

**For discussion
on 19 January 2015**

**Legislative Council Panel on Health Services
Expansion of United Christian Hospital**

Purpose

This paper briefs Members on the proposed main works for the expansion of United Christian Hospital (UCH).

Background

2. At present, the Kowloon East (KE) cluster of the Hospital Authority (HA) manages three hospitals, namely, UCH, Tseung Kwan O Hospital and Haven of Hope Hospital, in the Kwun Tong and Sai Kung districts. UCH was established in 1973 and had an extension project completed in 1999. Over the years, the population of Kwun Tong and Sai Kung districts has grown rapidly. According to the latest projection of the Planning Department, the population of the two districts was 1 088 100 in 2013 and is projected to reach 1 190 400 in 2021. Moreover, the elderly population aged 65 or above in the two districts is projected to increase from 151 700 in 2013 to 203 000 in 2021, representing a significant increase of around 34%.

3. The growing and aging population in the two districts gives rise to increasing demand for both ambulatory and in-patient services which has considerable impact on the provision of healthcare services in the KE cluster. The existing facilities at UCH are however inadequate in terms of space, capacity and design to cope with the rising service demand, the present day service standard and future service requirement. To cope with the anticipated growth in demand for both ambulatory and in-patient services, HA plans to improve and enhance facilities in UCH to expand its service capacity.

4. On 12 March 2012, the Health Services Panel considered the proposed expansion of UCH. The Finance Committee (FC) of the Legislative Council subsequently approved on 13 July 2012 the upgrading of the preparatory works for the expansion of UCH to Category A at an estimated cost of \$352.3 million in money-of-the-day (MOD) prices. The preparatory works, including site surveys and investigations, decanting works and consultancy services for outline sketch

design, detailed design, as well as tender documentation and assessment for the main works, commenced in August 2012.

The Proposed Expansion of UCH

5. The project proposes to demolish three existing hospital blocks (i.e. Blocks F, G and H) and Block P (Low) of UCH for the construction of a new ambulatory block (i.e. Block A). An extension to the existing Block S will also be constructed. Upon their completion, some services at the existing hospital blocks will be moved to the new ambulatory block and the new extension block. The areas so vacated will then be converted and renovated for the improvement, expansion and rationalisation of clinical and supporting services.

6. The expansion of UCH project will provide sufficient space and upgraded facilities for specialist out-patient service to address increasing service demand. Other ambulatory care services at UCH will also be enhanced to provide comprehensive and integrated healthcare services to the community. A new Oncology Centre will be developed to provide radiotherapy, chemotherapy and psycho-social care for cancer patients of the KE cluster. In addition, the expansion project will enhance convalescent and rehabilitation service in KE cluster. We expect that the total bed capacity including inpatient and day beds will be increased from about 1 400 to around 1 960 after the expansion. The existing diagnostic and treatment facilities including operating rooms, coronary care unit, intensive care unit, radiology department, accident and emergency department and endoscopy centre will be improved, expanded and/or rationalized.

Project Implementation

7. The proposed expansion project is to be implemented in two stages, namely preparatory works and main works. As part of the preparatory works, HA has substantially completed the site surveys and investigations as well as decanting works in end 2014. The detailed design and tender preparation for demolition and substructure works for the new ambulatory block and the extension of Block S are near finalisation while the detailed design for the remaining parts of the expansion project is underway.

8. In consideration of the long construction period for the main works of the project and the complex nature of this large-scale expansion project, HA proposes to adopt phased implementation of the main works with a view to minimizing the risk of higher-than-expected tender prices due to additional

premium allowed for long contract periods, as well as reducing both programme and cost risks.

9. In this connection, we plan to seek funding approval from FC to upgrade part of the main works, namely demolition and substructure works, covering –

- (i) demolition of existing Blocks F, G and H and Block P (Low);
- (ii) foundation works;
- (iii) site formation works;
- (iv) excavation and lateral support works;
- (v) other associated site works including tree felling and transplanting, utilities diversion, road realignment and temporary traffic diversion works; and
- (vi) consultancy services for contract administration and site supervision of the demolition and substructure works.

10. Funding approval for the remaining part of the expansion project will be subsequently sought to dovetail with the implementation programme. The scope of the remainder of the main works comprises –

- (i) construction of a new ambulatory block (i.e. Block A);
- (ii) construction of a new extension to Block S;
- (iii) construction of linkages between the blocks;
- (iv) refurbishment of Blocks P (High) and S for expansion of facilities; and
- (v) landscaping and road works.

11. The estimated cost of the proposed demolition and substructure works is in the order of \$1,790 million in money-of-the-day (MOD) prices. We intend to seek funding approval from FC for demolition and substructure works as described in paragraph 9 above in the second quarter of 2015. Subject to funding approval of FC, we plan to commence the demolition and substructure works immediately afterwards for completion of this part of the main works in December 2019. Subject to FC's approval, we aim to proceed with the remaining main works in 2019-20 for completion of the whole expansion project in 2022-23. UCH will remain functional at all times and any disruption of services, if unavoidable, will be kept to a minimum.

