

#### Technical Study on Partial Development of Fanling Golf Course Site – Feasibility Study

Dear ACE Secretariat,

The Hong Kong Golf Club (HKGC) wishes to follow up and supplement the information provided by the Club during the public inspection period of the above captioned EIA. The Club would be grateful if you could please share this information with the ACE EIA Sub Committee and Full Council as soon as possible before the Full Council meeting scheduled for Monday 8th August 2022.

## I. Evidence of Nursery Area and Seedlings of Chinese Swamp Cypress in Swampy Woodland, prior to EIA and Ecological Survey by WSP

Regarding the seedlings and reproductive nature of the stand of Chinese Swamp Cypress (CSC) trees as a nursery area in the swampy woodland, there are independent reports and also photos taken by HKGC which confirm the existence of seedlings prior to the commencement of the EIA and ecological survey which began in January 2020. Enclosed as an example is a copy of a letter dated 12th June 2019 from Kadoorie Farm & Botanic Garden (KFBG), an independent third party of HKGC (Exhibit 1).

References are made in the following paragraphs of this KFBG letter:

Para 8 mentions: "In addition, the (CSC) trees are <u>reproducing</u> (Figure 3) and different age classes are present, which is also an indicator for a natural stand."

Para 10: "Based on all the above, we consider that, under regional, national and global contexts, the Chinese Swamp Cypress population within the marshy triangular area must be preserved and protected, as they would well represent a remnant group, which is still reproducing, originated from a natural / wild population native to the Pearl River Delta region; in addition, as some of these trees would have appeared at the site for more than 150 years (i.e., well before the British Government colonised the New Territories), the historical value of this tree group is significant. If these trees are adversely impacted and lost eventually due to the captioned proposal, it would not only represent the failure of Hong Kong to protect species of high conservation importance but would also significantly worsen the global conservation status of this species (i.e., reducing the number of trees still producing seeds), which is already considered to be globally Critically Endangered. We sincerely urge that these trees and the existing habitat conditions that support this tree group must be appropriately protected and maintained, as is the duty of the Hong Kong Government under the Convention on Biological Diversity."

Further reference is made in Figure 3 in the KFBG letter - a photo of cones on a tree branch.



As to the photos showing plastic rings and white sticks around the CSC seedlings, these are for the protection and easy location of these seedlings as part of HKGC's CSC conservation management plan.

Firstly, the plastic rings are just cut out from plastic drainage pipes placed loosely on the ground (they are not propagation cups). These plastic protection rings are placed in May/June each year around the new seedlings.

Secondly, it is well documented that one of the main reasons for the rarity of CSC is their seedlings are very fragile and can easily die. Therefore, they need special protection. Surrounding grass and weeds will outgrow and cover the CSC seedlings, and cause the seedlings to die from lack of sunlight. The plastic rings are placed around the seedlings to reduce the chance of them being covered up and to help with the clearing of surrounding grass and weeds by HKGC staff. The plastic rings also help to prevent animals from grazing on the succulent young seedlings, and stepping on and killing the fragile CSC plants.

There are other reports and photos evidencing the existence of CSC seedlings prior to 2020, which HKGC is more than happy to make a presentation to ACE upon request.

#### II. Records of requests and granting of access for EIA and Ecological Surveys by WSP

Regarding the granting of access for the above captioned EIA and ecological surveys, copies of written requests for access by WSP and confirmation by HKGC are enclosed for your reference (Exhibit 2). All requests and arrangements were handled by a secretary at HKGC and she has never rejected any request. HKGC would like to note the following:

- 1. The first introductory communication received by HKGC regarding the upcoming ecological survey was on 28 November 2019 (see relevant email in Exhibit 2 hereto).
- 2. The first request for access was made to HKGC on or around 23 December 2019 and confirmed by email of such date (see relevant email in Exhibit 2 hereto). And it was in respect of the first ecological survey scheduled to take place on 2 January 2020.
- 3. HKGC never received a request for an overnight ecological survey or for leaving the surveying equipment on site overnight for an ecological night survey.
- 4. HKGC only received requests for ecological surveys lasting until 11pm for two specific dates in both February and March, and had agreed to these requests without objection (see Summary table below, and email dated Feb 20, 2020 and Feb 25, 2020 in Exhibit 2). On no other occasions did HKGC receive any request for an ecological survey lasting beyond 10pm.
- 5. Specific requests for ecological survey access until 10pm were made to HKGC on a number of occasions (see relevant emails in Exhibit 2 hereto).

For ease of reference, below is a summary table of dates, times, and nature of requests for access made to HKGC.

		Ecology Survey		Tree Survey Cul		Cultural	Cultural Heritage Survey		Topographical Survey		Land Contamination		Landscape Survey	
	Date	Time	Course	Date	Course	Date	Course		Course		Course	Date	Course	
2020						- 1					1		-	
January	2 - 3 17 21 29 - 31			21 - 23 29 - 31		22 - 23								
Pebruary	10 12 19 24 26	10:00 - 17:00 / 17:00 - 22:00 10:00 - 17:00 / 17:00 - 13:00 10:00 - 17:00 / 17:00 - 23:00	New & Eden Old Old, New & Eden Old New & Eden	10 - 14 17 - 21 24- 28	Old Old Old	11 13 14	Old Old Old							
March	10 11 17 18	17:00 - 23:00 10:00 - 17:00 / 17:00 - 23:00	Old New & Eden New & Eden Old	2 - 6 9 - 13 16 - 20 23 - 27	Old Old Old Old									
April	6 8 15 20 29	10:00 - 17:00 / 17:00 - 22:00 10:00 - 17:00 / 17:00 - 22:00 10:00 - 17:00 / 17:00 - 22:00	Old Old Old Old Old	21 - 24 27 - 28	Old Old									
May	6 14 18 27	10:00 - 17:00 / 17:00 - 22:00 10:00 - 17:00 / 17:00 - 22:00	Old Old Old Old	21 - 22 25 28	Old Old Old			26 29	Old Old	15 20	Old Old			
June	2 10 15 - 17 24	10:00 - 17:00 / 17:00 - 22:00 10:00 - 17:00 / 17:00 - 22:00	New & Eden Old New & Eden Old	1 3 5 8-9 11 15-16 18 22-23 26 29-30	Old Old Old Old Old Old Old Old Old Old									
July	8 13 22	10:00 - 17:00 / 17:00 - 22:00 10:00 - 17:00 / 17:00 - 22:00 10:00 - 17:00 / 17:00 - 22:00	Old, New & Eden Old, New & Eden Old, New & Eden	2-3 6-10 13-17 20-21 23-24 28	Old Old Old Old Old Old									
August	5 12 19 26	10:00 - 17:00 / 17:00 - 22:00 10:00 - 17:00 / 17:00 - 22:00	Old, New & Eden Old, New & Eden Old, New & Eden Old, New & Eden Old, New & Eden	3 - 4 6 - 7 10 - 11 13 - 14 17 - 18 20 - 21 24 - 25 27 - 28	Old Old Old Old Old Old Old Old Old				Over 100 Page 100 Pag					
September	4 9 16 23 30	10:00 - 17:00 / 17:00 - 22:00 10:00 - 17:00 / 17:00 - 22:00	Old & New Old & New Old & New Old & New Old & New Old & New	1-3 7-8 10-11 14-15 17-18 21-22 24-25 28-29	Old Old Old Old Old Old Old Old									
October	7 14 21 28	10:00 - 17:00 / 17:00 - 22:00 10:00 - 17:00 / 17:00 - 22:00	Old & New Old & New Old & New Old & New	1-2 5-6 8-9 12-13 15-16 19-20 22-23 26-27 29-30	Old Old Old Old Old Old Old Old Old									
November	19 - 20	10:00 - 17:00 / 17:00 - 22:00	Old & New	2-6 9-13 16-20 23-27 30	Old Old Old Old Old							27	Old & New	
December	15 - 16	10:00 - 17:00 / 17:00 - 22:00	Old & New	1 - 4 7 - 11 14 - 18 21 - 24 28 - 31	Old Old Old Old Old									
2021 January														
Pebruary				16 - 19 22 - 26	Old									



If there are any other factual matters which ACE would like to confirm or seek clarification on, HKGC is more than happy to make a presentation to ACE on any information whether at the ACE meeting on 8 August 2022 or at any other time.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Gardner

General Manager Hong Kong Golf Club

### Exhibit 1



### 嘉道理農場暨植物園公司 Kadoorie Farm & Botanic Garden Corporation

Ms. CHENG Mei Sze, Maisie, JP Director of Environmental Protection 16/F, East Wing, Central Government Offices, 2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong (Email: eiaocomment@epd.gov.hk)

12th June, 2019. **By email only** 

Dear Madam,

## <u>Technical Study on Partial Development of Fanling Golf Course Site – Feasibility Study</u> (ESB-318/2019)

1. We refer to the captioned. We would like to express our deep concerns on the proposed development as the importance of some species of high conservation concern that appear in/would inhabit the Potential Development Area (PDA), as well as their habitat requirements and the potential impacts on them, are not adequately emphasised and addressed in the Project Profile (PP). The objective of the present letter is to provide our insights which are aimed to protect the habitats supporting these species from the potential impacts of the development proposal.

#### Chinese Swamp Cypress

2. Chinese Swamp Cypress (*Glyptostrobus pensilis*), also known as Canton Water Pine, is a Class I protected species in China<sup>1</sup>, and also a globally Critically Endangered species<sup>2</sup>. The State Forestry Administration of China also states that it is a species with extremely small populations<sup>3</sup>. It has a very specialised habitat requirement – as its common name suggests, it grows specifically in wetlands, and is now only recorded in South China, Vietnam and Laos<sup>4</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> http://www.forestry.gov.cn/yemian/minglu1.htm

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/32312/9695181

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> http://www.forestry.gov.cn/uploadfile/lykj/2018-3/file/2018-3-9-072eca55f03442a9a6d629213c5596d4.pdf,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Averyanov, L.V., Phan, K.L., Nguyen, T.H., Nguyen, S.K., Nguyen, T.V. and Pham, T.D. 2009. Prelimainary observation of native *Glyptostrobys pensilis* (Taxodiaceae) stands in Vietnam. *Taiwania*, 54(3), 191-212.



3. In China, this species was once widely distributed throughout the Pearl River Delta, based on studies on pollen cores and buried ancient trees (e.g., 5, 6, 7); it is believed that its range started to drastically reduce around 2000 – 3500 years ago due to human activities (e.g., 8, 9, 10). Remaining localities where old Chinese Swamp Cypress trees could still be found are almost exclusively next to human settlements, and because of this situation, some scholars suggested that these trees would be cultivated individuals (e.g., 10, 11, 12). This species is also considered to be exotic to Hong Kong according to the Hong Kong Herbarium<sup>13</sup>. Recent studies, however, showed that some of the remaining individuals would be originated from wild/ natural populations <sup>14, 15</sup>. For instance, the Chinese Swamp Cypress trees in Guangzhou are considered to be 'wild', even though they are next to villages <sup>16, 17</sup>. Individuals in Fujian

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Ding, P., Shen, C., Wang, N., Yi, W., Ding, X., Fu, D. and Liu, K. 2012. Stratigraphic chronology and sedimentary characteristics for buried ancient forests in the pearl river delta *Quaternary Science*, 32(3), 454–464. <sup>6</sup> Zheng, Z., Tang, Y., Zheng, Y., Huang, K., Han, Z., Zong, Y., Li, P. and Tan, H. 2016. Environmental changes inferred from spatial-temporal distribution of holocene buried peat layers in lower reaches of the Xijiang and Beijiang and the river confluence of Pearl River Delta. *Tropical Geography*, 36(3):313-325.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Huang, K., He, J., Zong, Y., Zheng, Z., Zhang, G., Cao, L. 2016. Holocene paleoenvironment reconstruction based on pollen data in the Sanshui Basin, northern Pearl River Delta. *Tropical Geography*, 36(3): 364-373.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Zheng, Z., Deng, Y., Zhang, H., Yu, R. and Chen, Z. 2004. Holocene environmental changes in the tropical and subtropical areas of the South China and the relation to human activities. *Quaternary Sciences*, 24(4), 387-393.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Peng, H., Zheng, Z., Zheng, Y., Huang, K. and Wei, Jinhui. 2015. Holocene vegetation changes and human activities revealed by a peat sediment core in Gaoyao, Zhaoqing. *Quaternary Sciences*, 35(3), 742–754.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Li, F. and Xia, N. 2004. The geographical distribution and cause of threat to *Glyptostrobus pensilis* (Taxodiaceae). *Journal of Tropical and Subtropical Botany*, 12(1), 13-20.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Xu, X. and Li, M. 1959. The ecological characteristics of *Glyptostrobus pensilis* and its geographical distribution. *Journal of South China Normal University (Natural Sciences Edition)*, 3, 84-99.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Ouyang, J., Chen. Y., Liang, R., and Liu, J. 1991, Study on the cultivation technology of *Glyptostrobus pensilis* and its application to sea shore stabilization. *Guangdong Forestry Science*, 3, 1-7.

