Subcommittee on Public Health and Municipal Services (Fees) (Amendment) Regulation 2019

List of follow-up actions arising from the discussion at the meeting on 8 March 2019

The Administration was requested to provide the following supplementary information:

- (a) in relation to the 24 sites identified for public columbaria under the district-based columbarium development scheme, the progress of respective public columbarium development projects, detailing (i) the current status of the projects; (ii) the results of consultation with relevant District Councils ("DCs") regarding each project; (iii) controversies aroused and/or difficulties encountered in taking forward the projects, if any; (iv) the Administration's next course of action and progress in following up/resolving those controversies; and (v) the target implementation or completion date of projects that had not been met with opposition from DCs;
- (b) an assessment on whether the proposed extendable arrangement for public niches would have an impact on non-government bodies providing columbarium facilities and services in respect of their interment period and arrangement, e.g. the Board of Management of the Chinese Permanent Cemeteries, the Catholic Diocese of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Chinese Christian Churches Union;
- (c) as the Amendment Regulation would come into operation on 26 April 2019, when the first exercise(s) of allocating public niches (to which the extendable arrangement and the revised fees proposal would apply) would take place, the target allocation date and the number of public niches to be involved in the exercise(s); and
- (d) whether the Administration had any plan to adopt computerized system which would facilitate the related persons (i.e. the niche allocatee or nominated representative(s)) to apply for extension of the deposit period and to update the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department of their contact details through online platforms and if yes, the details of concrete measures to be adopted.