

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FHB(FE)199**

**(Question Serial No. 0977)**

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:

Reduction in the two indicators “vehicles carrying poultry inspected at Man Kam To” and “samples taken from imported live poultry for testing of avian influenza” set by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department was due to the fact that the number of imported live food poultry decreased during the year. Please advise on the impact of this development on the actual expenditure for 2017-18 and the estimated expenditure for 2018-19. In case of a rebound in the number of imported live food poultry in 2018-19, what measures will be taken by the Department to cope with the change?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 19)

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) will conduct surveillance on Avian Influenza (AI) and inspection of imported live food poultry when importation of live poultry is resumed. CFS has secured sufficient resources for such activities in the coming year. CFS's revised estimate in 2017-18 and the provision earmarked for 2018-19 for surveillance of AI are \$8.9 million and \$11.5 million respectively. Where the need arises, the Food and Health Bureau and the Department will redeploy resources from within to meet the requirement.

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