

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FHB(FE)206**

**(Question Serial No. 1135)**

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:

In 2019-20, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will continue to review and update local food safety standards, guidelines and regulatory arrangements. Please advise on:

1. the details of work, the indicators and the expenditure involved; and
2. whether the Department will consult relevant stakeholders of the food trade and make reference to the standards of other places.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 37)

Reply:

The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) and the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department have been closely monitoring the international developments and measures relating to safeguarding food safety, including making reference to the food safety standards of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and other economies, as well as taking into account the local dietary practice and risk assessment results, to timely update the local food safety standards and regulatory arrangements on the basis of scientific evidence. Upon completion of the legislative amendments to the Food Adulteration (Metallic Contamination) Regulations last year, CFS has been working on proposals to update the regulatory regime of harmful substances in food, including mycotoxins and trans fat. FHB and CFS plan to conduct public consultation on the proposals in 2019-20.

As updating food safety standards and regulatory arrangements is part and parcel of the work of CFS, we do not have breakdown on the manpower and resources used specifically in this area of work.

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