

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**EEB(F)066**

**(Question Serial No. 1836)**

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 (Ms Irene YOUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Environment and Ecology

Question:

It is mentioned in the Estimates that the work of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department includes “abating environmental nuisances relating to dripping air-conditioners and water seepage”. The Joint Offices for Investigation of Water Seepage Complaints (JO) of the Department and Buildings Department are responsible for investigating water seepage cases in buildings. In this connection, please advise this Committee of:

1. the staffing establishment and operating expenditure of JO in each of the past 3 years; and
2. the number of cases in which Nuisance Notices were issued by JO to the owner of the premises causing water seepage problem in each of the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hoi-yun (LegCo internal reference no.: 25)

Reply:

The information sought is as follows:

1. The staffing establishment and expenditure of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) and the Buildings Department (BD) in connection with the operation of the Joint Offices for Investigation of Water Seepage Complaints (JO) in each of the past 3 years are provided as follows:

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
<b>FEHD</b>			
Number of investigation and coordinating staff	241	250	252
Staff costs and departmental expenses (\$ million)	180.5	202.6	192.1 (Revised estimate)

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
<b>BD</b>			
Number of professional and technical staff	82	82	82
Staff costs and departmental expenses (\$ million)	66.1	64.9	67.5 (Revised estimate)
Expenditure for engaging outsourced consultants (\$ million)	37.9	47.4	38.6 (Revised estimate)

2. In 2020, 2021 and 2022, the numbers of cases in which Nuisance Notices were issued by JO to the owner of the premises causing water seepage problem were 5 926, 5 281 and 4 587 respectively.

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