<sup>13</sup> http://www.herbarium.gov.hk/subpages.aspx?id=9365

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Wu, Z. 2011. Study on Conservation Biology and Restoration Technique of the Relict Plant <u>Glyptostrobus</u> pensilis. Unpublished PhD thesis. Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University. Fuzhou, China.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Chen, Y., Wang, R., Zhu, S., Jiang, A. and Zhou, L. 2016. Population status and conservation strategy of the rare and endangered plant *Glyptostrobus pensilis* in Guangzhou. *Tropical Geography*, 36(6):944-951.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Chen, Y., Zhu, S., Wang, G., Wen, X., Huang, X., Zhou, L. and Wang, R. 2017. Phylogenetic diversity analysis of the community of extremely small populations of *Glyptostrobus pensilis*. *Plant Science Journal*, 35(5): 667-678.



Province that have been considered to be natural are also close to villages<sup>14</sup>.

- 4. In Hong Kong, Dunn and Tutcher (1912) reported that this species (under the name *G heterophyllus*, now considered as a synonym of *G pensilis*) could be found '*in Hatsun, and between Taipo and Fanling, Hongkong New Territory*' <sup>18</sup>. Indeed, two large Chinese Swamp Cypress trees were once recorded at Tai Hang Village, Kau Lung Hang (between Tai Po Market and Fanling) <sup>19, 20</sup>. According to the then representative of Tai Hang Village, these two individuals were planted in the Ming Dynasty (i.e., 1368-1644), and the seedlings were probably brought from 'Law Fu Shan' (Luofushan), Guangdong <sup>19</sup>. In order to protect these two ancient trees, the locality where these two trees were found was even designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest by the then Hong Kong Government in 1975 <sup>20</sup>. Unfortunately, one of them died in the 1980s <sup>20</sup>, and the other probably died in the 1990s after nearby road widening (see <sup>20</sup>). Notwithstanding this, seeds possibly produced by these individuals were planted in the Fanling Golf Course (FGC) from the 1950s to the 1970s <sup>19</sup>; an officer from the then Agriculture and Fisheries Department, Mr. Shen Dze-chia, also reported that 10 trees raised from seedlings were flourishing in the FGC <sup>19</sup>.
- 5. Currently, within the FGC, large Chinese Swamp Cypress individuals are mainly concentrated in a marshy triangular area in the southern part of the PDA (**Figure 1**). The community there consists of 38 trees (one died in 2018; see below); diameters at breast height (dbh) of 20 of these individuals are over 50 cm (four of them: ≥ 70 cm; mean dbh of all 38 trees: 47.6 cm, median dbh of all 38 trees: 50.7 cm, maximum dbh recorded: 74.9 cm). The large diameters of the old trees indicate that they would have appeared at the site before the establishment of the golf course (see below analysis). The previous report as shown above indicating that the Chinese Swamp Cypress trees were planted in the golf course would refer to those scattered individuals in between fairways and along man-made water bodies to the west of Fan Kam Road; those trees (only five individuals at present) are smaller in diameter (dbh

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Ye, Y., Yi, Q., Zeng, F. and Fu, L. 2011. New materials for the flora of Guangzhou. *Journal of Tropical and Subtropical Botany*, 19(5): 480-482.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Dunn, S.T. and Tutcher, W.J. 1912. *Flora of Kwangtung and Hongkong (China)*. Royal Botanic Garden, Kew, U.K.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Shen, D. 1972. Unusual trees in Hong Kong: the Canton water pine. *Journal of the Hong Kong Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society*, 12, 198–220.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Iu, K. and Lay, C. (1982). Canton water pines (*Glyptostrobus pensilis* (lamb)) at Tai Hang village, New Territories. *Journal of the Hong Kong Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society*, 22, 302–305.



ranging from 24.5 – 46 cm, mean dbh: 36.3 cm, median dbh: 35.4 cm).

6. In 2018, one Chinese Swamp Cypress tree within the marshy triangular area (as shown in **Figure 1**) was felled by Typhoon Mangkhut, and a tree ring analysis was conducted by Prof. Li Jinbao from The University of Hong Kong for this individual. Prof. Li considered that this individual would be around 66 years old (dbh: 33 cm). Thus the oldest tree in the area (i.e., maximum dbh around 75 cm) would be about 150 years old <u>if a constant growth rate is assumed</u>. Based on published data from Guangdong and Vietnam, however, we believe that those large Chinese Swamp Cypress trees (e.g., dbh  $\geq$  70 cm) in the marshy triangular area should be much older. Some of these data are reproduced in the table below:

Study in G	uangdong <sup>21</sup>	Study in Vietnam <sup>4</sup>				
dbh (cm)	Estimated age	dbh (cm)	Estimated age			
29	> 84	54	144			
89	> 253	54	157			
96	> 294	55	146			
96	> 300	57	152			
102	> 456	57	152			
		63	168			
		70*	<u>186</u>			
		78*	208			
		79	210			
		81	215			
		89	237			
		90	239			
		90	239			
		90	239			
		91	242			
		93	247			

<sup>\*</sup>Comparable to those large trees in FGC

7. Since old trees in general would grow slower (as compared to young trees (see also description in <sup>20)</sup>), we consider the large Chinese Swamp Cypress trees in the triangular area would be more than 150 years old (i.e., it would be misleading to assume a constant growth rate), and we currently estimate that some of them are approaching 200 years old, based on the data as shown in the table above. According to the website of the Hong Kong Golf Club, 'Work on the Old Course at Fanling started in 1911 (108 years ago) with the first tee shot being struck in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Li, P., Tan, H., Liu, Y. and Song, L. 2004. Age and environment of *Glyptostrobys pensilis* in Nanhua Temple in Guangdong. *Tropical Geography* 24(4), 321-325.



December 1913.'22

- 8. Additional on-site observations also suggest that the Chinese Swamp Cypress trees in the marshy triangular area would not have been planted. Indeed, in the past trees would usually be planted in rather formal ways e.g. in rows or in the same distance to each other; even if villagers would have planted them along the edge of a rice paddy (e.g., 23, 24) they would appear in a row. This clearly is not the case (**Figure 2**). In addition, the trees are reproducing (**Figure 3**) and different age classes are present (**Figure 2**), which is also an indicator for a natural stand. Also, other accompanying flora species are usually found in swampy habitats and it is very unlikely that any of those were planted. One very rare flora species, *Ardisia villosa*, was discovered during our survey growing in between the Chinese Swamp Cypress trees. This species is only known from a handful of other individuals at one other site in Hong Kong (estimated local population: < 50 individuals). Its presence is another indicator of the remnant nature of the Chinese Swamp Cypress stand. Overall, all these reflect that the marshy triangular area has not received much disturbance so far (i.e., the patch can be considered as a remnant fragment of swamp forest) and the habitat type cannot be classified as 'plantation'.
- 9. Prof. Wang Ruijiang from the South China Botanical Garden, who is the leading expert on Chinese Swamp Cypress in China, visited the site in February 2019. He considered that the community structure (and associated habitat quality) of the Chinese Swamp Cypress population within the FGC (i.e., in the marshy triangular area) is the best he has ever seen in the Pearl River Delta region, and comparable to those wild populations, which are nationally protected, in Vietnam (i.e., which are inside the core areas of a nature reserve). At present, less than five sites (only one in mainland China and some in Vietnam and Laos) with similar habitat quality remain in the world. Furthermore, the local population is reproducing (**Figure 3**) this is highly unusual since most of the remnant populations with smaller numbers of trees are sterile (also see 25).
- 10. Based on all the above, we consider that, under regional, national and global contexts, the Chinese Swamp Cypress population within the marshy triangular area must be preserved and protected, as they would well represent a remnant group, which is still reproducing, originated

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> https://www.hkgolfclub.org/cms/the-club/facts-figures/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> https://conifersociety.org/conifers/glyptostrobus

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> http://threatenedconifers.rbge.org.uk/taxa/details/glyptostrobus-pensilis

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/32312/9695181#population



from a natural/ wild population native to the Pearl River Delta region; in addition, as some of these trees would have appeared at the site for more than 150 years (i.e., well before the British Government colonised the New Territories), the historical value of this tree group is significant. If these trees are adversely impacted and lost eventually due to the captioned proposal, it would not only represent the failure of Hong Kong to protect species of high conservation importance but would also significantly worsen the global conservation status of this species (i.e., reducing the number of trees still producing seeds), which is already considered to be globally Critically Endangered. We sincerely urge that these trees and the existing habitat conditions that support this tree group must be appropriately protected and maintained, as is the duty of the Hong Kong Government under the Convention on Biological Diversity.

#### Malayan Night Heron

- 11. Malayan Night Heron, *Gorsachius melanolophus*, is a bird species of local conservation interest<sup>26</sup>. Suspected breeding activities have been recorded at Ping Kong<sup>27</sup> (a rural place next to the FGC). This species is in general believed to be associated with wetlands <sup>(e.g., 28)</sup>; however, breeding seems to take place, like other ardeids, in tall trees <sup>(see 27)</sup>, and this species is frequently observed foraging in dry areas like man-made lawn in parks <sup>(e.g., 29, 30)</sup>.
- 12. The habitats (e.g., woodland, lawn) now appearing in the FGC are highly suitable for this species. We urge that comprehensive avifauna surveys should be carried out within the PDA in order to examine whether or not this species would utilise the site and breed in the well-wooded areas (e.g., the triangular woodland patch where the Chinese Swamp Cypress is located). In addition, the potential impacts on this species caused by the development proposal (e.g., presence of building blocks/ residential development and associated structures in the PDA, intensified human disturbance) should also be assessed. At present, this species is not even mentioned in the PP.

#### Other Ecological Concerns

13. According to the PP, some fauna species of conservation interest were recorded in the FGC, including Small Snakehead, endemic freshwater crab *Somanniathelphusa zanklon*,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> https://www.epd.gov.hk/eia/register/study/latest/esb-230.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> http://www.hkbws.org.hk/cgi-bin/YaBB.pl?board=PhotoGallery;action=display;num=1094452205

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> http://datazone.birdlife.org/species/factsheet/malay-night-heron-gorsachius-melanolophus/details

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> http://hkbirdringing.blogspot.com/2016/09/20160916-bw-malayan-night-heron.html

<sup>30</sup> https://teia.tw/zh-hant/natural-vallev/species/16898



Reeve's Terrapin, Chinese Water Snake, Brown Fish Owl and several insectivorous bat species. All these species inhabit/ show a strong connection with wetlands (e.g., watercourses, marshes). Besides wetlands (e.g., areas covered with water), green areas (e.g., woodland) have been considered to be elements to attract insectivorous bats<sup>31</sup>. The project proponent should carry out thorough ecological surveys in the PDA to search for these species, as well as the habitats suitable for them.

14. The PP also documents that there is a watercourse in the southern portion of the PDA (i.e., to the west of the Tai Lung Experimental Farm (TLEF)), and species of conservation interest like the aforementioned endemic freshwater crab and Small Snakehead can be found in this watercourse. Based on our on-site observation, there is also a piece of marshland in this area (**Figure 4**). The marshy triangular area aforementioned is also low-lying and surrounded by a watercourse, indicating that this part would be inundated to a certain extent during rainy seasons (**Figure 5**). We consider that all these areas can provide suitable wetland habitats for the aforementioned fauna species of conservation concern. Indeed, it is also essential to maintain a wet environment for the Chinese Swamp Cypress.

