

I am delighted to present to you our Environmental Report 2022/23 which summarises our continuing efforts in environmental management in the past year and introduces our environmental targets and initiatives for 2023/24.

As a dedicated member of the society and a responsible custodian of infrastructure projects, we are committed to giving due regard to the environment when discharging our duties throughout the project life cycle. In planning and design of new road projects, we have assessed various options of tunnel alignments and road widening works to achieve the least environmental impacts. Railway is one of the most sustainable forms of mass transport system. We have facilitated the planning and design of railway projects promulgated under the Railway Development Strategy 2014. These new railway schemes will improve the railway accessibility and relieve road traffic congestion. Following the Government's policy on developing Hong Kong as a "Walkable City", we have been actively delivering projects on providing covers for walkways connecting to major transport facilities and hospitals with a view to fostering a pedestrian-friendly environment and promoting walking as a form of sustainable urban mobility. We also have been collaborating closely with various stakeholders in preserving an old and valuable stonewall tree at Bonham Road, achieving harmonious coexistence of people and trees. With our commitment to sustainability and promoting innovation, we continued to conduct researches and trials on innovative technologies and environmentally friendly materials, including studies on the application of artificial intelligence technology in road construction and maintenance works, and the site trials of bituminous road pavement using used rubber tyres as binder and precast concrete paving units with recycled plastics.

I am pleased to conclude that our environmental targets for 2022/23 have been fully accomplished. Our efforts in green management have received due recognition in a number of environmental awards. We also continued to bolster support for various green and charity activities to promote environmental awareness and social responsibility among our staff.

I would like to convey my sincere appreciation to our colleagues for their professional and valuable contributions in the past year. Looking ahead, we will remain unwavering in our commitment to provide the public with high quality services in a sustainable manner, and make our community a greener and more pleasant place.

Jimmy P M CHAN Director of Highways