

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****EEB(F)058****(Question Serial No. 0282)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (1) Food Safety and Public HealthControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Donald NG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Environment and EcologyQuestion:

Last year, the number of poisonous baiting points inspected and/or serviced was 3 410 366. Please advise this Committee of:

1. the numbers of in-house staff and outsourced contractor staff engaged in the relevant work;
2. the expenditure involved last year and the estimated expenditure for this year in respect of the full adoption of thermal imaging cameras with artificial intelligence technology for conducting the Rodent Activity Survey by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department since last year;
3. the priority rodent blackspots in Hong Kong according to last year's statistics of the Government, and the blackspots eliminated (please set out the information with a breakdown by District Council district and location); and
4. the details and the estimated expenditure for the trial use of new rodent control technologies and tools as mentioned under Matters Requiring Special Attention in this Programme.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 34)Reply:

1. The staffing involved in pest control work, including rodent and mosquito prevention and control, of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in 2024 is provided as follows:

Year	Civil service staffing		Total number of staff employed by pest control service contractors
	Planning and implementation of pest control work in districts	Vector surveillance, technical support and advisory work	
2024	745	109	1 573

2. From 2024 onwards, the Department has fully adopted thermal imaging cameras with artificial intelligence technology for conducting the Rodent Activity Survey (RAS).

The Department has engaged outsourced contractors for installing and operating thermal imaging cameras as well as using artificial intelligence to help analyse the thermal images captured. The expenditure involved in 2024-25 was about \$12.67 million and the estimated expenditure for 2025-26 is about \$5.91 million.

3. In 2024, the Department conducted strategic anti-rodent operations at a total of 97 priority rodent blackspots in all districts and eliminated around 65% of the priority rodent blackspots (63 in total), achieving the indicator of reducing the number of priority rodent blackspots by 60% as set in the 2023 Policy Address. The 97 priority rodent blackspots (including the eliminated blackspots and the remaining ones) in 2024, with a breakdown by District Council district, are set out in **Annex**.
4. In 2024-25, the rodent control technologies and tools adopted by the Department, their effectiveness and the expenditure involved are as follows:

<b>Rodent control technology and tool</b>	<b>Effectiveness</b>	<b>Expenditure in 2024-25</b>
<b>Thermal imaging camera surveillance system</b>	The Department conducted trials on thermal imaging cameras with artificial intelligence analytical function in 2020 and found it effective in facilitating objective assessment of rodent infestation situation. The Department has fully adopted thermal imaging cameras for conducting the RAS as a replacement for the Rodent Infestation Survey from 2024 onwards to enhance rodent surveillance in districts and deploy more effective anti-rodent actions at locations where the rodent problem is more serious.	About \$12.67 million
<b>Placing poisonous baits in a T-shaped bait box</b>	The bait box was tested between October and November 2020. Test results showed that the T-shaped bait box was more effective than ordinary rectangular bait boxes in attracting rodents to enter and consume the baits. The equipment has been widely employed.	About \$130,000
<b>Alcohol rodent trapping device</b>	The Department has conducted trials progressively on alcohol rodent trapping devices in public markets and refuse collection points since October 2022. The results are positive. The equipment will be used in suitable places as necessary.	About \$1.7 million

The Department will continue to keep track of the rodent control technologies and tools in the market and introduce them for use at locations with more active rodent activities when appropriate.

**Priority rodent blackspots in 2024 (Total: 97)**Eliminated blackspots (Total: 63)

<b>District</b>	<b>Location</b>
Central and Western	Side lane of 352-366 Des Voeux Road West
	Rear lane of 370-392 Des Voeux Road West
	Rear lane of 2-18 Tai Ping Shan Street
Wan Chai	3 Lau Sin Street and Lau Sin Street Temporary Sitting-out Area, Wan Chai
	Refuse collection point at Mercury Street
	Rear lane of 28-62 Yee Wo Street
Eastern	Rear lane of 188-210 Shau Kei Wan Road
Southern	Rear lane of 1-23 Tung Sing Road
Islands	Rear lane between 21 and 23 Chung Hing Street
	95-100 Yung Shue Wan Main Street, Lamma Island
	29-30 Cheung Shek Road, Cheung Chau
Yau Tsim Mong	Rear lane of 29-39F Battery Street
	Rear lane of 8-38 Kwun Chung Street
	Rear lane of 5-25 Kwun Chung Street
	Rear lane of 45-67 Shanghai Street
	Rear lane of 26-50 Tung Choi Street
	Rear lane of 60-72 Fa Yuen Street
Sham Shui Po	Rear lane of 253-277 Shun Ning Road
	Rear lane of 261-303 Castle Peak Road
	253-275 Tai Nan Street
	Rear lane of 1-19 Cheung Sha Wan Road
Kowloon City	46-82 Pau Chung Street
	Rear lane of 2-44 Pau Chung Street
	Rear lane of 34-56 Kowloon City Road
	28-50 Tam Kung Road
	Rear lane of 93-107 Ma Tau Chung Road
	Rear lane of 4-46 Maidstone Road
Wong Tai Sin	Rear lane of 26-52 Yan Oi Street
	Rear lane of 63-89 Shung Ling Street
	Rear lane of 1-35 Kam Wing Street
	Tai Shing Street Market
Kwun Tong	Rear lane of 9-27 Yee On Street (Yau Lee Building)
	Side lane of 7 and 9 Yee On Street
	Rear lane of 418-426 Kwun Tong Road
	Rear lane of 1-5 Horse Shoe Lane
	Junction of Lam Lok Street and Wang Kwun Road
	Yau Hong Street
Kwai Tsing	Side lane of 35-43 Texaco Road (Tak Tai Building)
	Rear lane of 5-17 Tai Ha Street
	Rear lane of 21 Kwong Fai Circuit

