

## **COUNTRY AND MARINE PARKS BOARD**

### **Summary Report of the Country Parks Committee**

#### **1. Purpose**

1.1 This paper aims to inform members of the major issues discussed at the Country Parks Committee meeting held on 21 July 2023.

#### **2. Conceptual Designs of Tree Top Adventure (TTA) Facilities in Country Parks**

2.1 TTA was one of the enhancement proposals recommended under the “Consultancy Study on the Enhancement of the Recreation and Education Potential of Country Parks and Special Areas in Hong Kong”. The AFCD commissioned a consultancy study to explore the feasibility of establishing a TTA facility in the country park. Key elements of the conceptual designs for each of the three potential sites were introduced in the meeting.

2.2 Members supported the establishment of TTA in country parks. Some members were concerned about the impacts on trees and the potential threats on the TTA operation brought by monkeys at Shing Mun. Members suggested providing ancillary and recreational facilities such as barbecue sites, accessible toilets and adequate parking spaces. The AFCD agreed to study the provision of suitable supporting and additional recreational facilities after site selection. Some members enquired about the market positioning of the proposed TTA. The AFCD opined that the proposed TTA would be on a smaller scale than those in the other countries. While there were other existing TTA facilities run by the government and the private sector in Hong Kong, the proposed TTA could provide unique visitor experiences in the country park setting, including the emphasis on nature appreciation and conservation. Synergy with other local nature-based activities would also be explored.

### **3. Installation of Village Lightings at Yung Shue O**

3.1 The Highways Department (HyD) and the Tai Po District Office proposed installing village lightings and cables along the road connecting the Yung Shue O Village to Sai Sha Road to ensure road safety at night time. Among the 48 proposed lighting columns, 39 would unavoidably be located in the Sai Kung West Country Park. The HyD commissioned an ecological survey of the area and explained the proposed works and programme, the environmental review, as well as the measures to mitigate environmental impacts in the meeting.

3.2 Members acknowledged the need to install village lightings in the concerned area. In response to the concern on site practices, the HyD said site supervisors would be deployed to monitor the works on site, and ensure proper disposal of wastes generated. Members appreciated the effort made by the Government to mitigate lighting impacts on wildlife and suggested adopting similar mitigation measures in other country park areas. The AFCD said the Yung Shue O case would be taken as a pilot case. Subject to the monitoring results, the Authority would consider the need to adopt similar measures when proposing new lighting projects in country parks.

### **4. Presentation**

4.1 This paper is prepared for Members' information.

Country and Marine Parks Authority  
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