

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

FHB(FE)122

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

2570

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the indicator for "raids by Hawker Control Teams", the number of raids will increase from 119 929 in 2009 to 124 700 (Estimate) in 2010. Please advise on:

- (a) the reasons for the increase in the estimated number of raids;
- (b) the estimated expenditure involved;
- (c) whether additional manpower will be provided in order to meet the higher target; if yes, the expenditure involved; and
- (d) whether the Department is determined to go against public opinion by further enhancing the number of raids despite the fact that there have been calls from the community for relaxation of the enforcement actions against hawkers so that grassroots citizens can make a living by running a small business, and the urgency of stepping up enforcement against hawkers.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows-

- (a) The estimated increase in the number of raids in 2010 is projected on the basis of the past trend of hawker raids, which is in turn determined by the number of complaints against illegal hawking activities and other relevant factors.
- (b) & (c) As the increased raids will be undertaken by existing staff, increase in manpower and other resources will not be necessary.

- (d) The Department has a duty to take enforcement action against illegal hawking activities and be responsive to public complaints about these activities. We will continue to fulfill this responsibility in accordance with the established enforcement strategies and guidelines.

Signature _____

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010