

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FHB(FE)276**

**(Question Serial No. 4117)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

According to the Department's estimate, the sludge to be collected by gully emptiers in 2015 is 3 400 tonnes, representing a substantial decrease in volume when compared with the figure of 5 607 tonnes in 2014. Please advise in detail the basis on which such an estimate is made.

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (Member Question No. 80)

Reply:

The estimated volume of sludge collected by gully emptiers in 2015 is, by weight, 40% less than that collected in 2014. This is mainly attributable to the fact that since July 2014, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has, upon the advice of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD), stepped up actions to drain away the water content of collected sludge thoroughly before delivering it to EPD's disposal site.

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