

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FHB(FE)127**

**(Question Serial No. 1739)**

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 indicator “food complaints handled”, the estimated number in 2016 is increased to 5 100, which is higher than the figures in the past two years. In this connection, please advise on the following:

- (a) the reason(s) for the increase; and
- (b) whether the Department has allocated additional manpower and resources, or considered setting up a task force, to handle food complaints and food poisoning cases.

Asked by: Hon POON Siu-ping (Member Question No. 29)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows –

- (a) The numbers of food complaints handled by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in 2014 and 2015 were 4 596 and 5 036 respectively. The number of food complaints in 2016 is estimated to be 5 100, about the same level as in 2015.
- (b) Food complaints are currently handled by a dedicated team of staff in the Centre for Food Safety, with an establishment of 21 staff.

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