

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)063

Question Serial No.

1473

Head : 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Food and Health

Question :

With regard to taking forward plans to provide more crematoria and columbaria facilities, please advise on:

- a. the details of the plans;
- b. the estimated expenditure required; and
- c. the estimated time when additional crematoria and columbaria facilities will fall short of the demand.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

The information sought is provided as follows –

- (a) The Department is planning to re-build the Wo Hop Shek Crematorium and the Cape Collinson Crematorium to provide for eight and 10 new cremators respectively. For columbarium facilities, the construction of 3 200 niches in the Kwai Chung Columbarium and another 18 500 in the Diamond Hill Columbarium are due for completion in 2008 – 09. We also plan to build new columbarium facilities providing for some 30 000 niches and a Garden of Remembrance in the Wo Hop Shek Cemetery for completion by around 2012.
- (b) For the two projects that are due for completion in 2008 – 09, the construction of 3 200 niches in the Kwai Chung Columbarium and another 18 500 in the Diamond Hill Columbarium will cost \$14.8 million and \$113.6 million respectively. The details and expenditure regarding the projects under planning are being worked out.

- (c) It is estimated that the additional crematorium facilities will fall short of the demand by around 2025 whereas the supply of new niches will likely be taken up by accumulated demand once available.

Signature _____

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 25.3.2008