

**For discussion
on 7 March 2024**

**BOARD PAPER
AAB/26/2023-24**

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE
ANTIQUITIES ADVISORY BOARD**

**HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN RESPECT OF
THE REVITALISATION OF FONG YUEN STUDY HALL INTO
FONG YUEN STUDY HALL – EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING CENTER**

PURPOSE

This paper seeks Members' views on the findings of the Heritage Impact Assessment ("HIA") in respect of revitalisation of Fong Yuen Study Hall ("FYSH") into Fong Yuen Study Hall – Experiential Learning Center ("ELC").

HIA MECHANISM

2. The HIA in respect of revitalisation of FYSH into ELC was conducted in accordance with the HIA mechanism of the Development Bureau ("DevB") vide Technical Circular (Works) No. 1/2022. The HIA mechanism highlights that every effort should be made to minimise possible adverse impact on "Heritage Sites". 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 mitigation measures, as endorsed by the Antiquities Advisory Board ("AAB"), to be implemented.

THE PROJECT

3. The revitalisation of FYSH is one of the projects under Batch VI of the Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme ("Revitalisation Scheme") under the purview of 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 VI of Revitalisation Scheme was launched in December 2019, and the selection results were announced in June 2022. Approval-in-principle has been granted by the Secretary for Development to the Boy's Brigade, Hong Kong ("BBHK") to convert FYSH into ELC which is a learning centre, aiming to continue and expand the original school function by adding STEM innovation elements in its history, culture and environmental ecology activities. It will also provide services to connect the local community, groups and organisations through exhibitions, experiential workshops and guided tours.

5. Given that FYSH is a Grade 3 historic building, AMO confirmed that an HIA was required for the revitalisation works. BBHK has subsequently commissioned a heritage consultant to conduct the HIA.

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 FYSH in the course of revitalisation and outlining the future interpretation, maintenance and management strategies.

7. BBHK has submitted to AMO for consideration the HIA report for assessing the heritage impact of the proposed project scope and design based on AMO's Conservation Guidelines laid down in the FYSH's Resource Kit provided under the Revitalisation Scheme. Given that the character- defining elements of FYSH will be repaired as necessary and preserved as far as practicable and the likely impact on the historic structures will be kept to a minimum through the proposed mitigation measures, AMO considers the proposal agreeable from the heritage conservation perspective and is satisfied with the recommended mitigation measures. The salient points of the HIA report and AMO's comments are set out in **Annexes A and B** respectively. The full HIA report is at this hyperlink:

[https://www.aab.gov.hk/filemanager/aab/common/204meeting/HIA%20Report%20-%20FYSH%20\(issue\).pdf](https://www.aab.gov.hk/filemanager/aab/common/204meeting/HIA%20Report%20-%20FYSH%20(issue).pdf).

8. Representatives of BBHK, as well as its project and heritage conservation consultant will present the HIA report at the meeting. Members are invited to offer comments and advise on the findings of the HIA.

Antiquities and Monuments Office

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