

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

**FHB(FE)203**

Question Serial No.

3433

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:

Regarding the service provided by the Department for temporary storage of cremains pending allocation of niches, please advise on the capacity of service at present; and whether additional resources will be allocated to increase the service capacity in 2013-14 so that members of the public may deposit the cremains temporarily while waiting for the allocation of public or private niches; if yes, please give the details and estimated expenditure to be involved; if not, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) provides service for temporary storage of cremains in all its crematoria free of charge in the first two months following cremation. The duration may be extended upon application at a monthly fee of \$250 and the cremains are stored in the Kwai Chung Crematorium. Paying respect to the deceased at the temporary storage facilities is not allowed. The Department does not keep separate breakdown of the expenditure involved in operating these facilities.

At present, there is no waiting list for the service. The Department will closely monitor the situation and consider the need for more temporary storage facilities as necessary.

Name in block letters: Clement LEUNG

Post Title: Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date: 28.3.2013