

Ksitigarbha Hall's
Temporary Suspension of Liability (TSOL) Application

“Approval-in-principle for TSOL Application”

The Private Columbaria Licensing Board (the PCLB) held an open meeting to deliberate the licence, exemption and TSOL application of Ksitigarbha Hall on 23 June 2022. During the open meeting, the applicant had confirmed to delete the basement floor of columbarium from the whole set of Specified Instruments Application (“SI Application”) (Note: The basement floor of columbarium neither complies with the building-related requirements nor requirements for structures certifiable for a pre-cut-off columbarium nor the requirements of Government Land Licence). The applicant also requested the PCLB to allow her to submit the outstanding documents required by this SI Application within 3 months. After considering the overall situation, the statement and feedback of applicant and other related factors, the PCLB has decided to allow the applicant to submit the outstanding documents within 3 months. Subsequently, the applicant submitted the outstanding documents to the PCLB within 3 months for vetting. The PCLB has decided to continue vetting this SI application which included the ground floor of columbarium only.

After considering the documents submitted by the applicant so far, the PCLB is of the view that the above application for TSOL which included the ground floor of columbarium only is basically in compliance with the application requirements for TSOL **except for the requirements concerning the ash interment quantity and that the vetting of proposed plans (including the niche information) is still underway.** The PCLB issued the notification to the applicant on 13 January 2023, informing the applicant that the TSOL Application of the above private columbarium (included the ground floor of columbarium only) has been approved in principle with a validity period of 3 years from 13 January 2023 to 12 January 2026. During this validity period, the applicant should take all necessary steps with reasonable expedition according to the action plan with timetable (as submitted to and accepted by the PCLB for compliance with the relevant application requirements of TSOL) to achieve compliance with the requirements for the Licence application and Exemption application submitted together with the TSOL application. The above-mentioned application for TSOL has not been determined by the PCLB.

Please note that the “Approval-in-principle for TSOL Application” does not mean that

the application for a Licence/Exemption in respect of the columbarium concerned will be approved eventually. If the applicant fails to comply with all the requirements in respect of the Licence application and Exemption application submitted together with the TSOL application and fails to prove to the satisfaction of the PCLB that the applicant has taken all the above-mentioned necessary steps with reasonable expedition by the expiry of the validity period of the “Approval-in-principle for TSOL Application”, the PCLB will not extend the validity period of the “Approval-in-principle for TSOL Application” and may refuse the whole set of applications. Under such circumstances, the columbarium concerned will have to cease operation and dispose of the ashes interred in the columbarium in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Private Columbaria Ordinance.

If the applicant has complied with all the requirements in respect of the application for a Licence/Exemption submitted together with the TSOL application during the validity period of the “Approval-in-principle for TSOL Application”, the PCLB will consider holding an open meeting to examine the relevant application with a view to determining the application for Licence/Exemption directly.