Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)032

Question Serial No.

0536

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the vehicles carrying poultry inspected at Man Kam To, please advise on why the number for each recent year represents a significant decrease over the preceding year.

Asked by: Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply:

The number of vehicles carrying live poultry inspected at Man Kam To is dependent on the number of live poultry supplied from the Mainland. The usual daily import limit on live chickens came down from 20 000 in January 2007 to the current 7 000 chickens. In addition, there were two suspensions on importation of Mainland poultry in 2008 due to two separate outbreaks of avian influenza in Hong Kong. These factors reduced the number of vehicles needed to carry live poultry into Hong Kong and hence the number of inspections on them.

Signature	
Name in block letters	W H CHEUK
	Director of
Post Title	Food and Environmental Hygiene
Date	17 3 2009