

**For discussion on
21 June 2016**

Legislative Council Panel on Development

Progress Report on Heritage Conservation Initiatives

Purpose

This paper briefs Members on the progress made in respect of the various heritage conservation initiatives since our last reporting to the Panel in June 2015, and invites Members' views on our future work.

Heritage Conservation Policy

Policy statement

2. As promulgated in 2007, the Government seeks “to protect, conserve and revitalise as appropriate historical and heritage sites and buildings through relevant and sustainable approaches for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations. In implementing this policy, due regard should be given to development needs in the public interest, respect for private property rights, budgetary considerations, cross-sector collaboration and active engagement of stakeholders and the general public.”

Statutory monument declaration system

3. In accordance with section 3 of the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance (Cap. 53) (the “Ordinance”), the Antiquities Authority (i.e. the Secretary for Development (“SDEV”)) may, after consultation with the Antiquities Advisory Board (“AAB”) and with the approval of the Chief Executive, by notice in the Gazette, declare any place, building, site or structure, which the Authority considers to be of public interest by reason of its historical, archaeological or palaeontological significance, to be a

monument. Monuments are subject to statutory protection provided under the Ordinance. Pursuant to section 6 of the Ordinance, the protection includes prohibition of any excavation, carrying on building or other works on the monument, and any action to demolish, remove, obstruct, deface or interfere with the monument unless a permit is granted by the Antiquities Authority.

Administrative grading system

4. The AAB, having regard to the assessments of the heritage value of individual historic buildings by an independent Historic Buildings Assessment Panel and the views and additional information received from members of the public and the owners of the buildings concerned during public consultation, has accorded Grade 1, Grade 2 and Grade 3 status¹ to individual historic buildings. Since 2005, the following six criteria have been used to assess the heritage value of historic buildings: historical interest, architectural merit, group value, social value and local interest, authenticity, and rarity. Compared with monument declaration, the grading system is administrative in nature which provides an objective basis for determining the heritage value, and hence the preservation need, of historic buildings in Hong Kong.

Internal monitoring mechanism

5. The Government has established an internal mechanism to monitor any demolition of/alterations to declared monuments/proposed monuments or graded buildings/buildings proposed to be graded. Under the mechanism, the Buildings Department, Lands Department and Planning Department will alert the Commissioner for Heritage's Office ("CHO") of the Development Bureau and the Antiquities and Monuments Office ("AMO") of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department regarding any identified possible threat which may affect privately-owned sites of archaeological interests, monuments and historic buildings that

¹ Under the grading system,
– Grade 1 status refers to buildings of outstanding merit, which every effort should be made to preserve if possible;
– Grade 2 status refers to buildings of special merit; efforts should be made to selectively preserve; and
– Grade 3 status refers to buildings of some merit; preservation in some form would be desirable and alternative means could be considered if preservation is not practicable.

have been brought to the departments' attention through applications and enquiries received and in the normal course of duty such as regular inspections.

6. The monitoring mechanism enables CHO and AMO to take timely follow-up actions with the private owners concerned. CHO and AMO have been approaching them to explore conservation options on receipt of alerts from relevant departments under the mechanism that plans are afoot for the demolition or redevelopment of any privately-owned graded buildings. We recognise that on the premise of respecting private property rights, we need to offer appropriate economic incentives to encourage or in exchange for private owners to conserve historic buildings in their ownership. In implementing this policy, we aim to strike a proper balance between preservation of historic buildings and respect for private property rights. Given individual circumstances, the requisite economic incentives to achieve the policy objective will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme

7. Launched in 2008, the Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme (the "Revitalisation Scheme") aims to preserve and put government-owned historic buildings into good and innovative use; to transform historic buildings into unique cultural landmarks; to promote active public participation in the conservation of historic buildings; and to create job opportunities, in particular at the district level.

8. Under the Revitalisation Scheme, non-profit-making organisations are invited to submit proposals to revitalise selected government-owned graded historic buildings in the form of social enterprises. The new Advisory Committee on Built Heritage Conservation ("ACBHC"), which has been in place since May 2016 to replace the former Advisory Committee on Revitalisation of Historic Buildings, is responsible for assessing the applications in accordance with a marking scheme consisting of five assessment criteria, namely (a) reflection of historical value and significance; (b) technical aspects; (c) social value and social enterprise operation; (d) financial viability; and (e) management capability and other considerations.

9. Where justified, we will provide financial support to the projects, including:

- (a) one-off grant to cover the costs of major renovation to the buildings, in part or in full;
- (b) nominal rental for the buildings; and
- (c) one-off grant to meet the starting costs and operating deficits (if any) of the social enterprises for a maximum of the first two years of operation at a ceiling of \$5 million, on the prerequisite that the proposals are projected to become self-sustainable after this initial period.

