MEMORANDUM FOR MEMBERS OF THE ANTIQUITIES ADVISORY BOARD

HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN RESPECT OF THE REVITALISATION OF THE FORMER FANLING MAGISTRACY

PURPOSE

This paper presents to Members the findings of the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) in respect of the Former Fanling Magistracy at Jockey Club Road, Fanling, New Territories.

HIA MECHANISM

2. The HIA in respect of the revitalisation of the Former Fanling Magistracy was conducted in accordance with the HIA mechanism introduced by the Development Bureau (DEVB) vide Technical Circular (Works) No. 6/2009. Since its implementation from 1 January 2008, the HIA mechanism for capital works projects emphasises that every effort should be made to avoid or minimise adverse impact by the proposed works 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 taken and whether the public, in particular the Antiquities Advisory Board (AAB), are in support of the proposed measures in the public engagement process.

(i) all declared monuments;

¹ Heritage sites include:

⁽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 the Antiquities and Monuments Office.

THE PROJECT

- 3. The revitalisation of the Former Fanling Magistracy is one of the projects under Batch III of the Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme (the Revitalisation Scheme) launched by DEVB. The Revitalisation Scheme invites non-profit-making organisations 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 enterprises.
- 4. Batch III of the Revitalisation Scheme was launched on 7 October 2011 and the selection results were announced on 21 February 2013. Approval-in-principle has been granted by the Secretary for Development to The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups (HKFYG) Institute for Leadership Development Limited to convert the Former Fanling Magistracy into "The HKFYG Institute for Leadership Development", which will include a leadership training centre and a hostel with catering facilities for training purpose for locals, exchange students, youngsters and visitors. Educational programmes focusing on heritage revitalisation will be developed for the public to appreciate the cultural significance of the site, and in promoting the district's unique history and traditions.
- 5. Given the cultural significance of the Former Fanling Magistracy (a Grade 3 historic building), AMO confirmed that a HIA would be required for the revitalisation works. HKFYG Institute for Leadership Development Limited has subsequently commissioned their heritage consultant to conduct the assessment.

The HIA

6. The purpose of the captioned HIA is to prepare a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) with a set of heritage impact assessments which aims to design mitigation measures to avoid adverse impact on the buildings in the course of the revitalisation works and to outline the future interpretation, maintenance and management strategies.

7. HKFYG has prepared a HIA report based on AMO's Conservation Guidelines in the Resource Kit for Batch III of the Revitalisation Scheme and subsequent discussions with AMO. The main points of the HIA report and AMO's comments are set out in **Annexes A and B** respectively. The full HIA report can be accessed via the link:

http://www.amo.gov.hk/form/HIA_Report_FFM.pdf.

ADVICE SOUGHT

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

Antiquities and Monuments Office
Leisure and Cultural Services Department
June 2014

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