishing market share of live chickens and the changes the entire live poultry trade has undergone after the Buyout Scheme launched by the Government in 2008, the Government has commissioned a consultant to conduct a commercial viability study to re-assess market interest in operating the PSC.

The Administration is reviewing the way forward for the PSC, taking into account various factors including the risks of avian influenza, the implementation of the ban on overnight keeping of live chickens at the retail level, the biosecurity measures instituted at the farms and the poultry wholesale market, the increased public preference for chilled and frozen chickens and the findings of the commercial viability study. We will consult the Legislative Council and the stakeholders in due course.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters      Mrs Stella HUNG

Post Title      Permanent Secretary for Food and  
Health (Food)

Date      10.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)081**

Question Serial No.

1936

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

Programme: (3) Environmental Hygiene

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Food and Health Bureau made a one-off provision in 2009-10 for the improvement of environmental hygiene to combat human swine influenza. Why is it not necessary to make such provision in 2010-11? What action plans does the Government have to fight against human swine influenza in 2010-11?

Asked by: Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply:

Amid the human swine influenza (HSI) outbreak in 2009, the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council (LegCo) approved on 14 July 2009 a one-off special funding of \$289.8 million for the Drainage Services Department, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, the Home Affairs Department, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and the Social Welfare Department to launch a series of environmental hygiene improvement initiatives to help combating the HSI. The initiatives would last for a period of 12 months. At the same time, the Government also allocated an additional \$6 million and \$4.2 million respectively to the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department and the Marine Department to step up the work on enhancing environmental hygiene.

Depending on the work programme of individual departments, the additional environmental hygiene measures have commenced in mid/late 2009 and should last till mid/late 2010. On 9 March 2010, we briefed the LegCo Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene on the departments' progress in implementing the measures. All seven departments are working in accordance to the work plan and meeting the targets pledged in the funding proposal. As the departments will continue to utilise the aforesaid funding for undertaking the enhanced environmental hygiene measures in 2010, similar provision is not required this year.

HSI virus is widely circulating globally and locally. The Government's work against HSI in 2010-11 entails HSI vaccination, promotion of personal and environmental hygiene, provision of appropriate medical services, intensive surveillance, antiviral stockpiling and risk communication activities.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters Mrs Stella HUNG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Food and  
Health (Food)

Date 12.3.2010



Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)082**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1937

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What is the financial provision earmarked for taking food samples for testing in 2010-11?  
How is it compared to the provision in the previous year (i.e. in 2009-10)?

Asked by: Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply:

The expenditure on food surveillance at import, wholesale and retail levels is estimated at \$52.7 million for 2010-11, which is an increase of \$1.4 million from 2009-10.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)083**

Question Serial  
No.

1938

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 Food and Health

Question:

What are the specific plans for prevention of avian influenza in 2010-11? Subsequent to the substantial decrease in the number of blood samples taken from poultry for testing in 2009, will the Department step up efforts to collect chilled poultry samples for testing to safeguard food safety?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply :

Regarding the control of imported live poultry, the measures taken by the Department to prevent the outbreak of avian influenza in Hong Kong include: inspection of poultry farms and liaison with the Mainland authorities to ensure compliance with the requirements of animal health, quarantine and farm conditions; inspection of every consignment of imported poultry, including verification of Animal Health Certificates; collecting blood samples and cloacal swabs for laboratory testing of avian influenza H5. At the retail level, the Department has implemented various measures, including: enforcement of no overnight stocking of live poultry at retail outlets; maintaining comprehensive surveillance by engaging a local university to take environmental swabs for analysis, and conducting regular checks on retail outlets to ensure compliance with the relevant licensing conditions or tenancy requirements.

There is no plan to step up the testing of chilled poultry.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)084**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental  
Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1939

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) What are the financial provision and establishment of staff for inspecting vehicles carrying imported vegetables at Man Kam To in 2010-11? How are they compared to the provision and establishment in the previous year (i.e. in 2009-10)?
- (b) In 2010-11, what are the plans by the Department to ensure vegetables imported to Hong Kong are safe for consumption? What is the estimated number of samples to be taken for testing from vehicles carrying imported vegetables that pass through Man Kam To? How is it compared to the number in the previous year (i.e. in 2009-10)?

Asked by: Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows-

- (a) In 2010-11, the Man Kam To Food Control Office has an establishment of 42 posts, including health inspectors and supporting staff responsible for inspecting various imported fresh food. The estimated expenditure for food import control is \$87.7 million, which is an increase of \$1.4 million (1.6%) from 2009-10. The resources provided for inspection of imported vegetables at Man Kam To cannot be separately identified.
- (b) To ensure food safety, the Centre for Food Safety will continue to inspect Mainland vegetable farms and inbound food-carrying vehicles at the border checkpoints, including vegetables trucks at Man Kam To Control Point. For 2010, the estimated number of vegetable samples to be taken at Man Kam To Food Control Office for analysis of pesticide residues is 13 000, which is about the same as 2009.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_

W H CHEUK

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_

Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_

15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)085**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1940

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question :

Please advise on the total number of Mainland farms exporting food animals to Hong Kong and their distribution in the Mainland provinces. Please also advise on the estimated expenditure for conducting inspections to these farms in 2010-11.

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply :

The number of registered Mainland farms exporting live food animals to Hong Kong in 2009 by type and location is tabulated as follows-

Province or cities	No. of registered farms for each food type				
	Poultry	Pig	Cattle	Goat	Live Aquatic Animals
Guangdong	66	85	4		3
Shenzhen	11	6			
Zhuhai	12	6		1	
Anhui		1	1		14
Beijing			5		
Chongqing		1			
Fujian		3			
Gansu			5		
Guangxi		13		2	
Guizhou			1		
Hainan	2	3			
Hebei			12		

Province or cities	No. of registered farms for each food type				
	Poultry	Pig	Cattle	Goat	Live Aquatic Animals
Heilongjiang			2		
Henan		36	5		
Hubei		32	5		9
Hunan		63	1	1	4
Jiangsu					18
Jiangxi		21	1		1
Jilin			4		
Liaoning					3
Neimongol			14		
Shaanxi			8		
Shandong			3		
Shanxi		2	5		
Shanghai		8			
Tianjin			1		
Yunnan				1	
Zhejiang		16			9
<b>Total no. of registered farms</b>	91	296	77	5	61

About \$6.8 million is earmarked for conducting farm inspection in 2010-11.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)086**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1941

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) In 2009, there was an increase in the number of applications for restaurant licences, other food-related licences and food business licences. However, the estimated number of inspections to food premises in 2010 does not reflect a corresponding increase. What are the reasons for that?
- (b) In 2009, the number of prosecutions taken against licensed and unlicensed food premises increased by 9% and 14% respectively. What are the reasons for the rise? Will the Department increase the staff establishment in this respect in 2010-11?

Asked by: Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply:

- (a) The estimated number of inspections to food premises is projected with reference to the total number of licensed food premises. As the estimated number of food premises in 2010 is similar to previous years, we estimate the total number of inspections to food premises to be about the same as in 2009.
- (b) For licensed food premises, the increase in prosecutions was due to the rise in the number of breaches relating to unauthorised extension of food business beyond the licensed area and obstruction in public place. For unlicensed food premises, the increase in prosecutions was mainly due to more cases of business commencing operation before the grant of licence. There is no plan to increase staff establishment in 2010-11 in this respect.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)087**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1942

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What is the Department's estimated expenditure on cleansing services for 2010-11? What is the proportion of the services to be contracted out? What is the number of workers to be employed by the cleansing contractors in 2010-11? How is it compared to that in the previous year (i.e. in 2009-10)?

Asked by: Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply:

In 2010-11, the Department's estimated expenditure on public cleansing services is \$1,904 million. In manpower terms, about 71% of street cleansing services are being provided by contractors. It is estimated that about 6 800 workers will be employed by contractors for providing public cleansing services in 2010-11, compared to 6 530 in 2009-10.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)088**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1943

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the specific plans by the Department to take forward the provision of more crematoria and columbaria facilities during 2010-11. Have dedicated resources been earmarked for this purpose?

Asked by: Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply:

The Wo Hop Shek Crematorium will be reprovisioned at an estimated cost of \$686.3 million for constructing six coffin cremators and other ancillary facilities. Works has commenced in July 2009 for completion in end 2011 / early 2012. The Cape Collinson Crematorium will also be reprovisioned at an estimated cost of \$696.3 million to provide for ten coffin cremators and other ancillary facilities. Works would commence in July 2010 for completion in two phases in early 2012 and late 2014 respectively.

Besides, the Department is constructing a new public columbarium with about 41 000 niches and a Garden of Remembrance in the Wo Hop Shek Cemetery, at an estimated cost of \$629.5 million, for completion in mid 2012. In addition, the Administration is pursuing the construction of columbarium facilities in vacant land burial ground in Wo Hop Shek and will continue to identify suitable sites in other districts for columbarium development.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)089**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1961

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

As a small and densely populated city, cremation is becoming increasingly popular in Hong Kong, with a very keen public demand for columbaria facilities. Please inform this Committee of any plans and projects by the Department in taking forward the provision of more crematoria and columbaria facilities. Please also advise on the details of these plans and projects, including the time frame of and expenditure involved in individual plans/projects.

Asked by: Hon. LAU Kin-ye, Miriam

Reply:

The Wo Hop Shek Crematorium will be reprovisioned at an estimated cost of \$686.3 million for constructing six coffin cremators and other ancillary facilities. Works has commenced in July 2009 for completion in end 2011 / early 2012. The Cape Collinson Crematorium will also be reprovisioned at an estimated cost of \$696.3 million to provide for ten coffin cremators and other ancillary facilities. Works would commence in July 2010 for completion in two phases in early 2012 and late 2014 respectively.

Besides, the construction of a new public columbarium with about 41 000 niches and a Garden of Remembrance in the Wo Hop Shek Cemetery, at an estimated cost of \$629.5 million, is underway for completion in mid 2012. In addition, the Administration is pursuing the construction of columbarium facilities in vacant land burial ground in Wo Hop Shek and will continue to identify suitable sites in other districts for columbarium development.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)090**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental      Subhead (No. & title):  
Hygiene Department

Question Serial No.

1934

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The aim under paragraph 6 is to provide quality environmental hygiene services and facilities. Regarding the Department's efforts to deal with the problem of "refuse flats" in the community, please inform this Committee of:

- (a) the number of cases received by the Department involving "refuse flats" in private buildings in 2008, 2009 and 2010, as well as the number of cases completed, pending action and not processed; and
- (b) the time taken by the Department in handling the cases involving "refuse flats" in private buildings in 2008, 2009 and 2010, including the longest, the shortest and the average time taken, and the justifications for the length of time taken.

Asked by: Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

- (a) In 2008, 2009 and 2010, the Department received 5, 11 and 1 cases of "refuse flats" in private buildings respectively. All cases were completed except the one received in 2010.
- (b) We do not keep statistics on the time taken for completing "refuse flat" cases.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)091**

Question Serial No.