Financial Assistance for Maintenance Scheme

10. To help prevent privately-owned graded historic buildings from deterioration due to a lack of maintenance, the Government has launched the Financial Assistance for Maintenance Scheme (“FAS”) since 2008 to provide subsidies to private owners of graded historic buildings to carry out maintenance works themselves. The amount of grant for each successful application will be determined based on the justifications provided by the applicant with the ceiling being \$1 million. We enhanced the application procedure in April 2015 to provide additional support for pre-construction works, which should attract more private owners of graded historic buildings to submit applications for carrying out maintenance works.

11. At the same time, we will allow flexibility on the requirements of public access to privately-owned graded historic buildings receiving financial assistance from the Government for preservation and maintenance, if it is justified on grounds such as privacy or building stability. Meanwhile, we are also studying the application of new technology, such as 3D laser scanning and printing, to keep detailed records of historic buildings that would facilitate public access and viewing.

Heritage Impact Assessment

12. To ensure a balance be struck between the requirements for development initiated by the Government and heritage conservation, project proponents and relevant works departments for all new capital works projects are required to consider whether their projects will affect sites or buildings of historic or archaeological significance (collectively known as “heritage sites”). If the answer is in the affirmative, then a Heritage Impact Assessment (“HIA”) will be required. Mitigation measures should be devised and the public should be engaged.

Preservation of historic remains discovered at works sites

13. The Ordinance regulates the discovery and excavation of antiquities. The purpose of the Ordinance is to establish control over archaeological discoveries and to ensure that items of particular historical interest are preserved for the enjoyment of the community. It seeks to maintain a balance between heritage conservation and development to ensure that future generations, while enjoying an improved environment, are able to learn from worthy monuments of the past; and at the same time, to ensure that essential developments are not unnecessarily held up for the preservation of antiquities of minor importance.

Progress Made on Heritage Conservation Initiatives

Policy review on conservation of built heritage

14. As announced in the 2013 Policy Address, in the light of experiences in recent years, we decided to launch a policy review on the conservation of privately-owned historic buildings (the “Policy Review”). In February 2013, SDEV invited the AAB to assist in the Policy Review. It was completed in December 2014 and the review report was released in January 2015. We accept the recommendations of the AAB and have set up task forces to follow up and work out the details for implementation.

15. In response to the AAB’s recommendation to set up a dedicated fund on the conservation of built heritage, as announced in the 2016

Policy Address, the Government will earmark \$500 million to establish the Built Heritage Conservation Fund (“BHCF”), which will provide subsidies for public education, community involvement and publicity activities, and academic research. The BHCF will also cover certain existing government initiatives and activities on built heritage conservation including the Revitalisation Scheme and the FAS.

16. In the 2016-17 Budget, it is further announced that a commitment of \$100 million (out of the aforesaid \$500 million earmarked) will be reserved for non-works initiatives in conservation and revitalisation of historic buildings. The remaining \$400 million will be used to cover the capital costs of the works projects under the Revitalisation Scheme.

17. The new ACBHC, which has been set up to advise the Government on the operation of the BHCF, comprises a non-official Chairman, 14 non-official members and three official members appointed by SDEV. Members of the ACBHC come from different fields and professions such as architecture, historical research, social enterprise, engineering, surveying, business and private practitioners of built heritage conservation. The ACBHC will assess new applications and monitor existing projects under the Revitalisation Scheme, monitor the operation of the FAS, and advise the Government on funding support for public education, community involvement and publicity activities, academic research, consultancy and technical studies relating to the conservation of built heritage. The membership list and the terms of reference of the ACBHC are at [Annex A](#).

18. To follow up the AAB’s recommendation of facilitating the adaptive re-use of historic buildings under the building regulations, an interdepartmental task force has been set up. As a first step, the task force has completed the updating of the “Practice Note for Authorised Persons and Registered Structural Engineers and Registered Geotechnical Engineers on Conservation of Historic Buildings” (PNAP APP-69). This updated version was released in January 2016, with a view to providing clearer and more concrete guidelines to private owners of historic buildings and built heritage practitioners who would like to undertake alteration and addition works for adaptive re-use of historic

buildings.

19. Moreover, we plan to complete the updating of the “Practice Guidebook for Adaptive Re-use of and Alteration and Addition Works to Heritage Building 2012” (the “Practice Guidebook”) by phases in 2016. The updating exercise will incorporate the experiences in carrying out alteration and addition works to historic buildings in the past few years, such as those arising from the projects under the Revitalisation Scheme. The first and second phase updates of the Practice Guidebook are expected to be released by mid-2016 and late 2016 respectively.

