

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

EEB(F)123

(Question Serial No. 0585)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health
(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:

With regard to the Government's on-going efforts on tackling hygiene blackspots, please advise this Committee of the following:

1. What are the specific indicators for reviewing the effectiveness of the programme on tackling hygiene blackspots?
2. What are the staffing establishment and expenditure involved in implementing the programme?
3. Has the Department deployed or recruited additional manpower to implement the programme? If yes, please set out the respective ranks and number of staff, additional expenditure involved as well as the existing vacancies.
4. Please provide the expenditure allocated to the publicity and educational work of the programme as well as the anticipated expenditure to be allocated for the coming year?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Man-kwong (LegCo internal reference no.: 21)

Reply:

1. Established by the Chief Executive in July 2022 and led by the Deputy Chief Secretary for Administration, the District Matters Co-ordination Task Force (Task Force) steers efforts of various bureaux and departments to enhance the overall environmental hygiene and cityscape in Hong Kong. Under the Government Programme on Tackling Hygiene Black Spots launched by the Task Force in mid-August 2022, all relevant departments, including the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, have made vigorous efforts to clean up hygiene and street management blackspots in order to safeguard public health, build a liveable environment for citizens and boost the city image of Hong Kong. Several performance indicators were set for the work of the Task Force in the Chief Executive's 2022 Policy Address, including removing

at least 75% of some 600 environmental hygiene blackspots identified by various departments by end-2023.

- 2.&3. The resources involved in the Programme will be absorbed by internal deployment of the relevant departments. The Department does not keep any information on the manpower and expenditure involved in the Programme.
4. The Department is committed to raising public awareness of environmental hygiene by public education and publicity through various channels. As part of the regular duties of the Department, the publicity and educational work is carried out through internal deployment of resources and manpower as appropriate. The Department does not keep any information on the expenditure on the publicity and educational work of the Programme.

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