

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)361

(Question Serial No. 6986)

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:

What are the meal break arrangements for workers employed by the outsourced service contractors of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department? Are these workers entitled to meal breaks and paid meal breaks? Does the Department provide meal-taking facilities for the non-skilled outsourced workers? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 7714)

Reply:

According to the contract terms of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) service contracts, there is a meal break of 1 hour for the non-skilled workers employed by contractors for any work shift of 8 hours or longer. Given that the services are properly provided, the Department allows the non-skilled workers working in work shifts of less than 8 hours to take refreshments at their work sites at appropriate time during their working hours. Whether non-skilled workers are paid for meal breaks or not depend on the mutual agreement between the contractors and non-skilled workers.

For the provision of public cleansing services, the contractors' non-skilled workers can use attendant rooms, roll call points or other appropriate places for having meals when circumstances permit.

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