

**For discussion
on 18 February 2013**

**Legislative Council Panel on Health Services
Ward Renovation in Kwai Chung Hospital**

Purpose

This paper briefs Members on the proposed ward renovation of Kwai Chung Hospital (KCH).

Background

2. At present, the Hospital Authority (HA) organizes its mental health services based on the seven hospital clusters for provision of in-patient, out-patient and community services for patients with mental illness. KCH is a psychiatric hospital located in the Kowloon West Cluster (KWC), providing psychiatric care to those with mental health problems in Kwai Tsing, Tsuen Wan, North Lantau, Mongkok, Sham Shui Po and Wong Tai Sin districts. It currently has 920 beds and accounts for around a quarter of the total psychiatric bed capacity in HA.

3. Providing acute and chronic services, KCH was established in 1981, with heavy emphasis on in-patient services for general adult psychiatry. The hospital has subsequently developed child and adolescent services, psycho-geriatric services, a substance abuse assessment unit, and a psychiatric unit for learning disabilities. Day hospital and community-based services have also become important components of the services it provides.

Need for Ward Renovation

4. After several decades of heavy utilization, the physical conditions of the existing in-patient wards have deteriorated to an undesirable state with problems of spalling concrete, water leakage, and electrical malfunctioning. While routine maintenance and ad-hoc repair works have been carried out at KCH over the years, there has been no major refurbishment or renovation since the commissioning of the hospital. Water leakage and blockage of the drainage system in in-patient wards and patient activity areas are perennial problems at KCH, causing

not only disruptions to ward operations, but also significant infection control risks.

5. In order to ensure safety of patients, staff and the general public, comply with infection control requirements, and facilitate effective service provision, there is an imminent need to renovate those in-patient wards and clinical areas which are in the worst condition.

The Proposed Renovation Project

6. The proposed renovation works will cover repairs to spalling concrete; re-painting of walls; replacement of floor and ceiling tiles; replacement of plumbing and drainage pipes in ward toilets, showers, sluice rooms and treatment rooms; as well as repairs and replacement of building services installations in the following areas -

- (a) nine in-patient wards in Blocks L/M and G/H;
- (b) public areas at ward levels of Blocks L/M and G/H; and
- (c) clinical areas of Service Block.

7. A site plan of KCH is at **Enclosure 1**.

Project Implementation

8. We plan to seek funding approval of Finance Committee (FC) in July 2013. Subject to FC's funding approval, we plan to commence the renovation works in July 2013 for completion in December 2014. The wards will be renovated in phases, with each phase covering two wards and requiring three months to complete tentatively. The first pair of renovated wards is therefore expected to be available for use in October 2013. KCH will remain functional at all times and any disruption of services, if unavoidable, will be kept to a minimum.

9. The estimated cost for the proposed renovation works mentioned in paragraph 6(a) to (c) above is in the order of \$48 million in money-of-the-day prices¹. Subject to Members' support of the proposed

¹ This figure represents the latest estimates of capital cost. We will take into account the fee proposals in finalizing the cost estimate before making submission to the Public Works Subcommittee.

works, we plan to invite tenders in March 2013. Tender will only be awarded after we have secured funding approval from FC.

Public Consultation

10. HA consulted the Kwai Tsing District Council (K&TDC) on 11 December 2012. Members of K&TDC supported the proposed renovation project.

