MEMORANDUM FOR THE ANTIQUITIES ADVISORY BOARD

PROGRESS REPORT

PURPOSE

This paper briefs Members on the progress of major heritage conservation issues and activities since 1 August 2023.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

Declaration of Monuments

2. At the meeting on 8 June 2023, the Board recommended the declaration of Tin Hau Temple, Joss House Bay in Sai Kung and the Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong at No. 51 Bridges Street, Sheung Wan as monuments under the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance (Cap. 53). Subsequent to the approval given by the Chief Executive on 12 October 2023, the declaration was published in the Gazette and took effect on 20 October 2023. The subsidiary legislation was tabled for negative vetting at the Legislative Council sitting on 25 October 2023. The legislative process was completed with the expiry of the negative vetting period on 22 November 2023.

Preservation of Historic Buildings and Structures

3. The latest position on the preservation of historic buildings and structures monitored by the Board is set out at <u>Annex A</u>.

Restoration and Maintenance Programmes

4. The progress of restoration and maintenance projects undertaken by the Antiquities and Monuments Office ("AMO") is set out at <u>Annex B</u>.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECTS

Surveys / Excavations

5. The progress of archaeological projects undertaken by AMO is summarised at <u>Annex C</u>.

Archeological Licences

6. The progress of archaeological projects with licences issued is summarised at <u>Annex D</u>.

EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY

Statistics

7. Statistics on educational and publicity activities organised by the Commissioner for Heritage's Office ("CHO") and AMO between 1 August and 15 November 2023 are at <u>Annex E</u>.

Programmes and Activities Organised by CHO

8. The number of followers of the Instagram platform HK Heritage LIVE 活歷。香港 (IG name: @hkheritagelive), which was launched on 3 January 2022, has grown to 15 403 as at 15 November 2023.

9. "Heritage Fiesta 2023" featuring 10 declared monuments and historic buildings that are themed on greening and landscape, were held from 1 October to 30 November 2023. Over 100 guided tours were available during the event period. The related roving exhibition is held from 1 October to 29 December 2023 at shopping malls, government venues and public libraries.

Educational Programmes Organised by AMO

- 10. Major educational activities organised by AMO include:
 - (a) "Inseparable Ties: Cohesion as Told by Hong Kong Historic Buildings" photo exhibition being staged at Nanjing Municipal Museum recorded an attendance of 370 627 as at 15 November 2023;
 - (b) the "Monumental Stories Cat Curator Colouring Competition Winning Entries Exhibition" staged at HDC from 24 July 2023 to 30 August 2023 recorded a total attendance of 4 435, the exhibition further staged at Central Market from 1 to 30 September 2023 recorded a total attendance of 31 275;
 - (c) the "Fun Historic Building Tour Through Models of the Buildings" exhibition staged at HDC from 29 July 2023 to 13 September 2023 recorded a total attendance of 10 660;
 - (d) the models of historic buildings exhibition staged at Central Market from 1 to 30 September 2023 recorded a total attendance of 46 800;
 - (e) "The Aesthetics of Chinese Traditional Architecture: Structure and Form" exhibition staged at Central Market from 4 to 22 October 2023 recorded a total attendance of 30 480;
 - (f) the "Treasures from Sacred Hill: Song-Yuan Archaeological Discoveries at Sung Wong Toi" display which opened on 27 June 2021 at Sung Wong Toi MTR Station recorded a total attendance of 911 422 as at 15 November 2023;
 - (g) Haw Par Mansion, which has been reopened to the public since 9 June 2023 through guided tours held on Fridays to Sundays and public holidays with four sessions on each day, has attracted a total of 4 746 visitors in 268 guided tours as at 15 November 2023;
 - (h) "The Fifth Cultural Heritage Summer Course for Secondary School Students of the Mainland, Hong Kong and Macao SARs" jointly presented by the National Cultural Heritage Administration, Development Bureau of the Hong Kong SAR Government and the

Cultural Affairs Bureau of the Macao SAR Government, and organised by China Cultural Property Promotion Association, Sichuan Provincial Cultural Heritage Administration and AMO, was held from 12 to 17 August 2023. A total of 20 Hong Kong students participated in the course together with students from the Mainland and Macao SAR. Students attended lectures conducted by heritage specialists. They also visited heritage sites and museums, including the world heritage site Dujiangyan, Sanxingdui Museum, Sichuan Museum, Chengdu Museum, Du Fu Thatched Cottage, and Jinsha Site Museum;

- (i) with the support of the Tang clan of Ping Shan, AMO conducted two sharing sessions and a series of workshops for conservation specialists to teach Friends of Heritage to conserve historic soul tablets and to rub historic tablets. A total of 349 Friends of Heritage joined the two sharing sessions and 28 workshops and jointly conserved more than 300 soul tablets;
- (j) 431 guided tours were held at various heritage trails, heritage sites, HDC, Ping Shan Tang Clan Gallery with a total of 7 878 participants. Details are at <u>Annex F</u>; and
- (k) 35 workshops and 10 lectures were held between 1 August and 15 November 2023, recording a total attendance of 1 779 participants. Details of the workshops and lectures are at <u>Annex G</u>.

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