#### Recommendations

15. In view of the ecological sensitivity of the area, an ecological impact assessment should be required (i.e., stipulated in the Study Brief) for the captioned, to assess the ecological features of the PDA (i.e., the Project Site) and surrounding areas (i.e., the Study Area), and to provide recommendations/ measures to avoid/ mitigate potential on-site and off-site impacts (if any). However, as shown above, we consider there would already be enough evidences suggesting that the southern portion of the site (including the marshy triangular area which contains the Chinese Swamp Cypress community, the marsh opposite to it (see **Figure 4**) and the watercourse next to the TLEF as mentioned in the PP) is not suitable for urban development – this part should be appropriately retained and protected.

16. We urge that appropriate zoning(s) and land use control should be recommended for this southern portion, with an intention primarily to protect and retain the existing natural landscape, ecological or topographical features for conservation purposes, and to separate them from adverse effects of development (i.e., there should be a general presumption against development). It is also essential to ensure that the existing conditions (e.g., topography) of

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Tong, C. 2016. *Distribution and preference of landscape features and foraging sites of insectivorous bats in Hong Kong urban parks*. Unpublished M.Sc. Thesis, The University of Hong Kong.



this locality can be appropriately retained, to maintain the hydrology and to allow the accumulation and/ or movement (e.g., seasonal fluctuation) of water. Hence, in the southern part of the PDA, there should be restriction to control any site formation, land/ pond filling or excavation works; in addition, future land uses should be restricted to those that are needed to support the conservation of the existing natural landscape or scenic quality of the area. In the future Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), detailed drainage analyses should be carried out to assess the existing topography and hydrology, and the EIA should recommend measures for the protection and maintenance of the aforementioned water-logged environments/ habitats. Simply speaking, we consider the entire southern part of the PDA should not be impacted by any kind of urban development and the existing physical and biological features should be maintained and not be changed.

17. We consider the southern portion of the PDA can be converted into a 'Nature Park' (i.e., like the Government's proposal at Long Valley), and should be managed by the conservation authority. However, visitors should not be allowed to enter sensitive areas, such as the marshy triangular area, the marsh and the watercourses, not only for nature conservation but also for safety reasons. Appropriate fencing should be installed to control the passage of human. In this park, only passive recreational activities (e.g., walking, photography) should be allowed; no large-scale infrastructures should be built. The entire area should also be managed with a view to maintaining the hydrology essential to support the Chinese Swamp Cypress, the marsh and the watercourses. The green area (e.g., the lawn) should be retained as well and no invasive activities should be allowed. There should also be restriction to control activities during night time (e.g., to prevent potential impacts on Malayan Night Heron, Brown Fish Owl, bats, etc.).

18. For the remaining portion of the PDA, we expect that it would also be covered by the aforementioned ecological impact assessment; thus areas of ecological importance (if any) could be identified. At the moment, we consider the dense tree groups alongside the fairways should be retained. Habitats that are able to support species of conservation concern (if any) should not be directly impacted. Appropriate zonings and land use control should be proposed to protect the tree groups and habitats of conservation interest (if any).

#### Conclusion

19. Finally, we would like to remind you and the project proponent of some fundamental principles that should be adopted to guide the coming Study Brief and EIA process, which are



specified in the Report of the Task Force on Land Supply (TFLS)<sup>32</sup>.

Stated in Section 5.8.1 of the Report of the TFLS:

'We must uphold the concept of sustainable development in our pursuit of land development, taking into consideration environmental conservation and the needs of different strata of society; we must strike a suitable balance in an objective and scientific manner......Specifically, before implementation of a development project, the Government must give due consideration to any possible environmental impact arising from the project, conduct Environmental Impact Assessment, if applicable, in accordance with statutory requirements, to avoid high-density developments at sites of high ecological value and to formulate corresponding measures to mitigate environmental impact. The Government should continue to make long-term visionary planning to develop smart, green and resilient infrastructural facilities and communities.'

Stated in Section 5.8.4 of the Report of the TFLS:

'The Government should also strengthen communication and engagement with the public, while giving due consideration to and addressing the demands of affected stakeholders, so as to minimise possible resistance and uncertainties for the early realisation of the development projects and the ultimate land supply.'

Stated in Section 5.48 of the Report of the TFLS:

'The Task Force recognises the general view in the community that if the FGC site is to be resumed, the land released should be used for public housing.....some argue that high-density public housing development at the site could only cater for certain needs, but the damages to the old trees and the precious ecology nurtured naturally around them over the years would be irreversible. It would also be a loss to society. Thus they say that, if the site is to be resumed under the partial development option, the existing landscape as well as the leisure and recreational functions of the site could be retained for public enjoyment. The Task Force is of the view that, should the partial development option be adopted, the Government should carefully consider and balance these views in the detailed preliminary studies (including technical and environmental impact assessments) and the planning stage in order to achieve the greatest benefits to society.'

20. Regarding the specific recommendation in relation to the FGC, the Government

<sup>32</sup> https://www.landforhongkong.hk/pdf/Report%20(Eng).pdf



responded the following<sup>33</sup>:

'The Government will develop the 32 ha of land east of Fan Kam Road of FGC for the purpose of housing development (with emphasis on public housing), and will accordingly commence a detailed, technical study in the second half of 2019 to ascertain the highest flat yield attainable within the corresponding timeframe; assess the scope of infrastructural works required to support such development; identify environmental, ecological and other constraints, and formulate mitigation measures to contain any identified impacts to within acceptable limits; and come up with an implementation plan with timing and costs.'

- 21. We in general do not quite agree with the above Government's response as it has already presumed that, while detailed technical assessments are not yet available, the area 'will' be developed into a housing site. Indeed, the deficiencies appeared in the current PP should have reflected that, without detailed evaluation, many elements of high ecological and conservation concern would be missed out.
- 22. We strongly urge the Environmental Protection Department (EPD), when drafting the Study Brief, to fully adopt the basic principles as stated by the TFLS (including but not limited to those as shown above). In parallel to seeking opportunity for public housing, emphasis should also be put on preserving, protecting and maintaining areas of high conservation importance (e.g., the southern portion of the PDA). The purpose of this EIA should also be, as the Report of the TFLS shows, to assess what is the better use or multiple uses of the PDA for wider public enjoyment. Having regard to the constraints and challenges on conventional housing, the EIA should assess the major opportunity for setting up a Nature Park in the southern portion of the PDA, which could be enjoyed by the public (including the residents from the potential housing site). These public benefits can be achieved by an EIA with long term vision and use of accepted standards and TM-EIAO requirements. As part of a positive assessment process, the project proponent should also consult different stakeholders during the formulation of the EIA. Indeed, the EPD has <u>strongly advised</u> the Civil Engineering and Development Department (the current project proponent) to <u>engage the public and interest</u> groups during the course of the EIA study for Tung Chung New Town Extension<sup>34</sup>. We thus

 $<sup>^{33}</sup> https://www.landforhongkong.hk/pdf/LegCo\%20Brief\%20 (Gov\%20Response\%20 to\%20 TFLS\%20 Report) (Eng) (Final).pdf$ 

<sup>34</sup> https://www.epd.gov.hk/eia/register/study/latest/esb-285.pdf



expect, in view of the sensitivity of the current site, similar engagement exercises would also be carried out soon.

23. Thank you for your attention.

Ecological Advisory Programme Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden



Figure 1. The marshy triangular area (marked in green) which contains a group of Chinese Swamp Cypress.

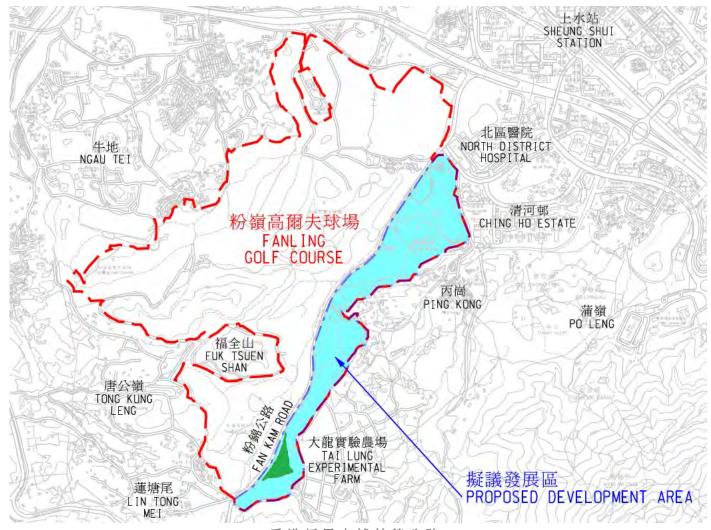




Figure 2. Some Chinese Swamp Cypress trees in the marshy triangular area.



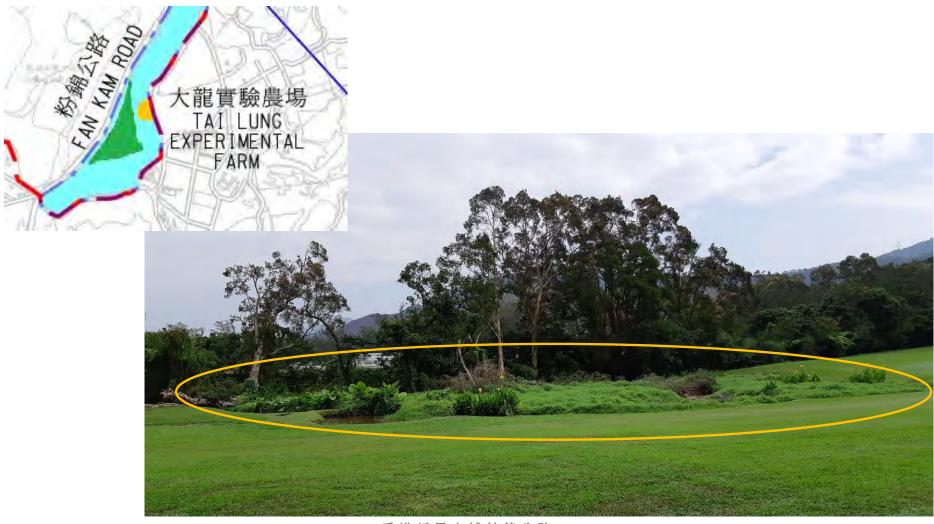


Figure 3. A fallen branch with cone collected in the marshy triangular area.





Figure 4. The marsh opposite to the triangular area (marked by the yellow patch in the upper picture); below: its existing outlook.







香港新界大埔林錦公路 Lam Kam Road, Tai Po, New Territories, Hong Kong Email: eap@kfbg.org



Figure 5. Cont'd.



香港新界大埔林錦公路 Lam Kam Road, Tai Po, New Territories, Hong Kong Email: eap@kfbg.org

#### Exhibit 2

#### Jan 2020 Email Conversations and Visiting Schedules

From: Wan, Emeric Wai-Keung [mailto:Emeric.Wan@wsp.com]

Sent: Thursday, November 28, 2019 11:51 AM

To: Sanny Ma

Cc: Klinsmann Cheung; 'vincslai@ecosystems-ltd.com'; Kennis Yip; Julie Van Den Bergh; Tsang, Vicki Pui-Ling; Yeung, Yiu-Wing; Fong, Samuel Sing-Wal; Tong, Harvey Chi-Heng; Chan, Dennis Ka-Hang; Lam, Derek Cheung-Fai; Chan, Chun-Kwok; Ho,

Subject: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement

Dear Sanny.

As our Samuel is on leave this week, hence my direct coordination with you for the following.

Our ecological, archaeological, tree, and environmental specialists are formulating survey methodology and schedule to be carried out. To enhance effectiveness of communication, they may directly communicate with you to seek your initial advice on the feasibility of the proposed arrangement, before our formal proposal to you.