1030

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the subventions to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong) (SPCA), why does the expenses on such subventions for every financial year remain \$608,000 from 2008-09 onwards? What are the criteria for determining the amount? What percentage of the expenditures of SPCA does the subventions given by the Administration in 2010-11 account for?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department has been collaborating with the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) to implement various ongoing animal welfare programmes including stray dog control, animal rescue and educational activities. The annual subvention given to SPCA is based on the estimated expenditure for these activities provided by SPCA and the amount has remained quite stable since 2008-09. As we do not have information on SPCA's financial accounts, we cannot provide the percentage of the expenditure of SPCA attributable to the subvention.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 11 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

<b>FHB(FE)092</b>
-------------------

Question Serial No.

0980
------

Head: 48 Government Laboratory      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:                    (1) Statutory Testing

Controlling Officer:      Government Chemist

Director of Bureau:      Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In 2009-10, Government Laboratory continued outsourcing some of the routine food testing work to commercial testing laboratories. Please set out the outsourced routine food testing work, figures on the work outsourced to each commercial testing laboratory and the details of outsourcing planned to be conducted in 2010-11, as well as the manpower and resources involved as a result of a reduction in the workload of Government Laboratory after an increase in outsourcing.

Asked by: Hon. FANG Kang, Vincent

Reply:

In 2009-10, about 79 000 tests (7 400 samples) of routine food testing work have been outsourced to three local private laboratories through 10 separate contracts. Details of the contracts are as follows:

	<b>Contracts</b>	<b>Total in contract tests (samples)</b>	<b>Contract period</b>
1	Testing of preservatives in general foodstuff	5 950 (850)	Apr 09 to Sep 09
2	Testing of preservatives in food products	5 700 (950)	Oct 09 to Mar 10
3	Testing of preservatives in beverages	1 800 (300)	May 09 to Jul 09
4	Testing of preservatives in preserved fruits and vegetables	2 400 (400)	Sep 09 to Dec 09
5	Testing of sulphur dioxide in food	1 200 (1 200)	Apr 09 to Mar 10
6	Testing of metallic contamination in fruits and vegetables	8 400 (1 200)	Apr 09 to Mar 10
7	Testing of heavy metals in aquatic products and miscellaneous foods	8 488 (1 384)	Apr 09 to Mar 10
8	Testing of organochlorine pesticide residues in fruits and vegetables (20 parameters)	5 000 (250)	May 09 to Aug 09
9	Testing of organochlorine pesticide residues in fruits and vegetables (35 parameters)	14 000 (400)	Aug 09 to Mar 10
10	Testing of organophosphorus pesticides and pyrethroids in fruits and vegetables	26 000 (500)	Oct 09 to Mar 10
	Total	78 938 (7 434)	

In 2010-11, the amount of outsourcing will be increased to about 107 000 tests (11 500 samples). The scope will be extended to cover new test parameters including melamine, boric acid, propionic acid, nitrate/nitrite, Sudan dyes, malachite green and chloramphenicol.

The resources released from the outsourcing of routine food testing work are deployed to focus on new test method development, to cope with new testing work arising from amendments of food legislation and perform other duties including management of outsourcing activities, handling analytical tests for urgent

food incidents as well as chemical metrology work and enhancing the testing capability of the local laboratories.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters Dr LAU CHAU MING

Post Title Government Chemist (Acting)

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)093**

Question Serial No.

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead 603 Plant, vehicles and equipment  
(No. & title):

0964

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the details as well as the commencement and completion dates of the project on enhancement of the exhaust air extraction system of the cooked food centre at Tai Po Hui Market under the Capital Account for 2010-11. Has consultation with the traders been duly arranged?

Asked by: Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply:

The project involves installation of supplementary exhaust air fans, frequency inverters, silencers and air ducts for each of the three water scrubbing systems serving the cooked food centre of Tai Po Hui Market. Other enhancements such as re-arrangement of the existing water scrubbing systems and/or installation of other flue gas treatment facilities of the cooked food centre are also being considered. Specification of works will be finalized by July 2010 for completion of project by February 2011. We will consult the Market Management Consultation Committee and the tenants concerned before starting the project.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ **W H CHEUK**

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)094**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department      Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

0978

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) Of the 55 118 food labels checked by the Department in 2009 to ensure pre-packaged food for sale is properly labelled, how many accounted for the checking of nutrition labels on pre-packaged food and what did the rest account for?
- (b) Why is the number of food labels planned to be checked in 2010 reduces by 118 over the actual number in 2009 despite the implementation of the legislation on mandatory nutrition labelling of pre-packaged food in July 2010? Regarding the 55 000 food labels planned to be checked in 2010, has this number taken into account the additional checking arising from the implementation of the new legislation, or is the checking of nutrition labels to be covered by another mechanism? Does the Department need to redeploy resources for this purpose?

Asked by: Hon. FANG Kang, Vincent

Reply:

- (a) All the checks were made for ascertaining compliance with the existing food labelling requirements under the Food and Drugs (Composition and Labelling) Regulations (i.e. labelling of ingredient list, expiry date, etc). Checking of nutrition labels will commence in July 2010 when the relevant legislation comes into effect.
- (b) Around 55 000 food labels will be checked for labelling requirements under the Food and Drugs (Composition and Labelling) Regulations in 2010, same as the figure for an average year. Among these, around 5 000 will be checked for compliance with nutrition labelling requirements. The work will be undertaken by existing staff and no additional resources are required.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_

W H CHEUK

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_

Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_

15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)095**

Question Serial No.

0969

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title): 661 Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote)

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The expenses relating to plant, equipment, vehicles and works under Subhead 661 for 2010-11 will increase by more than one fold. Please advise on the major area(s) of expenses, and major plants to be included in the procurement of specialised vehicles and plants?

Asked by: Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply:

Of the \$98.5 million under Subhead 661, \$80 million is provided for the procurement of 44 refuse collection vehicles to replace retiring vehicles. About \$10 million is for the procurement of plant and equipment in crematoria (including environmentally-friendlier joss paper burners), upgrading of supervisory control and data acquisition systems, and upgrading of emission monitoring system. About \$8.5 million is for procuring replacement and refurbishment installations in public markets, including water scrubbers, ageing lifts and escalators, and refrigeration plant and air units for ventilation.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ **W H CHEUK**

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ **Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene**

Date \_\_\_\_\_ **15.3.2010**



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)096**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

0970

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Will the Department consider offering more rental concessions for markets with low patronage in 2010-11? Please advise on the reasons.

Asked by: Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply:

The rental of public market stalls was reduced across-the-board by 30% in 1998 and has since been frozen at that level. To improve the occupancy rate in public markets, the Department has implemented a concessionary rental scheme since February 2009, whereby the upset auction prices are reduced to 60% and 80% of the Open Market Rental for stalls vacant for more than eight months and six months respectively. As at 28 February 2010, about 1 180 long standing vacant stalls have been successfully let out under the scheme.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)098**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

0966

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

While the actual number of inspections of farms exporting food animals to Hong Kong significantly exceeded the target number of inspections for two consecutive years (i.e. in 2008 and 2009), why is the planned number of farm inspections to be conducted this year (i.e. in 2010) not enhanced?

Asked by: Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply:

Farm inspections are conducted on a need basis. The average number of annual farm inspection in 2005 to 2007 was about 36 and that for 2008 and 2009 was around 50. The number planned for 2010 is 50 to provide for maximum operation flexibility. We shall continue to plan farm inspections based on risk assessment and review the target as necessary.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)099**

Question Serial No.

0967

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 Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the number of vehicles carrying live poultry inspected at Man Kam To, please advise on why the actual number of vehicles inspected in 2009 decreased significantly by about 36% over the previous year (i.e. 2008).

Asked by: Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply:

The number of vehicles carrying live poultry inspected at Man Kam To varied with the volume of live poultry supplied from the Mainland. In 2008, the daily import limit on live chickens came down gradually from 20 000 in January to 7 000 in November and thereafter. The decrease in the number of poultry vehicles inspected reflects the reduction.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)100**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

0968

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The number of trappings in 2009 more than doubled that of the previous year (i.e. 2008).  
What are the reasons for the significant increase in number?

Asked by: Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply:

To further improve the effectiveness of rodent control work, we made a wider use of rodent control measures, including rodent trappings, in 2009. Hence the significant increase in number.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)101**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1042

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Does the Department have any specific plans and projects in 2010-11 for the provision of more crematoria and columbaria facilities?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

The Wo Hop Shek Crematorium will be reprovisioned for constructing six coffin cremators and other ancillary facilities. Works has commenced in July 2009 for completion in end 2011 / early 2012. The Cape Collinson Crematorium will also be reprovisioned to provide for ten coffin cremators and other ancillary facilities. Works would commence in July 2010 for completion in two phases in early 2012 and late 2014.

Besides, the construction of a new public columbarium with about 41 000 niches and a Garden of Remembrance in the Wo Hop Shek Cemetery is underway for completion in mid 2012.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ W H CHEUK

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 15.3.2010



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)103**

Question Serial No.

0975

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

Programme:                    (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer:      Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food)

Director of Bureau:      Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Although it has been explained under the Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision that the substantial increase of 39.9% in the 2010-11 estimate is due to the lower revised base figure for the previous year (i.e. 2009-10), the 2010-11 estimate is higher than the actual expenditure of the previous year (i.e. 2009-10) and more than double the actual expenditure of 2008-09. What are the anticipated incidents in 2010-11 to justify the huge estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. FANG Kang, Vincent

Reply:

The increase of \$11.4 million (39.9%) in the 2010-11 estimate for Programme (2): Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety as compared with the 2009-10 revised estimate is mainly attributable to the contingency funds earmarked for controlling zoonotic diseases / emergency food incidents.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters      Mrs Stella HUNG

Post Title      Permanent Secretary for Food and  
Health (Food)

Date      12.3.2010



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)104**

Question Serial No.

0976

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

Programme:                    (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer:      Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food)

Director of Bureau:      Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Is there any proposal or further action under the item "continue to develop proposals to prevent avian influenza outbreak"? Has the Bureau studied and analysed the trends in the spread of avian influenza to find out whether it has been brought under control?

Asked by: Hon. FANG Kang, Vincent

Reply:

During 2010-11, the Administration will continue to examine and implement various surveillance and control measures to minimise the risk of outbreak of avian influenza in Hong Kong. In particular, the Administration will continue to follow up on the recommendations made by the Investigation Group on Epidemiological Study (IGES) in March 2009. Improvement measures recommended in the IGES report for all chicken farms to further strengthen avian influenza prevention include:

- (a) further tightening of biosecurity through tailor-made biosecurity plans, record keeping in standard templates, provision of hand washing facilities;
- (b) facilitating early detection by increasing the inspection frequency and sampling size of the blood test for vaccinated chickens; and
- (c) preventing spread of avian influenza through scattered distribution of sentinels and segregating the operations relating to the rearing of breeder and broiler flocks.

