



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

Our Ref : FHB/H/4/52

Tel No. : 3509 8957

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9 July 2018

Ms Doris LO  
Clerk to Public Works Subcommittee  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms LO,

**Public Works Subcommittee**  
**Reprovisioning of Fu Shan Public Mortuary (PWSC(2018-19)27)**

During the discussion on the project for the reprovisioning of the Fu Shan Public Mortuary at the meeting of the Legislative Council Public Works Subcommittee held on 27 July 2018, Members requested the Administration to provide supplementary information. Our response is set out in the Annex.

2. Members are invited to note the above information.

Yours sincerely,

(Miss Anita LO)

for Secretary for Food and Health

- cc. Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau  
(Attn: Treasury Officer (Works))  
Director of Health  
(Attn: Consultant Forensic Pathologist i/c, Assistant Director (Health Administration & Planning))  
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
(Attn: Superintendent (Cemeteries & Crematoria))

**(1) The Hon Chan Chi-chuen requested the Government to provide supplementary information on the security measures to be implemented at the reprovisioned Fu Shan Public Mortuary to prevent the loss of bodies or specimens.**

1. The security system of the reprovisioned Fu Shan Public Mortuary mainly consists of access control and closed circuit television surveillance (CCTV). CCTV camera will be installed at all main entrances, staircase exits, public waiting halls, lift lobbies, body loading/unloading areas and carpark of the mortuary. All the cold rooms for body storage are provided with round-the-clock CCTV monitoring. There will be security guard on duty round-the-clock. The room for keeping histopathology specimens adjoining the histopathology laboratory is located in a staff-only area that is accessible only by authorised personnel via access control system. Access record of staff will be kept and if required, the staff can retrieve the access record.

**(2) The Hon Wu Chi-wai requested the Government to provide supplementary information on the reason for the average number of days each body stored in Fu Shan Public Mortuary reaching 25.5 days (figure in 2017), and whether the length of storage of body is related to the insufficient provision of crematoria in Hong Kong.**

2. In general, Coroner's procedures for handling a deceased body (including medico-legal autopsy) will be completed in two to four working days after the body is received by the public mortuary. The length of storage of a body in the public mortuary is largely determined by the time when the body is claimed by the bereaved family for funeral arrangement.

3. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) manages six government Crematoria (at Cape Collinson in Hong Kong Island, Diamond Hill in Kowloon, Fu Shan, Kwai Chung, Wo Hop Shek and Cheung Chau in the New Territories) for provision of cremation service to the public. Of these six crematoria, there are a total of 32 cremators providing some 52 000 regular cremation sessions annually. On booking of cremation services, it is FEHD's performance pledge that "an applicant may book a cremation session within the next 15 days from the day of application". If all regular cremation sessions are fully booked, FEHD will arrange additional cremation sessions at designated crematoria as appropriate to meet additional service demand. In the past three years, all cremation service applications have achieved the above performance pledge.



**(3) The Hon Wilson Or Chong-shing requested the Government to provide supplementary information on the Government's plan for reprovisioning or expanding Kwai Chung Public Mortuary and Victoria Public Mortuary, including the reprovisioning or expansion timetable and local consultation arrangements.**

4. Apart from Fu Shan Public Mortuary, the Government is planning the reprovisioning of Victoria Public Mortuary (VPM). The Government plans to conduct local consultation on the reprovisioning plan as soon as possible. As for Kwai Chung Public Mortuary (KCPM), it has already met the current operational and environmental standards when it commenced operation in 2005 and provides 220 regular body storage spaces. The Department of Health does not consider it necessary to have plans for reprovisioning or expanding the KCPM at the moment.

Food and Health Bureau  
July 2018