Contract points of our specialist are as follows: -

- · Klinsmann Cheung Ecosystem;
- · Kennis Yip Archaeological Assessment Ltd (AAL):
- · Vicki Tsang WSP tree specialist team;
- · Derek Lam WSP environmental team.

If you have any problems, please feel free to contact us directly.

By copy of this e-mail, would our various specialist teams please copy your e-mail communication with FCG to the following staff for record/reference.

- · YW Yeung (PM);
- · Emeric Wan (Civil Team Leader);
- · Samuel Fong (Project Coordinator general)
- · Harvey Tong (Project Coordinator civil);
- · Dennis Chan (Assistant Project Coordinator)

Thanks a lot.

Regards. Emeric

Director - Infrastructure

1151)

D+ 852 2579-8885

F+ 852 2856-9902

From: Sanny Ma [mailto:sannyma@hkgolfclub.org] Sent: Thursday, November 28, 2019 11:57 AM

To: Wan, Emeric Wai-Keung <a href="meric Wan@wsp.com">meric Wan@wsp.com</a>
To: Wan, Emeric Wai-Keung <a href="meric Wan@wsp.com">meric Wan@wsp.com</a>
To: Wan, Emeric Wai-Keung <a href="meric Wan@wsp.com">meric Wan@wsp.com</a>
To: Wan, Emeric Wai-Keung <a href="meric Wan@wsp.com">meric Wan@wsp.com</a>; Viu-Wing, Yeung@wsp.com</a>; Tong, Vicki Pui-Ling <a href="meric Vicki.Tsang@wsp.com">Vicki.Tsang@wsp.com</a>; Yeung, Yiu-Wing, Yeung@wsp.com</a>; Tong, Samuel Sing-Wal <a href="meric Vicki.Tsang@wsp.com">meric Vicki.Tsang@wsp.com</a>; Yeung, Yiu-Wing, Yeung@wsp.com</a>; Chan, Dennis Ka-Hang <a href="meric Vicki.Tsang@wsp.com">Dens.KH.Chan@wsp.com</a>; Lam, Derek Cheung-Fai <a href="meric Vicki.Tsang@wsp.com">Dens.KH.Chan@wsp.com</a>; Chan, Chun-Kwok <a href="meric Vicki.Tsang@wsp.com">Chun.Fwok <a href="meric Vicki.Tsang@wsp.com">No. Chan@wsp.com</a>; Tong, Harvey Chi-Heng <a href="meric Vicki.Tsang@wsp.com">Harvey Chi-Heng <a href="meric V

Hi Emeric.

Thank you for the email.

Yes, please let us have your survey schedule so we can make proper arrangements.

Best regards,

Sanny

From: Fong, Samuel Sing-Wal [mailto:Samuel.Fong@wsp.com]
Sent: Thursday, December 19, 2019 4:44 PM

To: Sanny Ma

Cc: daniellau@cedd.gov.hk; ssshih@cedd.gov.hk; Yeung, Yiu-Wing; Wan, Emeric Wai-Keung; Chan, Dennis Ka-Hang; Woo, Belly Wing-Yin Subject: RE: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement

Further to the Site Visit held on 20 Nov 2019, we are pleased to submit the proposed survey schedule (for January 2020) with the methodology paper for your comment and approval. On January, we requested 10 days (including 2 night) for ecological, tree and cultural heritage surveys. The number of staff is controlled to around 10 for the ease of management.

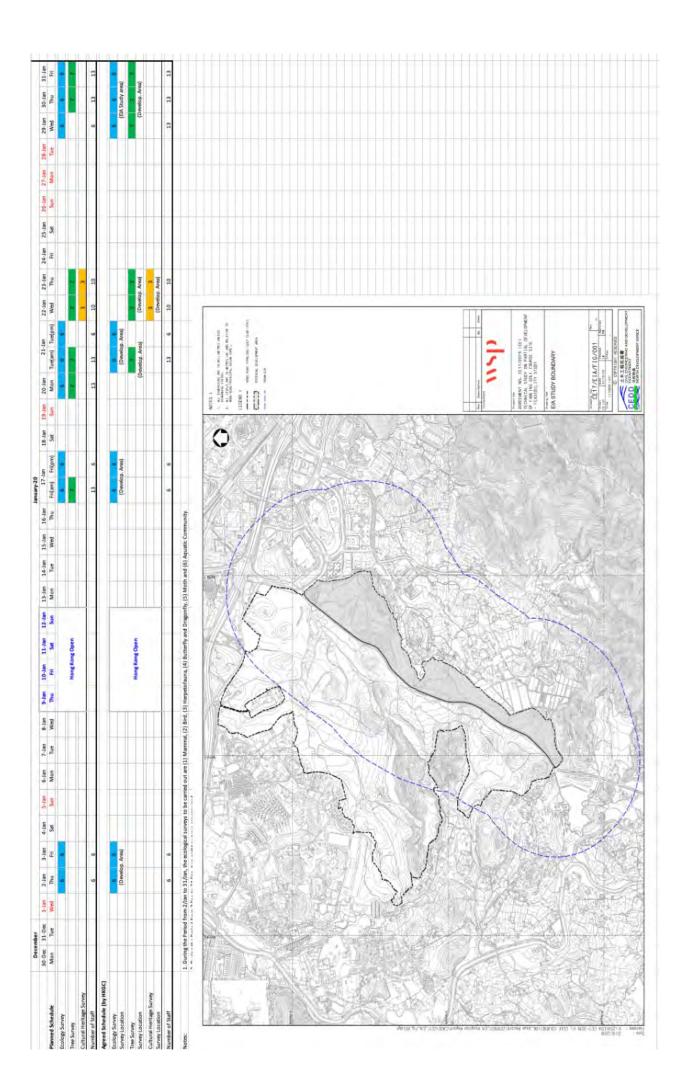
Grateful if you can provide us the available dates for the survey. If you require more information, please do not hesitate to call me for discussion.

Best Regards.

Senior Engineer 11511

D +852 2217 2145 T +852 2579 8899 F +852 2856 9902

7/F One Kowloon, 1 Wang Yuen Street Kowloon Bay, Hong Kong 香港九龍淵宏遠街1號一號九龍7字模



From: Sanny Ma [mailto:sannyma@hkgolfclub.org]

Sent: Friday, December 20, 2019 9:01 AM

To: 'Fong, Samuel Sing-Wai'

Cc: 'daniellau@cedd.qov.hk'; 'ssshih@cedd.qov.hk'; 'Yeung, Yiu-Wing'; 'Wan, Emeric Wai-Keung'; 'Chan, Dennis Ka-Hang'; 'Woo, Belly Wing-Yin'

Subject: RE: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement

Hi Samuel,

Which two nights are you looking at?

We will review the dates and revert asap.

Thanks. Sanny

From: Sanny Ma <sannyma@hkgolfclub.org>

Sent: Sunday, December 22, 2019 12:43 PM

To: Fong, Samuel Sing-Wai < Samuel.Fong@wsp.com>

Cc: daniellau@cedd.gov.hk; ssshih@cedd.gov.hk; Yeung, Yiu-Wing <Yiu-Wing,Yeung@wsp.com>; Wan, Emeric Wai-Keung <Emeric.Wan@wsp.com>; Chan, Dennis Ka-Hang

<Dennis.KH.Chan@wsp.com>; Woo, Belly Wing-Yin <Belly.Woo@wsp.com>

Subject: RE: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement

Hi Samuel,

Please be informed that 2 and 3 January are fine for you (6 people) to do survey. Kindly confirm.

Please be reminded of the safety issue because there will be people playing golf on the course.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you. Sanny

From: Fong, Samuel Sing-Wai [mailto:Samuel.Fong@wsp.com]

Sent: Monday, December 23, 2019 11:38 AM

To: Sanny Ma

Cc: daniellau@cedd.gov.hk; ssshih@cedd.gov.hk; Yeung, Yiu-Wing; Wan, Emeric Wai-Keung; Chan, Dennis Ka-Hang; Woo, Belly Wing-Yin Subject: RE: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement

Dear Sanny.

Thank you very much for the prompt arrangement. The ecologists (total number of 6 staff) will arrive the Site at 10:00am for the surveys.

In addition, for the night survey, we propose to conduct the surveys on 17 and 21 Jan. The surveys will be started at 5:00pm and completed at around 9:00pm. Details are listed below for your information.

Date	2 <sup>nd</sup> Jan	3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	17 <sup>th</sup> Jan	21 <sup>st</sup> Jan
Time	1000 - 1700	1000 - 1700	1700 - 2100	1.700 - 2100
No. of surveyor	6	6	6	6
Survey type	Vegetation, mammal, bird, herpetofauna, butterfly and dragonfly, and aquatic community	Vegetation, mammal, bird, herpetofauna, butterfly and dragonfly, and aquatic community	Aquatic community, mammal, bird, herpetofauna and moth	Aquatic community mammal, bird, herpetofauna and moth

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to call me for discussion.

Best Regards, Samuel Fong Senior Engineer



D +852 2217 2145 T +852 2579 8899 F+852 2856 9902

7/F One Kowloon, 1 Wang Yuen Street Kowloon Bay, Hong Kong 香港九雕灣宏遠街1號一號九雕7字據

Samuel Fong

From: Fong, Samuel Sing-Wai [mailto:Samuel,Fong@wsp.com]
Sent: Monday, January 13, 2020 5:46 PM
To: Sanny Ma

Cc: daniellau@cedd.gov.hk; ssshih@cedd.gov.hk; Yeung, Yiu-Wing; Li, Calvin Chi-Wa; Wan, Emeric Wai-Keung; Lee, Bernard Shing-Yee; kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu; Chan, Dennis Ka-Hang; Tsang, Vicki Pui-Ling; Klinsmann Cheung; Kennis Yip

Subject: RE: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement

Dear Sanny,

As per our tele-conversation, the survey schedule on January is confirmed and please find the agreed survey for your retention.

Please be reminded that our ecological team members will carry out survey at New course on  $29-31\,\mathrm{Jan}$ .

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to call me for discussion.

Best Regards, Samuel Fong Senior Engineer



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### Feb - Mar 2020 Email Conversations and Visiting Schedules

From: Fong, Samuel Sing-Wai [mailto:Samuel.Fong@wsp.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 05, 2020 4:58 PM
To: Sanny Ma
Cc: daniellau@cedd.gov.hk; ssshih@cedd.gov.hk; Yeung, Yiu-Wing; Li, Calvin Chi-Wa; Wan, Emeric Wai-Keung; Lee, Bernard Shing-Yee; Hon, Anna Pui-Kei; kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu; Tsang, Vicki Pui-Ling; 'Klinsmann Cheung'; 'Kennis Yip'
Subject: RE: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement (Feb & Mar)

Please find our proposed survey schedule for February and March.

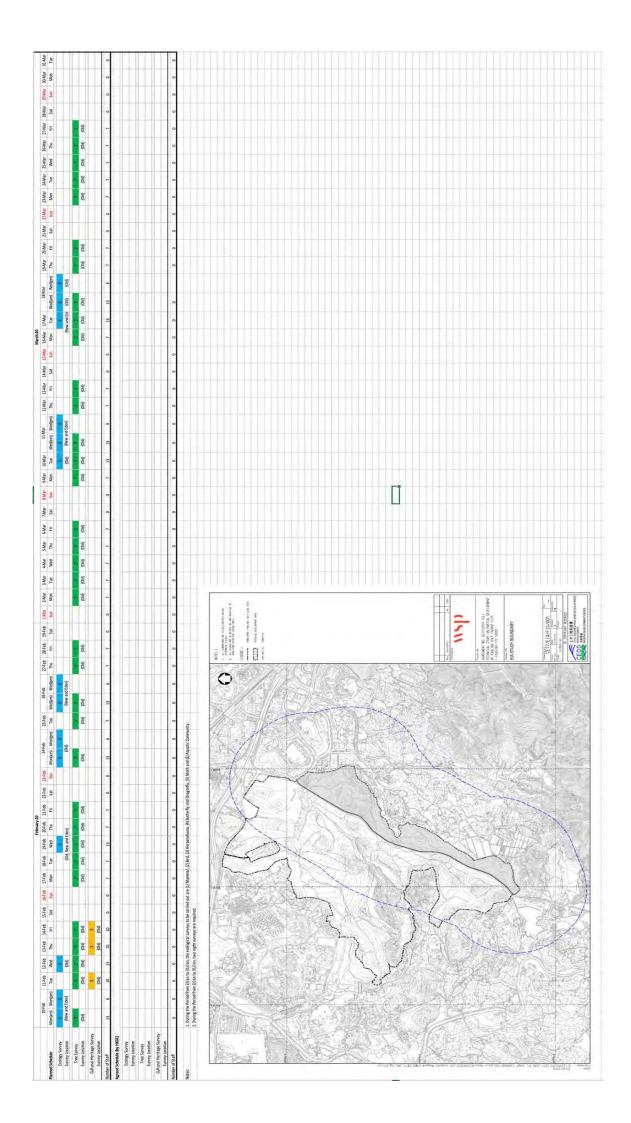
As discussed before, surveys at the New/ Eden Course are required and hence we proposed to carry out the works on 10/Feb, 19/Feb, 26/Feb, 11/Mar and 17/Mar, Grateful if you can advise the availability of the proposed dates.