20. Apart from considering the means of providing more attractive economic incentives to the private owners beyond compensation, we will also devise a more formalised, systematic and well-publicised mechanism for offering incentives and assistance to private owners in accordance with the scale, building conditions and heritage value of the historic buildings. In the meantime, to encourage private owners to make better use of the economic incentives available, we will set up a new page on our heritage website to share details of successful preservation-cum-development projects involving various kinds of economic incentives. In addition to providing relevant information to private owners at the one-stop portal, it is hoped that this could also stimulate discussion in the community to facilitate our development of more attractive economic incentives.

21. Separately, we plan to improve the FAS with a view to facilitating owners and stakeholders in carrying out more in-depth and comprehensive maintenance works to historic buildings. For instance, we are considering increasing the ceiling of grant for each project and expanding the scope of the Scheme to cover not only the privately-owned graded buildings but also other historic buildings.

Declaration of monuments

22. With the support of the AAB and the approval of the Chief Executive, Signal Tower in Tsim Sha Tsui, Race Course Fire Memorial in So Kon Po and the façade of the Old Mental Hospital in Sai Ying Pun; as well as Blocks 7, 10 and 25 of the Old Lei Yue Mun Barracks in Chai

Wan were declared as monuments under the Ordinance by notice in the Gazette on 23 October 2015 and 20 May 2016 respectively. At present, there are 114 declared monuments in Hong Kong.

Grading exercise for historic buildings

23. Since 2009, the AAB has been reviewing the grading of 1 444 historic buildings selected from some 8 800 buildings built mainly before 1950, which were covered in a territory-wide survey conducted by the AMO from 1996 to 2000. Apart from these 1 444 buildings, over 200 suggestions for grading some other items (new items/categories) have been received from the public. The AAB has agreed to follow a step-by-step approach, focusing first on the 1 444 buildings. AAB will proceed to examine new items/categories alongside the remaining 157 buildings from the list of 1 444 buildings.

24. As at the last AAB meeting in April 2016, AAB has finalised the grading of 1 338 buildings as set out below:

- (a) 171 buildings with Grade 1 status;
- (b) 363 buildings with Grade 2 status;
- (c) 493 buildings with Grade 3 status;
- (d) 293 buildings with no grading; and
- (e) 18 buildings with no further processing due to their demolition or substantial alteration.

The number of remaining buildings on the list of 1 444 buildings and the new items/categories pending grading finalisation/assessment is 294.

Revitalisation Scheme

25. So far, four batches of 15 government-owned graded historic buildings have been included in the Revitalisation Scheme. The progress of the various projects is summarised in **Annex B**. We are

considering the potential buildings for inclusion into Batch V which will be launched by the end of 2016.

“Conserving Central”

26. In 2009, the Government announced the “Conserving Central” initiative, which comprises eight innovative projects to preserve many of the important cultural, historical and architectural features in Central while adding new life and vibrancy to the area. The implementation progress of the projects is set out at **Annex C**.

Financial Assistance for Maintenance Scheme

27. Since the FAS was introduced in 2008, we have approved 49 applications as at end May 2016, involving a total grant of \$45.28 million. These approved applications and a list of 26 new applications under processing are set out at **Annex D**.

Heritage Impact Assessment

28. As at end May 2016, 3 590 new capital works projects of different scales have gone through the HIA mechanism. Among these works projects, the AMO has required 50 projects to carry out full HIA to assess their impacts on sites and buildings of historical and archaeological significance.

Conservation of privately-owned historic buildings

29. Since the last progress report, there has been one new case in connection with the conservation of privately-owned historic buildings. No. 23 Coombe Road (a Grade 1 historic building) is preserved through non-in-situ land exchange of a site which is opposite to and is of similar development parameters of the original site. To facilitate the preservation-cum-development proposal, the Metro Planning Committee of the Town Planning Board approved the owner’s application to rezone the government land opposite to No. 23 Coombe Road from “Green Belt” to “Residential (Group C) 6” on 6 November 2015.

Publicity and public education

30. Since the last progress report, we have organised various publicity and public education activities targeting different sectors of the community. Details are set out in **Annex E**.

