

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

FHB(FE)154

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Question Serial No.

2600

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:

What are the specific plans for prevention of avian influenza in 2008-09? What is the financial provision for taking blood samples from poultry?

Asked by: Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply:

The control measures taken to prevent the introduction of avian influenza into Hong Kong include : poultry farm inspections and liaison with the Mainland authorities to ensure that requirements on animal health, quarantine and farm conditions are complied with; inspection of every consignment of imported poultry including verifying Animal Health Certificates; and collecting blood samples and cloacal swabs for laboratory testing of avian influenza H5.

A financial provision of \$9.4 million has been included in the 2008-09 Estimate for inspection and blood sampling at the border control point.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

W H CHEUK

Post Title _____

Director of
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date _____

20.3.2008