

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

FHB(FE)036

Question Serial No.

0146

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:

It is stated that the Department will "take forward plans and projects to provide more crematorium and columbarium facilities". Please provide information on the following:

- (a) the details of the plans and an estimate of the services to be provided;
- (b) whether sites for developing new crematoria and columbaria have been identified; if yes, the details of the sites; and
- (c) the estimated expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows-

(a) & (c) The Wo Hop Shek Crematorium is being reprovisioned at an estimated cost of \$686.3 million for constructing six cremators and other ancillary facilities. Works has commenced since July 2009 for completion in end 2011 / early 2012. The Cape Collinson Crematorium will also be reprovisioned at an estimated cost of \$696.3 million to provide for ten new cremators and other ancillary facilities. Works has commenced since June 2010 for completion in two phases in 2012 and late 2014 respectively. With the completion of these two reprovisioning projects, the number of scheduled cremation sessions per annum will be increased by 31.3% from 40 200 in 2010 to 52 800.

In addition, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) is constructing a new public columbarium with about 41 000 niches and a Garden of Remembrance in the Wo Hop Shek Cemetery, at an estimated cost of \$629.5 million, for completion in mid 2012.

(b) FEHD is upgrading public cremators by phases to increase their handling capacity. To increase the supply of public niches, the Administration has been promoting the district-based columbarium development scheme and, in 2010, released 17 potential sites across 12 districts for building public columbarium facilities. The Administration is conducting feasibility studies on these sites and will continue to identify suitable sites in the remaining six districts. The relevant District Council will be consulted before sites are confirmed for development.

Signature _____

Name in block letters CLEMENT LEUNG

Post Title Director of
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 16.3.2011