Discovery of objects of archaeological or historical interest at the works site of To Kwa Wan Station of the Shatin-to-Central Link

31. According to the conservation plan approved in December 2014, the majority of the archaeological features of Song-Yuan period discovered at the construction site of the To Kwa Wan Station have been preserved in-situ after consultation with the AAB, the Legislative Council Panel on Development, and the Kowloon City District Council. AMO, CHO and Highways Department are liaising with the MTR Corporation Limited on the issues regarding the display of selected unearthed relics in the future To Kwa Wan Station. The relevant design work is now in progress. Relevant stakeholders will be consulted in due course when the proposed arrangements of display and interpretation are available.

Advice Sought

32. Members are invited to note the latest position of the various heritage conservation initiatives being pursued by DEVB and provide views and suggestions on our future work.

Development Bureau
June 2016

Advisory Committee on Built Heritage Conservation

Membership

The membership of the Committee is as follows:

Chairman

Dr Lau Chi-pang, JP

Non-official Members

Mr Wallace Chang Ping-hung

Mr Calvin Chiu Kit-man

Mr Vincent Ho Kui-yip

Professor Ho Pui-yin

Professor Desmond Hui Cheuk-kuen

Mrs Yvonne Law Shing Mo-han, JP

Dr Jane Lee Ching-yee, JP

Mrs Miranda Leung Chan Che-ming

Dr Eunice Mak Hoi-cheung

Ms Theresa Ng Choi-yuk

Ir Dr Derrick Pang Yat-bond

Ms Salome See Sau-mei

Mr Douglas So Cheung-tak

Professor Billy So Kee-long

Official Members

Commissioner for Heritage

Assistant Director of Architectural Services
(Property Services)

Assistant Director of Leisure and Cultural
Services (Heritage and Museums)

Terms of Reference

- (a) To advise the Secretary for Development (“SDEV”) on the operation of the Built Heritage Conservation Fund (“BHCF”);
- (b) To examine applications and make recommendations to SDEV on the use of historic buildings as announced by the Government from time to time, under the Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme. Upon selection of successful applications, to recommend the level of subsidy both in terms of the one-off major renovation costs and the one-off grant to meet the starting costs and operating deficits. In case of non-compliance by the successful applicants (or tenants), to advise what actions are to be taken;
- (c) To monitor the operation of the Financial Assistance for Maintenance Scheme;
- (d) To advise SDEV on the funding support to public education, community involvement and publicity activities, academic research, consultancy and technical studies in relation to the conservation of built heritage; and
- (e) To advise on any other matters relating to the use of the BHCF as referred by SDEV.

**Projects under the Revitalising Historic Buildings
Through Partnership Scheme (the “Revitalisation Scheme”)**

Batch I

There are six projects under Batch I of the Revitalisation Scheme. Their latest position is as follows:

- (a) **Former North Kowloon Magistracy** – it has been revitalised into the Savannah College of Art and Design (“SCAD”) Hong Kong Campus for the provision of non-local higher education courses in art and design. SCAD Hong Kong commenced operation in September 2010. The project received an Honourable Mention in the 2011 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (“UNESCO”) Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation. By the end of May 2016, over 230 500 visitors have participated in the free public guided tours, exhibitions and open days arranged by the College;
- (b) **Old Tai O Police Station** – it has been revitalised and adaptively re-used as the Tai O Heritage Hotel, and started operating in February 2012. The project received an Award of Merit in the 2013 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation. By the end of May 2016, over 845 900 visitors have visited the hotel;
- (c) **Fong Yuen Study Hall** – it has been revitalised into a tourism and Chinese cultural centre cum Ma Wan residents’ museum. Operation started in March 2013. By the end of May 2016, over 12 300 visitors have visited the revitalised building;
- (d) **Mei Ho House** – it has been revitalised into the YHA Mei Ho House Youth Hostel, comprising 129 guest rooms, a cafeteria and a museum on public housing development in Hong Kong.

The hostel started operation in December 2013. The project received an Honourable Mention in the 2015 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation. By the end of May 2016, over 591 300 visitors have visited the hostel;

- (e) **Former Lai Chi Kok Hospital** – this cluster of historic buildings has been revitalised into the Jao Tsung-I Academy, a centre for promoting Chinese culture. Full operation of the Academy commenced in June 2014. By the end of May 2016, over 422 200 visitors have visited the place; and
- (f) **Lui Seng Chun** – it has been revitalised into a Chinese medicine and healthcare centre named “Hong Kong Baptist University School of Chinese Medicine – Lui Seng Chun”. The centre commenced operation in April 2012. By the end of May 2016, over 225 600 visitors have visited the revitalised building.

