

**For discussion
on 22 March 2012**

**BOARD PAPER
AAB/34/2011-12**

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

**HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT
ON WORKMEN'S QUARTERS, SENIOR STAFF QUARTERS AND
TREATMENT WORKS BUILDING OF THE FORMER ELLIOT
PUMPING STATION AND FLITERS
IN POKFULAM**

PURPOSE

This paper presents to Members the preliminary findings of the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) on the Workmen's Quarters, Senior Staff Quarters, and Treatment Works Building of the former Elliot Pumping Station and Filters in Pokfulam.

HIA MECHANISM

2. The HIA on Workmen's Quarters, Senior Staff Quarters, and Treatment Works Building of the former Elliot Pumping Station and Filters 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 emphasises that every effort should be made to avoid or minimize adverse impact by the proposed work arising from Government's capital works projects on "heritage sites"¹. 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 in the affirmative, what mitigation measures will be

¹ "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.

taken and whether the public are in support of the proposed measures in the public engagement process.

THE PROJECT

3. The campus of the University of Hong Kong (the University) will be expanded into the former Elliot Pumping Station and Filters site of the Water Supplies Department (WSD) to meet the space requirements of the University arising from the new four year curriculum in 2012. The new development in the extension will be known as the Centennial Campus. Under the new development, the three historic buildings at the former Elliot Pumping Station and Filters site will be retained as follows –

- (a) the Senior Staff Quarters (a Grade 2 historic building) will be converted into reception facilities for the University, as well as display gallery and office for the University Press;
- (b) the Workmen's Quarters (a Grade 3 historic building) will be converted into an information centre of the University; and
- (c) the upper deck on the reservoirs at both sides of the Treatment Works Building (a Grade 3 historic building) will be converted into landscape gardens and two linking bridges will be spanned over the building; but no works will be proposed inside the building, which will remain under WSD's ownership and maintenance.

THE HIA

4. Given the heritage significance of the former Elliot Pumping Station and Filters site, AMO confirmed that an HIA was required for the revitalisation works. The HIA is required under the lease between the University and the Lands Department and has followed the format as required by AMO. The HIA has examined in detail the impact of the proposed works on the historic buildings and devised mitigation measures if adverse impact is unavoidable.

5. The University has submitted an HIA report to AMO for consideration. Given that the key character defining elements of the Senior Staff Quarters, Workmen's Quarters and Treatment Works Building will be preserved and the new additions and alterations will be kept to the minimum, AMO considers the works proposal agreeable and is satisfied with the mitigation measures proposed. Main points of the HIA report are set out at **Annex A** and AMO's comments on the report are set out at **Annex B**. Soft copy of the full HIA report is attached in CD format at **Annex C**.

6. Representatives of the University, Wong & Ouyang (HK) Ltd. and their heritage consultant will present the works proposal at the meeting and will further refine the proposal in the light of Members' comments.

ADVICE SOUGHT

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

Antiquities and Monuments Office
Leisure and Cultural Services Department
March 2012

Ref: LCS AM 22/3