

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)152

(Question Serial No. 1200)

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 training of rodent control staff by the Government, please advise this Committee of the following:

1. the expenditure and manpower for training rodent control staff in the past three years;
2. whether any assessment has been made on the training provided; if yes, the details; if not, the reason(s); and
3. the expenditure for training rodent control staff in the coming year; whether consideration will be made to allocate additional manpower and resources for the training programme for rodent control staff (if yes, the details; if not, the reason(s)).

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (Member Question No. 50)

Reply:

1. Rodent control is included in the pest control training programme provided to health inspectorate and foremen grade staff of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) in induction training and refresher training courses. To keep abreast of the latest development of rodent control, our staff have attended international pest control conferences organized by the National Pest Management Association of U.S.A., the Confederation of European Pest Control Associations, Federation of Asian and Oceania Pest Managers Associations, etc. A total of 8 departmental staff are involved in the provision of training on pest control as well as other duties. There is no separate breakdown on the expenditure relating to training for rodent control staff.
2. Upon completion of the training sessions, attendees are required to evaluate the training programmes to provide feedback to ensure that they are relevant and effective. The Training Section of the Department also holds annual "Liaison Group Meeting" with grade management and district staff, and visits district offices on a regular basis to solicit the views of staff concerned. The feedback received has been positive.

3. The Department does not compile statistics on the expenditure specifically for training rodent control staff in 2017-18 as the trainers are also responsible for other training programmes. We will continue to monitor the training needs and adjust the manpower and resources if necessary.

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