

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

Reply Serial No.

**HWFB(FE)11  
9**

Head : 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Question Serial No.

1670

Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food

Question :

Provision for 2007-08 is \$187.1 million (9.8%) higher than the revised estimate for 2006-07. This is mainly due to increased operating expenses for cleansing services. However, there will be a net deletion of 51 posts in 2007-08. In this regard, please advise on the post titles and functions of these 51 posts and the estimated expenditure that can be saved, as well as the reasons for the increased operating expenses for cleansing services and the amount involved.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

The posts to be deleted under this programme are Workman I and Workman II vacancies involved in environmental hygiene and related services. Their deletion does not involve any reduction in salary expenditure.

The increase in 2007-08 estimated expenditure of \$187.1 million under Programme (2) is mainly to cater for the following –

- (a) managing and operating new facilities, such as public toilets and refuse collection points; and providing cleansing services for new development areas (\$16.1 million);
- (b) increased expenditure on managing cemeteries and crematoria such as maintenance for new cremators (\$30.7 million);
- (c) enhancing hygiene in aqua privies (\$17.4 million); and
- (d) coping with increases in utility charges, contract expenses, maintenance and training requirements (\$122.9 million).

Signature

Name in block letters

EDDY CHAN

Director of

Post Title

Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date

15.3.2007