

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)128

(Question Serial No. 2045)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is mentioned in the Estimates that the Department will “continue to explore and apply new technology and automation to enhance environmental hygiene services and strengthen related enforcement and prosecution work”. How many cameras have been installed for the purpose of monitoring illegal deposits of refuse? How many cases resulted in successful prosecution with the footage captured by cameras in 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 respectively? What resources will be allocated to take forward the above work in the coming year? How many cameras does the Department aim to install for monitoring environmental hygiene blackspots?

Asked by: Hon OR Chong-shing, Wilson (LegCo internal reference no.: 20)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department launched the scheme on installation of Internet Protocol (IP) cameras in June 2018 to curb illegal deposits of refuse in various districts. As District Councils (DCs) reflected that significant improvement on the hygiene condition of relevant illegal refuse deposit spots was noticed after implementation of the scheme, the Department has, after consulting the DCs, extended the scheme for 2 years from August 2019. Cameras have been installed at priority locations proposed by the DCs with a view to stepping up efforts to combat illegal deposits of refuse. So far the Department has installed IP cameras at over 150 illegal refuse deposit spots across the territory, and the number will progressively increase to over 300. The estimated annual expenditure is about \$16 million.

In 2018-19 and 2019-20 (as at February), the Department issued 505 and 559 summonses respectively to owners of the vehicles used for illegal deposits of refuse based on the footage captured.

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