

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

**FHB(FE)231**

Question Serial No.

4252

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 the work of “managing cremation and burial facilities, including public cemeteries, crematoria and columbaria”, please advise on:

- (a) the number of allocated and unallocated burial spaces at each public cemetery as well as the number of applicants on the waiting list at present; and
- (b) the total number of niches, the number of allocated niches, the number of niches for re-allocation, the number of unallocated niches, and the number of applicants on the waiting list at each public columbarium at present.

Asked by: Hon. Wong Kwok-hing

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

- (a) The number of allocated and unallocated burial spaces at each public cemetery as at 31 December 2012 was as follows -

Name of Cemetery	No. of coffin burial spaces			No. of urn burial spaces		
	Allocated	Unallocated	Total	Allocated	Unallocated	Total
Wo Hop Shek	5 873	3 485	9 358	83 240	29 976	113 216
Sandy Ridge	3 183	1 827	5 010	31 785	6 076	37 861
Cheung Chau	627	633	1 260	12 104	1 358	13 462
Tai O	104	316	420	97	177	274
Lai Chi Yuen	153	123	276	215	117	332
Diamond Hill Urn Cemetery	-	-	-	52 765	-	52 765
<b>Total:</b>	<b>9 940</b>	<b>6 384</b>	<b>16 324</b>	<b>180 206</b>	<b>37 704</b>	<b>217 910</b>

There is no waiting list as unallocated burial spaces are still available.

- (b) As at 31 December 2012, the total number of niches in public columbaria, the number of niches allocated, the number of niches available for re-allocation, the number of applicants on the waiting list for re-allocated niches, and the number of new niches available for allocation were given below:

Name of Columbaria	Total no. of niches	No. of niches allocated	Re-allocated niches		No. of new niches available for allocation (Note)
			No. of niches available for re-allocation	No. of applicants on the waiting list	
Cape Collinson	61 615	61 600	15	4 221	0
Diamond Hill	63 351	62 352	19	10 149	980
Wo Hop Shek	66 000	23 341	1	3 157	42 658
Fu Shan	9 625	9 622	3	972	0
Kwai Chung	9 276	9 276	0	3 950	0
Cheung Chau	2 335	2 315	0	0	20
Lamma	490	70	4	0	416
Peng Chau	490	316	2	0	172
<b>Total:</b>	<b>213 182</b>	<b>168 892</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>22 449</b>	<b>44 246</b>

Note: New niches are allocated through computer balloting, rather than by reference to a waiting list.

Name in block letters: Clement LEUNG

Director of  
Post Title: Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date: 28.3.2013