Major surveillance and control measures being implemented on the other fronts include:

- (a) inspection of poultry farms in the Mainland and liaison with the Mainland authorities to ensure that requirements on animal health, quarantine and farm conditions are complied with;
- (b) inspection of every consignment of imported poultry, including verifying Animal Health Certificates and collecting blood samples and cloacal swabs for laboratory testing of avian influenza H5;
- (c) thorough cleansing and disinfection of the wholesale market every day after the morning trade and setting up of a designated area with bird-protection and ventilation facilities for temporary stocking of unsold live poultry;
- (d) collection of dead wild birds for avian influenza testing;
- (e) maintaining comprehensive surveillance by engaging a local university to take environmental swabs at retail outlets for analysis; and
- (f) enforcement of no overnight stocking of live poultry at retail outlets.

The Administration will also continue to facilitate the work of the Investigation Group on Vaccine Study (IGVS). The IGVS is responsible for conducting research and tests on the efficacy of the existing H5N2 vaccine used in Hong Kong for live chickens. The group also studies the effectiveness and quality of alternative vaccines. The information and data gathered would facilitate the Administration in recommending the most suitable vaccine for use in the local poultry farms. The vaccine study is in progress.

The Administration will always stay vigilant of the global situation through the networks of the World Organisation for Animal Health, the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations and the World Health Organisation.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>      Mrs Stella HUNG      </u>
Post Title	<u>      Permanent Secretary for Food and           Health (Food)      </u>
Date	<u>          12.3.2010          </u>

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)105**

Question Serial No.

0977

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

Programme:                    (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer:      Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food)

Director of Bureau:      Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What existing standards on food safety will the Bureau review during the year apart from continuing to work on the Food Safety Bill?

Asked by: Hon. Vincent FANG Kang

Reply:

Besides the legislative work on the Food Safety Bill, FHB is also proposing to add neotame (紐甜) and steviol glycosides (甜菊醇糖苷) to the list of permitted sweeteners specified in the Schedule to the Sweeteners in Food Regulations (Cap.132U). FHB will also review the regulatory framework on pesticide residues and veterinary drug residues in food in 2010-2011.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters      Mrs Stella HUNG

Post Title      Permanent Secretary for Food and  
Health (Food)

Date      10.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)106**

Question Serial No.

1041

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

Programme:                    (3) Environmental Hygiene

Controlling Officer:      Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food)

Director of Bureau:      Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In connection with promoting the scattering of cremated human ashes at sea or in Gardens of Remembrance,

- (a) how many people disposed of the cremated ashes of the deceased by the above-mentioned means in 2008 and 2009 respectively? What are the figures expected for 2010?
- (b) Has any analysis been made of the reasons behind people's choice of the above-mentioned means to dispose of the ashes? If yes, what are the details? In the interim, were these people on the waiting list for niches managed by the Government?
- (c) What is the amount of resources allocated to promote the above-mentioned means in 2010-11? What are the details of the promotion?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

- (a) The total numbers of cases for scattering ashes at sea or in Gardens of Remembrance (GoRs) for 2008 and 2009 are 626 and 929 respectively, representing an increase of 48%. For 2010, assuming a similar level of increase, the estimated total is 1 370 cases.
- (b) As the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) understand from some users of the ferry service for ash disposal at sea, the reasons for choosing this mode of ash disposal include :
  - (1) it is environmentally friendly;
  - (2) it is in tune with the law of humans returning to nature after death;
  - (3) it is in the wish of the deceased; and
  - (4) descendants will anyway stop paying tribute to ancestors after a couple of generations.
- (c) In 2010-11, FEHD will continue to promote alternative means of ash disposal, including the provision of ferry service for scattering human ashes at sea, publishing publicity materials and launching an internet memorial service, at an estimated cost of \$2.7 million.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters Ms Kitty CHOI

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Food and  
Health (Food) (Acting)

Date 17.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)107**

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

Question Serial No.

2457

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide details of the consultations on policy making and assessment under all programmes in the following format. Using the table below, please provide information on the consultations for which funds had been allocated in 2009-10:

Name/subject of consultation	Revised estimate (\$)	Progress of consultation (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Mode of consultation (e.g. by means of written submissions, consultation sessions, focus groups), number of consultation exercises, name of organisations and number of people consulted/to be consulted	The Administration's follow-up actions on the consultation results and the progress made (if applicable)	For consultations already completed, were the results publicised? If so, what were the channels? If not, why not?

Asked by: Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply:

The information requested is set out below:

Name/subject of consultation	Revised estimate (\$)	Progress of consultation (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Mode of consultation (e.g. by means of written submissions, consultation sessions, focus groups), number of consultation exercises, name of organisations and number of people consulted/to be consulted	The Administration's follow-up actions on the consultation results and the progress made (if applicable)	For consultations already completed, were the results publicised? If so, what were the channels? If not, why not?
Food Safety Bill	The resources provided for the consultation exercise cannot be separately identified	Completed	Please refer to Note 1 below	Major concerns of the trade are addressed in the Food Safety Bill legislative proposals discussed in the Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene on 9 February 2010	Yes. Consultation results and the Executive Summary of the BIA were:- i) released through the websites of GovHK and Food and Health Bureau, and ii) discussed in the Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene on 9 Feb 2010 ( <u>LC Paper No. CB(2)884/09-10(03)</u> ).
Business Impact Assessment (BIA) on the Food Safety Bill	1.29 million	Completed	53 interviews with food traders and food trade associations by independent consultant	Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene on 9 February 2010	ii) discussed in the Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene on 9 Feb 2010 ( <u>LC Paper No. CB(2)884/09-10(03)</u> ).

Note 1: The consultation exercise on the Food Safety Bill started in 2008. It included established advisory committees, trade associations, individual food traders, public forums, trade consultation forums, all the 18 District Councils, and the Consulates General in Hong Kong. Details of the consultation are documented in the LC Paper No. CB(2)884/09-10(03).

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters Mrs Stella HUNG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food)

Date 12.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)108**

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

Question Serial No.

2458

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide details of the consultations on policy making and assessment under all programmes in the following format. Have resources been earmarked for holding consultations in 2010-11? If so, please provide the following details.

Name/subject of consultation	Expenditure (\$)	Progress of consultation (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Mode of consultation (e.g. by means of written submissions, consultation sessions, focus groups), number of consultation exercises, name of organisations and number of people consulted/to be consulted	For consultations scheduled for completion in the financial year 2010-11, will the results be publicised? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply:

The Food Branch has no scheduled consultations in 2010-11.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters      Mrs Stella HUNG

Post Title      Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food)

Date      15.3.2010



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)109**

Question Serial No.

2606

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

Programme:                      (3) Environmental Hygiene

Controlling Officer:      Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food)

Director of Bureau:      Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

When the Food and Health Bureau responded to my proposals on the Budget, it said "the option of clustering columbaria or funeral facilities in new development areas in the North East New Territories and the frontier closed area" was being studied and evaluated. When will the study be completed? Will it review and look into ways to improve the inadequate planning of columbaria or funeral service? Should the improvement measures be implemented, what will be the expenditure and staffing requirement in 2010-11?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla

Reply:

In the ongoing consultancy study entitled "Land Use Planning for the Closed Area", the consultants commissioned by the Planning Department suggested that crematorium and columbarium facilities could be developed within the Sandy Ridge Cemetery. As pointed out by the consultants, in order to take forward such development, more detailed technical feasibility studies such as environmental and traffic impact assessments would need to be conducted, and relevant stakeholders and local communities consulted beforehand. Given the extent of works involved and the infrastructure support required, the project is planned for medium to long term development. The Food and Health Bureau and the departments concerned are conducting early stage studies on the feasibility of the project, taking into account the suggestions made by the consultants. Expenditure arising from these studies would be absorbed by our existing resources or the departments concerned.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters      Mrs Stella HUNG

Post Title      Permanent Secretary for Food and  
Health (Food)

Date      11.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)110**

Question Serial No.

2607

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

Programme:                      (3) Environmental Hygiene

Controlling Officer:      Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food)

Director of Bureau:      Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Will the Food and Health Bureau explore enacting legislation to regulate the operation of columbaria? Or will it not consider the suggestion?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla

Reply:

The operation of all trades in Hong Kong including private columbaria need to comply with the relevant requirements on planning, construction design and building standards, as well as conditions of the land leases. The relevant Government departments will handle the enquiries and complaints relating to private columbaria in accordance with legislations and administrative measures under their purview. The Food and Health Bureau has set up an inter-departmental Working Group to coordinate with relevant bureaux and departments on measures to enhance consumer protection in choosing private columbaria, legislation is one of the measures being considered.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters      Mrs Stella HUNG

Post Title      Permanent Secretary for Food and  
Health (Food)

Date      10.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)111**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1130

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010-11, the Department will follow up on the outcome of the review of hawker licence policy. Please inform this Committee:

- (a) whether the Department will increase the number of Itinerant Hawker Licences to be issued; and
- (b) whether the additional number of licences to be issued is reflected in the estimated indicator for this year. If yes, is the number rather small? If not, please advise on the progress on and plan for increasing the number of Itinerant Hawker Licences to be issued.

Asked by: Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

- (a) The review recommended issuing 61 Itinerant (Frozen Confectionery) Hawker Licences to interested persons.
- (b) Under Indicators, the number of Itinerant Hawker Licences is estimated to increase from 535 in 2009 to 560 in 2010. The estimation takes into account the increase in new IHLs due to the re-issuance of Itinerant (Frozen Confectionery) Hawker Licences and the projected decrease due to natural attrition and surrender of existing licences under the Voluntary Surrender Scheme. Hitherto 25 new Itinerant (Frozen Confectionery) Hawker Licences have been issued. We estimate that the remaining 36 licences will be issued in 2010-2011.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)112**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1131

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In view of the increasing demand for public niches, are there any plans by the Department this year to significantly increase the supply of niches to meet public demand? If yes, please inform this Committee of the details of the plans. If no, please state the reasons.

Asked by: Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply:

The construction of a new public columbarium with about 41 000 niches and a Garden of Remembrance in the Wo Hop Shek Cemetery is underway for completion in mid 2012. In addition, the Administration is pursuing the construction of columbarium facilities in vacant land burial ground in Wo Hop Shek and will continue to identify suitable sites in other districts for columbarium development.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ W H CHEUK \_\_\_\_\_

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 15.3.2010 \_\_\_\_\_

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)113**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1161

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) How many rodent infestation complaints have been received over the past year (i.e. in 2009)?
- (b) It is stated by the Department that a total of 26 872 rodent trappings were conducted in 2009. Please advise on the number of rodents caught.
- (c) Has there been any improvement or innovation with regard to techniques in rodent-catching by the Department since 2008? Are there any exchanges of experience and best practice with rodent control experts in the Mainland and overseas?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows –

- (a) The number of rodent infestation complaints in 2009 is 7 063.
- (b) The number of rodents trapped in 2009 is 6 828.
- (c) The Department adopts an integrated rodent control approach, consisting of improvement to environmental conditions, application of poisonous baits and setting of traps. The approach is in line with the recommendations of the World Health Organization and practices adopted by other major cities. The Department reviews the rodent control materials and methodology from time to time, having regard to international developments and research results.