Batch II

2. There are three projects under Batch II of the Revitalisation Scheme. Their latest position is as follows:

- (a) **Old Tai Po Police Station** – it has been revitalised into the “Green Hub” for sustainable living. Educational programmes and training camps are provided under the project to develop, teach and promote affordable strategies for ecologically responsible and low carbon living. Operation commenced in August 2015. By the end of May 2016, over 42 800 visitors have visited the place;
- (b) **Blue House Cluster** – it is being revitalised into the Viva Blue House, a multi-functional complex providing residential accommodation and various kinds of services to the local community. Renovation works for Yellow House and Orange House (Phase I) were completed in March 2016, while those for

Blue House (Phase II) are expected to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2016; and

- (c) **Stone Houses** – the site has been revitalised into the Stone Houses Family Garden, a themed cafeteria-cum-visitor information centre. The project commenced operation in October 2015. By the end of May 2016, over 114 800 visitors have visited the place.

Batch III

3. There are three projects under Batch III of the Revitalisation Scheme. Their latest position is as follows:

- (a) **Haw Par Mansion** – it will be revitalised and adaptively re-used as the Haw Par Music Farm, a music school providing training on Chinese and Western music and promoting the exchange of Chinese and Western music culture. Renovation works are expected to start in mid-2016 for completion in 2018;
- (b) **Bridges Street Market** – it will be revitalised into the Hong Kong News-Expo. Renovation works are expected to start in mid-2016 for completion in 2018; and
- (c) **Former Fanling Magistracy** – it will be revitalised into the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups Institute for Leadership Development. Renovation works are expected to start in mid-2016 for completion in 2018.

Batch IV

4. There are three projects under Batch IV of the Revitalisation Scheme. Their latest position is as follows:

- (a) **No. 12 School Street** – Tai Hang Residents' Welfare Association has been selected to revitalise the building into the

Tai Hang Fire Dragon Heritage Centre. Subject to approval of funding in 2017, renovation works are expected to start in the end of 2017 for completion in the first half of 2019;

- (b) **Old Dairy Farm Senior Staff Quarters** – Caritas-Hong Kong has been selected to revitalise the building into The Pokfulam Farm. Subject to approval of funding in 2017, renovation works are expected to start in the end of 2017 for completion in the first half of 2019; and
- (c) **Lady Ho Tung Welfare Centre** – Sik Sik Yuen, supported by the IMC of Ho Koon Nature Education cum Astronomical Centre as co-applicant, has been selected to revitalise the building into the Lady Ho Tung Welfare Centre Eco-Learn Institute. Subject to approval of funding in 2017, renovation works are expected to start in the end of 2017 for completion in the first half of 2019.

Progress of “Conserving Central” Projects

Central Police Station (“CPS”) Compound

In partnership with the Hong Kong Jockey Club (“HKJC”), the Government is taking forward the revitalisation of the CPS Compound, which comprises three groups of monument buildings, namely the CPS, the Central Magistracy and the Victoria Prison. The HKJC will fund the capital cost of revitalising the Compound into a space for cultural activities, integrating heritage, contemporary art and leisure facilities, as well as any operating deficit until the project is financially self-sustainable. A tenancy agreement has been entered into between the Government and The Jockey Club CPS Limited (with trading name of Tai Kwun) for the operation of the revitalised facilities.

2. Apart from revitalising 16 historic buildings in the Compound, the HKJC will construct two new buildings of a modest scale, i.e. the galleries on Old Bailey Street to house art gallery space, and the auditorium on Arbuthnot Road to house a multi-purpose venue as well as the central plants. Construction works started in November 2011.

3. In the light of the partial collapse of Block 4 (i.e. Married Inspectors’ Quarters) in the evening of 29 May 2016, the HKJC will set up an independent review panel to look into the cause of the incident and to recommend improvement measures. Separately, the Buildings Department (“BD”) will carry out its own investigation on the incident.

Former Police Married Quarters on Hollywood Road

4. Taken forward by the Musketeers Education and Culture Charitable Foundation Limited, its strategic partners and the Government, the Former Police Married Quarters on Hollywood Road has been revitalised into a creative industries landmark, the “PMQ”. Since its commissioning in April 2014, the “PMQ” has organised a series of events,

including the recent “detour 2015” and “Hong Kong on Steps”. According to a survey conducted by the “PMQ”, the number of visitors since its opening till the end of May 2016 was over 7.1 million.