Best Regards, Samuel Fong Senior Engineer



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7/F One Kowloon, 1 Wang Yuen Street Kowloon Bay, Hong Kong 香港九麗灣宏遠街1號一號九騰7字樓



From: Sanny Ma [mailto:sannyma@hkgolfclub.org]

Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 10:04 AM

To: Fong, Samuel Sing-Wai < Samuel.Fong@wsp.com>

Cc: <a href="mailto:dainellau@cedd.gov.hk">dainellau@cedd.gov.hk</a>; Yeung, Yiu-Wing <a href="mailto:Yiu-Wing\_Yeung@wsp.com">Yiu-Wing\_Yeung@wsp.com</a>; Li, Calvin Chi-Wa <a href="mailto:dainewsp.com">Calvin.CW.Li@wsp.com</a>; Wan, Emeric Wai-Keing <a href="mailto:Emeric.Wan@wsp.com">Emeric.Wan@wsp.com</a>; Lee, Bernard Shing-Yee <a href="mailto:Bernard.Lee@wsp.com">Bernard.Lee@wsp.com</a>; Hon, Anna Pui-Kei <a href="mailto:Anna.PK.Hon@wsp.com">Anna.PK.Hon@wsp.com</a>; kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu <a href="mailto:Yolanda.Kwok@wsp.com">Yolanda.Kwok@wsp.com</a>; Tsang, Vicki Pui-Ling <a href="mailto:Vicki.Tsang@wsp.com">Vicki.Tsang@wsp.com</a>; Klinsmann Cheung' <a href="mailto:ecosys@pacific.net.hk">ecosys@pacific.net.hk</a>; 'Kennis Yip' <a href="mailto:kennis@aalhk.com">kennis@aalhk.com</a>

Subject: RE: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement (Feb & Mar)

Hi Samuel,

Your proposed survey schedule for February and March is fine with us.

Again, please stay alert with people playing golf on the courses.

Thanks. Sanny

-

From: kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu [mailto:Yolanda.Kwok@wsp.com]

Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2020 7:00 PM

To: Sanny Ma

Cc: daniellau@cedd.gov.hk; ssshih@cedd.gov.hk; Yeung, Yiu-Wing; Li, Calvin Chi-Wa; Wan, Emeric Wai-Keung; Lee, Bernard Shing-Yee; Hon, Anna Pui-Kei;

Tsang, Vicki Pui-Ling; 'Klinsmann Cheung'; 'Kennis Yip'

Subject: RE: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement (Feb & Mar)

Dear Sanny,

I refer to the conversation between you and my Vicki regarding the survey arrangement. Please be advised that the nighttime survey will be conducted from 5pm to 11pm based on the agreed schedule (as attached).

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to call me for discussion.

Thank you!

Best Regards,

Yolanda Kwok

Engineer

1150

D +852 3900-2241

From: Sanny Ma [mailto:sannyma@hkgolfclub.org]

Sent: Friday, February 21, 2020 10:13 AM

To: kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu < Yolanda.Kwok@wsp.com>

Cc: <a href="mailto:dainellau@cedd.gov.hk">dainellau@cedd.gov.hk</a>; Yeung, Yiu-Wing <a href="mailto:Yiu-Wing\_Yeung@wsp.com">Yiu-Wing (Siu-Wing\_Yeung@wsp.com">Yiu-Wing\_Yeung@wsp.com</a>; Li, Calvin Chi-Wa <a href="mailto:Calvin.CW.Li@wsp.com">Calvin.CW.Li@wsp.com</a>; Wan, Emeric Wai-Keing <a href="mailto:Yiu-Wing\_Yeung@wsp.com">Yiu-Wing\_Yeung@wsp.com</a>; Li, Calvin Chi-Wa <a href="mailto:Calvin.CW.Li@wsp.com">Anna Pui-Kei <a href="mailto:Anna.PK.Hon@wsp.com">Anna Pui-Kei <a href="mailto:Anna.PK.Hon@wsp.com">Mailto:Anna Pui-Kei <a href="mai

Subject: RE: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement (Feb & Mar)

Hi Yolanda,

Thank you for sending us the revised schedule stating that the pm sessions are actually night sessions.

We will make the proper arrangements accordingly.

Best regards,

Sanny

From: kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu [mailto:Yolanda.Kwok@wsp.com]

Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2020 11:26 AM To: Sanny Ma <sannyma@hkgolfclub.org>

Subject: RE: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement (Feb & Mar)

Dear Sanny,

Thank you for your arrangement. Besides, my ecology survey team would like to be driving to the golf course on the upcoming agreed survey dates which is extracted as below:

	February-20 26-Feb (Wed)		March-20							
Agreed Survey Schedule			10-Mar (Tue)	11-Mar (Wed)		17-Mar (Tue)	18-Mar (Wed)			
Period*	Day	Night	Day	Day	Night	Day	Day	Night		
Ecology Survey	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6		
Survey Location	(New and Eden)		(Old)	(New and Eden)		(New and Eden)	(Old)	(Old)		

\*Daytime Survey: from <u>10am to 5pm</u> Nighttime Survey: from <u>5pm to 11pm</u>

It would be grateful if you could help to register the following car plates nos. for the dates specified above:

RW1286, UP7145 and SK9604 (with two cars on each survey date as most)

I am sorry for the inconvenience caused to you for sending the emails in two days and please do not hesitate to contact me for discussion.

Thank you!

Best Regards,

Yolanda Kwok



#### [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Rare Species recorded within Fanling Golf Course



kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu <Yolanda.Kwok@wsp.com>

To: Sanny Ma <sannyma@hkgolfclub.org>

Tue 3/24/2020 10:33 AM

Cc: Li, Calvin Chi-Wa <Calvin.CW.Li@wsp.com>; Yeung, Yiu-Wing <Yiu-Wing.Yeung@wsp.com>; Wan, Emeric Wai-Keung <Emeric.Wan@wsp.com> +3 others



Dear Sanny,

Based on our recent study in the Fanling Golf Course (FGC), a population of very rare herbal species Ardisia villosa was recorded within the Old Course of FGC. This herb is a very rare species in Hong Kong (HK) and it is not easy to find such a large population in HK. The location of the population recorded is attached for your information.

In view of the above, we would like to recommend your good self to avoid any human intervention e.g. weeding in this area so as to preserve and protect the rare species.

Should you have any enquiry, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at +852 3900-2241.

Thank you!

Best Regards

Yolanda Kwok



D +852 3900-2241 T +852 2579-8899 F +852 2856-9902

### **Apr 2020 Email Conversations and Visiting Schedules**

From: kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu [mailto:Yolanda.Kwok@wsp.com]
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2020 5:31 PM
To: Sanny Ma
Subject: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement (April)

Dear Sanny,

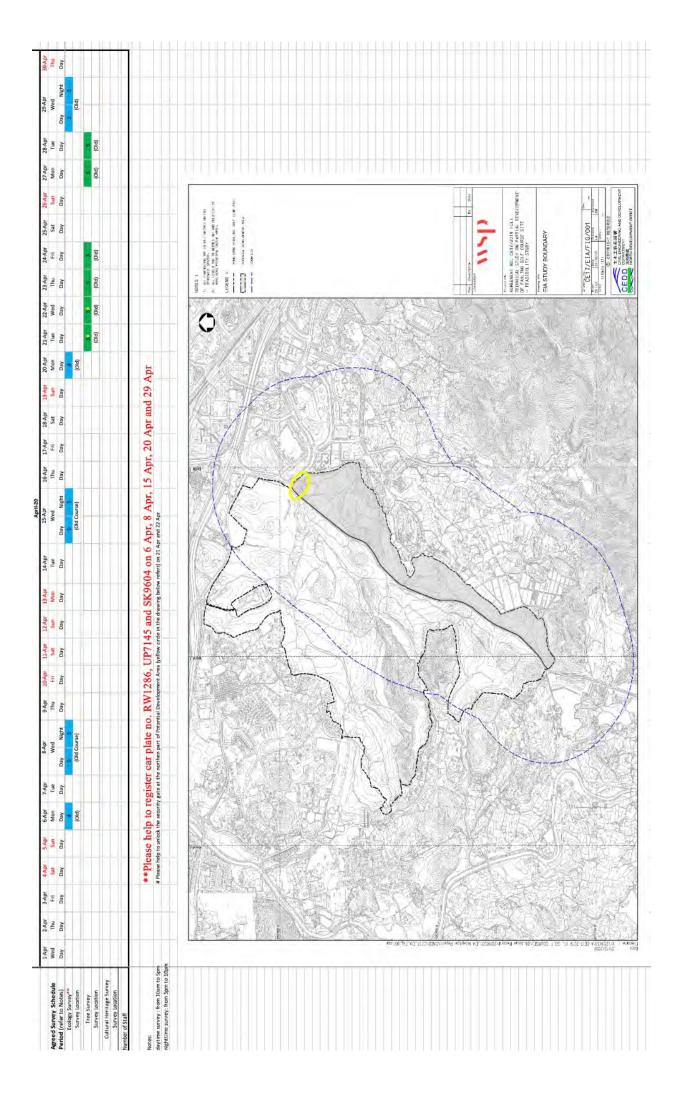
I have attached the proposed survey schedule of April 2020 for your approval. Besides, as our survey colleagues will be driving to the golf course for the survey works on 24 March 2020. Grateful if you could help us to register the following vehicle number:-

Thank you very much for your kind arrangement.

Best Regards,

Yolanda Kwok Engineer

usp D +852 3900-2241 T +852 2579-8899 F +852 2856-9902



From: kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu [mailto:Yolanda.Kwok@wsp.com]

Sent: Thursday, April 2, 2020 10:53 AM To: Sanny Ma <sannyma@hkgolfclub.org>

Cc: daniellau@cedd.gov.hk; Li, Calvin Chi-Wa <Calvin.CW.Li@wsp.com>; Wan, Emeric Wai-Keung <Emeric.Wan@wsp.com>; Yeung, Yiu-Wing <Yiu-Wing.Yeung@wsp.com>; Fung, Jessica Kwok-Yee

<Jessica.Fung@wsp.com>; Hon, Anna Pui-Kei <Anna.PK.Hon@wsp.com>

Subject: RE: CE17/2019 (CE) - Closure of Fanling Golf Course

Dear Sanny,

I refer to our conversation on Tuesday (31 March 2020) regarding the survey arrangement. Please accept my heartfelt thanks for allowing us to continue the survey in your Old Course during the closure of Fanling Golf Course with the following conditions to-be abided by:-

- (1) Our survey team members will notify you the day before for the arrival time and location for the survey;
- (2) Less than five (5) survey team members will enter the golf course every day; and
- (3) Our team members will sign a declaration form for health at your front entrance before entering the golf course.

Based on the above terms, we have amended the survey schedule and is attached herewith for your acceptance. And grateful if you could notify us once the New and Eden Course is opened for survey.

Have a great day!

