Antiquities and Monuments Office's Comments on the Heritage Impact Assessment on Workmen's Quarters, Senior Staff Quarters and Treatment Works Building of the former Elliot Pumping Station and Filters in Pokfulam

The Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO) has reviewed the findings set out in the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) report on the Workmen's Quarters (Grade 3), Senior Staff Quarters (Grade 2) and Treatment Works Building (Grade 3) of the former Elliot Pumping Station and Filters and has the following comments -

- a) We note that the proposal has adopted the principles of minimum intervention and reversibility such that changes/ disturbance to the historic buildings would be kept to the minimum. As such, the proposal is agreeable.
- b) We note that a light weight single storey glass annex will be added to both the Senior Staff Quarters and the Workmen's Quarters at an acceptable location. The new structures are independent from the buildings and the visual impact can also be mitigated by the surrounding trees.
- c) We note that a new external staircase will be constructed at the east side of the Senior Staff Quarters to provide another means of escape. The new external staircase will be independent from the building and distinguishable from the existing building fabric.
- d) We note that a new wheelchair platform will be constructed inside the Senior Staff Quarters to provide barrier free access. The new wheelchair platform is reversible, with minimum disturbance to the internal building fabric.
- e) We note that the fire services water tanks and pumps of the Senior Staff Quarters and the Workmen's Quarters will be located inside the new development of the Centennial Campus. This approach is commendable as it can save much space for accommodating the fire services installations.

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f) We note that the pedestrian bridges will be constructed over the front and rear of the Treatment Works Building. The pedestrian bridges at the front will be in an arch shape such that the view of the building will not be obstructed.

- g) We note that cartographic and photographic surveys have been conducted to ensure proper documentation of the existing features of the site.
- h) In addition to the mitigation measures devised in the HIA report, we would like to propose the following for further enhancement:
 - (i) The design of the new wheelchair platform as mentioned ind) above and the building service facilities should be submitted to AMO for comment.
 - (ii) The installations and ductings for the building services facilities at the Senior Staff Quarters and the Workmen's Quarters should be in less prominent locations to minimise visual impact to the front elevations. The routings should also be carefully designed to minimise the damage to the existing building fabric. The design should be submitted to AMO for comment.
 - (iii) To ensure that the mitigation measures recommended in the HIA report are properly implemented, a heritage consultant should be appointed by the project proponent to monitor the implementation of the mitigation measures and record any changes and variations.
 - (iv) The finalized HIA report should be accompanied with plans, sections, elevations and/or photo-montages, showing clearly the proposed alteration/addition works to the two quarters buildings.

Antiquities and Monuments Office Leisure and Cultural Services Department March 2012

Ref: LCS AM 22/3