Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2017-18

Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)349

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3475)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

<u>Director of Bureau</u>: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The number of inspections to food premises has increased for 2 consecutive years, notably with an increase of 8 121 inspections in 2016. Please advise whether the Department has earmarked adequate resources, including manpower, to meet the demand in 2017. If yes, please provide details including the manpower and resources required; if not, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (Member Question No. 74)

Reply:

At present, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) deploys about 290 health inspectors to 19 district environmental hygiene offices across the territory to handle various environmental hygiene issues including, inter alia, the inspection and regulatory control of licensed food premises. The Department will keep under review the service requirements and suitably deploy manpower and resources to meet relevant operational needs. The Department does not keep separate statistics on the manpower and resources involved in the inspection of food premises.