Best Regards,

Yolanda Kwok Engineer



D +852 3900-2241 T +852 2579-8899 F +852 2856-9902

### May and June 2020 Email Conversations and Visiting Schedules

From: Kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu [mailto:Yolanda.Kwok@wsp.com]
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 6:12 PM

To: Sanny Ma

Subject: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement (May 2020)

Please find attached our proposed survey schedule for May 2020. As per our discussion on last week, it is noticed that the "New & Eden" Course are not yet opened for our survey purpose. Therefore, we have arranged the upcoming surveys in "Old Course" only.

Also, grateful if you could register the following car plates nos. for the dates specified below:-

RW1286, SK9604 and UP7145 (For 6-May, 14-May, 18-May & 27-May)

(For 20-May & 26-May)

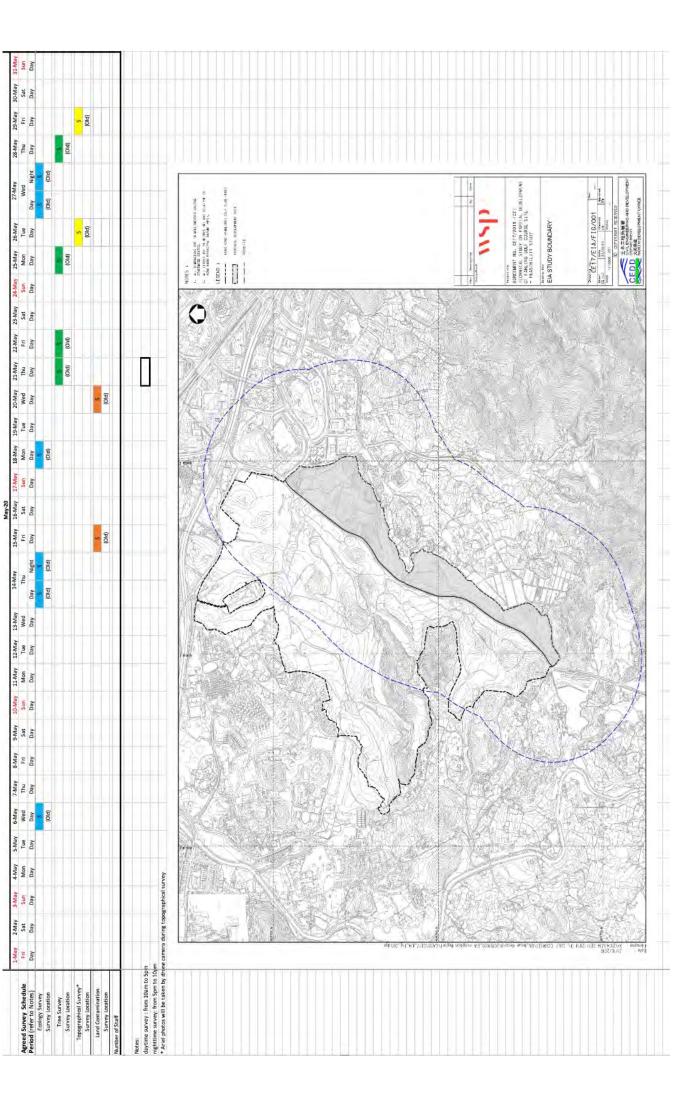
Thank you!

Best Regards

Yolanda Kwok Engineer



D +852 3900-2241 T +852 2579-8899 F +852 2856-9902



From: Sanny Ma [mailto:sannyma@hkgolfclub.org] Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 4:04 PM To: Kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu < Yolanda.Kwok@wsp.com> Subject: RE: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement (May 2020)

Hi Yolanda,

Noted your May survey schedule.

Thanks. Sanny

From: Kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu [mailto:Yolanda.Kwok@wsp.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 10:23 AM

Sent: nessay, Ma To: Sanny Ma Subject: RE: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement (May 2020)

It is required in our Study to carry out land contamination assessment for Fanling Golf Course. We are therefore proposing to conduct site survey regarding the land contamination on 15 May 2020 (Fri) & 20 May 2020 (Wed). The activities to be carried out during the survey will include:-

- + Look for land contamination hot spots such as oil stain on ground, onsite DG storage, chemicals and chemical wastes storage, transformer room/substation, etc.
- Taking photo of the site and hot spots, if any
  Check for stressed vegetation

Moreover, due to the restriction of nos, of visitors each day, the topographical survey is proposed to be postponed from 20 May 2020 (Wed) to 29 May 2020 (Fri). I have attached the updated survey schedule for your ease of reference.

Grateful for your confirmation on the updated survey schedule.

Thank you!

Best Regards,

Yolanda Kwok



From: Ian Gardner [mailto:ian@hkgolfclub.org]

Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 1:30 PM

To: Kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu <Yolanda.Kwok@wsp.com>

Cc: Sanny <sannyma@hkgolfclub.org>

Subject: FW: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement (May 2020)

Dear Yolanda.

We have no objection to your proposed survey provided that your survey is restricted to the 32 hectare site to the west of Fan Kam Rd.

Kind regards.

Ian Gardner General Manager

Lot No. 1 Fan Kam Road, Sheung Shui, New Territories, Hong Kong

T+852 2670 1211 D+852 2670 1820 F+852 2670 5183 Eian@hkgolfclub.org



ww.hkgolfclub.org

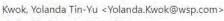






#### RE: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement (May 2020)





To: lan Gardner <ian@hkgolfclub.org>

Cc: Sanny <sannyma@hkgolfclub.org>

Thu 5/14/2020 11:40 AM

Good morning lan,

Thank you for your support. I will remind my team member to confine the survey works within our Project Site,

Thank you!

Best Regards,

Yolanda Kwok

Engineer



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T +852 2579-8899

F +852 2856-9902

From: lan Gardner [mailto:ian@hkgolfclub.org]
Sent: Wednesday, 20 May 2020 11:18 AM
To: Kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu -Yolanda Kwok@wsp.com>
Cc: Sanny -sannyma@hkgolfclub.org
Subject: FW: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement (May 2020)

#### Dear Yolanda,

We have noted the survey boundary that you sent through and we do not object to you carrying out your surveys within that boundary. Please continue to collaborate closely with us regarding the scope of works for each of your visits and note that we are now operating and your employees and consultants should be wary of being struck by a golf ball if they are working on the golf courses while play is underway.

#### Kind regards.

#### Ian Gardner General Manag

Lot No. 1 Fan Kam Road, Sheung Shui, New Territories, Hong Kong

T+852 2670 1211 D+852 2679 1820 F+852 2679 5183 E ian@hkgolfclub.org









From: Kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu Sent: Friday, 22 May 2020 3:00 PM To: Sanny <sannyma@hkgolfclub.org> Ce: daniellau@cedd.gov.hk; Hon, Anna Pui-Kei <Anna.PK,Hon@wsp.com> Subject: RE: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement (May 2020)

### Dear Sanny,

Further to lan's email below, we have updated the survey schedule for next week and June 2020. Previously, we have proposed to conduct the Ecological Survey in Old Course on 27 May 2020 (Wed). And it is now proposing to carry out the works at New & Eden course within the boundary on the same day. To this, grateful if you could provide your no comment on the attached survey schedule.

Also, grateful if you could help registering the following license plate nos.:-

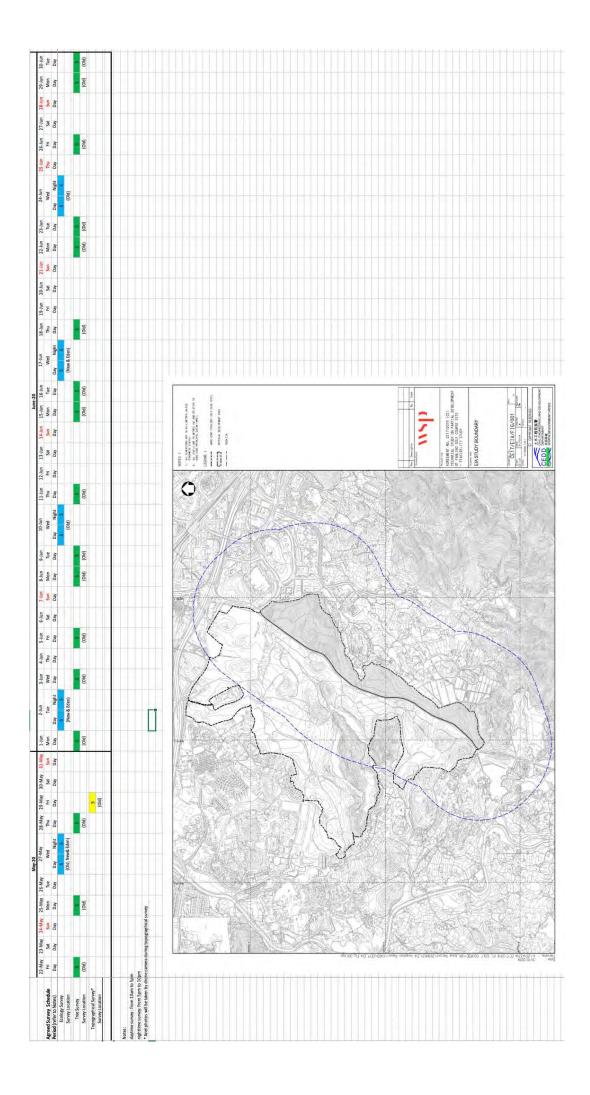
- a. RW1286, UP7145 and SK9604: for survey on 27 May 2020 (previously registered), 2 Jun 2020, 10 Jun 2020, 17 Jun 2020 & 24 Jun 2020 b. JR7268: for survey on 29 May 2020

#### Thank you!

Best Regards,

Yolanda Kwok Engineer 1150

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From: Kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu [mailto:Yolanda.Kwok@wsp.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2020 3:02 PM
To: Sanny
Subject: FW: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement (May 2020)

Dear Sanny.

Thank you for your no comment to our proposed survey schedule. Please note that our ecological survey at night tomorrow (till 10 pm) will mainly be focused on the southern part of the Old Course (locations as shown in the attached figure). Therefore, grateful if you could inform the security not to lock the gate in the middle of the Old Course so as to facilitate the survey works.

