

**For discussion  
on 23 November 2011**

**BOARD PAPER  
AAB/28/2011-12**

**MEMORANDUM FOR MEMBERS OF THE  
ANTIQUITIES ADVISORY BOARD**

**HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT  
FOR THE HERITAGE SITE OF THE OLD TAI PO POLICE STATION  
AT NO.11 WAN TAU KOK LANE, TAI PO**

**PURPOSE**

This paper presents to Members the preliminary findings of the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) on the Old Tai Po Police Station (OTPPS) at No.11 Wan Tau Kok Lane, Tai Po.

**HIA MECHANISM**

2. The OTPPS's HIA was conducted in accordance with the HIA mechanism introduced by the Development Bureau (DEVB) vide Technical Circular (Works) No. 6/2009. Implemented from 1 January 2008, the HIA mechanism for capital works projects emphasizes that every effort should be made to avoid or minimize adverse impact by the proposed works arising from Government's capital works projects on "heritage sites"<sup>1</sup>. In the submission to the Public Works Subcommittee of the Legislative Council, the works agent is required to include a "Heritage Implications" paragraph to be cleared by the Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO), stating clearly whether the project will affect any "heritage sites" and if affirmative, what mitigation measures will be taken and whether the public are in support of the proposed measures in the public engagement process.

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<sup>1</sup> "Heritage sites" include:

- (i) all declared monuments;
- (ii) all proposed monuments;
- (iii) all sites and buildings graded by the Antiquities Advisory Board;
- (iv) all recorded sites of archaeological interest; and
- (v) Government historic sites identified by AMO.

## THE PROJECT

3. The OTPPS at No.11, Wan Tau Kok Lane, Tai Po is under Batch II of the Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme (the Revitalisation Scheme) launched by DEVB. The Revitalisation Scheme invites non-profit-making organizations with charitable status under section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112) to apply for the adaptive re-use of selected Government-owned historic buildings in the form of social enterprise. Batch II of the Revitalisation Scheme was launched on 28 August 2009 and the results of which were announced on 15 September 2010. Approval-in-principle has been granted by the Secretary for Development to the Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden Corporation (KFBG) to convert the OTPPS into the “Green Hub for Sustainable Living”. It will serve as a field study/education/visitor centre for providing a wide range of education programmes and training camps to help the public understand the most pressing ecological and social concerns of modern life.

4. Given the heritage significance of the OTPPS (a Grade 1 historic building), AMO confirmed that an HIA was required for the revitalisation works. The KFBG has subsequently commissioned a heritage consultant to conduct the assessment.

## THE HIA

5. The purpose of the HIA for the OTPPS under the Revitalisation Scheme is to prepare a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for the heritage site, which aims to design mitigation measures in order to avoid adverse impact on OTPPS in the course of conversion and to outline the future interpretation, maintenance and management strategies. They are based on AMO’s Conservation Guidelines given in the Resource Kit and the project proposal submitted by the KFBG and subsequently accepted by DEVB under the Revitalisation Scheme. The study report for the case was submitted to AMO for consideration and AMO subsequently commented on the findings. Main points of the CMP of the project are set out at **Annex A** while AMO’s comments are set out at **Annex B**. A soft copy of the CMP in form of a compact-disc is attached.

## **ADVICE SOUGHT**

6. Members are invited to offer comments and advice on the findings of the HIA.

Antiquities and Monuments Office  
Leisure and Cultural Services Department  
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