

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)189

(Question Serial No. 3295)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (-) Not specified
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the provision of sign language interpretation services in the past 5 years, please advise this Committee of the following:

1. whether sign language interpretation services have been provided; if yes, the frequency, occasions and causes for providing the services in each year;
2. further to the previous question, the number of sign language interpreters involved in each year, their pay and the organisations to which they belong, as well as the total expenditure involved in each year; and
3. whether the allocation of more resources to improve the services for communicating with the deaf and/or persons with hearing impairment will be considered in future; if yes, the details (including measures, manpower and expenditure to be involved, timetable, etc.); if not, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 68)

Reply:

For the past 5 years, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) provided sign language interpretation service on 1 occasion in 2017 for a meeting with a person with hearing impairment. The service of 1 sign language interpreter from the Hong Kong Society for the Deaf was hired for 2 hours at an hourly rate of about \$300.

The Department will continue to provide the services on a need basis.

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