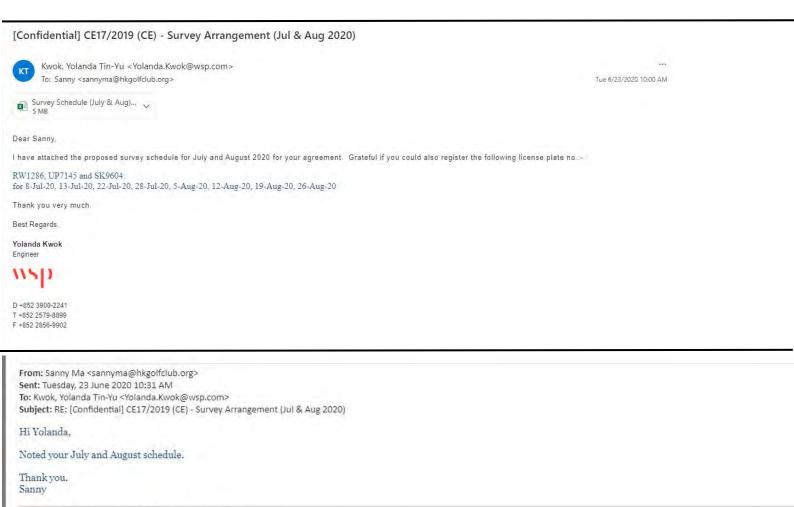
Best Regards,

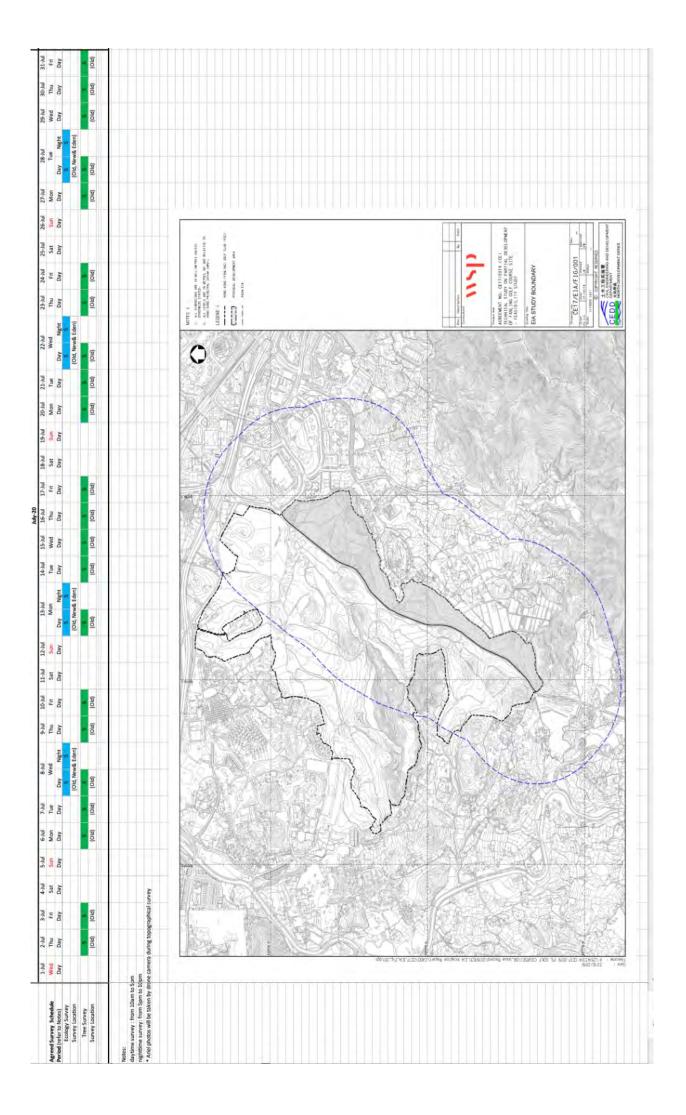
Yolanda Kwok Engineer

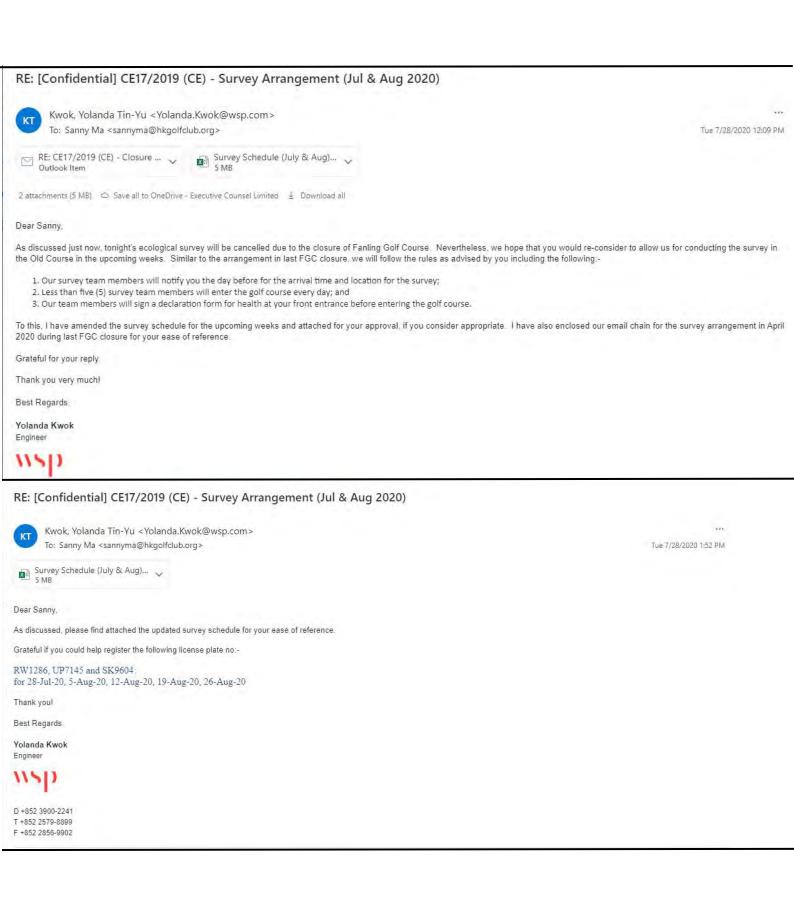


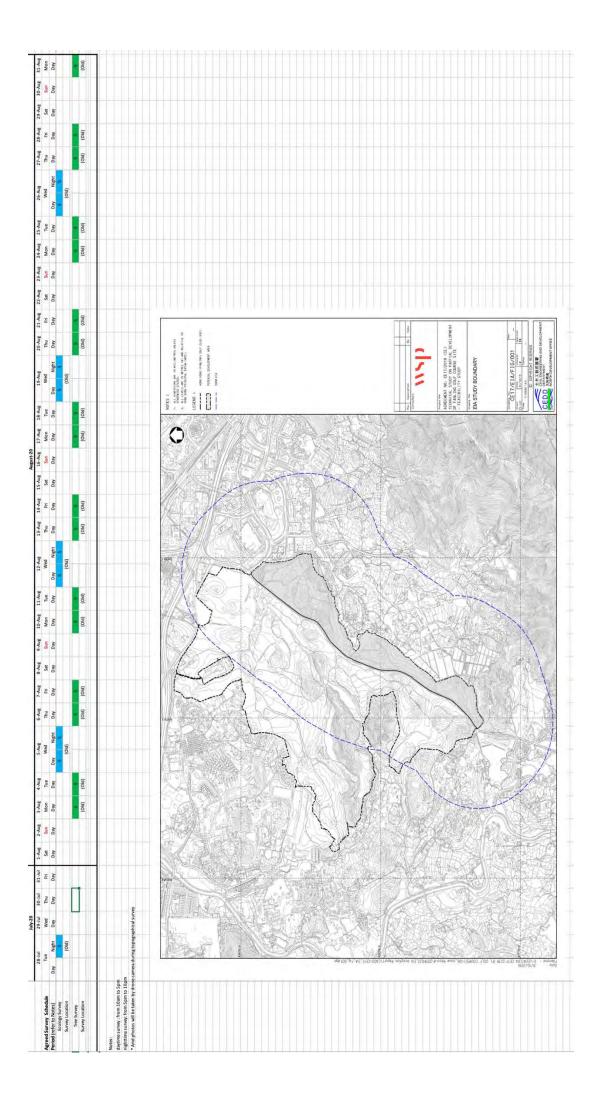
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# July - August Email Conversations and Visiting Schedules



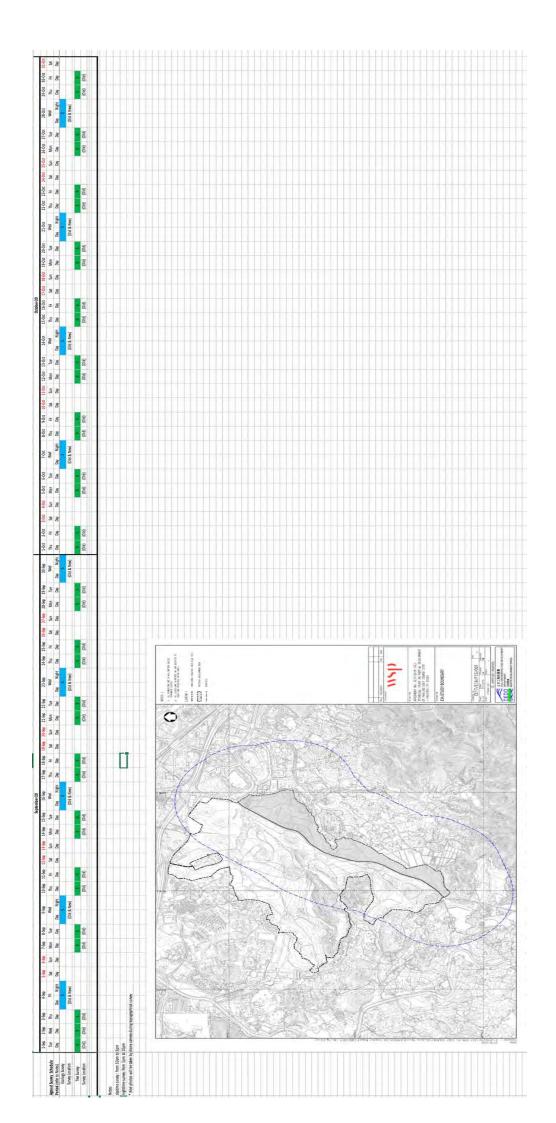






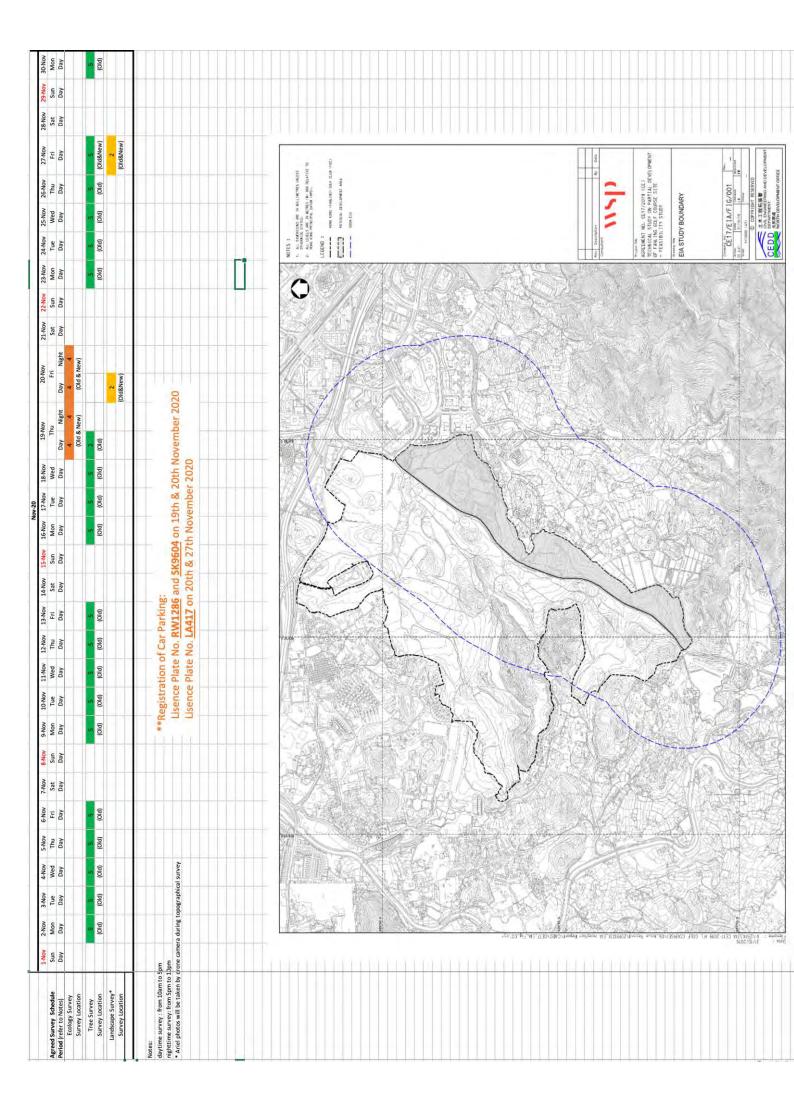
# Sep - Oct Email Conversations and Visiting Schedule





# **Nov 2020 Email Conversations and Visiting Schedules**





### RE: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement (Nov & Dec 2020)



Kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu < Yolanda.Kwok@wsp.com> To: Sanny Ma <sannyma@hkgolfclub.org>

Tue 11/10/2020 9:50 AM



Survey Schedule (Nov & Dec... v

Dear Sanny,

Thank you for your arrangement. Please kindly be noted that we would like to access both old & new course (within EIA boundary) on 20th November 2020 and 27th November 2020. And grateful if you could help registering the license plate LA417 for us in these two days.

Thank you!

