

**For discussion  
on 8 June 2017**

**BOARD PAPER  
AAB/10/2017-18**

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE  
ANTIQUITIES ADVISORY BOARD**

**HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN RESPECT OF  
THE REVITALISATION OF NO. 12 SCHOOL STREET,  
TAI HANG, CAUSEWAY BAY, HONG KONG**

**PURPOSE**

This paper seeks Members' views on the findings of the Heritage Impact Assessment ("HIA") in respect of the revitalisation of No. 12 School Street, Tai Hang, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong.

**HIA MECHANISM**

2. The HIA in respect of the revitalisation of No. 12 School Street 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"<sup>1</sup>. 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, are in support of the proposed measures in the public engagement process.

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<sup>1</sup> 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. The revitalisation of No. 12 School Street is one of the projects under Batch IV of the Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme (the “Revitalisation Scheme”) administered 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 IV of the Revitalisation Scheme was launched in December 2013 and the selection results were announced in June 2015. Approval-in-principle has been granted by the Secretary for Development to the Tai Hang Residents’ Welfare Association to convert No. 12 School Street into “Tai Hang Fire Dragon Heritage Centre”, which will include a themed display area/multi-purpose activity room provided with thematic guided tours and cultural courses to educate the public on the unique local heritage of fire dragon dance, and encourage public appreciation of local festive tradition through the diversified educational and interactive programs organised by the heritage centre. Thematic food and beverage facilities serving Hakka cuisine to commemorate the Hakka tradition will be introduced. Apart from creating a new localised cultural landmark and sightseeing spot to attract local and overseas visitors, it also aims to allow the public to experience the unique culture, excitement, and atmosphere of the fire dragon dance through immersive displays at any time of the year.

5. Given the heritage value of No. 12 School Street (itself a Grade 3 historic building), AMO confirmed that an HIA would be required for the revitalisation works. The Tai Hang Residents’ Welfare Association has subsequently commissioned a heritage consultant to conduct the HIA.

## **THE HIA**

6. The purpose of the HIA is to prepare a Conservation Management Plan with a set of heritage impact assessments which aims at designing mitigation measures to avoid adverse impact on No. 12 School Street in the course of the revitalisation works and outlining the future interpretation, maintenance and management strategies.

7. The Tai Hang Fire Dragon Heritage Centre Limited has prepared an HIA report based on AMO's Conservation Guidelines laid down in the Resource Kit for Batch IV 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.aab.gov.hk/form/HIA\\_Report\\_12SST.pdf](http://www.aab.gov.hk/form/HIA_Report_12SST.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

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