

政府總部
環境及生態局
(食物科)

香港添馬添美道2號
政府總部東翼17樓



**ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY BUREAU
(FOOD BRANCH)
GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT**

17/F, East Wing,
Central Government Offices,
2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar,
Hong Kong

Our Ref. :

Your Ref. : CB2/PL/FE

Tel. No. : 3509 8926

Fax No. : 2136 3282

[English translation]

13 June 2024

Clerk to Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong
(Attn: Miss Connie AU)

Dear Miss AU,

**Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene
Follow-up matters to the meeting on 14 May 2024**

At the meeting of the Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene on 14 May 2024, Members requested the Government to provide supplementary information about 34NB – Reprovisioning of Cremators and Related Works at Kwai Chung Crematorium. The relevant information is provided at **Annex**.

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

(Wendy AU)
for Secretary for Environmental and Ecology

c.c. Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Attn: Mr LAW Kin Wai)

**34NB – Reprovisioning of Cremators and Related Works at
Kwai Chung Crematorium**

Supplementary information

Revenue of Kwai Chung Crematorium

- In the past five years (2019 to 2023), the annual revenue of the crematoria services provided at Kwai Chung Crematorium was \$9.39 million, \$7.99 million, \$8.70 million, \$10.23 million and \$9.6 million respectively.

Maintenance and expenses of the cremators at Kwai Chung Crematorium

- According to the supplier of the cremators, each cremator at Kwai Chung Crematorium is expected to provide around 40 000 cremation sessions. The existing cremators at Kwai Chung Crematorium have been in operation since 2003. As at 2023, each of them has provided an average of more than 40 100 cremation sessions. As the cremators have reached the end of their expected service life, their stability will deteriorate. In addition, these cremators are of old model. The supply of original spare parts of the core control system as well as the monitoring and data collection system are inadequate, or the production of which has even ceased. This has a major impact on the maintenance and repairs as well as the continuous operation of the cremators. In the past five years (2019 to 2023), the average number of maintenance days of the cremators were 42, 42, 46, 68 and 46 respectively.
- As preparation work for the reprovisioning of the cremators at Kwai Chung Crematorium has begun, the Government has mainly carried out more urgent and necessary repairs in recent years. In the past five years (2019 to 2023), the annual maintenance and repair expenses of Kwai Chung Crematorium were \$13.8 million, \$19.6 million, \$15 million, \$13.2 million and \$11 million respectively.

Performance of the cremators at Kwai Chung Crematorium

- After reprovisioning, the four new cremators are designed to and will adopt a fully computerised mode of operation, using up-to-date technologies, with an advanced flue gas filtering system. Latest cremation and air pollution control technologies will be applied to process and filter out waste gases and particles

generated during the combustion process, so as to ensure that waste gas emissions are in full compliance with the air quality standards. In addition, the new cremators are to be fitted with a high temperature secondary combustion chamber, facilitating more efficient and complete combustion during the cremation process. In terms of real-time monitoring of the operation and emission of the cremators, the cremation room will be equipped with a more advanced computerised monitoring system. We also take this opportunity to switch to town gas as fuel for cremators and introduce more stringent emission limits for Kwai Chung Crematorium. After reprovisioning, Kwai Chung Crematorium will maintain the current level of operation, and additional cremation sessions whilst meeting requirements in various aspects, including environmental requirements will be explored.

Reprovisioning plan of cremators at other crematoriums

- The cremators at Fu Shan Crematorium and Diamond Hill Crematorium are expected to reach the end of their service life over the next few years, and need to be reprovisioned in phases in an orderly manner. We will consult the Panel on the proposed works projects concerned in due course.
