



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部食物及衛生局
Food and Health Bureau, Government Secretariat
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
The People's Republic of China

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Dr Hon Helena WONG
Chairman, Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong
[Fax: 2854 2444]

Dear Chairman,

**LegCo Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene
Follow-up to Meeting on 19 December 2016**

**Site formation and associated infrastructural works for development of
columbarium at Sandy Ridge Cemetery**

When the captioned subject was discussed at the meeting of the Legislative Council ("LegCo") Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene ("the Panel") on 19 December 2016, Members enquired about (a) the total estimated expenditure for the entire Sandy Ridge project and the percentage share of the cost of the captioned project; and (b) the progress of the public columbarium development projects under the district-based columbarium development scheme. I write to provide the information sought by Members.

Total estimated expenditure for the entire Sandy Ridge project

2. The remaining part of the project **5758CL** covers the site formation and associated infrastructural works for development of the crematorium and related facilities at the Sandy Ridge Cemetery. As the scope of works for this remaining part is yet to be finalised, its project estimate is not available.

3. Similarly for the building works of the Sandy Ridge project, since the design works have not yet commenced, the scope of works for the relevant building works is yet to be finalised. The project estimate for the building works is hence also not available.

Public supply of niches

4. Under the district-based columbarium development scheme, a total of 24 potential sites have been identified in the 18 districts for columbarium development. Between the second quarter of 2011 and the end of 2016, we have consulted the relevant District Councils ("DCs") on the projects at 14 sites, and all DCs indicated support or no-objection to the projects.¹ These 14 projects, which would provide around 589 000 new niches in total, account for about two thirds of the total number of new niches available in all the 24 projects.

5. The progress of the 14 projects is detailed below –

- (a) the developments at the **Diamond Hill Columbarium** (about 1 540 new niches) and **Cheung Chau Cemetery** (about 1 000 new niches)² were completed in 2012 and 2013 respectively;
- (b) funding approval from LegCo was obtained in February 2013 for engaging consultants to undertake detailed design and site investigation works of the site formation and associated infrastructural works for the proposed columbarium and related developments at the **Sandy Ridge Cemetery**. As the detailed design and site

¹ The 14 sites are at Diamond Hill (Wong Tai Sin), Cheung Chau (Islands), Tsang Tsui (Tuen Mun), Tsing Tsuen Road (Kwai Tsing), Wo Hop Shek (Phase 1) (North), Sandy Ridge (North), Chai Wan (Eastern), Wong Nai Chung Road (Wan Chai), Shek Mun (Sha Tin), Kwai Chung (two sites) (Kwai Tsing), Lai Chi Yuen Cemetery (Islands) and Siu Ho Wan (two sites) (Tsuen Wan).

² An additional 1 250 niches will be developed at the site. See paragraph 5(e)(iii) below.

investigation works for the site formation and construction of associated roadworks and ancillary works for the development for the columbarium at Sandy Ridge Cemetery have been completed, we plan to seek funding approval from the Finance Committee after consultation with the Public Works Sub-committee (which was the subject of discussion at the Panel meeting on 19 December 2016) for carrying out the relevant construction works. For the building works on provision of the columbarium (providing about 200 000 new niches) as well as related facilities in the Sandy Ridge Cemetery, separate funding applications will be made in due course;

- (c) funding approval from LegCo was obtained for the **Tsang Tsui** project in July 2015 for the provision of about 160 000 new niches by 2019, and that for the **Wo Hop Shek (Phase 1)** project in June 2016 for the provision of about 44 000 new niches by 2019;
- (d) in March 2016, funding allocation was approved for the provision of 850 niches at the site at **Wong Nai Chung Road** by 2018; and
- (e) we have also obtained the support from the relevant DCs in respect of the following projects, for which we are following up on the necessary preparatory work for moving forward in due course –
 - (i) support from the Kwai Tsing DC on the provision of about 20 000 niches at the **Tsing Tsuen Road** site and about 68 500 niches at the **two sites at Kwai Chung**;
 - (ii) support from the Eastern DC on the provision of about 25 000 niches at the **Cape Collinson** site;
 - (iii) support from the Tourism, Agriculture, Fisheries and Environmental Hygiene Committee of the Islands DC on the provision of an additional 1 250 niches at the **Cheung Chau Cemetery extension** and about 780 niches at the **Mui Wo Lai Chi Yuen Cemetery extension**;
 - (iv) support from the Health and Environment Committee of the Sha Tin DC on the provision of about 40 000 niches at the site at **Shek Mun**; and

- (v) support from the Tsuen Wan DC on the provision of about 26 000 niches at the **two sites at Sham Shui Kok Drive, Siu Ho Wan.**

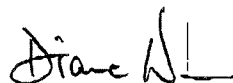
6. Apart from the projects named above, we will draw up the time line for taking forward the remaining projects³ in due course. They include the following –

District	Potential Site
Tai Po	A site at the southwestern corner of the Shuen Wan Ex-Landfill, near Tai Po Industrial Estate
Yuen Long	A site between San Tam Road and Mai Po Lung Road, San Tin
Yau Tsim Mong	Former school within Tin Hau Temple on Temple Street
North	Surplus coffin burial grounds and other land within the Wo Hop Shek Cemetery, namely (i) Phase 2 development and (ii) Phase 3 development
Sham Shui Po	A site north of Ching Cheung Road near the Roman Catholic Cemetery
Central and Western	A site at Mount Davis Road, east of Chiu Yuen Cemetery
Southern	A site adjoining the Chinese Christian Cemetery at Pok Fu Lam
Sai Kung	A site at Area 132, Tseung Kwan O, near the Tseung Kwan O Chinese Permanent Cemetery
Kowloon City	A vacant staff quarter (part thereof) inside a funeral parlour at 6 Cheong Hang Road, Hung Hom
Kwun Tong	A site next to the Ex-Ma Yau Tong Central Landfill Site

³ For the site at Fu Shan Columbarium extension in Sha Tin which was originally identified as one of the 24 potential sites for columbarium development, due to traffic constraints, the potential to develop a columbarium and the number of niches that could be provided at this site was lower than those at the Shek Mun site. As such, the Government has decided to use the site at Fu Shan for the reprovisioning of the Fu Shan Public Mortuary, while the site at Shek Mun would continue to be reserved for the purpose of columbarium development. We explained this latest position to the Health and Environment Committee of the Sha Tin DC on 10 March 2016.

7. In determining which project(s) should be taken forward ahead of others, we have taken into consideration circumstantial factors including known site constraints, funding availability and likely complexity of the works, etc.

Yours sincerely,



(Miss Diane WONG)
for Secretary for Food and Health

c.c.: All Members of Legislative Council

Clerk to Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene
(Attn: Ms Josephine SO)

Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene
(Attn: Mr CHIU Yu-chow)

Director of Civil Engineering and Development
(Attn: Mr Gabriel WOO)

Director of Architectural Services
(Attn: Mr Tony LEE)