Best Regards,

Yolanda Kwok



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From: Kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu [mailto:Yolanda.Kwok@wsp.com]
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 10:03 AM
To: Sanny Ma

Subject: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement (Nov & Dec 2020)

Good morning Sanny,

It is requested by government department that extra ecological surveys should be conducted. To this, we propose to survey at both new & old course on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020 (from 10am to 10pm). Grateful if you could allow access for cars with license plate nos. RW1286 and SK9604 on these two days.

I have attached the updated survey schedule for your ease of reference.

Sorry for the inconvenience caused to you and thank you for your help!

Best Regards, Yolanda Kwok



Sent: Thursday, November 26, 2020 1:51 PM

To: Sanny Ma

Subject: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement ( Dec 2020)

We have updated the survey schedule for Dec 2020. To this, please find the attached for your agreement.

Grateful if you could allow access of our cars in the following dates:-

Lisence Plate No. EB3083 on 27th November 2020

Lisence Plate No. RW1286 and SK9604 on 15th & 16th December 2020

If you have any enquiries / comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at 3900 2241.

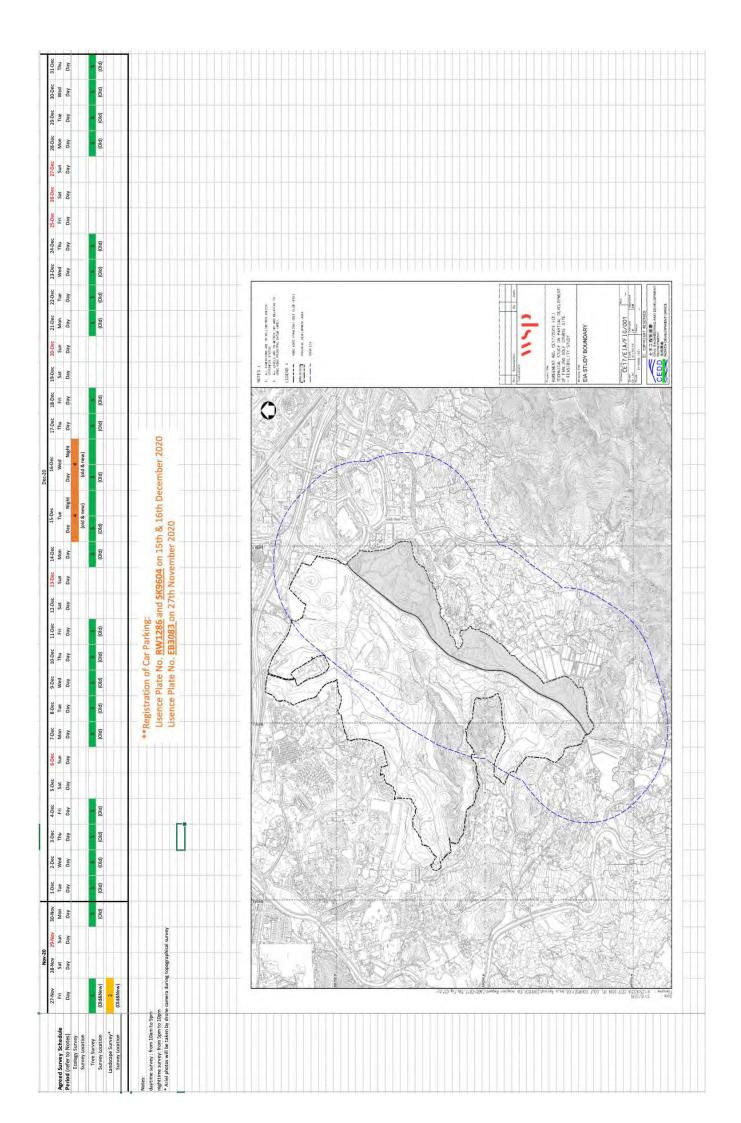
Thank you!

Best Regards,

Yolanda Kwok



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# [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Sampling Collection at Fanling Golf Course Kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu < Yolanda.Kwok@wsp.com> To: Sanny Ma <sannyma@hkgolfclub.org> Cc: Tip. Ernest Man-Chor <Ernest.Tip@wsp.com> Sampling at Fanling Golf Cou... Dear Sanny, In order to facilitate our assessment, we are required to collect soil samples and water samples in the Site. To this, we proposed to form two hand-dig trial pits with approximate size 0.3m(L)x 0.3m(W) x 1.5m(D), about two metres to the south of existing carpark at Old Course. The proposed sampling location and methodology are attached for your information. The two trial pits location has been selected taking into primarily consideration that minimal impact to your normal operation will be caused. The excavated trial pits will be backfilled after collection of soil samples. It is anticipated that the proposed works would be lasting one or two working days. Therefore, we sincerely wish you to allow our access to the Old Course to carry out the proposed works.

Should you have any queries / comments, please do not hesitate to contact our Ernest Tip at 2579 7348 or the undersigned at 3900 2241. We look forward to your

Thank you very much!

Best Regards,

positive reply.

Yolanda Kwok



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### Jan 2021 Email Conversations

From: Sanny Ma <sannyma@hkgolfclub.org> Sent: Friday, 18 December 2020 11:23 AM

To: Kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu < Yolanda.Kwok@wsp.com>

Subject: RE: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement ( Dec 2020)

Hi Yolanda,

For arrangement purposes, please advise if you have survey schedule set for early part of next year.

Thanks. Sanny

From: Kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu [mailto:Yolanda.Kwok@wsp.com]

Sent: Monday, December 21, 2020 2:38 PM

To: Sanny Ma

Subject: RE: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement ( Dec 2020)

Jean Sainty,

We have substantially completed our surveys within your Site. To this, we proposed to carry out the remaining surveys at 8, 15, 22 or 29 Jan 2021. Except the abovementioned, it is not anticipated to have other scheduled surveys within your Site, unless we received additional requests or comments from government departments. By then, I will further contact you for the arrangement.

Thank you very much!

Best Regards,

Yolanda Kwok



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> From: Sanny Ma <sannyma@hkgolfclub.org> Sent: Monday, 21 December 2020 2:43 PM

To: Kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu <Yolanda.Kwok@wsp.com>

Subject: RE: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement ( Dec 2020)

Hi Yolanda,

Thank you for your response.

Please let me know the times for your surveys on 8, 15, 22 or 29 January 2021 so that we can make proper arrangements.

Best regards, Sanny

### RE: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement ( Dec 2020)



Kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu < Yolanda.Kwok@wsp.com> To: Sanny Ma <sannyma@hkgolfclub.org>

Mon 12/21/2020 2:46 PM

Dear Sanny,

The survey will be conducted during daytime from 10am to 5pm on either one of the proposed date.

Thank you!

Best Regards,

Yolanda Kwok



D +852 3900-2241 T +852 2579-8899 F +852 2856-9902 From: Sanny Ma <sannyma@hkgolfclub.org> Sent: Monday, 21 December 2020 2:48 PM

To: Kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu <Yolanda.Kwok@wsp.com>

Subject: RE: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement ( Dec 2020)

Noted Yolanda, please confirm near the time.

Thanks. Sanny

### RE: [Confidential] CE17/2019 (CE) - Survey Arrangement ( Dec 2020)



Kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu <Yolanda.Kwok@wsp.com> To: Sanny Ma <sannyma@hkgolfclub.org>

Mon 12/21/2020 3:59 PM

Dear Sanny,

Noted. Will further confirm the time in Jan 2021. Thank you!

Best Regards,

Yolanda Kwok



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# Feb 2021 Email Conversations and Visiting Schedules

From: Kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu [mailto:Yolanda.Kwok@wsp.com]
Sent: Friday, February 05, 2021 2:49 PM

To: Sanny Ma

Subject: CE17/2019(CE) - Survey Arrangement (Feb 2021)

Dear Sanny,

We would like to propose additional tree surveys within old course. Attached please find the proposed survey schedule for your consideration.

Please let me know if you have any queries / comments.

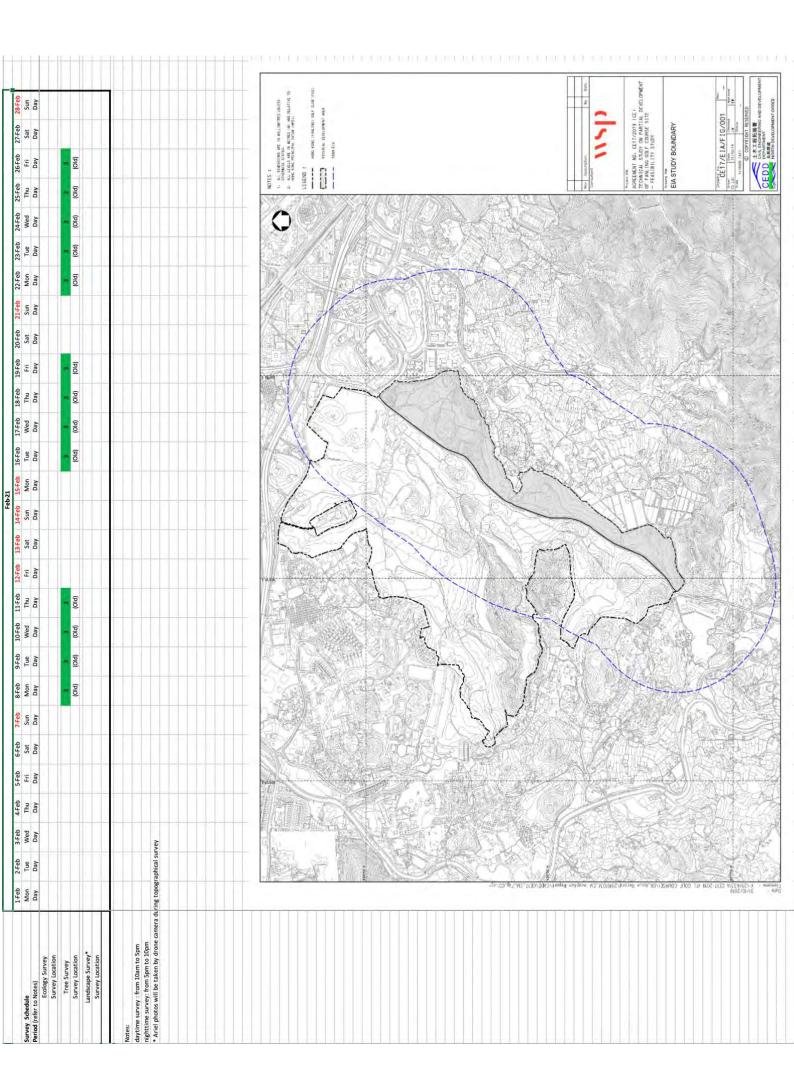
Thank you!

Regards,

Yolanda Kwok

D +852 3900-2241

WSP (Asia) Ltd. 7/F One Kowloon, 1 Wang Yuen Street Kowloon Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong



## Other Email Communications (Beyond Feb 2021)

### CE17/2019 - FGC - Visit to FGC



Kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu <Yolanda.Kwok@wsp.com> To: Sanny Ma <sannyma@hkgolfclub.org>

Mon 4/12/2021 5:31 PM

Dear Sanny,

We would like to propose another site visit for further collecting information and photo taking in FGC tomorrow afternoon.

Grateful if you could confirm whether the proposed time is suitable to you.

If you have any queries / concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 3900 2241.

Thank you!

Regards,

Yolanda Kwok D +852 3900-2241 WSP (Asia) Ltd.

From: Sanny Ma <sannyma@hkgolfclub.org>

Sent: Tuesday, 13 April 2021 9:15 AM

To: Kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu <Yolanda.Kwok@wsp.com> Subject: RE: CE17/2019 - FGC - Visit to FGC

Morning Yolanda,

Please go ahead with the site visit this afternoon.

What time will you start and which course are you going?

Again please be cautious of people playing golf.

Thanks. Sanny

KT

Kwok, Yolanda Tin-Yu <Yolanda.Kwok@wsp.com> To: Sanny Ma <sannyma@hkgolfclub.org>

Tue 4/13/2021 9:36 AM

Thanks for your confirmation. The visit is anticipated to start at around 14:00 to 15:00.

We will mainly visit old course and would also like to take some photos from the viewpoints in areas indicated in below red rectangle.

