

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)151

(Question Serial No. 2393)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

According to the Controlling Officer's Report, the actual figures for the refuse collected and the recurrent expenditure per tonne of refuse collected in 2020 were both higher than those in 2019. However, the estimate for the refuse collected in 2021 is not as high as the actual figure for 2020. How did the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department make the estimate? How can it be ensured that the recurrent expenditure per tonne of refuse collected in 2021 will be lower than the actual cost in 2020?

Asked by: Hon OR Chong-shing, Wilson (LegCo internal reference no.: 21)

Reply:

The recurrent expenditure per tonne of refuse collected is calculated by dividing the recurrent expenditure on refuse collection by the amount of refuse collected (tonnes). According to the projection of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, the estimate for the refuse collected (tonnes) in 2021 is close to the amount in 2020, while the estimated overall recurrent expenditure on refuse collection is lower as compared to 2020 (mainly due to a lower apportionment ratio of departmental administration cost). Therefore, there is a decrease in the recurrent expenditure per tonne of refuse collected. The Department will continue to review the demand for refuse collection service and endeavour to control the expenditure with a view to providing the public with environmental hygiene services in a cost-effective manner.

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