<b>District</b>	<b>Location</b>
Tsuen Wan	Rear lane of 24-38 Hau Tei Square
	Rear lane of 25-33 Chung On Street
	Rear lane of 55-89 Chuen Lung Street and rear lane of 237-253 Sha Tsui Road
	Rear lane of 120-160 Tsuen Wan Market Street
	Rear lane of 127-181 Yeung Uk Road
Tuen Mun	Rear lane of 7 Kai Fat Path
	Rear lane of 3 and 49 Kai Man Path
	Rear lane of Kam On Shopping Centre (Tsing Shan Square)
Yuen Long	Rear lane of 2-36 Tai Pei Tau Path
	11 Tai Tong Road to 34 Fau Tsoi Street
	Rear lane of Yuen Long On Hing Street (between On Tai Building and On Hong Building)
	Rear lane of 14-28 Yuen Long Pau Cheung Square
North	Rear lane of 2-28 San Lok Street
	Rear lane of 17-35 Luen Hing Street
	Rear lane of 25-53 Luen On Street
	Rear lane of 53-63 Luen Wo Road
Tai Po	Rear lane of 1-51 Fu Shin Street
	Rear lane of 1-15 Tung Mau Square
	Rear lane of 1-15 Tung Sau Square
Sha Tin	Rear lane of House No. 143 and 150, Sheung Keng Hau Village
	Rear lane of House No. 52A and 81, Sheung Keng Hau Village
Sai Kung	Rear lane of 22-32 Man Nin Street
	Rear lane of 23E Tak Lung Back Street

Remaining blackspots (Total: 34)

<b>District</b>	<b>Location</b>
Central and Western	Rear lane of 20-30 Tai Ping Shan Street
Wan Chai	Rear lane of 1-31 Sing Woo Road
	Rear lane of 87-139 Hennessy Road
	Rear lane of 2-42 Yik Yam Street
Eastern	Rear lane of 2-8 Po Man Street
	Rear lane of 18-28 Factory Street
Southern	Side lane between 1-3 and 5 Yue Ko Street
	Rear lane of 15-21 Tsung Man Street
Yau Tsim Mong	Rear lane of 25-55 Tong Mi Road
	Rear lane of 64-90 Oak Street
	Rear lane of 1-29 Pine Street
	Rear lane of 2-16 Pine Street
Sham Shui Po	Rear lane of 218-256 Yu Chau Street
	Rear lane of 93B-117 Fuk Wa Street
	Rear lane of 235-259 Apliu Street
	Rear lane of 359-391 Ki Lung Street
Kowloon City	Rear lane of 116-148 Tam Kung Road
	8-20 Pak Kung Street and rear lane of 436-450 Chatham Road North
Wong Tai Sin	Rear lane of 12-14 Yuk Wah Crescent
	Rear lane of 35-65 Wan Fung Street
Kwun Tong	Side lane of 74-76 Hong Ning Road and rear lane of 7-31 Shung Yan Street
Kwai Tsing	Rear lane of 109-125 Wo Tong Tsui Street
	Rear lane of 27-39 Kwong Fai Circuit
Tsuen Wan	Rear lane of 37-53 Chung On Street, Tai Pei Square
	Rear lane of 6-40 Shiu Wo Street
	Rear lane of 36-56 Fui Yiu Kok Street
Tuen Mun	Rear lane of Tuen King Building (Tsing Wu Square)
Yuen Long	Rear lane of 104-146 Kau Yuk Road (from Wing Hing Building to Hing Yip Building)
	Rear lane of 63-79 Yuen Long On Ning Road (from Tai Lee Building to Fook On Building)
	Rear lane of 99-127 Castle Peak Road - Yuen Long
Sha Tin	Rear lane of 41-69 Tsuen Nam Road
	Rear lane of 2-24 Chik Shun Street
	Rear lane of 31-71 Chik Fu Street
Sai Kung	Rear lane of 1-15 Sha Tsui Path