

**Legislative Council
Panel on Development**

Report on Implementation Progress of Heritage Conservation Initiatives

Follow-up Action to the Meeting on 10 May 2021

Supplementary information as requested by the Panel at the meeting on 10 May 2021 is set out below.

Ex-Sham Shui Po Service Reservoir

2. Pursuant to records, the Ex-Sham Shui Po Service Reservoir was built in 1904 and decommissioned in 1970. As cracks were observed at the roof slabs of the service reservoir, it posed a potential safety hazard. In 2013, the Water Supplies Department (“WSD”) engaged a reservoir safety expert to inspect and assess the condition of the service reservoir. The reservoir expert confirmed that there was a safety problem at the roof structure. As there were records of frequent trespassing in the surrounding areas and on the roof top of the service reservoir, to ensure public safety, WSD planned to demolish that service reservoir and return the site to the Lands Department for other uses. In April 2017, WSD consulted the Antiquities and Monuments Office (“AMO”) on the demolition works, pointing out that the service reservoir was not stable and provided information about its structural safety.

3. The prevailing system for grading historic buildings is devised to assess the heritage value of usual buildings and structures. After deliberation at its meeting held in March 2017, the Antiquities Advisory Board (“AAB”) decided to put those items that do not fall under the usual category of buildings / structures, such as cemetery and stone tablet, into the “List of Items Not Falling Under the Usual Category of Buildings / Structures”. Grading assessment would not be conducted for items falling into this list for the time being such that AAB could focus on the study of other items. This list includes a water tank of an earlier period which is movable and not suitable for grading assessment. Since the March 2017 meeting, AAB and AMO have been handling items of the same nature as those on the list in the same manner in accordance with AAB’s decision mentioned above.

4. In April 2017, when WSD consulted the AMO on the site works of the service reservoir, AMO considered at the time that no follow-up action was required on the understanding that the water facilities in the site is a “water tank”, based on the information provided by WSD then as well as its communication with WSD, and in accordance with AAB’s decision in March 2017.

Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme

5. Under the “Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme” (“Revitalisation Scheme”), where justified, financial support will be provided to the selected organisations to implement the projects, including an one-off grant capped at \$5 million to meet the starting costs and operating deficits (if any) of the social enterprises for the first two years of operation, on the prerequisite that the social enterprise proposal is projected to become self-sustainable after this initial period.

6. Details of the amounts of the one-off grant provided to social enterprises operating businesses or providing services in the revitalised historic buildings under Revitalisation Scheme are provided below:

Projects under the Revitalisation Scheme	Government subsidies granted (as at 30 April 2021)		
	Starting costs (\$ million)	Operating deficits (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)
Batch I			
Savannah College of Art and Design (Hong Kong) ^{Note 1} (revitalised from Former North Kowloon Magistracy)	Not required		
Tai O Heritage Hotel (revitalised from Old Tai O Police Station)	Not required		

Hong Kong Baptist University School of Chinese Medicine-Lui Seng Chun (revitalised from Lui Seng Chun)	0.84	1.03	1.87
Fong Yuen Study Hall Note 2 (revitalised from Fong Yuen Study Hall)	1.07	1.53	2.60
YHA Mei Ho House Youth Hostel (revitalised from Mei Ho House)	4.80	0	4.80
Jao Tsung-I Academy (revitalised from Former Lai Chi Kok Hospital)	4.48	0	4.48
Batch II			
Green Hub (revitalised from Old Tai Po Police Station)	0.43	1.29	1.72
Stone Houses Family Garden (revitalised from Stone Houses)	0.05	2.19	2.24
Viva Blue House (revitalised from Blue House Cluster)	0.81	0 ^{Note 3}	0.81
Batch III			
Hong Kong News-Expo (revitalised from Bridges Street Market)	5.00	0	5.00
Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups Leadership Institute (revitalised from Former Fanling Magistracy)	0.76	0 ^{Note 3}	0.76

Haw Par Music (revitalised from Haw Par Mansion)	0	0 ^{Note 3}	0
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Note 1: Former North Kowloon Magistracy was taken over by the Government on 1 August 2020 and has been included in Batch VI of the Revitalisation Scheme.

Note 2: Fong Yuen Study Hall has been managed by the Antiquities and Monuments Office since 1 January 2017 and included in Batch VI of the Revitalisation Scheme.

Note 3: No government subsidies have been provided for the NPOs concerned under this item as at 30 April 2021. These organisations have submitted applications for subsidies, and the actual amounts have yet to be confirmed.

Development Bureau
June 2021