Redevelopment of KCH

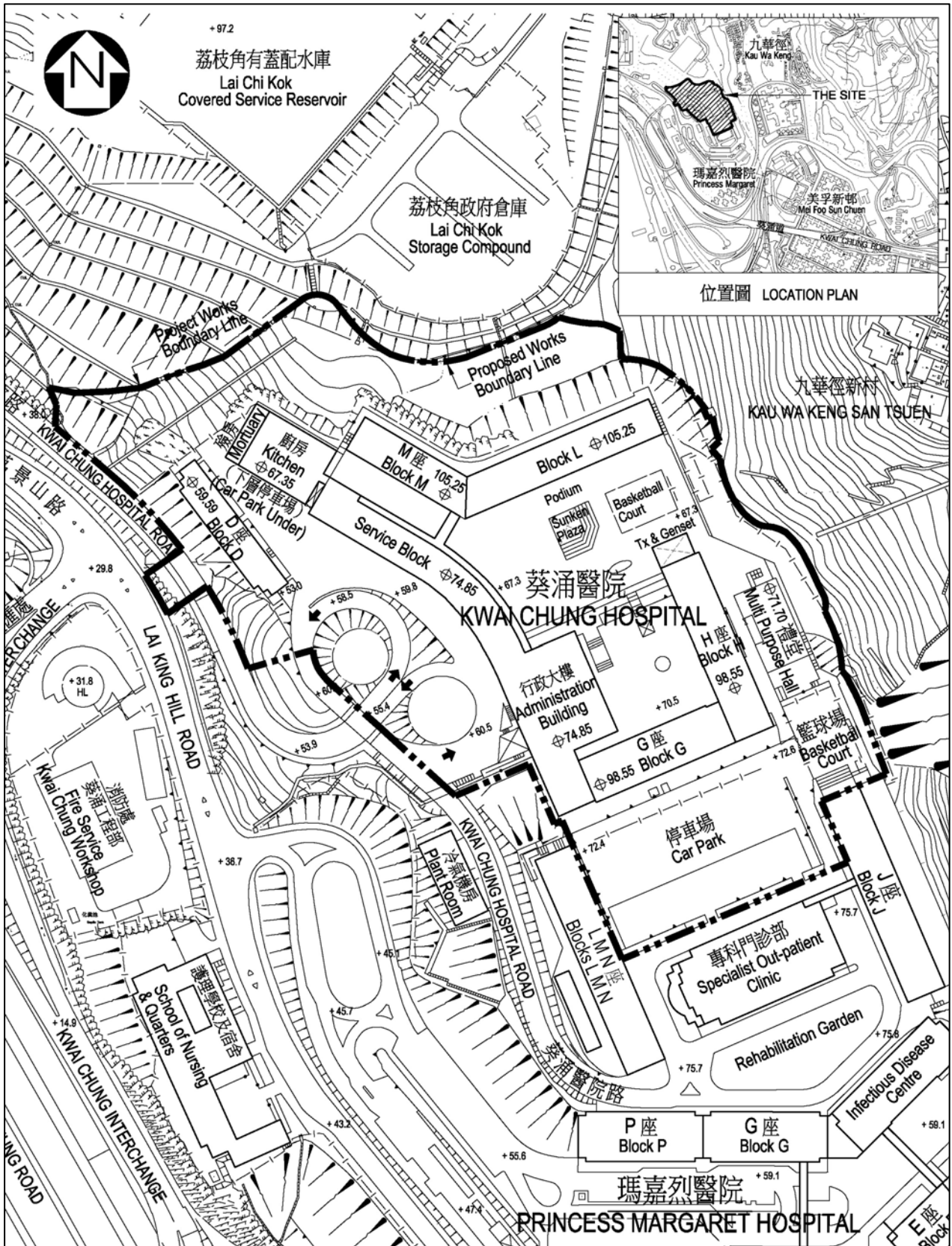
11. The Existing conditions of the facilities and the physical setting at KCH lack the capability to facilitate the adoption of modern delivery of psychiatric care. To enhance the hospital's capacity to provide quality services in line with the international trend of increasingly focusing on community and ambulatory services in treating mental illness, the Chief Executive announced in the 2013 Policy Address the decision to redevelop KCH. A complete redevelopment of KCH will be part of the modernization of mental health services in Hong Kong, which aims to better meet growing service demand and deliver quality services. Tentatively, the redevelopment project will be carried out in three phases starting from mid-2015 for completion in early 2023. Funding will be sought in phases to dovetail with the implementation programme of the redevelopment project.

12. The renovation project aims to bring about immediate improvement to the physical condition of the hospital that could not wait until the redevelopment project. There is no overlapping in the scopes of the renovation project and redevelopment project.

Advice Sought

13. Members are invited to comment on the proposed renovation project as outlined in this paper.

**Food and Health Bureau
Hospital Authority
February 2013**



8078MM – Ward renovation in Kwai Chung Hospital 葵涌醫院病房翻新工程

Site Plan of Existing Kwai Chung Hospital (Not to Scale)

葵涌醫院現時平面圖 (不按比例)