

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

**FHB(FE)235**

Question Serial No.

5386

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:

The indicator for “poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks” dropped from 52 520 in 2011 to 46 983 in 2012 while the indicator for “number of trappings” increased from 50 781 in 2011 to 55 814 in 2012. In this connection, please provide information on the following:

- (a) the reason(s) for the different trend of change in numbers in respect of the indicator for the above two anti-rodent measures, and the reason(s) for the change in numbers;
- (b) the estimated expenditure for each of the above two anti-rodent measures in 2013-14; and
- (c) the rodent infestation rate for each of the districts / areas over the past five years (i.e. in 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012) in the table below.

District / Area	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Central & Western					
Eastern					
Southern					
Wan Chai					
Islands					
Kowloon City					
Kwun Tong					
Wong Tai Sin					
Sham Shui Po					
Mong Kok					
Yau Tsim					
Sai Kung					
Sha Tin					
Tai Po					
North					
Kwai Tsing					
Tsuen Wan					

Tuen Mun					
Yuen Long					
Total					

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

- (a) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) adopts an integrated approach in rodent control. The measures include improving the environmental conditions, applying poisonous bait and setting traps. They are employed on a need basis according to the actual situation prevailing in different areas, thus resulting in a variation in the number of poison treatments and rodent trappings each year.
- (b) The estimated expenditure on rodent control work in 2013-14 is \$152.3 million. There is no separate breakdown on the proportion of poison treatment and rodent trapping services undertaken by the Department.
- (c) Information on the rodent infestation rate in different districts is given below -

District	Year				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Central & Western	5.7%	4.7%	0.5%	0.5%	1.1%
Eastern	4.4%	8.1%	2.3%	0.6%	3.2%
Southern	4.0%	6.5%	0.5%	1.6%	2.2%
Wan Chai	8.1%	1.6%	4.5%	1.8%	2.7%
Islands	7.9%	9.3%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Kowloon City	4.2%	5.0%	0.9%	1.4%	5.6%
Kwun Tong	5.3%	12.4%	3.1%	3.1%	4.1%
Wong Tai Sin	6.9%	7.5%	2.4%	1.5%	3.8%
Sham Shui Po	6.5%	7.8%	2.0%	3.2%	3.8%
Mong Kok	6.8%	2.0%	1.3%	2.9%	2.1%
Yau Tsim	5.7%	5.4%	2.3%	1.8%	1.8%
Sai Kung	8.4%	5.4%	0.9%	1.8%	0.0%
Sha Tin	5.5%	5.5%	1.3%	1.7%	0.9%
Tai Po	11.0%	1.8%	0.0%	0.9%	1.3%
North	6.5%	7.2%	0.9%	0.6%	1.2%
Kwai Tsing	4.9%	3.1%	1.5%	2.6%	1.5%
Tsuen Wan	13.3%	5.1%	2.1%	2.6%	1.0%
Tuen Mun	1.7%	8.3%	1.3%	0.8%	1.7%
Yuen Long	5.3%	6.6%	1.8%	3.0%	7.9%
Total	6.3%	6.1%	1.5%	1.7%	2.4%

Name in block letters: Clement LEUNG

Post Title: Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date: 5.4.2013