Former Central Government Offices (“CGO”) Complex

5. Following public consultation, the Government announced in December 2012 its plan to:

- (a) re-use the CGO West Wing, in addition to the Main and East Wings, as offices for the Department of Justice (“DoJ”) which will allow relocation of all of DoJ’s divisions to the former CGO. This will release DoJ’s offices currently accommodated in government-owned premises in Admiralty and Central, such as the Queensway Government Offices, for use by other government departments and enable the de-leasing of DoJ’s offices accommodated in private buildings in the vicinity of Admiralty; and
- (b) provide office space in the West Wing to law-related organisations to enable them to develop their services as well as to create a favourable environment to attract more international legal and dispute resolution institutions to be set up in Hong Kong.

6. Renovation works for the Main and East Wings were completed and some offices of the DoJ have been relocated in the third quarter of 2015. As regards the works for the West Wing, the Antiquities Advisory Board discussed and endorsed the Heritage Impact Assessment report in respect of the project at its meeting in March 2015. The DoJ consulted the Central and Western District Council (“C&WDC”) in May 2015 and members had no in-principle objection. The DoJ also consulted the Legislative Council (“LegCo”) Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services at the meeting on 25 April 2016 on the renovation works and the proposal was supported. Subject to funding approval by the LegCo Finance Committee within the legislative session, it is anticipated that the renovation works will commence in the fourth quarter of 2016 for

completion by the fourth quarter of 2018.

Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui (“HKSKH”)’s Central Compound

7. In June 2011, the Chief Executive in Council approved the land lease modification for HKSKH’s Compound on Lower Albert Road (the “Central site”) and the in-situ land exchange for its other site at Clementi Road, Mount Butler (the “Mount Butler site”) at nominal premium to facilitate the optimal preservation of all four historic buildings at the Central site¹. Under HKSKH’s preservation-cum-development proposal, all four historic buildings² at its Central site will be preserved and other existing buildings will be replaced by new ones to provide the needed space for HKSKH’s religious and community services. To ensure there is sufficient space for the provision of enhanced community services while reducing the overall development density at the Central site, HKSKH will relocate some of the existing uses and additional space requirements originally to be provided through redevelopment at the Central site to the Mount Butler site.

8. HKSKH is reviewing its proposal for the Central site to explore the feasibility of making amendments to the uses to be provided at the site (including the construction of a private hospital) in the light of its own operational needs and in consultation with relevant bureaux and departments. When the detailed design is available, HKSKH will further consult the C&WDC. As regards the proposal for the Mount Butler site, HKSKH will continue to communicate with the local residents and to explain to them the design and traffic arrangement of the redevelopment project.

Central Market

¹ Details are set out in the LegCo Brief entitled “Preservation-cum-development of the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Compound in Central” issued on 15 June 2011.

² There are four historic buildings within the Central site, namely, the Bishop’s House (Grade 1), St. Paul’s Church (Grade 1), the Church Guest House (also known as Martin House; Grade 1), and the Old Sheng Kung Hui Kei Yan Primary School (originally the south wing of St. Paul’s College; Grade 2).

9. In September 2015, the Urban Renewal Authority (“URA”) decided on a simplified design for the revitalisation of the Central Market. The URA subsequently submitted a planning application in respect of the project to the Town Planning Board, which was approved with conditions on 18 March 2016. After obtaining the necessary approvals, the URA will commence the revitalisation project as soon as possible with a view to completing it early for public enjoyment.

Murray Building

10. To pave way for the conversion of Murray Building into a hotel, the Government rezoned the site to “Other Specified Uses” annotated “Building with Architectural Merits Preserved for Hotel Use” on the Central District Outline Zoning Plan in July 2010. A set of development requirements to preserve the architectural merits of Murray Building have been formulated and detailed conservation requirements have been set out in the tender conditions. The development project was tendered out in November 2013. The Master Layout Plan was approved in December 2014, and the building plans were approved by BD in February 2015. It is expected that the conversion project will be completed by the end of 2018.

Former French Mission Building (“FMB”)

11. The Court of Final Appeal was relocated from the FMB to the old Supreme Court building at 8 Jackson Road, Central in September 2015. The FMB is temporarily used by the Judiciary for office use. The DoJ will take over the FMB after completion of necessary procedures and provide space in the FMB for use by legal services and dispute resolution institutions, after carrying out the necessary renovation. This is in line with government policy as set out in the 2013, 2014 and 2015 Policy Addresses as well as the 2014 Budget Speech to facilitate suitable international legal organisations as well as local law-related organisations to set up or develop services in Hong Kong. It would also enable the FMB and the former CGO to form a “legal hub”, which is commensurate with the status and historical background of the FMB as a declared

monument. The DoJ and the departments concerned are taking forward the preparatory works for the renovation of the FMB. The DoJ has briefed the C&WDC on the details of the proposed works on 10 March 2016 and members had no in-principle objection.