Exchange of experience in rodent control has been made regularly with authorities and experts in the Mainland and overseas.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)114**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department      Subhead      000 Operational  
(No. & title): expenses

Question Serial No.

2316

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) Please provide information on the employment of non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff for provision of services:

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of NCSC staff	( )	( )	( )	( )
Total expenditure on salaries for NCSC staff	( )	( )	( )	( )
Number of NCSC staff converted to civil servants				
Number of NCSC staff who failed to convert to civil servants on permanent terms even if they were given the chance to do so	( )	( )	( )	( )
Percentage of NCSC staff in the total number of staff in the Department	( )	( )	( )	( )

Figures in ( ) denote year-on-year change

- (b) Please provide in the table below information on the length of service of NCSC staff from 2007-08 to 2010-11:

Length of Service	2010-11 (number of staff)	2009-10 (number of staff)	2008-09 (number of staff)	2007-08 (number of staff)
6 months to 1 year	( )	( )	( )	( )
1 to 3 years	( )	( )	( )	( )
3 to 5 years	( )	( )	( )	( )

5 to 10 years	( )	( )	( )	( )
10 to 15 years	( )	( )	( )	( )

Figures in ( ) denote year-on-year change

- (c) Please advise on the number of NCSC staff who may convert to civil servants on permanent terms in the next three years (i.e. from 2010-11 to 2012-13).

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

(a)

	2010-11	2009-10 (as at 28.2.2010)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.2009)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.2008)
Number of NCSC staff	Note	548 (-14%)	634 (-30%)	900
Total expenditure on salaries for NCSC staff		\$88 million (-25%)	\$117.4 million (-10%)	\$129.8 million
Number of NCSC staff converted to civil servants	The Department does not keep this information. NCSC staff are also not obliged to report the information to the Department.			
Number of NCSC staff who failed to convert to civil servants on permanent terms even if they were given the chance to do so				
Percentage of NCSC staff in the total number of staff in the Department	Note	5% (-1%)	6% (-2%)	8%

Figures in ( ) denote year-on-year changes



(b)

Length	2010-11	2009-10 (as at 28.2.2010)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.2009)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.2008)
Less than 6 months	Note	83 (+5%)	79 (-35%)	121
6 months to 1 year		78 (+200%)	26 (-82%)	142
1 to 3 years		117 (-36%)	184 (-18%)	223
3 to 5 years		68 (-47%)	129 (-36%)	200
5 to 10 years		92 (-23%)	120 (-33%)	179
10 to 15 years		108 (+14%)	95 (+179%)	34
15 years or above		2 (+100%)	1 (0%)	1

Figures in ( ) denote year-on-year changes

Note – Statistics for 2010-11 are not yet available as the financial year has yet to begin.

(c) The Department is not able to estimate the number of NCSC staff that would be successfully selected for appointment in civil service recruitment exercises.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 16.3.2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)115**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead 000 Operational (No. & title): expenses

Question Serial No.

2317

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) Please provide information on outsourced services (including property management, security, cleansing, telecommunications and information technology, statistics, etc., but excluding construction works) in the format set out below:

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of outsourced service contracts	( )	( )	( )	( )
Value of outsourced service contracts	( )	( )	( )	( )
Number of workers employed under outsourced service contracts	( )	( )	( )	( )
Number of posts under outsourced service contracts that can be replaced by civil servants	( )	( )	( )	( )

Figures in ( ) denote year-on-year change

- (b) Please advise on the number of posts under outsourced service contracts that can be replaced by permanent staff employed by the Government in the next three years (i.e. from 2010-11 to 2012-13).

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

(a) The information sought is provided as follows -

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of outsourced service contracts	N/A (Note)	132 (-1.49%)	134 (+6.35%)	126 (-2.33%)
Value of outsourced service contracts		\$2,663 million (+10.59%)	\$2,408 million (+13.85%)	\$2,115 million (+16.53%)
Number of workers employed under outsourced service contracts		11 674 (+18.84%)	9 823 (+11.55%)	8 806 (-1.13%)
Number of posts under outsourced service contracts that can be replaced by civil servants		0	0	0

Figures in ( ) denote year-on-year change

Note: Statistics for 2010-11 are not yet available as the financial year has yet to begin.

(b) The Department will review from time to time the mode of service delivery as well as manpower mix and requirements to meet changing circumstances and operational needs in the next three years (from 2010-11 to 2012-13).

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)116**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead 000 Operational (No. & title): expenses

Question Serial No.

2318

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) Please provide information on the employment of temporary staff for provision of services from 2007-08 to 2009-10 and in the coming year:

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of temporary staff employed/to be employed	( )	( )	( )	( )
Total expenses on salaries for temporary staff employed/to be employed	( )	( )	( )	( )
Percentage of temporary staff in the total number of staff in the Department	( )	( )	( )	( )

Figures in ( ) denote year-on-year change

- (d) Please provide information on the length of service of temporary staff employed from 2007-08 to 2009-10 as well as those to be employed in the coming year:

Length of service	2010-11 (number of staff)	2009-10 (number of staff)	2008-09 (number of staff)	2007-08 (number of staff)
6 months	( )	( )	( )	( )
1 year	( )	( )	( )	( )
2 years	( )	( )	( )	( )
3 years	( )	( )	( )	( )
3 years or above	( )	( )	( )	( )

Figures in ( ) denote year-on-year change

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

Temporary staff in the Department are generally employed under the Non-Civil Service Contract (NCSC) staff scheme. Apart from this scheme, the Department does not hire staff on a daily or hourly basis. The information on NCSC staff is provided as follows –

(a)

	2010-11	2009-10 (as at 28.2.2010)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.2009)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.2008)
Number of NCSC staff		548 (-14%)	634 (-30%)	900
Total Expenditure on salaries for NCSC staff	Note	\$88 million (-25%)	\$117.4 million (-10%)	\$129.8 million
Percentage of NCSC staff in the total number of staff in the Department		5% (-1%)	6% (-2%)	8%

Figures ( ) denotes year-on-year changes

(b)

Length	2010-11	2009-10 (as at 28.2.2010)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.2009)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.2008)
Less than 6 months		83 (+5%)	79 (-35%)	121
6 months to 1 year	Note	78 (+200%)	26 (-82%)	142
1 to 2 years		52 (-58%)	124 (+5%)	118
2 to 3 years		65 (+8%)	60 (-43%)	105
3 years or above		270 (-22%)	345 (-17%)	414

Figures ( ) denotes year-on-year changes

Note – Statistics for 2010-11 are not yet available as the financial year has yet to begin.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ W H CHEUK

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 16.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)117**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department      Subhead      000 Operational  
(No. & title): expenses

Question Serial No.

2319

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out in tabular form the following information on procurement of services of employment agencies (EAs) by the Department from 2006-07 to 2009-10:

- (a) the number of contracts signed with the EAs;
- (b) the contract sum and duration for each EA;
- (c) the number of workers supplied by each EA and their duties;
- (d) details of the workers' salaries (including monthly salaries and daily wages) payable by each EA;
- (e) the number of EAs engaged, contracts awarded, workers employed and the total expenditure involved in each respective year, as well as the percentage of change over that of the previous year;
- (f) the number of contracts awarded to each EA, the total contract sum and the number of workers supplied in each respective year, if more than one EA were engaged for provision of workers;
- (g) the workers' salaries (maximum, median and minimum salaries) payable by each EA;
- (h) the percentage of workers supplied by the EAs as compared with the total number of staff in the Department in each respective year; and
- (i) the proportion of expenditure on procuring the services of EAs as compared with the Department's total expenditure.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

	2009-10 (as at 30.9.2009)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.2009)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.2008)	2006-07
(a) Number of contracts with EAs :	54 (+46%)	37 (+85%)	20	Nil
(b) Contract sum :	\$13,000 to \$9.9 million	\$11,000 to \$0.7 million	\$21,000 to \$0.5 million	Not Applicable
Contract duration :	2 to 12 months	1 to 12 months	3 to 12 months	
(c) Number of workers :	188 (+151%)	75 (+168%)	28	
Duties :	research- related work and general office support	general office support	general office support	
(d) Workers' salaries payable by each EA :	Note 1			
(e) Number of EAs engaged :	12 (+20%)	10 (-17%)	12	
Number of contracts awarded :	See (a) above	See (a) above	See (a) above	
Number of workers employed :	See (c) above	See (c) above	See (c) above	
Total expenditure involved :	\$17 million (+193%)	\$5.8 million (+76%)	\$3.3 million	



	2009-10 (as at 30.9.2009)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.2009)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.2008)	2006-07
(f) If more than one EA,  Number of contracts awarded to each EA :  Total contract sum for each EA:  Number of workers supplied by each EA :	1 to 12  \$26,000 to \$10 million  1 to 99	1 to 7  \$38,000 to \$1.5 million  1 to 17	1 to 3  \$29,000 to \$0.8 million  1 to 8	Not Applicable
(g) Workers' salaries (maximum, median and minimum salaries) payable by each EA :	Note 1			
(h) Percentage of workers supplied by EAs as compared with the total number of staff in the Department (Note 2) :	1.8% (+1%)	0.7% (+0.4%)	0.3%	
(i) Proportion of expenditure on services of EAs as compared with the Department's total expenditure :	0.4% (+0.3%)	0.1% (+0%)	0.1%	

( ) denotes year-on-year change

The above excludes the procurement of services for supply of T-contract staff providing information technology service under a term contract centrally administered by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer.

Note 1 : The contracts the department enter into with employment agencies specify the service fee charged by the latter in providing agency workers. The department normally does not specify the wages of agency workers, except with regard to the wages of non-skilled workers\*. Hence we are unable to provide the information requested.

\* As a measure to protect non-skilled workers, the Administration promulgated a mandatory requirement on wage rates for government service contracts in May 2004. Under this requirement, service providers are required to offer monthly wages to non-skilled workers which are no less than the average monthly wages for the relevant industry/occupation as published in the latest Census and Statistics Department's Quarterly Report of Wage and Payroll Statistics at the time when tenders are invited. This requirement applies to service contracts in respect of supply of non-skilled agency workers.

