

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

Reply Serial No.

**FHB(FE)002**

Question Serial No.

0003

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 actual number of pest control surveys conducted in 2007 is 7 229, representing an increase of 30% over the figure of 5 578 in 2006, while the estimated number for 2008 is 529 less than that of 2007. Please advise on the reason(s) for changes in the number of surveys. What are the changes in expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply :

Pest control surveys are either planned in advance or conducted in response to public health needs. The estimated number of surveys for 2007 was 6 700, same as that for 2008, but more surveys were conducted in 2007 having regard to the high ovitrap indices and the need to strengthen the surveillance of various disease vectors, making the number higher than an average year.

The expenditure is estimated to increase from \$26.9 million for 2007-08 to \$32.6 million for 2008-09.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ **W H CHEUK** \_\_\_\_\_

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

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 20.3.2008 \_\_\_\_\_