

**Bills Committee on
Chinese Permanent Cemeteries (Amendment) Bill 2015**

**List of follow-up actions arising from the discussion
at the meeting on 27 October 2015**

1. The Administration was requested to provide information on -
 - (a) regarding public niches provided by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department ("FEHD"), whether there was any restriction on the placing of additional cremated ashes into a niche (such as the eligibility for subsequent deposit being governed by the definition of "relative") and if the answer was positive, how the restriction was stated and applied;
 - (b) whether traffic impact assessment(s) had been/would be conducted to evaluate the additional traffic to be generated during traditional and annual festivals for paying respect to ancestors due to (i) the provision of new niches in the four Chinese Permanent Cemeteries ("CPCs") operated by the Board of Management of the Chinese Permanent Cemeteries ("the Board") and (ii) the implementation of the relaxation measures proposed in the Bill, and if yes, details of the findings;
 - (c) the estimated costs arising from the exhumation, cremation and storage of unclaimed human remains from an exhumable lot of CPCs and the respective costs to be recovered from the permittee when he/she claimed back the remains; and
 - (d) whether consideration would be given to providing existing users with financial incentive and whether there were other means available to encourage voluntary surrender of vacant lots/niches.
2. Noting the difference in fees charged respectively by the Board and FEHD for multiple deposits of cremated human remains in niches, a suggestion was raised that the Board should review its fees and charges to align with the fee schedule for similar services of FEHD. The Administration/Board was requested to consider this suggestion and revert to the Bills Committee.
3. Regarding the proposed amendment to section 7(2) of the Chinese Permanent Cemeteries Ordinance (Cap. 1112) which sought to expand the ambit of

donations that could be made by the Board, there was a suggestion that the drafting of the expression "a particular sector of that community" should be improved to better reflect the policy intent. The Administration was requested to consider this suggestion and revert to the Bills Committee.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
23 November 2015