Note 2 : The percentage of agency workers as compared with total staff is for a specific date only and is not representative of the situation for the concerned financial year.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 16.3.2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)118**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

2461

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide details of the consultations on policy making and assessment under all programmes in the following format. Using the table below, please provide information on the consultations for which funds had been allocated in 2009-10:

Name/ subject of consultation	Revised estimate (\$)	Progress of consultation (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Mode of consultation (e.g. by means of written submissions, consultation sessions, focus groups), number of consultation exercises, name of organisations and number of people consulted/to be consulted	The Department's follow-up actions on the consultation results and the progress made (if applicable)	For consultations already completed, were the results publicised? If yes, what were the channels? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply:

Name/ subject of consultation	Revised estimate (\$)	Progress of consultation (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Mode of consultation (e.g. by means of written submissions, consultation sessions, focus groups), number of consultation exercises, name of organisations and number of people consulted/to be consulted	The Department's follow-up actions on the consultation results and the progress made (if applicable)	For consultations already completed, were the results publicised? If yes, what were the channels? If not, what are the reasons?
Positioning and functions of public markets and issues in relation to stall rentals and charges	10,000	Completed	11 consultation sessions held, attended by District Councillors, market tenants, trader associations and Market Management Consultative Committees. Over 800 people attended these sessions.	Consultation outcome reported to the Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene on 10.11.2009.	Ditto

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters **W H CHEUK** \_\_\_\_\_

Post Title **Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene** \_\_\_\_\_

Date **15.3.2010** \_\_\_\_\_

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)119**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

2462

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide details of the consultations on policy making and assessment under all programmes in the following format. Have resources been earmarked for holding consultations in 2010-11? If yes, please provide the following details.

Name/subject of consultation	Expenditure (\$)	Progress of consultation (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Mode of consultation (e.g. by means of written submissions, consultation sessions, focus groups), number of consultation exercises, name of organisations and number of people consulted/to be consulted	For consultations scheduled for completion in the financial year 2010-11, will the results be publicised? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply:

Name/subject of consultation	Expenditure (\$)	Progress of consultation (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Mode of consultation (e.g. by means of written submissions, consultation sessions, focus groups), number of consultation exercises, name of organisations and number of people consulted/to be consulted	For consultations scheduled for completion in the financial year 2010-11, will the results be publicised? If not, what are the reasons?
Nil				

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_

W H CHEUK

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_

Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_

15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)120**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

2891

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) The number of raids conducted by Hawker Control Teams (HCT) of the Department was over 119 000 in 2009. It is estimated that the number of raids will increase by about 4 700 to over 124 000 in 2010, representing an average increase of 13 raids per day. What are the reasons for the increase? Please list the ten locations with the highest number of HCT operations per day, their respective number of operations per day, as well as the manpower required for each operation.
- (b) Please set out the number of cases and prosecutions involving obstruction caused by illegal on-street hawking activities and shop extensions in 2009. Please provide a breakdown by the nature of cases, type of hawkers, reasons for prosecution and hawking location.

Asked by: Hon. FANG Kang, Vincent

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows –

- (a) The estimated increase in the number of raids in 2010 is based on the past trend of hawker raids, which is in turn determined by the number of complaints against illegal hawking activities and other relevant factors. Raiding operations are planned by Hawker Control Teams having regard to the prevailing field situation, therefore the frequency of raids for an individual location varies from time to time. The manpower required varies with the scale of each operation.

- (b) In 2009, there were 11 650 prosecution cases involving obstruction caused by illegal shop extension. The number of prosecution against illegal on-street hawking activities, involving street obstruction, illegal hawking and sale of cooked food/restricted food, was 10 757. Further detailed breakdown is not readily available.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)121**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

2892

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

According to the information of the LegCo Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene, the Government plans to put up nearly 500 existing vacant fixed pitches for auction. However, the Estimates show that the number of fixed pitch hawkers will increase by 147 to 6 660 in 2010. Will all the 500 vacant pitches be put up for auction in 2010 or in phases over a few years?

Asked by: Hon. FANG Kang, Vincent

Reply:

After consultation with the relevant District Councils, 218 vacant on-street fixed hawker pitches are now available for application by eligible registered assistants of licensed hawkers and members of the public for issuance of new Fixed Pitch Hawker Licences. The remaining 240 vacant pitches were either rejected or are pending further discussion by the District Councils concerned.

The estimated increase in the number of fixed pitch hawkers takes into account the issuance of new Fixed Pitch Hawker Licences as well as the projected decrease due to natural attrition.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_

W H CHEUK

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_

Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_

15.3.2010



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)122**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

2570

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the indicator for "raids by Hawker Control Teams", the number of raids will increase from 119 929 in 2009 to 124 700 (Estimate) in 2010. Please advise on:

- (a) the reasons for the increase in the estimated number of raids;
- (b) the estimated expenditure involved;
- (c) whether additional manpower will be provided in order to meet the higher target; if yes, the expenditure involved; and
- (d) whether the Department is determined to go against public opinion by further enhancing the number of raids despite the fact that there have been calls from the community for relaxation of the enforcement actions against hawkers so that grassroots citizens can make a living by running a small business, and the urgency of stepping up enforcement against hawkers.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows-

- (a) The estimated increase in the number of raids in 2010 is projected on the basis of the past trend of hawker raids, which is in turn determined by the number of complaints against illegal hawking activities and other relevant factors.
- (b) & (c) As the increased raids will be undertaken by existing staff, increase in manpower and other resources will not be necessary.

- (d) The Department has a duty to take enforcement action against illegal hawking activities and be responsive to public complaints about these activities. We will continue to fulfill this responsibility in accordance with the established enforcement strategies and guidelines.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)123**

Question Serial No.

2660

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is mentioned under Item 4 of the Brief Description that in 2009, livestock production decreased significantly as more farms ceased production under the buyout scheme for poultry farms. Please provide information on the number of farms that ceased production under the scheme, the carrying capacity concerned and the amount of compensation involved in that year. What is the remaining number of poultry farms and their carrying capacity after such closures? Will the buyout scheme continue until all farms are included or will there be a cut-off day for the scheme? Besides poultry farms, will the Department extend the buyout scheme to other poultry-related traders if they want to close down their business?

Asked by: Hon. FANG Kang, Vincent

Reply:

The 2008 Buyout Scheme (the Scheme) for the poultry trade covered farmers, wholesalers, transporters and retailers, and their workers. The Scheme was opened for application for 3 months from 25 July 2008 to 24 September 2008. A total of 22 poultry farms with a combined licensed rearing capacity of 0.4 million birds ceased operation in return for a total ex-gratia payment of \$69.12 million. Currently there are still 30 poultry farms with a total licensed rearing capacity of 1.3 million birds. There is no plan to launch similar buyout schemes at the moment.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 11 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)124**

Question Serial No.

2661

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The quantity of food marketed through the government fresh food wholesale markets in 2009 dropped by nearly 6% in comparison to that of 2008. What are the reasons? Which category of food showed the greatest drop in throughput? In which year did the wholesale markets record the highest throughput and what was the amount? How many people visited Cheung Sha Wan Wholesale Food Market and Western Wholesale Food Market for procurement in 2009? Was there any difference in the number of such visitors when compared to that of 2008?

Asked by: Hon. FANG Kang, Vincent

Reply:

The decrease in 2009 annual throughput of Government wholesale food markets is mainly due to a drop in the throughput of fresh vegetables as well as live poultry. The former was due to more direct distribution of vegetables and the latter as a result of the 2008 Buyout Scheme of the poultry trade. Over the last 10 years (2000 to 2009), the highest throughput in Government wholesale food markets was recorded in 2000 at 598 000 tonnes.

The numbers of buyers visited the Cheung Sha Wan Wholesale Food Market and the Western Wholesale Food Market in 2008 and 2009 were 1 945 and 1 918 respectively per day, i.e. a drop in about 1.4% in 2009.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 11 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)125**

Question Serial No.

2662

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The recovery rate of rentable revenue in Cheung Sha Wan Wholesale Food Market and Western Wholesale Food Market was 89.9% in 2009. Please give the reasons for the shortfall. Following an increase in rent in 2009, the Chief Executive announced to grant one-month rent remission to help operators in the markets to tide over the financial tsunami. This year, will the Administration consider helping the operators by allowing similar waivers for the two wholesale markets?

Asked by: Hon. FANG Kang, Vincent

Reply:

The main reasons for the shortfall are:

- (a) some wholesalers have not paid their rent on time; and
- (b) some market facilities have not been rented out.

The rents for Government wholesale food markets are charged according to the "user pays" principle. After a costing review, the rents for the Cheung Sha Wan Wholesale Food Market and the Western Wholesale Food Market will be frozen for the coming two-year tenancy period beginning 1 April 2010. There is no plan at this stage to offer any further rental concession.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 11 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)126**

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Question Serial No.

2844

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) How many stray animals were destroyed (euthanised) by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department in 2008-09 and 2009-10 respectively? What is the estimated number for 2010-11? Please provide the annual figures by species together with the actual, revised and estimated expenditures involved?
- (b) Has the Administration assessed the current number of stray animals in the territory? If yes, please provide the number of stray cats and dogs by district and the criteria for the assessment. What was the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply:

- (c) The numbers of stray animals euthanised by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) and the expenditure involved in 2008-09 and 2009-10 are as follows:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Dog</b>	<b>Cat</b>	<b>Others</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Expenditure involved</b>
2008-09	10 200	3 780	1 290	15 270	\$1.5 million
2009-10	8 750	3 970	2 070	14 790	\$1.5 million

Generally speaking, only stray animals caught by AFCD that are not reclaimed by their owners and could not be re-homed will be euthanised. The estimated number of stray animals to be euthanised and the expenditure involved in 2010-11 would be similar to that in 2009-10 assuming the percentage of successful reclaimed / re-homed cases is similar to that in 2009-10.

- (d) The number and species of stray animals in the territory are constantly changing. It is thus difficult for AFCD to assess the number of stray animals in the territory scientifically.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 11 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

<b>FHB(FE)127</b>
-------------------

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead :

000 Operational  
expenses

Question Serial No.
---------------------

2324
------

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- a. Please provide the following information on the employment of non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff to provide services:

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of NCSC staff	( )	( )	( )	( )
Total amount of salaries of NCSC staff	( )	( )	( )	( )
Number of NCSC staff converted to civil servants				
If there were chances for conversion to civil servants on permanent terms, the number of NCSC staff who failed to do so	( )	( )	( )	( )
Percentage of NCSC staff employed in the total number of staff in the department (%)	( )	( )	( )	( )

*Figures in ( ) denote year-on-year changes*

- b. Please set out the length of employment of NCSC staff in the following table:

Length	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
	Number of NCSC staff to be employed	Number of NCSC staff employed	Number of NCSC staff employed	Number of NCSC staff employed
Half a year to one year	( )	( )	( )	( )
One year to three years	( )	( )	( )	( )
Three years to five years	( )	( )	( )	( )
Five years to ten years	( )	( )	( )	( )
Ten years to fifteen years	( )	( )	( )	( )

*Figures in ( ) denote year-on-year changes*

- c. How many NCSC staff are expected to be converted to civil servants on permanent terms in the next three years ( from 2010-11 to 2012-13)?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

- (a) Details of the information are as follows:

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of NCSC staff	Note 1	321 (-13%)	370 (-28%)	514 (-)
Total amount of salaries of NCSC staff		\$43,560,000 (-19%)	\$53,565,582 (-18%)	\$65,709,963 (-)
Number of NCSC staff converted to civil servants		38 Note 2	36 Note 2	28 Note 2
If there were chances for conversion to civil servants on permanent terms, the number of NCSC staff who failed to do so	The Department does not keep this information. NCSC staff are also not obliged to report the information to the Department.			
Percentage of NCSC staff employed in the total number of staff in the department (%)	Note 1	18% (-14%)	21% (-28%)	29% (-)

*Figures in ( ) denote year-on-year changes*

Note 1: Statistics for 2010-11 are not yet available as the number of NCSC staff varies from time to time in the light of changing service and operational requirements.

