

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

FHB(FE)122

Question Serial No.

1954

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

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding environmental hygiene and related services, please provide information on the following:

- (a) the Department's estimated expenditure on and manpower resources for the provision of cleansing services in 2013-14, with a breakdown by type of services (including the expenditure on various cleansing services as well as the number of contractors, in-house staff and contractor staff to be involved), and the changes in expenditure and manpower over the past three years (i.e. from 2010-11 to 2012-13); and
- (b) given that potential hygiene hazards have become increasingly difficult to detect in recent years, whether the Department has explored ways to eliminate these hazards, such as allocating additional resources, recruiting more staff, enhancing training for frontline cleansing workers, increasing the frequency of street cleansing by cleansing workers and mechanical street sweepers as well as the number of litter containers on streets and refuse collections per day.

Asked by: Hon. HO Chun-yin, Steven

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

- (a) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) provides two types of public cleansing services, namely waste collection service and street cleansing service. The estimated expenditure on waste collection service and street cleansing service in 2013-14 is \$436.9 million and \$1,560.4 million respectively. The manpower involved in providing these services is 10 660, including 3 010 in-house staff and 7 650 staff employed by 15 contractors. Comparing the expenditure in the past three financial years on a year-on-year basis, there is an increase of about 4.6% in 2011-12, 5.8% in 2012-13 and 2% in 2013-14 respectively. In terms of headcount, the level of manpower provision on a year-on-year basis is maintained at a similar level during this period.
- (b) The Department will continue to closely monitor the cleanliness and hygiene condition of public places across the territory, and provide public cleansing services, pest control and step up law enforcement actions as necessary.

Name in block letters: Clement LEUNG

Post Title: Director of
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date: 5.4.2013