

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)187****(Question Serial No. 2351)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expensesProgramme: (-) Not specifiedControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

With regard to the outsourced cleansing services of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, please advise this Committee of the following:

1. the savings achieved by the Department for the Government each year;
2. the number of outsourced service contracts awarded by the Department each year; and
3. the number of non-skilled workers employed by the contractors of the Department each year.

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 35)Reply:

1. We have not quantified the “savings” achieved by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) through outsourcing. The main reasons for outsourcing are to enhance flexibility in responding to changing service needs by the community as well as to enable the Department to focus on tasks which must be discharged by the Government, e.g. reviewing the regulatory arrangements and enforcement, etc.

2. & 3. The information sought for the past 3 years is provided as follows –

	2015-16 (as at 31.3.2016)	2016-17 (as at 31.3.2017)	2017-18 (as at 31.12.2017)
No. of outsourced cleansing service contracts	108	112	111
No. of non-skilled workers	8 875	8 828	9 217

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