Note 2: The statistics reflect the number of NCSC who successfully applied for civil servant posts of AFCD only.

- (b) The length of employment of NCSC staff in the following table:

Length	2010-11 Number of NCSC staff to be employed	2009-10 Number of NCSC staff employed	2008-09 Number of NCSC staff employed	2007-08 Number of NCSC staff employed
Half a year to one year	Note	49 (+40%)	35 (+46%)	24 (-)
One year to three years		23 (-70%)	76 (-45%)	138 (-)
Three years to five years		28 (+17%)	24 (-90%)	246 (-)
Five years to ten years		219 (-6%)	233 (+120%)	106 (-)
Ten years to fifteen years		2 (0%)	2 (-)	0 (-)

*Figures in ( ) denote year-on-year changes*

Note : Statistics for 2010-11 are not yet available as the number of NCSC staff varies from time to time in the light of changing service and operational requirements.



- (c) It is the Government's policy to fill civil service vacancies through an open, fair and competitive recruitment process. All applicants for civil service posts, including NCSC staff and other members of the public, would be selected on the basis of their individual merits. As such, the Department is not able to estimate the number of NCSC staff that would be successfully selected for appointment in civil service recruitment exercises.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 15 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)128**

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead : 000 Operational  
expenses

Question Serial No.

2459

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide details of the consultations on policy making and assessment under all programmes in the following format. Using the table below, please provide information on the consultations for which funds had been allocated in 2009-10:

Name/subject of consultation	Revised estimate (\$)	Progress of consultation (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Mode of consultation (e.g. by means of written submissions, consultation sessions, focus groups), number of consultation exercises, name of organisations and number of people consulted/to be consulted	The Administration's follow-up actions on the consultation results and the progress made (if applicable)	For consultations already completed, were the results publicised? If so, what were the channels? If not, why not?

Asked by: Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department did not carry out any consultation in 2009-10.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ **ALAN WONG** \_\_\_\_\_

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_ **11 March 2010** \_\_\_\_\_

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)129**

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead : 000 Operational  
expenses

Question Serial No.

2460

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide details of the consultations on policy making and assessment under all programmes in the following format. Have resources been earmarked for holding consultations in 2010-11? If so, please provide the following details.

Name/subject of consultation	Expenditure (\$)	Progress of consultation (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Mode of consultation (e.g. by means of written submissions, consultation sessions, focus groups), number of consultation exercises, name of organisations and number of people consulted/to be consulted	For consultations scheduled for completion in the financial year 2010-11, will the results be publicised? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department does not have any plan to carry out consultation in 2010-11 at this moment.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ **ALAN WONG**

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ **Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation**

Date \_\_\_\_\_ **11 March 2010**

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)130**

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead : 000 Operational  
expenses

Question Serial No.

2325

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

a. Please provide information on outsourced services (including property management, security, cleansing, telecommunications and information technology, statistics, etc., but excluding construction works) in the format set out below:

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of outsourced service contracts	( )	( )	( )	( )
Total value of outsourced service contracts	( )	( )	( )	( )
Number of workers employed under outsourced service contracts	( )	( )	( )	( )
Number of posts of outsourced service contracts replaced by civil servants	( )	( )	( )	( )

*Figures in ( ) denote year-on-year changes*

b. How many posts of outsourced service contracts are expected to be replaced by employment of permanent staff by the Government in the next 3 years (from 2010-11 to 2012-13)?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

(a) Details of the information are as follows:

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of outsourced service contracts	N/A Note	23 (-28%)	32 (-9%)	35 (-)
Total value of outsourced service contracts		\$22.1 million (-46%)	\$41.3 million (-62%)	\$107.4 million (-)
Number of workers employed under outsourced service contracts		196 (-15%)	231 (-48%)	444 (-)
Number of posts of outsourced service contracts replaced by civil servants		0	0	0

*Figures in ( ) denote year-on-year changes*

Note : Statistics for 2010-11 are not yet available as the requirements vary from time to time in the light of changing service and operational needs.

(b) The Department will review from time to time the mode of service delivery and manpower mix and requirements to meet our changing service and operational needs in the next 3 years (from 2010-11 to 2012-13).

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 12 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)131**

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead : 000 Operational  
expenses

Question Serial No.

2326

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide the information on the employment of temporary staff to provide services from 2007-08 to 2010-11:

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of temporary staff employed	( )	( )	( )	( )
Total amount of salaries of temporary staff employed	( )	( )	( )	( )
Percentage of temporary staff employed in the total number of staff in the department	( )	( )	( )	( )

Figures in ( ) denote year-on-year changes

Please provide the information on the length of employment of the temporary staff employed from 2007-08 to 2010-11:

Length of employment	2010-11 Number of staff to be employed	2009-10 Number of staff employed	2008-09 Number of staff employed	2007-08 Number of staff employed
Half a year	( )	( )	( )	( )
1 year	( )	( )	( )	( )
2 years	( )	( )	( )	( )
3 years	( )	( )	( )	( )
3 years or more	( )	( )	( )	( )

Figures in ( ) denote year-on-year changes

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

In the past three fiscal years, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department did not employ any temporary staff. The Department has no plan to employ such staff in 2010-11.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 15 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)132**

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead : 000 Operational  
expenses

Question Serial No.

2327

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding Subhead 000 Operational expenses of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, please provide in table form the following information on the procurement of services of employment agencies (EAs) from 2006-07 to 2009-10:

- a. the number of contracts signed with the EAs;
- b. the contract sum and term of service under each contract signed by each EA;
- c. the number of workers supplied under each contract signed by the EAs and their duties;
- d. details of the workers' salaries, including monthly salaries and daily wages, payable under each contract signed by the EAs;
- e. the number of EAs commissioned for each year, the number of contracts signed and the number of staff provided as well as the total amount of payment involved, and the percentages of change in comparison with those of the preceding year;
- f. if more than one EA was commissioned for the manpower supply in each year, please list out the number of contracts, the total amount of contract sum and the number of workers supplied by each EA;
- g. the workers' salaries (maximum, median and minimum salaries) payable by each EA;
- h. the proportion of workers supplied by the EAs in the existing staff in the department for each year; and
- i. the proportion of expenditure on procuring the services of the EAs in departmental expenses.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing



Reply:

- (a) – (g) The details on the procurement of services offered by employment agencies (EAs) in the past four years (i.e. 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10) are as follows:

	2009-10 Note 1(iii)	2008-09 Note 1(ii)	2007-08	2006-07
Number of contracts signed with EAs (Note 1)	1 (-)	1 (-)	N/A  Note 1(i)	
Contract sum for each EA	A maximum of \$1,065,600 (-1%)	A maximum of \$1,076,400 (-)		
Term of service for each EA	12 months (-)	12 months (-)		
Number of workers supplied by each EA and their duties	A maximum of 12 workers for providing general office support service (-)	A maximum of 12 workers for providing general office support service (-)		
The workers' salaries (maximum, median and minimum salaries) payable by each EA	N/A Note 2			

( ) percentage of change

- Note 1: (i) Contract for agency service was awarded from 1.1.2009.  
(ii) Contract awarded in 2008-09 covered the period 1.1.2009 to 31.12.2009.  
(iii) Contract awarded in 2009-10 covered the period 1.1.2010 to 31.12.2010.

Note 2: The contracts the Department enters into with employment agencies specify the service fee charged by the latter in providing agency workers. The Department normally does not specify the wages of agency workers, except with regard to the wages of non-skilled workers. As a measure to protect non-skilled workers, the Administration promulgated a mandatory requirement on wage rates for government service contracts in May 2004. Under this requirement, service providers are required to offer monthly wages to non-skilled workers which are no less than the average monthly wages for the relevant industry/occupation as published in the latest Census and Statistics Department's Quarterly Report of Wage and Payroll Statistics at the time when tenders are invited. This requirement applies to service contracts in respect of supply of non-skilled agency workers. Hence we are unable to provide the information requested.

- (h), (i) The proportion of workers supplied by the EAs constitutes 0.6% of the existing staff in the Department and the proportion of expenditure on procuring the services of the EAs accounts for 0.1% of departmental expenses.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 12 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)133**

Question Serial No.

2953

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

How many stray animals caught in the past 3 years (from 2007-08 to 2009-10) were re-homed? Please provide the number by species.

Asked by: Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply:

Major types and numbers of stray animals re-homed by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department through collaborating animal welfare organisations in the past 3 years are as follows:

Year	Dog	Cat	Total
2007-08	582	99	681
2008-09	716	154	870
2009-10	680	80	760

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 11 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)134**

Question Serial No.

2954

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the increase of 7 posts in 2010-11, please provide a breakdown of the posts by grade and their work areas.

Asked by: Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply:

Seven posts of Field Officers II will be created in 2010-11 to (a) further enhance rabies control measures; (b) step up inspections to pet shops and enforcement actions against offenders following the introduction of additional licensing conditions for dog traders in early February 2010; and (c) strengthen education and publicity efforts to further promote public awareness of animal welfare.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ **ALAN WONG** \_\_\_\_\_

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 12 March 2010 \_\_\_\_\_

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)135**

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead : 000 Operational  
expenses

Question Serial No.

2955

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under Subhead 000 Operational expenses, the job-related allowances under personal emoluments amounted to \$6.87 million in 2009-10. Please provide a list of all allowances involved and the number of staff receiving each allowance.

Asked by: Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply:

The information requested is as follows:

<u>Item Description</u>	<u>Number of Recipients</u>	<u>Amount Involved</u> \$'000
(a) Typhoon allowances	244	500
(b) Shift duty allowance (standard)	3 818	3,220
(c) Extraneous duties allowance	2 598	1,840
(d) Hardship allowance	1 460	1,310
Total	<u>8 120</u>	<u>6,870</u>

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 12 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)136**

Question Serial No.

3080

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and  
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In connection with “assisting farmers to capture high-value-market niches by providing technical advice on organic cultivation and intensive greenhouse production” indicated under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010-11, please inform the Committee the details, the expenditure and manpower involved on the above item. What assistance will be given to farmers engaged in organic farming to capture high-value-market niches and whether financial assistance would be provided? Please list out the organic produce retail outlets developed by the Administration.

