

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE
ANTIQUITIES ADVISORY BOARD**

**HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN RESPECT OF
THE LANDSLIP PREVENTION AND MITIGATION WORKS
FOR SLOPE FEATURES NOS. 11SW-B/FR7 AND 11SW-B/CR13
WITHIN/NEAR FORMER CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, SITE**

PURPOSE

This paper seeks Members' views on the findings of the Heritage Impact Assessment ("HIA") in respect of the landslip prevention and mitigation works for the slopes within/near the "Former Central Government Offices ("CGO"), Site".

HIA MECHANISM

2. The HIA in respect of the landslip prevention and mitigation works for the slopes within/near the "Former CGO, Site" (Grade 1) 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 necessary

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.

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

THE PROJECT

3. The project is proposed by the Civil Engineering and Development Department (“CEDD”) to carry out landslip prevention and mitigation works for slopes within/near the “Former CGO, Site” to safeguard public safety.

4. The Former CGO were completed in the 1950s, and were purposely designed as offices for government departments. The Former CGO are examples of the Functionalist style of architecture and the complex of the Former CGO forms a familiar Central District landmark for more than half of a century. The Former CGO comprises four items, namely:

- (i) Former CGO, Site (Grade 1);
- (ii) Former CGO, Main Wing (Grade 1);
- (iii) Former CGO, East Wing (Grade 1); and
- (iv) Former CGO, West Wing (Grade 1).

5. The “Former CGO, Site” itself (Grade 1), including its landscape features, is an integrated whole. The slope features, 11SW-B/FR7 and 11SW-B/CR13, are located within/near it.

THE HIA

6. Given the heritage significance of the “Former CGO, Site”, AMO confirmed that HIA is required for the proposed slope works. CEDD has engaged a heritage consultant to conduct HIA with a view to examining the extent the proposed works would affect the “Former CGO, Site” and devising mitigation measures if adverse impact is unavoidable.

7. As set out in CEDD’s HIA report, all key character defining elements of the “Former CGO, Site” will be preserved and there is no long-term visual impact on the slope features. AMO considers the works proposal agreeable from the heritage conservation perspective. The recommended mitigation measures are also in order. Key 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 following link:

http://www.aab.gov.hk/form/HIA_report_cgolpm.pdf

8. Representatives of CEDD, as well as the project and heritage consultants, will present the HIA report and seek Members' comments.

ADVICE SOUGHT

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

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