

23 July 2008

To All Authorized Persons  
Registered Structural Engineers  
Registered Geotechnical Engineers  
Registered General Building Contractors and  
Registered Specialist Contractors

Dear Sir/Madam,


### Setting up of the Heritage Unit in Buildings Department

In his Policy Address of 2007, the Chief Executive pledged to step up the Government's work on heritage conservation. As one of the new initiatives in this respect, the Development Bureau has launched a Revitalising Historic Buildings through Partnership Scheme to engage building professionals, stakeholders and the public to help revitalise historic buildings in public ownership. An Office of the Commissioner for Heritage has been set up in the Development Bureau to provide a focal point for the Government's heritage conservation work as well as public participation in such work.

In support of the Government's work and to facilitate private sector's participation in heritage conservation, a dedicated Heritage Unit has been set up in the Buildings Department to process all building and structural plan submissions, involving alteration and addition works in and adaptive re-use of historic buildings, for approval under the Buildings Ordinance. Submissions to be handled by the Heritage Unit include development projects involving historic buildings that have been declared as monuments under the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance, graded buildings accorded by the Antiquities and Advisory Board, historic buildings selected in the above Partnership Scheme, as well as redevelopment and revitalisation projects involving conservation and adaptive reuse of historic buildings. Enquiries on issues relating to heritage conservation and compliance with the requirements of the building regulations could also be referred to the Heritage Unit for advice through the pre-submission enquiry system as provided for in the Practice Note for Authorized Persons and Registered Structural Engineers 272.

For any further enquiries, please contact the Heritage Unit at telephone no. 2626 1354 or 2626 1576 or by facsimile to 3157 1412.

Yours faithfully,



(K M MO)

Assistant Director/New Buildings 1  
for Director of Buildings