

**Validity Period of “Approval-in-principle for TSOL Application”**  
**Considerations to be Taken into account by the Licensing Board in Determining**  
**Whether to Extend the Validity Period and Relevant Administrative Arrangements**

Since 30 August 2019, the Licensing Board has put in place the administrative arrangements for “Approval-in-principle for TSOL Application”. If, by the time the validity period of the “Approval-in-principle for TSOL Application” is about to expire, the applicant still fails to comply with all the requirements for the licence/exemption (depending on the type of specified instrument under application which is applicable) application submitted together with the TSOL application and the applicant has submitted the documents specified by the Licensing Board in accordance with the following administrative arrangements, the Licensing Board will consider whether the validity period of the “Approval-in-principle for TSOL Application” should be extended.

2. The Licensing Board will take into account the following considerations in determining whether to extend the validity period of the “Approval-in-principle for TSOL Application”:

(i) Safeguarding public safety:

- Whether the applicant has demonstrated that the columbarium’s continued compliance with the requirements in relation to the building, fire safety, and electrical and mechanical safety for the TSOL application can be ensured during the extended validity period of the “Approval-in-principle for TSOL Application”;

(ii) Actions taken with reasonable expedition to achieve compliance with the requirements for licence/exemption application:

- Whether the applicant has demonstrated that all necessary steps have been taken with reasonable expedition according to the action plan with timetable (as submitted by the applicant to comply with the TSOL application requirements and accepted by the Licensing Board) to achieve compliance with all the requirements for the licence/exemption (depending on the type of specified instrument under application which is applicable) application submitted together with the TSOL application.;

(iii) Updated action plan with timetable:

- Whether the applicant has submitted an updated action plan with timetable to set out the applicant's plan on all actions to be taken by the applicant, with the expected date of completion for each action specified, to achieve compliance with the requirements for the licence/exemption (depending on the type of specified instrument under application which is applicable) application submitted together with the TSOL application. The Licensing Board will also consider whether the updated action plan with timetable is acceptable; and

(iv) Public interest and other relevant considerations:

- In determining whether to extend the validity period of the "Approval-in-principle for TSOL Application", the Licensing Board will have regard to the public interest and may have regard to other relevant considerations.

3. An applicant who wishes the Licensing Board to consider extending the validity period of the "Approval-in-principle for TSOL Application" of the columbarium concerned is required to submit the documents specified by the Licensing Board not later than 6 months prior to the expiry date of the validity period. The Private Columbaria Affairs Office (PCAO) will forward the received documents to the relevant departments for vetting and offering their comments from the perspective of the domains relevant to their departments on whether they object to the extension of the validity period of the "Approval-in-principle for TSOL Application", or providing other comments (e.g. the requirements to be met and/or the conditions to be complied with by the applicant). The PCAO will convey the concerned departments' comments to the applicant for the applicant to respond and submit relevant documents to meet the requirements. When submitting the relevant documents to the Licensing Board for consideration, the PCAO will report the comments of the relevant departments and the response made and/or supplementary documents submitted (if any) by the applicant for the Licensing Board's consideration.

4. If the applicant **fails** to submit the documents specified by the Licensing Board before 6 months prior to the expiry date of the existing validity period of the "Approval-in-principle for TSOL Application", when the expiration approaches, the Licensing Board may not consider extending the validity period of the "Approval-in-principle for TSOL

Application”. If, by the time the validity period of the “Approval-in-principle for TSOL Application” expires, the applicant has not met all the requirements for the licence/exemption (depending on the type of specified instrument under application which is applicable) application submitted together with the TSOL application, the Licensing Board **may not extend** the validity period of the “Approval-in-principle for TSOL Application” and will determine the whole set of applications. If the applicant still has not met all the requirements for the above licence/exemption (depending on the type of specified instrument under application which is applicable) application when the Licensing Board makes a decision, the whole set of applications will be rejected. Under such circumstances, the columbarium concerned will have to cease operation and the operator has to dispose of the ashes interred in the columbarium in accordance with the provisions of the Private Columbaria Ordinance.