

Task Force on Harbourfront Developments in Kowloon, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing

For discussion
on 16 May 2013

TFK/07/2013

Report on the Site Visit to the Tsim Sha Tsui Ferry Pier and Tsim Sha Tsui Public Transport Interchange

PURPOSE

This paper reports Members' comments raised during a site visit at the Tsim Sha Tsui (TST) Ferry Pier (the Pier) and TST Public Transport Interchange (the PTI) on 13 March 2013.

BACKGROUND

2. Subsequent to the Task Force meetings on 20 November 2012 and 22 January 2013, a site visit to the Pier and the PTI was arranged by the Secretariat of the Task Force and the Transport Department (TD) in collaboration with the Star Ferry Co. Ltd.

3. During the visit, TD first briefed Members on the existing layout of the Pier, and informed Members that TD was discussing with all relevant Government departments on the works that might be required for renovation of the Pier. However, what could be done would hinge on whether and how the Pier and PTI would be graded as a historic building. We noted that there was currently a long list of new items waiting for grading assessment by the Antiquities Advisory Board (AAB) and the Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO), and it would take sometime to have the Pier graded under normal procedures.

4. Members were then guided to tour around the PTI. TD briefed Members of the renovation works being carried out at the PTI. The works included repainting bus shelter and passenger railing for the bus stops and taxi stand as well as improvement of disabled facilities in the PTI. All the works were anticipated to be completed in mid-2013.

MEMBERS' COMMENTS

3. The comments raised by some Members during the visit were summarised below:-

- (a) Renovation plan of the Pier should be formulated as soon as possible;

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- (b) the Government should consult AMO on the estimated time needed for the grading assessment of the Pier and the PTI; and
- (c) the Government to explore whether some of facilities within the PTI (e.g. the portable railings at the side of the bus kiosk structure) could be tidied up.

RESPONSE AND FOLLOW UP

4. Subsequent to the site visit, TD has consulted AMO who advised that the TST Pier and PTI was one of the new items for grading assessment. They were carrying out research on some 200 new items (including the Pier and PTI). The AAB, having regard to the grading proposal recommended by an independent Assessment Panel and the views and additional information received from members of the public and the owners of the new items concerned during the public consultation exercise, would accord grading status (Grade 1, Grade 2 and Grade 3) to individual new items. There was no standard time frame for the assessment process and it would be subject to the availability of research information on the heritage value of individual new item.

5. Pending AAB's assessment result, TD will continue to liaise with Star Ferry Co. Ltd on the feasibility of undertaking some small-scale renovation works for the Pier, and with the bus company as well as works department to complete the renovation works of the PTI as soon as possible by mid-2013. TD will also coordinate with relevant parties to tidy up the area where possible.

ADVICE SOUGHT

- 6. Members' further views are welcome.

**Transport Department
May 2013**