

Our ref: FH/H/4/55 Pt. 1

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14 November 2007

Ms Mary So
Clerk to Panel
Panel on Health Services
Legislative Council
8 Jackson Road
Central

Dear Ms So,

Operating Hours of Mortuaries in Public Hospitals

I refer to item 5 of LC Paper No. CB(2)264/07-08(02). At the Panel meeting on 11 June 2007, the Hospital Authority (HA) was requested to look into the operating hours of mortuaries in public non-acute and rehabilitation hospitals and revert to the Panel.

According to HA, the operating hours of mortuaries in HA hospitals are determined according to the operational needs and service demand. For the sake of cost effectiveness, a small number of mortuaries in HA's non-acute and rehabilitation hospitals with a relatively low utilization rate only open from Monday to Saturday and provide service on Sundays and public holidays by appointment.

Currently, out of 31 mortuaries in HA hospitals, 24 of them (including those in major general acute hospitals) operate on every day, seven of them operate from Monday to Saturday and provide service by appointment on Sundays and public holidays.

Yours sincerely,

(Kirk YIP)

for Secretary for Food and Health

cc Dr PY LEUNG, Hospital Authority