

**Antiquities and Monuments Office's Comments on
the Heritage Impact Assessment in respect of
the Implementation of Water Intelligent Network
in Kowloon East, Sha Tin, Islands, Yuen Long and
Sheung Shui & Fanling Major Supply Zones**

The Antiquities and Monuments Office (“AMO”) has reviewed the findings detailed in the Heritage Impact Assessment (“HIA”) reports in respect of the implementation of Water Intelligent Network in Kowloon East, Sha Tin, Islands, Yuen Long and Sheung Shui & Fanling Major Supply Zones, and has the following comments:

- (a) the proposed works near the built heritage sites will be positioned away from the structures to avoid disturbance and physical damage during the course of the works. Moreover, the works are discrete and no major equipment is involved beyond the hand breaker, small excavator and lorry. Impact on built heritage is minimal and appropriate mitigation/ precautionary measures will be proposed for AMO's comments before commencement of works. As such, the proposal is agreeable from the heritage conservation perspective;
- (b) the proposal has devised the necessary and appropriate measures against ranges of distance between built heritages and works boundaries in order to minimise the potential impacts such as vibration with submission of monitoring plan for AMO's comments;
- (c) the proposed works, i.e. the construction of below-the-ground chambers and associated works, would have potential impacts on the archaeological deposits if they are located within the Sites of Archaeological Interest (“SAIs”). The HIA has thoroughly assessed the archaeological impacts on each proposed works area within the SAIs by reviewing previous archaeological investigations, topographical and geological background of each SAI. It is opined that the assessment methodology is acceptable and appropriate from the archaeological perspective;
- (d) the proposed works will be carried out in locations disturbed by previous utility works or existing water mains to various

degrees. While the exact impacts from the previous works are uncertain, the HIA has devised the appropriate mitigation measure, namely archaeological watching brief (“AWB”), to monitor the excavation at the proposed works locations with some archaeological potential; and

- (e) in addition to the mitigation measures devised in the HIA reports, AMO proposes further enhancement measures as follows:
 - (i) detailed design of works and the proposal of mitigation measures for works in close vicinity to built heritages should be submitted for AMO’s comments before commencement of works in order to avoid causing any damage to such built heritages;
 - (ii) a qualified archaeologist should be engaged to conduct AWB at the proposed works locations. An Archaeological Action Plan is recommended to be prepared to cover detailed fieldwork methodology and programme, etc., and submitted to AMO for comments and agreement prior to the application for “Licence to Excavate and Search for Antiquities” under the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance (Cap. 53); and
 - (iii) the project proponent and the contractor should give an induction briefing to all site staff to (1) enhance their awareness of archaeological deposits at the works locations particularly those which are not covered by the AWB programme; and (2) remind them to report the discovery of any antiquities or supposed antiquities in the course of excavation to the project proponent/the contractor who will then inform AMO for follow-up action.

Antiquities and Monuments Office
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