

# Harbourfront Commission

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For discussion  
on 18 October 2018

HC/15/2018

## **Progress Report from Task Force on Water-land Interface**

### **REPORTING PERIOD**

This progress report covers the period from November 2017 to October 2018.

### **MEETING HELD AND THE MAJOR OUTCOME, FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### Eighteenth Meeting – 12 July 2017

2. The Task Force discussed the following item –

#### **(a) An Update on the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme**

- The Drainage Services Department (DSD) updated Members on the HATS and the improvement it brought to the water quality of Victoria Harbour, as well as the maintenance works at the Stonecutters Island Sewage Treatment Works (SISTW).
- The Task Force appreciated DSD's steadfast efforts to improve the water quality of the Harbour, which is evident by the resumption of cross-harbour swim a few years ago. Referring to the odour problem near shore, some Members urged the Government to set more stringent Water Quality Objectives (WQOs) for the Victoria Harbour to allow at least secondary contact. There were also questions regarding the life span and capacity of the SISTW, contingency of its improvement works, as well as how DSD disseminated relevant information to the public.
- In response, DSD explained the mitigation measures taken to tackle the possible impact brought by the temporary bypass works, such as confining them to non-bathing season and the use of micro-organism inhibitor or calcium nitrate to reduce odour. DSD also clarified that there were existing WQOs for the Victoria Harbour, although *E. coli*

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was not included as one of the parameters. DSD would take Members' comments into account when taking forward the rest of the improvement works at SISTW and the HATS.

**Secretariat  
Task Force on Water-Land Interface  
October 2018**