

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

Reply Serial No.

**HWFB(FE)150**

Question Serial No.

1108

Head : 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer : Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food

Question :

There will be a net creation of 125 posts and an additional provision of \$85.1 million (13.7% increase) under this programme in 2007-08 for enhancing food safety and public health efforts. In this connection, please advise on:

1. the ranks, functions and responsibilities of these new posts; and
2. how the new resources will be allocated. Please quantify the additional work or services, list the relevant performance indicators and the percentage of the allocation.

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply :

1. The net 125 posts to be created in 2007-08 are posts relating to the grades of Chemist, Field Officer, Health Inspector, Pest Control Assistant, Pest Control Officer, Science Laboratory Technician, Scientific Officer (Medical) and Veterinary Officer as well as administrative support posts. Their functions/responsibilities are to perform food safety regulatory functions and provide pest control services.
2. The increase in 2007-08 estimated expenditure under this programme is mainly to cater for the following –
  - (a) creation of posts and departmental expenses in relation to enhancement of food safety regulatory functions and pest control services (\$67.2 million);
  - (b) increased capital expenditure such as population-based food consumption survey, integrated mass spectrometer system (\$8.7 million); and

(c) upgrading equipment for operation in slaughterhouse (\$9.2 million).

The new posts are to enhance existing services under this Programme. There are no separate performance indicators for the enhanced activities.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ EDDY CHAN \_\_\_\_\_

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

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 15.3.2007 \_\_\_\_\_