

**For discussion
on 17 September 2015**

**BOARD PAPER
AAB/16/2015-16**

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE
ANTIQUITIES ADVISORY BOARD**

**HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT
IN RESPECT OF THE REAR PORTION OF THE CATTLE DEPOT**

PURPOSE

This paper seeks Members' views on the findings of the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) in respect of the rear portion of the Cattle Depot.

HIA MECHANISM

2. The HIA in respect of the rear portion of the Cattle Depot was conducted in accordance with the HIA mechanism introduced by the Development Bureau 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 are in support of the proposed measures in the public engagement process.

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 the Antiquities and Monuments Office.

THE PROJECT

3. As promulgated in the 2013 Policy Address, each district would be allocated \$100 million to undertake at most two signature projects of a large scale. Under the signature project of Kowloon City District, the rear portion of the Cattle Depot (a Grade 2 historic site) will be converted to an open space with recreational facilities in order to facilitate the promotion of arts and culture to the community.

THE HIA

4. Given the heritage significance of the Cattle Depot, the works agent, the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD), has engaged a heritage consultant to conduct an HIA with a view to examining how the proposed works would affect the historic site and devising mitigation measures if adverse impact is unavoidable.

5. ArchSD has recently submitted the HIA report on the rear portion of the Cattle Depot to the AMO for consideration. Given that all key character defining elements of the rear portion of the Cattle Depot will be preserved and new additions and alterations will be kept to the minimum, the AMO, therefore, considers the works proposal agreeable from the heritage conservation perspective and is satisfied with the recommended mitigation measures. Main points of the HIA report and AMO's comments on the report 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_CATTLEDEPOT.pdf.

6. Representatives of Home Affairs Department and ArchSD, as well as their heritage consultant, will present the findings of the HIA report at the meeting. They will further refine the proposal in the light of Members' comments.

ADVICE SOUGHT

7. Members are invited to offer their views on the findings of the HIA.

Antiquities and Monuments Office
Leisure and Cultural Services Department
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