

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)295

(Question Serial No. 7068)

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 number of new public columbarium facilities built, their locations and the number of new niches they provided, as well as the expenditure incurred in the past five years. Please also advise on the estimated expenditure for constructing public columbaria, as well as the number and locations of new niches to be provided, in the coming year.

Asked by: Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung (Member Question No. 624)

Reply:

Details about the public columbarium facilities completed from 2011-12 to 2015-16 are as follows –

Location	Number of Niches	Year of Completion	Expenditure (\$ million)
Diamond Hill Columbarium	1 540	2012-13	0.51
Wo Hop Shek Kiu Tau Road Columbarium Phase V	43 710	2012-13	629.50
Cheung Chau Cemetery	1 000	2013-14	2.70

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has obtained funding approval from the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council in 2015 for the construction of 160 000 niches at Tsang Tsui at an estimated cost of \$2.87 billion (including costs for site formation, construction cost of the columbarium buildings, etc.). The construction works are scheduled for completion in 2019.

As regards new projects in the pipeline, the Department has already consulted and obtained the in-principle support of the relevant District Councils on the construction of 855 niches at Wong Nai Chung Road, 20 000 niches at Tsing Tsuen Road, 200 000 niches at Sandy Ridge Cemetery, 25 000 niches at Chai Wan and 44 000 niches at Wo Hop Shek (Phase I). The

next step is to proceed with the conceptual/detailed design, as applicable, of the relevant projects, and to seek funding approval for commencing site formation or construction works. The estimated cost for developing the new columbarium facilities can only be ascertained upon finalisation of design details.

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