

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

FHB(FE)096

Question Serial No.

Head : 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

1571

Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer : Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Food and Health

Question :

Regarding the issue of harmful food products from the Mainland, please advise on the specific measures for tracing the source of such products as well as the expenditure and manpower involved in 2009-10.

Asked by : Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply :

When samples are tested unsatisfactory, the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) will trace the source of the implicated food based on available information including invoices and health certificates. If the food is found to be imported, CFS will contact the relevant food authorities for investigation and other follow up actions.

A financial provision of \$142.6 million has been earmarked for food surveillance at import, wholesale and retail levels (\$53.8 million) and import control (\$88.8 million) from all sources in 2009-10. The manpower establishment of CFS in carrying out the above work is 280, including health inspectors, administration and supporting staff. The resources and manpower involved in source tracing of problem food alone cannot be separately identified.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ W H CHEUK

Post Title _____ Director of
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date _____ 17.3.2009