Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

HWFB(FE)15 8

<u>Head</u>: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Question Serial No.

1958

Subhead (No. & title):

<u>Programme</u>: (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:

Since the implementation of the risk-based categorization scheme for restaurants, inspections to food premises kept decreasing in 2006-07. In this connection, please advise on whether health inspectorate posts will be deleted subsequent to the decrease in food premises inspections, or will health inspectors charged with such duties be redeployed to other posts in 2007-08? If so, what are the respective numbers involved? How much savings will be achieved?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

The frequency of inspection of low risk and medium risk food premises has been reduced, in order that more efforts and resources could be targetted at high risk food premises, including those food premises which have operated without a licence. There is therefore no plan to delete health inspector posts.

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