

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FHB(FE)284**

**(Question Serial No. 6716)**

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:

Please advise whether the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has specified in the tender document for each cleansing service contract and the signed contract that the contractor shall provide training on occupational safety, protective equipment in the required quantities, ancillary tools, changing facilities and refreshment; if yes, the details, as well as the measures taken to monitor the service contractors' compliance with the requirement. Please also advise whether any inspection will be carried out and the rank(s) of the staff responsible for the inspection(s). If the requirement has not been specified, please give reason(s) and advise whether a review or study will be conducted in future.

Asked by: Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung (Member Question No. 297)

Reply:

In the tender document for each cleansing service contracts and the signed contract, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) specifies that the contractor shall provide necessary training on occupational safety, protective equipment and ancillary tools as well as comply with all the legislation in relation to the execution of the service contracts, including the Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance (Cap. 509). It is incumbent upon contractors to ensure their employees' safety and health at work. There is no specific requirement on the provision of changing and drinking facilities. Many venues of the Department with contractors engaged have resting/changing facilities which can be used by employees of the contractors. Staff of the Department carry out regular and surprise inspections to check the contractor's performance and to ensure their compliance with the contract requirements at all times. Any breach of contractual obligations by the contractors will lead to the issuance of verbal warnings, written warnings and default notices as well as deducting monthly payment of service charge. The inspections may be performed by staff at the rank of Senior Health Inspector, Health Inspector, Overseer, Senior Foreman, Foreman, Senior Hawker Control Officer and Assistant Hawker Control Officer.