Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)144

Question Serial No.

3508

Head: 49 Food and Environmental

Hygiene Department

<u>Programme</u>: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

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

<u>Director of Bureau</u>: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the number of public columbaria as well as the supply and availability of and demand for niches in various District Council districts.

Subhead (No. & title):

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows –

District	Name of Columbaria	Total no. of niches	No. of niches for re-allocation	No. of unallocated niches	No. of applicants on the waiting list for re-allocated niches
Eastern	Cape Collinson	61 615	19	-	3 425
Wong Tai Sin	Diamond Hill	61 811	18	-	7 823
North	Wo Hop Shek	22 290	12	-	2 226
Sha Tin	Fu Shan	9 625	6	-	773
Kwai Tsing	Kwai Chung	9 276	10	-	3 039
	Cheung Chau	2 335	3	172	-
Islands	Lamma	490	5	424	-
	Peng Chau	490	2	194	-
	Total:	167 932	75	790	

Besides, the construction of a new public columbarium with 43 710 niches and a Garden of Remembrance in the Wo Hop Shek Cemetery is underway for completion in mid 2012. To increase the supply of public niches, the Administration has been promoting the district-based columbarium development scheme and has

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identified 24 potential sites in 18 districts in Hong Kong for columbarium development. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will complete 1 540 new niches in the Diamond Hill Columbarium in early 2012, and 990 new niches in the Cheung Chau Cemetery in late 2013. The Administration is conducting feasibility studies on the remaining sites and will consult the relevant District Councils before the sites are confirmed for development.

	Signature
Clement LEUNG	Name in block letters
Director of	Dog Title
Food and Environmental Hygiene 1.3.2012	Post Title Date