Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

HWFB(FE)13

Question Serial No.

1781

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

<u>Director of Bureau</u>: Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food

Question:

Under this programme, the estimated expenditure for 2007-08 is \$187 million higher than the revised estimate for 2006-07. This is mainly due to increased operating expenses for cleansing services. Please advise in detail on the specific reasons for the increase in the operating expenses and the work plan involved.

Asked by: Hon. TAM Heung-man

Reply:

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;
- (b) increased expenditure on managing cemeteries and crematoria such as maintenance for new cremators;
- (c) enhancing hygiene in aqua privies; and
- (d) coping with increases in utility charges, contract expenses, maintenance and training requirements.

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