12. Plans showing the existing layout of UCH and the proposed demolition and substructure works are at **Enclosures I and II** respectively.

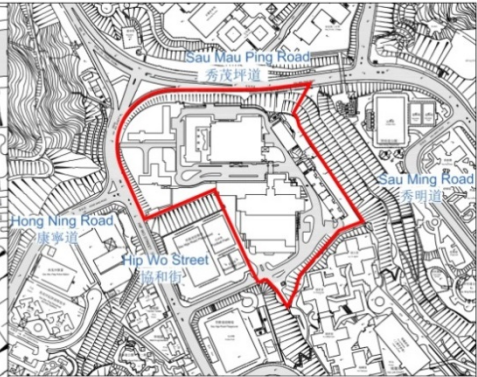
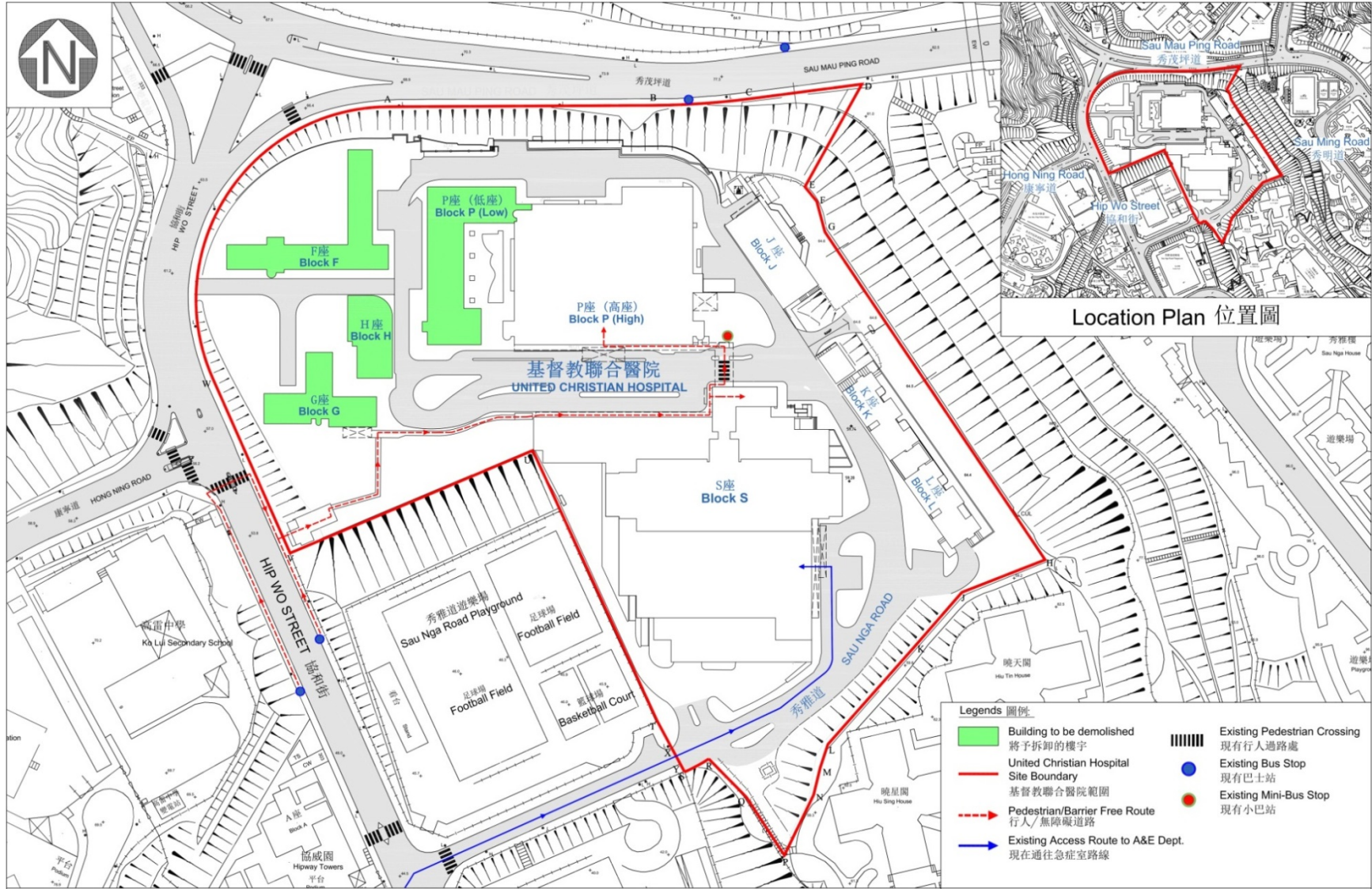
Public Consultation

13. HA consulted the Kwun Tong District Council (KTDC) on the proposed project on 2 February 2012 and updated KTDC on the current status of the project on 4 November 2014. Members of the KTDC supported the proposed project.

