

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)182

(Question Serial No. 1564)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses
Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health
(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:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has announced that the overall rodent infestation rate in the second half of 2017 was 3.5%, slightly lower than that in 2016 (4%). With regard to prevention and control of rodents in Hong Kong, please advise this Committee of the following:

1. the staff expenditure incurred by the Department in providing training on pest control;
2. the assessment which has been made on the training provided;
3. the expenditure involved in rodent control in various districts.

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 31)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows –

1. Training on pest control has been provided to health inspectorate and foreman 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 pest control, our staff attend international pest control conferences. For example, in 2017-18, our staff attended conferences organised by the Federation of Asian and Oceania Pest Managers Associations and International Conference on Urban Pests. There is no separate breakdown on the staff expenditure relating to training on pest control as the trainers are also responsible for other training programmes.
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 revised estimate of expenditure on rodent control work for 2017-18 is \$172.6 million. The Department does not keep a breakdown by district of the expenditure involved in rodent control work.

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