Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2013-14

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)214

Question Serial No.

5326

<u>Head:</u> 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene <u>Subhead (No. & title):</u>

Department

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

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

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

Question:

Please advise on the number of new public columbaria provided in the past five years (i.e. from 2008-09 to 2012-13), the distribution and number of new niches, as well as the expenditure incurred. Please also advise on the estimated expenditure for constructing public columbaria in 2013-14, the number of new niches to be provided and their distribution.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply:

Details about the public columbarium facilities completed from 2008-09 to 2012-13 are set out as follows -

| Location | Number of Niches | Approved Project Estimate (\$ million) | Year of Completion |
|-----------------------------|------------------|--|--------------------|
| Kwai Chung Columbarium | 3 374 | 14.80 | 2008-09 |
| Diamond Hill Columbarium | 18 501 | 113.60 | 2008-09 |
| | 1 540 | 0.76 | 2012-13 |
| Wo Hop Shek Cemetery | 43 710 | 629.50 | 2012-13 |

We have earmarked \$4.80 million for constructing 1 000 niches at the Cheung Chau Cemetery in 2013-14 whilst \$8.00 million is expected to be spent on the detailed design and site investigation of site formation and associated infrastructural works for the development of columbarium, crematorium and related facilities at the Sandy Ridge Cemetery. The Sandy Ridge project will provide 200 000 new niches in due course.

| Name in block letters: | Clement LEUNG | | |
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| | Director of | | |
| Post Title: | Food and Environmental Hygiene | | |
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| Date: | 5.4.2013 | | |