

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)001

Question Serial No.

0002

Head : 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title) : 000 Operational Expenses

Programme : (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer : Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Food and Health

Question :

Under this programme, the number of samples taken from food animals for testing of veterinary drug residues in 2007 is 58 177, representing a decrease of 17.56% over the figure of 70 573 in 2006. The estimated number for 2008 will further decrease to 58 000. Please account for such a substantial and continuous decrease.

Asked by : Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply :

The decrease in samples collected from food animals in 2007 was due to the decrease in the number of pigs, both local and imported ones, admitted into the slaughter houses. The estimated number for 2008 is largely the same as that for 2007, but rounded down to the nearest thousand. We will collect more samples for testing if the number of pig admission goes up in 2008.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **W H CHEUK** _____

Post Title _____ **Director of
Food and Environmental Hygiene** _____

Date _____ **20.3.2008** _____