Advice Sought

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

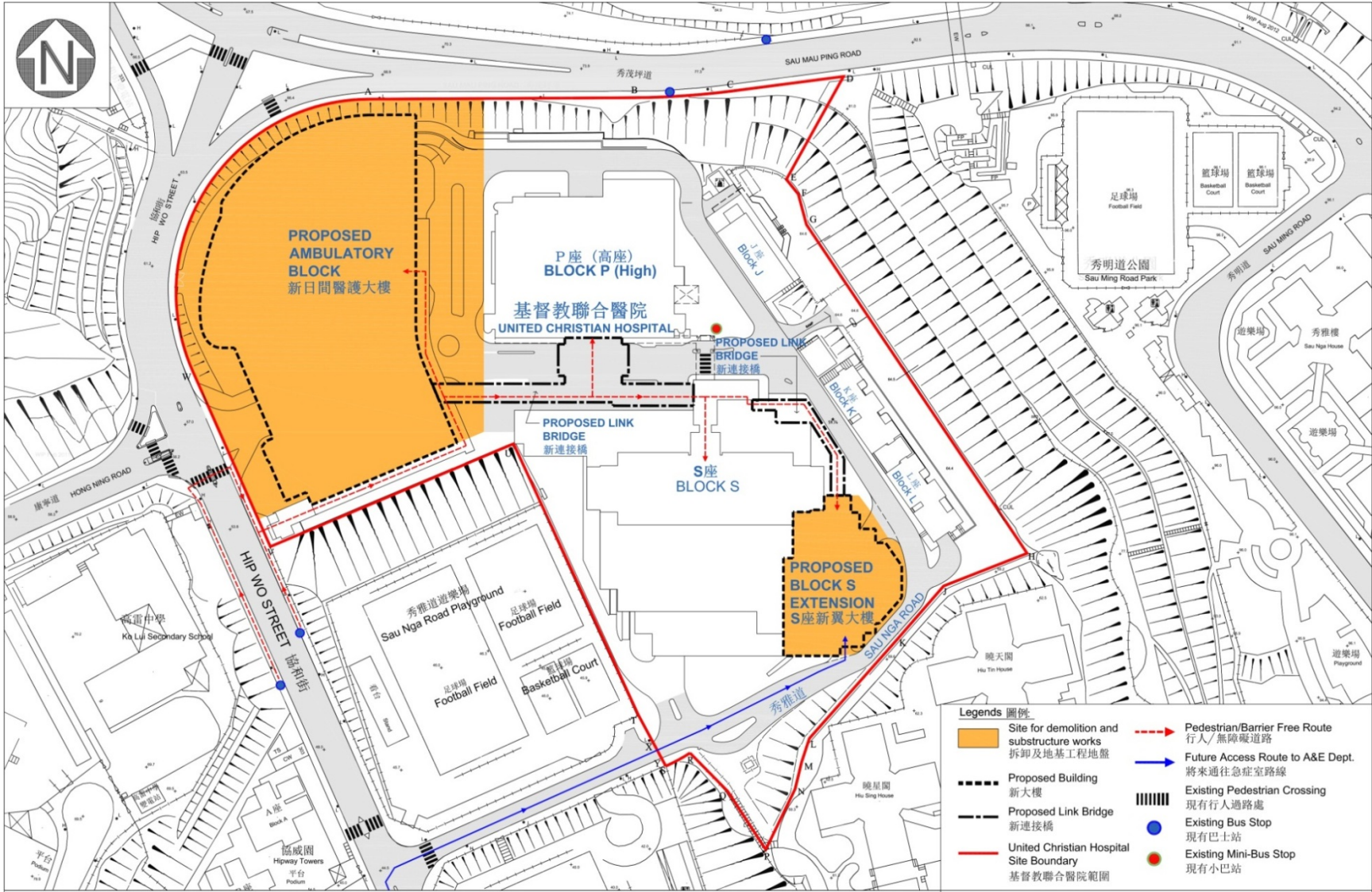
**Food and Health Bureau
Hospital Authority
January 2015**



Location Plan 位置圖

Project Title 項目名稱
8004MJ - Expansion of United Christian Hospital
基督教聯合醫院擴建計劃

Existing Site Location Plan (Not to scale)
 現時工地平面圖 (不按比例)



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 8004MJ - Expansion of United Christian Hospital
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Site Location Plan (Not to scale)
 工地平面圖 (不按比例)