<u>Temporary strengthening and tidying up</u> <u>works of Sham Shui Po Fresh Water</u> Break Pressure Tank to commence

The Water Supplies Department (WSD) will commence the temporary strengthening and tidying up works for Sham Shui Po Fresh Water Break Pressure Tank (the BPT) at Bishop Hill tomorrow (January 5), with a view to facilitating inspection by relevant staff inside the BPT in a safe manner for future rehabilitation and conservation.

A spokesman of the WSD said today (January 4) that the BPT generally remains structurally intact. The major temporary strengthening works include support for those local concrete roof slabs which may have potential to loosen, brick arches and other structures with potential danger to ensure the structural integrity of the tank and to enhance site safety.

The temporary tidying up works include the provision of secured temporary access for staff to conduct inspection; temporary drainage measures to discharge rainwater so as to prevent flooding; sorting and protection of broken brickworks taken down earlier for future rehabilitation; as well as the provision of temporary cover on the opening of the roof slab to prevent the internal structures from exposure to sunlight and other weathering effect.

WSD has repaired the temporary fences of the BPT site and enhanced its security. As there is potential risk at the construction site, WSD urges members of the public not to trespass on the site area.

At the same time, WSD will continue to collaborate with the Antiquities and Monuments Office to assess other underground waterworks installations including water tanks and service reservoirs.

According to record, the BPT was built in 1904. WSD constructed in 1952 an additional concrete structure inside the tank as seen today.