For discussion on 6 December 2018

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ANTIQUITIES ADVISORY BOARD

HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN RESPECT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF WATER INTELLIGENT NETWORK IN KOWLOON EAST, SHA TIN, ISLANDS, YUEN LONG AND <u>SHEUNG SHUI & FANLING MAJOR SUPPLY ZONES</u>

PURPOSE

This paper seeks Members' views on the findings of the Heritage Impact Assessment ("HIA") in respect of the implementation of Water Intelligent Network ("WIN") in Kowloon East, Sha Tin, Islands, Yuen Long and Sheung Shui & Fanling Major Supply Zones ("MSZs").

HIA MECHANISM

2. The HIA in respect of the implementation of WIN in Kowloon East, Sha Tin, Islands, Yuen Long and Sheung Shui & Fanling MSZs was conducted in accordance with the HIA mechanism introduced by the Development Bureau vide Technical Circular (Works) No. 6/2009. Since its implementation in 2008, the HIA mechanism for capital works projects emphasises that every effort should be made to avoid or minimise adverse impact 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 so, the

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.

necessary mitigation measures, as endorsed by the Antiquities Advisory Board, to be implemented.

THE PROJECT

3. The project is proposed by the Water Supplies Department ("WSD") to adopt a strategic WIN system in Hong Kong in order to maintain the healthiness of the water distribution network, and to enable effective management of the water supply network in an integrated and coordinated manner.

4. The project consists of investigation, design and construction supervision for the installation of the necessary network monitoring and sensing equipment, establishment of an intelligent network management system and development of associated analytical tools for the fresh water distribution systems (including distribution systems for temporary water mains for flushing) in Kowloon East, Sha Tin, Islands, Yuen Long and Sheung Shui & Fanling MSZs.

5. To facilitate the implementation of WIN, in addition to the above, it is proposed to construct chambers at various locations of the existing water distribution network within the MSZs to establish the remaining district metering areas and the associated pressure management areas.

HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

6. Considering the scope of the project, AMO confirmed that an HIA is required for the proposed works. WSD has engaged two consultant teams to conduct HIA with a view to identifying any direct and indirect impacts to the Sites of Archaeological Interest ("SAIs") and historic buildings, and devising mitigation measures if adverse impact is unavoidable.

7. Under WSD's HIA reports (i.e. HIA Report of CE37/2016 (WS) for Kowloon East, Sha Tin and Islands MSZs and HIA Report of CE38/2016 (WS) for Yuen Long and Sheung Shui & Fanling MSZs), the impacts on the SAIs and historic buildings are minimal. AMO considers the works proposal agreeable from the heritage conservation perspective. The recommended mitigation measures are in order. Key points of the HIA reports and AMO's comments are set out in <u>Annexes A and B</u> respectively. The full HIA reports can be accessed via the following links:

http://www.aab.gov.hk/form/HIA_report_win-ce37.pdf http://www.aab.gov.hk/form/HIA_report_win-ce38.pdf

8. Representatives of WSD, as well as the project and heritage consultants, will present the HIA reports at the meeting and seek Members' advice.

ADVICE SOUGHT

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

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