

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)157

(Question Serial No. 2542)

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:

1. It is mentioned that one of the reasons for the increased provision under this Programme is the setting up of additional dedicated enforcement teams. Please provide the manpower establishment of the teams and the estimated expenditure in 2020-21.
2. How will the dedicated teams strengthen the handling of water seepage complaints?

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (LegCo internal reference no.: 22)

Reply:

1. In 2020-21, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will set up 5 additional dedicated enforcement teams (each comprising 5 officers) to step up enforcement action against various public cleanliness offences and promote environmental hygiene through public education and publicity campaigns. The estimated expenditure is about \$8.2 million.
2. Regarding the handling of water seepage complaints, the Joint Office (JO) formed by the Department and the Buildings Department has set up a task force to review the investigation procedures of water seepage in buildings, so as to enhance the effectiveness of investigation. The work of the task force involves, among others, studying the application of new testing technologies in water seepage investigation, such as microwave tomography and infrared thermography, in order to shorten the time required and improve the success rate of identifying the sources of water seepage. The task force will also coordinate the establishment of four regional joint offices in Hong Kong, Kowloon, the New Territories East and New Territories West to enable JO staff to work in the same office with a view to increasing overall work efficiency.

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