

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)258

(Question Serial No. 6552)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the public consultation on regulation of nutrition claims and health claims for formula products and prepackaged food for infants and young children under the age of 36 months, please advise on the details, as well as the manpower and expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (Member Question No. 367)

Reply:

The Government launched a public consultation on “Proposed Regulatory Framework on Nutrition and Health Claims on Infant Formula, Follow-up Formula, and Prepackaged Foods for Infants and Young Children under the Age of 36 Months in Hong Kong” on 6 January 2015, proposing a regulatory framework to enhance the regulation of nutrition and health claims on formula products and prepackaged foods for infants and young children through legislation, with a view to better protecting the health of infants and young children under the age of 36 months. The consultation period will last for more than three months until 17 April 2015. We consulted the Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene of the Legislative Council on 10 February 2015 and noted deputations’ views at the meeting. The Centre for Food Safety also organised a series of consultation activities, including two public forums in January and March as well as consultation sessions with the trade, healthcare professionals, pro-breastfeeding groups, consumer groups and Consulates General. The expenditure and manpower required for the public consultation activities are absorbed from within the existing resources.

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