

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****FHB(FE)252****(Question Serial No. 4416)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

This question originates from: Estimates on Expenditure Volume I Page 258 (if applicable)

Question (Member Question No. 123):

Please provide information on the following in tabular form:

1. the number of outsourced workers (including cleansing workers and security guards) and contract staff in the Department with salaries currently calculated on the basis of "net working hours", i.e. no payment for meal breaks, and their job types; and
2. the amount of expenditure to be involved in respect of the various job types if payments for meal breaks have to be made (estimated on the basis of their medium hourly wages).

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows –

1. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) does not keep information on the number of outsourced workers with or without paid meal breaks. As for non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff without paid meal breaks, their job types and number are as follows –

Job Type	Number (as at 31.12.2013)
Handling water seepage complaints	90
Undertaking market management duties	82
Providing support services in cemeteries	36
Providing food safety support services	28
Undertaking cleansing and other support services	16
Total:	252

2. The remuneration offered to NCSC staff is an all-inclusive pay package which has taken into account a host of considerations, such as condition of the employment market, recruitment results and cost of living, etc., to ensure that the pay is set at a rate which remains competitive in the market, thus enabling the Department to recruit and retain suitable NCSC staff. Given the "all-inclusive" nature of the pay package, information on individual elements, whether being covered by the pay package or not, cannot be provided separately.