

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FHB(FE)222**

**(Question Serial No. 3530)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the average, longest and shortest waiting time for a public niche.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (Member Question No. 61)

Reply:

At present, as and when new niches in public columbaria are available for allocation, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will invite applications from members of the public. New niches are allocated through computer balloting. There is no waiting list for allocation of new niches.

For re-allocated niches, a waiting list is available for each columbarium. As at December 2014, the shortest and longest waiting time was one month (for Cheung Chau columbarium) and 82 months (for Wo Hop Shek columbarium) respectively. The average waiting time for the re-allocated niches in the eight public columbaria was 54 months.

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