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Country and Marine Parks Board Summary Report of the Country Parks Committee

1. Purpose

1.1 This paper aims to inform members of issues discussed at the Country Parks Committee (CPC) meeting held on 18 December 2015. Major issues discussed at the meeting are summarised below.

2. Feasibility Study on Relocation of Sai Kung Sewage Treatment Works to Tsiu Hang Special Area (in Cavern)

- 2.1 At the meeting, representatives from the Drainage Services Department (DSD) and its consultants updated members on the progress of the project and the findings of the ecological surveys conducted for the project. Since the representatives from the DSD and its consultants had already explained in detail the project and responded to questions and comments put forward by members during the annual field visit held before the meeting, most of the members did not raise any new issue of concern at this meeting.
- A member asked how the aggregates generated from the cavern excavation would be disposed of and hoped that the DSD would carry out landscaping works at the portals of the new sewage treatment works. The DSD's representative responded that the aggregates generated from the excavation would be used in the reclamation works carried out near the original site of the sewage treatment works. As for the landscaping works at the portals of the new sewage treatment works, relevant government departments would be consulted for appropriate arrangements.

3. Proposal to Designate Country Park Enclaves of Fan Kei Tok, Sai Lau Kong and the Site near Nam Shan as Part of Country Parks

3.1 Representatives from the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) updated members on the progress of the proposal. At the meeting, members showed general support to the Department's proposals of incorporating the three "enclaves" mentioned in the document into country parks.

4. Any Other Business

Green Group's Request for Designation of the Po Toi Islands as Country Park

4.1 The request was discussed at the meeting. Members generally agreed that the existing natural environment of the Po Toi Islands should be protected, but they had different views on the request for designation of the islands as a country park and did not reach a consensus. The AFCD noted the different opinions of members. With the statutory plan applicable to the said area, the natural environment could be protected from being damaged by incompatible development. Also, there was no imminent need to implement habitat management and put in place additional recreational facilities on the islands at the moment. In this connection, it was considered that there is no urgent need to designate the area as a country park. Currently, the AFCD would focus its resources on the proposals of incorporating "enclaves" into country parks.

5. Advice Sought

5.1 Members are invited to note the contents of this paper

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