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) conducts adaptive studies and organises technical training programmes as well as on-farm demonstrations to help farmers to acquire the necessary knowledge and skills in organic farming and greenhouse production. AFCD officers also visit farmers regularly to provide technical advice.

In addition, the Department helps farmers to develop marketing channels for their produce through collaboration with the Vegetable Marketing Organization (VMO) and the producers' associations. Large-scale promotional events such as the FARMFEST are organised annually and local organic produce is promoted in various food fairs and public exhibitions.

At present there are more than 30 retail outlets including supermarkets and health food stores selling organic vegetables which are distributed through VMO. Moreover, AFCD organises training programmes and workshops on retail skills for those farmers who prefer to sell their products directly to consumers and arrange publicity to promote the local farms.

The manpower deployed and the expenditure incurred in the development of organic farming and intensive greenhouse production in 2009-10 are 26 staff and \$9.9 million respectively. Similar level of manpower and expenditure will be required in 2010-11.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ ALAN WONG \_\_\_\_\_

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 12 March 2010 \_\_\_\_\_



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)138**

Question Serial No.

3032

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

Programme: (3) Environmental Hygiene

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

At present, there is a shortfall in the supply of columbarium niches, especially those managed by the Government and the Chinese Permanent Cemeteries Fund. Will the Bureau allocate additional resources in the coming year to study ways to increase the supply of columbarium niches or examine other measures to facilitate burial of the deceased by the public? If yes, what are the work plan and the estimated expenditure? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. NG Margaret

Reply:

The Government will continue to adopt all feasible measures to increase the supply of public columbarium facilities and to encourage disposal of cremated human ashes through promoting scattering of ashes in Gardens of Remembrance (GoRs) and at designated areas of Hong Kong waters, while the construction of a new public columbarium with about 41 000 niches and a GoR in the Wo Hop Shek Cemetery is underway for completion by mid 2012. In 2010-11, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will continue to provide ferry service for scattering human ashes at sea, publish publicity materials and launch an internet memorial service for public use at an estimated cost of \$2.7 million.

Support from the Legislative Council, District Councils and local community is vital for the timely development of columbarium facilities. Over the past few years, a number of public columbarium projects involving over 240 000 niches have been shelved as a result of local objection. The Food and Health Bureau has set up an inter-departmental Working Group to coordinate with relevant bureaux and departments to examine measures to increase the supply of public columbarium facilities, including exploring whether additional columbarium niches could be added within existing public cemeteries and identifying potential sites in all districts / regions for columbarium development. Expenditure arising from these early stage studies including technical feasibility studies would be absorbed by our existing resources or the departments concerned. Any public works projects involving public columbarium development will be subject to funding approval by the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters Ms Kitty CHOI

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Food and  
Health (Food) (Acting)

Date 18.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)139**

Question Serial No.

2969

Head: 139 – Government  
Secretariat: Food and  
Health Bureau (Food  
Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the work to continue to collaborate with the Mainland Authorities to explore the feasibility of applying information technology to enhance the traceability of food, would the Administration advise on the results of the trial programme conducted in 2009 and the outcome of the latest research? Will a new information technology system be introduced? What are the estimated manpower and resources required?

Asked by: Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply:

In 2009, FHB and FEHD continued to work with the Mainland authorities on the pilot programme to apply Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology on traceability of live pigs. Around 36 000 pigs in 17 000 consignments were tested.

Technical enhancement on the system and testing of passageway reader device are to be implemented in 2010. The entire RFID system will be assessed after the completion of the further enhancement and testing.

The operation team in FEHD consists of 1 Field Officer I, 1.5 Field Officer II and 6 agency staff. The estimated direct expenditure on this operation is \$2.44 million for 2010-11.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters Mrs. Stella HUNG

Permanent  
Secretary for Food and Health  
(Food)

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date 12 March 2010



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)140**

Question Serial No.

2968

Head: 139 Government  
Secretariat : Food and  
Health Bureau (Food  
Branch)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the effort to draw up legislation to strengthen control over pesticide residues in food, please advise on the progress, details of work, manpower and estimated expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon. Lee Kok-long, Joseph

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) conducted a consultation exercise on the proposed regulatory framework for pesticide residues in food in 2007-08. FEHD is now refining the proposed regulatory framework and setting up statutory residue limits of some 400 pesticides. The legislative work is undertaken by existing staff and does not incur additional expenditure.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_

Mrs. Stella HUNG

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Secretary for Food and  
Health (Food)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

11 March 2010



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)142**

Question Serial No.

3144

Head: 703 – Buildings

Subhead :3017NB Provision of a columbarium and garden of remembrance at Kiu Tau Road, Wo Hop Shek

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Architectural Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Administration indicates that the approved project estimate for the “provision of a columbarium and garden of remembrance at Kiu Tau Road, Wo Hop Shek” is \$629.5 million. After deducting the revised estimate for 2009-10, the remaining reserve is \$628.5 million. Why the estimated expenditure for 2010-11 is \$55 million only? What is the timetable for using the remaining reserve? How can the project be expedited so as to meet the acute shortage of columbarium?

Asked by: Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply:

The construction of the columbarium and garden of remembrance at Kiu Tau Road, Wo Hop Shek commenced in late 2009 and is scheduled to be completed in July 2012. The current progress of the construction works on site is generally on schedule. The estimated expenditure of \$55 million for 2010-11 is mainly for site formation and piling works. We expect that most of the expenditure will be incurred in 2011-12 and beyond on completion of high cost works and finishing items of the columbarium building and ancillary facilities. We will closely monitor the project progress and explore the possibility of expediting the works.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ Mrs Marigold LAU

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ Director of Architectural Services

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 12.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)143**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

2949

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) What is the basis for working out the estimated number of unlicensed hawkers?
- (b) It is estimated that the number of unlicensed hawkers will drop by 40 in 2010. What are the reasons for the decrease?
- (c) As regards hawker blackspots, the number of blackspots remains at 45 for a long time. Does it mean that these blackspots cannot be cleared?

Asked by: Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows –

- (a) & (b) The estimate was made on the basis of past trends deduced from the quarterly surveys conducted to gauge the number of unlicensed hawkers.
- (c) To contain hawker related problems, the Department's Hawker Control Teams conduct blitz operations against illegal hawking activities at hawker blackspots. Whether a certain location is classified as a hawker blackspot depends on the number of unlicensed hawkers assembling there at any one time of the day during the survey. Hawker control staff will continue to strategise enforcement actions based on the situation on the ground and in accordance with the established enforcement guidelines.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)144**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

2950

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the staff establishment, as well as the actual, revised and estimated expenditure of the Hawker Control Teams in 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11.

Asked by: Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply:

The establishment of Hawker Control Teams has been 2 204 in the three reference years. The expenditure position is as follows -

2008-09 Actual : \$762.6 million

2009-10 Estimate : \$773.8 million

2010-11 Estimate : \$770.9 million

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_

W H CHEUK

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_

Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_

15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)145**

Question Serial No.

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department      Subhead      000 Operational  
(No. & title): expenses

2951

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the provision for job-related allowances under Subhead 000 Operational expenses, please set out the allowance items involved as well as the total expenses on each item in 2009-10, and provide a breakdown by programme of the corresponding number of staff receiving such allowances.

Asked by: Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows –

<u>Job-related Allowance Type</u>	<u>2009-10 revised estimate \$ (million)</u>
Extraneous Duty Allowance	0.7
Hardship Allowance	30.1
Rainstorm Allowance	0.7
Shift Duty Allowance	28.5
Typhoon Allowance	3.5
Total :	63.5

A breakdown by programme showing the corresponding number of staff receiving such allowances is not readily available.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)146**

Question Serial No.

Head: 49 Food and Environmental  
Hygiene Department

Subhead 661 Minor plant,  
(No. & title): vehicles and  
equipment (block  
vote)

2952

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out the details of the replacement of specialised vehicles under Subhead 661 Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote). What is the average service life of these vehicles?

Asked by: Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows –

<b>Items to be procured</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
4-ton refuse collection vehicle	1	To replace retiring vehicles
6-ton refuse collection vehicle	39	
11-ton refuse collection vehicle	4	
Total	44	----

The average service life of the 44 RCV to be replaced is 10 years.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_

W H CHEUK

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_

Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_

15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)147**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

2964

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under this programme, the number of samples taken from food animals for testing of veterinary drug residues in 2009 is substantially higher than that in 2008. What are the reasons for the increase? Does the Department have sufficient manpower to cope with the work? If not, will additional resources and manpower be provided for the testing in this respect? If yes, please provide the details. If not, please give the reasons.

Asked by: Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply:

The increase in samples tested was due to increase in import volume and sampling rates. The additional work was undertaken by existing manpower and resources.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)148**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental  
Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

2965

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the commencement of field work of the first Total Diet Study to assess risks of various food hazards, please advise on the details of the work, and the manpower and estimated expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply:

Total Diet Study (TDS) is internationally recognised as the most cost-effective way to estimate the dietary intake of various substances including contaminants and nutrients across the total diet for a range of population groups. The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) is conducting the first TDS in Hong Kong to estimate the dietary exposures of the Hong Kong population to a range of substances and assess any associated health risks.

CFS has commissioned the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) to carry out the fieldwork of the TDS which includes sampling and food sample preparation work, at a contract value of about HK\$1.24 million. CUHK has started the fieldwork in March 2010 for completion in February 2011. CFS would perform laboratory analysis of the food samples collected in the fieldwork of over 110 substances, including persistent organic pollutants, pesticide residues, heavy metals, processing contaminants, mycotoxins, other contaminants and nutrients to estimate the dietary exposures of the Hong Kong population. The laboratory analysis work would be undertaken by CFS' existing staff. Reports on the TDS will be released by phases starting from 2011.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)149**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental  
Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

2966

Programme: (4) Public Education and Community Involvement

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under this Programme, the Department will strengthen health promotional activities on nutrition labelling. In this connection, please advise on the details of the activities, and the estimated manpower and resources involved.

Asked by: Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply:

To tie in with the commencement of the nutrition labelling law on 1 July 2010, a three-year (2008 – 2011) Publicity and Education Campaign on Nutrition Labelling is in place to promote the use of nutrition labelling in achieving a healthy diet. In 2010-11, the Department will concentrate on publicizing the commencement of the law as well as motivating behavioural changes in reading and understanding nutrition labels as a shopping routine. We will undertake territory-wide programmes including TV and Radio Announcements of Public Interest, radio programmes, advertising campaign at public transport system, public housing estates and in the on-line media. We will also collaborate with Consumer Council to jointly publish a series of articles on nutrition labelling in the Choice Magazine. On the education front, joint activities will be organised with stakeholders including Consumer Council, dietitians, school teachers, in order to disseminate health messages to clients, students and the general public. The promotion work is undertaken by existing staff and the expenditure cannot be separately identified.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ **W H CHEUK** \_\_\_\_\_

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ **Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene** \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ **15.3.2010** \_\_\_\_\_

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)150**

Question Serial No.