Financial Assistance for Maintenance Scheme

A. Approved applications (total: 49 as at end May 2016)

(a) Maintenance works for the following 31 approved applications, at a total cost of \$28.22 million, have been completed:

1. Lo Pan Temple, Kennedy Town (Grade 1);
2. Conference Hall and Pilgrim's Hall of the Tao Fong Shan Christian Centre, Tao Fung Shan Road, Sha Tin (Grade 2);
3. Main Building of Helena May, Garden Road, Central (the exterior of the building has been declared as a monument and the interior of the building is Grade 2);
4. Ancestral Hall of Tsang Tai Uk, Shan Ha Wai Village, Sha Tin (Grade 1);
5. No. 3 Bungalow, St. Stephen's College, Stanley (Grade 1);
6. Tin Hau Temple, Kam Tin, Yuen Long (Grade 3);
7. Hung Shing Temple, Hung Leng, Fanling (Grade 3);
8. Jamia Mosque, Shelly Street, Sheung Wan (Grade 1);
9. Hung Shing Temple, Ping Shan, Yuen Long (Grade 2);
10. Side Chapel of the Tao Fong Shan Christian Centre, Tao Fung Shan Road, Sha Tin (Grade 2);
11. Tat Yan Study Hall, Shan Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long (Grade 2);
12. Leung Ancestral Hall, Ma Po Mei, Tai Po (Grade 3);

13. Earth God Shrine, Kam Tsin Village, Sheung Shui (Grade 2);
14. Tsang's Ancestral Hall, Chuen Lung, Tsuen Wan (Grade 3);
15. Tsung Tsin Mission of Hong Kong Kau Yan Church, Sai Ying Pun (Grade 1);
16. 176 Shung Ching San Tsuen (Lim House), Shap Pat Heung, Yuen Long (Grade 2);
17. Hung Shing Temple, Ping Shan, Yuen Long, Phase II (Grade 2);
18. Jamia Mosque, Shelly Street, Sheung Wan, Phase II (Grade 1);
19. Tsung Tsin Mission of Hong Kong Kau Yan Church, Sai Ying Pun, Phase II (Grade 1);
20. Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Holy Trinity Cathedral, Kowloon City (Grade 2);
21. Kowloon Union Church, Yau Ma Tei (Grade 1);
22. Tin Hau Temple, Kam Tin, Yuen Long, Phase II (Grade 3);
23. Tin Hau Temple, Lam Tsuen, Tai Po (Grade 2);
24. Holy Spirit Seminary, Chapel, Wong Chuk Hang (Grade 3);
25. Entrance gate of Mong Tseng Wai, Yuen Long (Grade 3);
26. Tao Fong Shan Christian Centre (Christ Temple), Sha Tin (Grade 2);

27. No. 8 San Lau Street, Sha Tau Kok (Grade 2);
 28. Ip Ancestral Hall, Sha Tau Kok (Grade 3);
 29. Tin Hau Temple, Fung Chi Tsuen, Yuen Long (Grade 1);
 30. First Church of Christ Scientist, Central (Grade 2); and
 31. Tat Yan Study Hall, Yuen Long, Phase II (Grade 2).
- (b) The design or maintenance works for the following 18 approved applications, at a total approved cost of \$17.06 million, is in progress:
1. Yuen Kwan Tai Temple, Mong Tseng Wai, Yuen Long (Grade 1);
 2. No. 71 San Wai Tsuen, San Tin, Yuen Long (Grade 3);
 3. Municipal Services Staff Recreation Club, King's Park, Kowloon (Grade 3);
 4. Ancestral Hall (Middle Hall) of Tsang Tai Uk, Sha Tin (Grade 1);
 5. No. 60 Kat Hing Street, Tai O, Lantau (Grade 3);
 6. Man San Ye Ancestral Hall, San Tin, Yuen Long (Grade 2);
 7. Lo Pan Temple, Kennedy Town, Phase II (Grade 1);
 8. Kwong Yuet Tong Public Office, Kennedy Town (Grade 3);
 9. Tin Hau Temple, Kat O (Grade 3);
 10. No. 21 San Lung Tsuen, San Tin, Yuen Long (Grade 3);

11. No. 22 San Lung Tsuen, San Tin, Yuen Long (Grade 3);
12. Lai Mansion, Pat Heung, Yuen Long (Grade 2);
13. Shrine of Tin Sam Tsuen, Hung Shui Kiu, Yuen Long (Grade 3);
14. Kowloon Bowling Green Club, Tsim Sha Tsui (Grade 3);
15. No. 14 Tai O Market Street, Lantau (Grade 2);
16. Sik Lo, Yeung Ka Tsuen, Shap Pat Heung, Yuen Long (Grade 2);
17. Ling Wan Monastery, Kwun Yam Shan, Pat Heung, Yuen Long (Grade 3); and
18. Tin Hau Temple, Sha Kong Tsuen, Yuen Long (Grade 3).

