Subcommittee on Antiquities and Monuments (Declaration of Historical Buildings) (No. 2) Notice 2013

Follow-up actions to be taken by the Administration in response to members' requests made at the meeting on 14 January 2014

- 1. The Subcommittee noted that the maintenance/restoration works for Tat Tak Communal Hall and Fat Tat Tong were already in progress or planned to commence. The Administration was requested to advise --
 - (a) the cost breakdown in respect of the maintenance/restoration works for Tat Tak Communal Hall, namely, restoration of the communal hall, drainage works to the front court of the building/its surrounding, and slope stabilisation/improvement works under the purview of the Antiquities and Monuments Office, the Drainage Services Department and Civil Engineering and Development Department respectively; and
 - (b) the maintenance/restoration plan for Fat Tat Tong and the estimated cost involved.
- 2. The Subcommittee noted that there was an agreement between the owner of Fat Tat Tong and the Administration regarding the declaration proposal, which stipulated, among others, opening of Fat Tat Tong for public access upon the declaration of the building as a monument. In connection with this, the Administration was requested to --
 - (a) provide, where appropriate, the content of the agreement;
 - (b) provide details of the arrangement with respect to when and how it would be open for public access (including the opening hours, the parts of the building to be open for public access etc.);
 - (c) advise whether the Administration would provide services (such as cleaning, security etc.) to ensure that Fat Tat Tong was open to public access as in (b), and if yes, the details including the estimated public expenditure involved; and

- (d) advise whether the agreement and any opening arrangement reached/to be reached between the Administration and the owner were legally binding.
- 3. The Administration was requested to --
 - (a) advise the publicity plan to promote declared monuments, in particular Fat Tat Tong and Tat Tak Communal Hall, to the public and foster public awareness and appreciation of them; and
 - (b) consider acquiring the ownership of Fat Tat Tong which was still used as a private residence, by (i) purchasing the monument; or (ii) providing economic incentives, such as land exchange, to the owner so as to allow greater public access to and appreciation of the monument as well as for better public use.

Council Business Division 1 Legislative Council Secretariat 24 January 2014