

**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 7 March 2017. Major issues discussed at the meeting are summarised below.

**2. Rehabilitation Project for Sai Wan under Management Agreement Scheme**

2.1 The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) and the Sai Kung District Community Centre (SKDCC) respectively briefed members on the progress of the “Rehabilitation Project for Sai Wan Area” under Management Agreement Scheme (hereinafter referred to as “the Project”).

2.2 Members noted that after the approval of funding of about \$9.5 million by the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) Committee, the Project had commenced in mid-February 2017 and would last for a period of 36 months. Members were briefed on the approval conditions, the composition of the Steering Committee and the preparatory work to implement the Project including the renovation of a village house for visitor information centre, the renovation of the Old Well and rehabilitation of abandoned agricultural land.

2.3 Members expressed support to the Project and had given opinions on the management of visitor flow, conservation of the historical and cultural heritages, as well as improvement of the infrastructure and basic facilities in Sai Wan. Recognising the lack of specific resource in the approved funding for conducting ecological surveys, members suggested SKDCC to explore collaboration with appropriate organisations to conduct baseline surveys and subsequent monitoring with a view to assessing the ecological benefits of the Project. Such issue could be discussed further in the Steering Committee meetings.

2.4 As members requested, the progress of the Project would be reported to the CPC at different stages.

### **3. Consultancy Study on Enhancement of the Recreation and Education Potential of Country Parks and Special Areas – Inception Phase**

3.1 AFCD and the consulting team briefed members on the progress of the consultancy study on enhancement of the recreation and education potential of country parks and special areas (the Study). Members were introduced the different stages of the Study, the approach and methodology, as well as an overseas case study that the consultants were reviewing.

3.2 Members noted the key issues that need to be addressed in the Study and suggested references for the overseas case studies. Some of them advised the consulting team to look into the possible involvement of the private sector, including local communities, in the enhancement options and reminded that the opinion surveys and the public consultation should cover representative views as broadly as practicable.

3.3 In response to the members' enquiry, AFCD explained that the Study would focus on the country parks and special areas under the management regime of the department as the implementation of enhancement proposals outside the country parks is beyond the department's jurisdiction and might be subject to certain uncertainty. Nonetheless, the Study would adopt an open-minded approach in collecting views from the public and stakeholders at different stages.

### **4. Any Other Business**

#### **(a) Engaging Volunteers in Trail Improvement**

4.1 AFCD informed members that five trail maintenance workshops were conducted along the MacLehose Trail at Tai Mo Shan and Kai Kung Shan from November 2016 to February 2017 with more than 100 volunteers engaged.

4.2 Members noted that the workshops received positive feedbacks from the participants who said they had better understanding on the importance of trail conservation and AFCD's trail maintenance work. Members found the workshops commendable and supported more workshops of this kind and in larger scale.

### **5. Advice Sought**

5.1 Members are invited to note the content of this paper.

Country and Marine Parks Authority  
April 2017