MEMORANDUM FOR MEMBERS OF THE ANTIQUITIES ADVISORY BOARD

HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN RESPECT OF THE REPROVISIONING OF HARCOURT ROAD FRESH WATER PUMPING STATION TO COTTON TREE DRIVE

SUPPLEMENTARY PAPER ON THE PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURE FOR THE OLD STONE WALL

PURPOSE

This paper seeks Members' advice on the supplementary paper (at Annex A) which addresses the concerns raised by Members of the Antiquities Advisory Board (AAB) at the AAB meeting held on 4 March 2014 regarding the proposed mitigation measure for the old stone wall in respect of the Reprovisioning of Harcourt Road Fresh Water Pumping Station to Cotton Tree Drive (Cotton Tree Drive FWPS).

BACKGROUND

2. On 4 March 2014, the Water Supplies Department (WSD) presented the findings of the HIA in respect of the Reprovisioning of Harcourt Road Fresh Water Pumping Station to Cotton Tree Drive to Members vide Board Paper AAB/27/2013-14. Members expressed their concerns for the possible impact arising from the works to the old stone wall within the project boundary.

3. Members opined that temporary removal and subsequent reinstatement of the stone wall would affect its original appearance and integrity. Members in general favoured the in-situ preservation of the stone wall by adopting measures such as underpinning. The project team was advised to explore measures to minimise the adverse impacts to the stone wall and to provide a comparison of these measures for Members' further consideration. With Members' advice, WSD and their heritage consultant have further reviewed the HIA findings.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

4. The supplementary information provided by WSD at Annex A illustrates that it is infeasible to preserve the concerned segment of the old stone wall in-situ due to technical difficulties and site constraints. WSD has proposed an alternative to temporarily remove the concerned segment of the old stone wall in sections and reinstate it after the construction, for better preservation of its original appearance and integrity.

5. AMO has reviewed the supplementary information set out in Annex A, AMO supports WSD's view that, due to site and technical constraints, it is considered infeasible to preserve the concerned segment of the old stone wall in-situ during construction. The alternative proposal of temporary removal in sections and subsequent reinstatement is considered an acceptable mitigation measure.

ADVICE SOUGHT

6. Since the project will have to proceed against a very tight schedule and most of the findings of the HIA have been presented on 4 March 2014, Members' advice on the proposed mitigation measure for the old stone wall is sought by circulation of this paper. Members can indicate their recommendation by completing and returning the reply slip at Annex B.

Antiquities and Monuments Office Leisure and Cultural Services Department March 2014

Ref: LCSD/CS/AMO 22-3/0