

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

Reply Serial No.

HWFB(FE)06
6

Head : 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Question Serial No.

Subhead (No. & title) :

0588

Programme : (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer : Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food

Question :

Provision for 2007-08 is \$85.1 million (13.7%) higher than the revised estimate for 2006-07. This is mainly due to additional provision for enhancing food safety and public health efforts. There will be a net creation of 125 posts in 2007-08. In this connection, please advise on the post titles, functions and the estimated expenditure of these 125 posts, as well as the expenditure for enhancing food safety and public health efforts.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

In 2007-08, there will be a net increase of 125 posts under this programme. The posts to be created are Chemist, Field Officer, Health Inspector, Pest Control Assistant, Pest Control Officer, Science Laboratory Technician, Scientific Officer (Medical), Veterinary Officer and other administrative support grades. The main duties of these posts are to perform food safety regulatory functions and pest control services. The net annual salary is \$37.2 million.

The increase in 2007-08 estimated expenditure under this programme is mainly to cater for the following –

- (a) enhancing food safety regulatory functions such as food import control, food safety risk communication capabilities and strengthening veterinary input in the management of local slaughterhouses;
- (b) increased capital expenditure such as population-based food consumption survey, integrated mass spectrometer system;
- (c) upgrading equipment for operation in slaughterhouse; and
- (d) enhancing pest control services and surveillance.

Signature	
Name in block letters	EDDY CHAN
Post Title	Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene
Date	15.3.2007