

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

Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)112

Question Serial No.

1015

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 Food and Health

Question :

During 2008-09, how much manpower will be allocated to administer the voluntary notification scheme for food importers and distributors? What is the number of food importers and distributors who have joined the existing notification scheme, and how much in percentage terms does it account for the total number of food importers and distributors?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Yung-kan

Reply :

Two Executive Officers will be added to enhance the existing staff in implementing a Pre-Statutory Voluntary Registration Scheme from October 2008 onwards.

As at 10 March 2008, some 970 importers and 560 distributors of the food trade have registered with the Department. The Department does not have reliable figures of the total number of food importers and distributors in Hong Kong.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

W H CHEUK

Post Title _____

Director of
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date _____

25.3.2008