B. Applications under processing (total: 26 as at end May 2016) among which 17 have secured Stage 1 approval

1. Hau Mei Fung Ancestral Hall, Kam Tsin Village, Sheung Shui (Grade 1);
2. Yuen's Mansion, Barn, Mui Wo, Lantau (Grade 2);
3. Yuen's Mansion, Main House, Mui Wo, Lantau (Grade 2);
4. Yuen's Mansion, Front House, Mui Wo, Lantau (Grade 2);
5. Yuen's Mansion, East Watchtower, Mui Wo, Lantau (Grade 2);
6. Yuen's Mansion, Small House, Mui Wo, Lantau (Grade 2);

7. Kwan Tai Temple, Tai O, Lantau (Grade 2);
8. Pui Ching Primary School, Gateway, Waterloo Road, Kowloon (Grade 3);
9. St. Stephen's Chapel, St. Stephen College, Stanley (Grade 3);
10. Tin Hau Temple, Tai O, Lantau (Grade 3);
11. No. 139 Ping Yeung, Ta Kwu Ling (Grade 2);
12. Law Ancestral Hall, Tai Po (Grade 3);
13. No. 176 Shung Ching San Tsuen (Lim House), Shap Pat Heung, Yuen Long, Phase II (Grade 2);
14. Tsang Tai Uk (Northwest Watch Tower), Sha Tin (Grade 1);
15. Tin Hau Temple, Lam Tsuen, Tai Po, Phase II (Grade 2);
16. Tin Hau Temple, Fung Chi Tsuen, Yuen Long, Phase II (Grade 1);
17. No. 7 Tai O Market Street, Tai O, Lantau (Grade 2);
18. Tao Fong Shan Christian Centre (Thelle House), Sha Tin (Grade 2);
19. Ng Ancestral Hall, Fung Wong Wu, Ta Kwu Ling (Grade 3);
20. St. Andrew's Church Compound, Tsimshatsui (Grade 2);
21. First Church of Christ Scientist, Central, Phase II (Grade 2)

22. Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Holy Trinity Cathedral, Kowloon City, Phase II (Grade 2);
23. Yeung Hau Temple, Ping Shan, Yuen Long, (Grade 3);
24. Old Far East Flying Training School, Kowloon City (Grade 3);
25. Hip Tin Temple, Shan Tsui Tsuen, Sha Tau Kok (Grade 1);
and
26. Entrance Gate, Wing Lung Wai, Kam Tin, Yuen Long (Grade 2).

Publicity and Public Education Activities

Since the last progress report in June 2015, the Government has organised the following publicity and public education activities:

- (a) roving photo exhibition on “Financial Assistance for Maintenance Scheme” for privately-owned historic buildings from June to December 2015, featuring 18 privately-owned graded historic buildings that have undergone maintenance works with the financial support from the Scheme, attracting over 202 100 visitors;
- (b) “King Yin Lei Public Open Days” from July 2015 to January 2016, attracting over 18 900 visitors;
- (c) “Heritage Fiesta 2015” with open days, guided tours and two photo exhibitions from October to November 2015, featuring 25 arts and cultural venues that are historic buildings, attracting over 53 500 visitors;
- (d) music performances at YHA Mei Ho House Youth Hostel, Green Hub, PMQ and Stone Houses Family Garden from January to April 2016 under the “Appreciate Hong Kong” Campaign, attracting several hundred of visitors; and
- (e) King Yin Lei guided tours for 16 underprivileged groups under the “Appreciate Hong Kong” Campaign in March and April 2016, attracting over 240 visitors.

2. We continue to keep the public informed of developments on the heritage front and our heritage conservation work through:

- (a) our dedicated heritage website (www.heritage.gov.hk); and
- (b) since June 2008, our bimonthly heritage newsletter, “活化

@Heritage” has been effective in the dissemination of heritage conservation information. The newsletters are distributed both electronically and in printed form with a circulation of over 6 200 copies per issue.

3. In the coming months of 2016, we plan to continue to organise a series of programmes including:

- (a) roving exhibition on “New Life @ Heritage II” featuring three historic buildings under Batch II of the Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme from June to December 2016; and
- (b) “Heritage Fiesta 2016” featuring more than 20 historic buildings that offer food and beverage services from October to November 2016.