3077

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Public Education and Community Involvement

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010-11, it is stated that the Department will “strengthen health promotional activities on nutrition labelling”. In this connection, please inform this Committee of the Department’s efforts to enhance public awareness of nutrition labelling so as to enable them to make informed food choices and achieve a healthy diet when implementing the promotional activities. Has there been any survey on public awareness of nutrition labelling conducted? If yes, what are the findings? If not, why is there no such survey and will the Government conduct one?

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

To tie in with the commencement of the nutrition labelling law on 1 July 2010, a three-year (2008 – 2011) Publicity and Education Campaign on Nutrition Labelling is in place to promote the use of nutrition labelling in achieving a healthy diet. In 2010-11, the Department will concentrate on publicizing the commencement of the law as well as motivating behavioural changes in reading and understanding nutrition labels as a shopping routine. We will undertake territory-wide programmes including TV and Radio Announcements of Public Interest, radio programmes, advertising campaign at public transport system, public housing estates and in the on-line media. We will also collaborate with Consumer Council to jointly publish a series of articles on nutrition labelling in the Choice Magazine. On the education front, joint activities will be organised with stakeholders including Consumer Council, dietitians, school teachers, in order to disseminate health messages to clients, students and the general public.

A survey was conducted in mid-2008 to assess public knowledge, attitude and practice regarding nutrition labelling. More than 80% of the population agreed that nutrition labelling was important and believed that the nutritional information would help them make healthier food choices. About half of the population had the habit of reading nutrition labels when buying prepackaged food products for the first time. The public have had some knowledge of nutrition labelling but more could be done to enhance their understanding. The survey results were announced in March 2009 and uploaded to the website of the Centre for Food Safety.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ **W H CHEUK** \_\_\_\_\_

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ **Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene** \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ **15.3.2010** \_\_\_\_\_

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)151**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

3088

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010-11, it is stated that the Department will “take forward plans and projects to provide more crematoria and columbaria facilities”. Please inform this Committee whether relevant studies have been conducted on the demand for crematoria and columbaria facilities. If yes, what are the findings? Please also advise on the details of the aforesaid plans and projects to provide more crematoria and columbaria facilities, as well as the measures taken to avoid and minimise the unease and nuisance to the residents living in the neighbourhood of these facilities.

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

The demand for crematoria and columbaria facilities is based on the number of deaths projected by the Census and Statistics Department and the rising number of cremations over the years. The number of deaths is projected to increase from 41 000 in 2009 to about 52 800 in 2020 while the number of cremations is expected to rise from 36 500 in 2009 to about 49 600 in 2020.

The Wo Hop Shek Crematorium will be reprovisioned for constructing six coffin cremators and other ancillary facilities. Works has commenced in July 2009 for completion in end 2011 / early 2012. The Cape Collinson Crematorium will also be reprovisioned to provide for ten coffin cremators and other ancillary facilities. Works would commence in July 2010 for completion in two phases in early 2012 and late 2014.

Besides, the Department is constructing a new public columbarium with about 41 000 niches and a Garden of Remembrance in the Wo Hop Shek Cemetery for completion in mid 2012. In addition, the Administration is pursuing the construction of columbarium facilities in vacant land burial ground in Wo Hop Shek and will continue to identify suitable sites in other districts for columbarium development.

To address the concern over visual impact of crematoria and columbaria, the outlook and layout of recently developed ones are improved by adopting aesthetical designs, taking advantage of the topography of the site to blend in the facilities with the surrounding, and enhancing greening to ease the concern of the residents nearby. Furthermore, all new cremators are equipped with modern designs with a view to reducing the emission of particles, gases and smoke, thereby minimising any impact on environment and the neighbourhood.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_

W H CHEUK

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_

Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_

15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)152**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

3131

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out in tabular form the number of unallocated niches under the management of the Department and their distribution by location. Discounting applicants having special preferences for particular niches, what is the current average waiting time for a niche applicant? What is the longest waiting time among the niche applications?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

<b>Public Columbarium</b>	<b>Number of available niches for re-allocation (as at 31.12.2009)</b>
Kwai Chung	104
Cape Collinson	87
Diamond Hill	71
Fu Shan	12
Wo Hop Shek	9
Cheung Chau	6
Lamma	5
Peng Chau	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>298</b>

In 2009, the average waiting time for re-used niches is about 30 months. The longest waiting time is about 50 months.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)153**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

3153

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the total rental income from market stalls in 2009-10, and whether the figure represents an increase or decrease over that in 2008-09. Please give the reasons for the change.

Asked by: Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply:

The revenue from market stall rentals in 2009-10 is estimated to be \$349.7 million, which would represent a decrease of \$10 million from that in 2008-09. The decrease is mainly due to rental concessions for government properties, including public markets, announced in the 2009-10 Budget.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_

W H CHEUK

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_

Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_

15.3.2010



Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)154**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

3154

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the electricity expenses and power consumption of all markets under the Department.

Asked by: Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply:

In 2009, the total electricity expenses and power consumption of all FEHD public markets were about \$118 million and 118 million kilowatt hours respectively.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)155**

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

3155

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide the total patronage estimated and the number of stalls let out in respect of all markets under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD), as well as the total revenue of each individual market, so that the public could assess the operating conditions of each market. Will the Department consider setting relevant regular indicators in the future Estimates for public reference?

Asked by: Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply:

According to a market survey carried out in 2009, the total patronage during the seven peak business hours each day in 79 FEHD wet markets was over 540 000. As at end 2009, the total number of stalls let out in all public markets was 12 104. The annual revenue of each individual market is set out in the Annex.

The overall target and actual occupancy rate of public markets are provided in the Estimates as an indicator to reflect the operating conditions of public markets as a whole.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010

**Annual Revenue of FEHD Markets****Annex**

<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>Name of Market</b>	<b>Revenue in 2009 (\$'000)</b>
1.	Aberdeen Market cum Cooked Food Centre	9,452
2.	Aldrich Bay Market cum Cooked Food Centre	6,512
3.	Ap Lei Chau Market cum Cooked Food Centre	1,260
4.	Bowrington Road Market cum Cooked Food Centre	6,009
5.	Bridges Street Market	71
6.	Causeway Bay Market	618
7.	Centre Street Market cum Cooked Food Centre	912
8.	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	958
9.	Chai Wan Market cum Cooked Food Centre	6,594
10.	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	1,074
11.	Cheung Chau Market	2,620
12.	Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market	548
13.	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	1,100
14.	Choi Hung Road Market cum Cooked Food Centre	2,705
15.	Electric Road Market cum Cooked Food Centre	1,554
16.	Fa Yuen Street Market cum Cooked Food Centre	3,915
17.	Fo Tan Cooked Food Market (East)	1,446
18.	Fo Tan Cooked Food Market (West)	824
19.	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	1,783
20.	Heung Che Street Market cum Cooked Food Centre	2,870
21.	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	587
22.	Hung Hom Market cum Cooked Food Centre	4,274
23.	Hung Shui Kiu Temporary Market	400
24.	Java Road Market cum Cooked Food Centre	5,005
25.	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	867
26.	Kam Tin Market cum Cooked Food Centre	242

<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>Name of Market</b>	<b>Revenue in 2009 (\$'000)</b>
27.	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	1,072
28.	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	660
29.	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	568
30.	Kowloon City Market cum Cooked Food Centre	6,649
31.	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	412
32.	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	882
33.	Kwong Choi Market	286
34.	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre cum Cooked Food Centre	947
35.	Kwun Chung Market cum Cooked Food Centre	3,016
36.	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	464
37.	Lai Wan Market	2,976
38.	Lam Tei Market	26
39.	Lau Fau Shan Market	24
40.	Lei Yue Mun Market	529
41.	Lockhart Road Market cum Cooked Food Centre	3,056
42.	Luen Wo Hui Market cum Cooked Food Centre	13,983
43.	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	1,972
44.	Mong Kok Market	252
45.	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	933
46.	Mui Wo Market	491
47.	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	1,405
48.	Ngau Chi Wan Market cum Cooked Food Centre	7,659
49.	Ngau Tau Kok Market cum Cooked Food Centre	12,579
50.	North Kwai Chung Market	2,991
51.	North Point Market	1,203
52.	On Ching Road Flower Market	265

<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>Name of Market</b>	<b>Revenue in 2009 (\$'000)</b>
53.	Pei Ho Street Market cum Cooked Food Centre	5,439
54.	Peng Chau Market	331
55.	Plover Cove Road Market	2,743
56.	Po On Road Market cum Cooked Food Centre	5,421
57.	Quarry Bay Market cum Cooked Food Centre	1,486
58.	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	1,506
59.	Sai Kung Market	3,118
60.	Sai Wan Ho Market cum Cooked Food Centre	5,264
61.	Sai Ying Pun Market	2,180
62.	San Hui Market	13,639
63.	Sha Tau Kok Market cum Cooked Food Centre	118
64.	Sha Tin Market	9,361
65.	Sham Tseng Temporary Market cum Cooked Food Centre	611
66.	Shau Kei Wan Market	404
67.	Shek Tong Tsui Market cum Cooked Food Centre	2,827
68.	Shek Wu Hui Market cum Cooked Food Centre	15,377
69.	Sheung Fung Street Market	1,517
70.	Sheung Wan Market cum Cooked Food Centre	4,719
71.	Shui Wo Street Market cum Cooked Food Centre	8,511
72.	Smithfield Market cum Cooked Food Centre	4,280
73.	Stanley Waterfront Mart	2,623
74.	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	444
75.	Tai Kiu Market	10,430
76.	Tai Kok Tsui Market cum Cooked Food Centre	5,129
77.	Tai O Market	25
78.	Tai Po Hui Market Market cum Cooked Food Centre	22,955

<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>Name of Market</b>	<b>Revenue in 2009 (\$'000)</b>
79.	Tai Shing Street Market cum Cooked Food Centre	14,414
80.	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	1,246
81.	Tai Wai Market	7,365
82.	Tai Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	40
83.	Tang Lung Chau Market	564
84.	Tin Wan Market cum Cooked Food Centre	1,316
85.	To Kwa Wan Market cum Cooked Food Centre	4,340
86.	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	360
87.	Tsing Yi Market	7,417
88.	Tsuen King Circuit Market	611
89.	Tsuen Wan Market	6,377
90.	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	1,543
91.	Tui Min Hoi Market	49
92.	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	1,648
93.	Tung Yick Market	5,262
94.	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	181
95.	Wan Chai Market	4,138
96.	Wing Fong Street Market	1,674
97.	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	391
98.	Wong Nai Chung Market cum Cooked Food Centre	1,583
99.	Yan Oi Market	2,636
100.	Yau Ma Tei Market	2,561
101.	Yee On Street Market	961
102.	Yeung Uk Road Market	8,427
103.	Yue Kwong Road Market cum Cooked Food Centre	2,970
104.	Yue Wan Market cum Cooked Food Centre	8,347