

**For discussion
on 26 February 2013**

**Legislative Council
Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services**

Relocation of the Court of Final Appeal

PURPOSE

This paper aims to consult Members on the Judiciary's project to relocate the Court of Final Appeal ("CFA") to No. 8 Jackson Road ("the project") before we seek endorsement and funding approval from the Legislative Council ("LegCo") Public Works Subcommittee ("PWSC") and Finance Committee ("FC") respectively.

BACKGROUND

2. The Judiciary consulted the LegCo Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services ("the Panel") on the project at its meeting held on 10 July 2012. As we indicated then, the Panel would be consulted again, prior to the submission to the LegCo PWSC, in the first quarter of 2013.

LATEST POSITION

3. The Architectural Services Department ("ArchSD") invited tenders for the project in October 2012 and tender assessment will be completed by early March 2013. The contract will be awarded only after FC's funding approval.

PROJECT SCOPE

4. The proposed project is for the renovation of No. 8 Jackson Road to provide accommodation for the CFA. In addition, the Development Division of the Judiciary Administration¹ will also be relocated to No. 8 Jackson Road. The scope of the project comprises conversion and refurbishment of the premises of the declared monument into court facilities and office accommodation that is commensurate with the operational needs of the Judiciary and in compliance with the current statutory building requirements.

5. The scope of the project comprises the conversion and refurbishment of No. 8 Jackson Road for providing the following facilities –

- (a) a fully-equipped courtroom (about 230 m²) for hearing substantive appeals;
- (b) a fully-equipped courtroom (about 95 m²) for hearing leave applications and taxation cases;
- (c) 8 chambers for Judges;
- (d) 2 galleries (one gallery on 1/F for the hosting of exhibits relevant to the Judiciary; and the other at the basement for the display of the history of architectural development of the building). The former gallery also serves as a venue for the hosting of talks and functions;
- (e) a Judges' retiring room;
- (f) a library for Judges and judiciary staff of the CFA;
- (g) 2 conference rooms;

¹ The Development Division, a key task of which is to provide administrative support for the Chief Justice, is at present located both at the current CFA building and the High Court. It will be centralized at the CFA building in future.

- (h) 2 lawyers' robing rooms; 4 lawyers' consultation rooms and a lawyers' common room;
- (i) a press room;
- (j) offices for the Development Division of the Judiciary Administration;
- (k) a general registry, printing rooms, storage areas, etc;
- (l) a digital audio recording room² and a computer control room;
- (m) a custody area for defendants and an office for staff of the Correctional Services Department; and
- (n) ancillary facilities including a security control room, toilets, disabled access facilities, a baby-care facility, pantries, a cleaner room, plant rooms, electrical and mechanical rooms and parking spaces.

_____ The proposed works will cover a net operating floor area of 3 070 m². A site plan and perspective drawings are at Enclosures 1 – 5.

6. An update of the provision and design of the improved facilities since the Panel meeting held in July 2012 will be presented at the Panel meeting on 26 February 2013.

BUILDING DESIGN

7. Alterations to the interior of the building will be carried out to provide facilities for the future CFA and to comply with the current statutory requirements. Ramps and appropriate measures will be provided at key passageways to facilitate access for the disabled. Building services, such as lift provisions (including a lift for the disabled) will be upgraded or added to meet

² The digital audio recording room will accommodate the operators and equipment for the provision of digital audio recording and transcription services to the two courtrooms mentioned in paragraph 5 (a) and (b) above.

the needs of the court users.

8. Regarding the exterior of the building, no alterations (except for minor repair and restoration works) will be carried out as the building exterior is a declared monument.

HERITAGE CONSIDERATIONS

9. Pursuant to the prevailing requirements, this project is subject to a Heritage Impact Assessment (“HIA”). The Antiquities and Monuments Office (“AMO”) of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department has no objection to the HIA report for the project. We also consulted the Antiquities Advisory Board (“AAB”) on the HIA report for this project in May 2012 and received its support. We will ensure that the conversion works and further maintenance of the building will comply with the mitigation measures, recommendations and requirements stipulated in the HIA report. In case of any amendments to the scheme or the detailed design, we will further consult the AMO and AAB as necessary to formulate additional mitigation measures to ensure that any possible impact on the heritage site is acceptable from the conservative perspective.

10. Details of the building design and restoration proposals will be presented at the Panel meeting on 26 February 2013.

ENERGY CONSERVATION MEASURES

11. This project has adopted various forms of energy efficient features, including –

- (a) demand control of fresh air supply using carbon dioxide sensors;
- (b) sea-water cooled chillers with automatic demand control of chilled water circulation system;
- (c) automatic demand control of plant room ventilation systems;
- (d) T5 energy-efficient fluorescent tubes with electronic ballasts and computerised lighting control by

occupancy sensors and daylight sensors; and

- (e) light emitting diode (“LED”) type exit signs and lift car lighting.

PROPOSED USE OF THE CURRENT CFA BUILDING AFTER THE RELOCATION

12. The present CFA Building will be returned to the Administration after relocation. The Development Bureau of the Administration will consider the most suitable adaptive re-use of the building after relocation of the CFA.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

13. We consulted the Criminal Court Users’ Committee³ and the Civil Court Users’ Committee³ on 4 May 2012 on the project. The two committees generally supported the project. In response to their comments, we have increased the number of lawyers’ consultation rooms from two to four, added 16 movable seats for legal representatives in the large courtroom, and added a lawyers’ common room where legal representatives may have brought/bought meals if needed.

14. We consulted the Central and Western District Council on 17 May 2012 on the project. Members generally supported the project and enquired about the implementation timeline, the space requirements, the arrangements for opening the future CFA building to the public and the project cost. We provided them with the relevant information which was available at the meeting.

15. We consulted the AAB on the HIA report for this project in May 2012 and received its support. The HIA report was endorsed by the AMO in July 2012.

³ The Criminal Court Users’ Committee and the Civil Court Users’ Committee are appointed by the Chief Justice and chaired by a High Court Judge to discuss matters of concern to users of the criminal and civil courts, including all matters of practice and procedure, and the administration of the courts. Members comprise judges, representatives of the legal profession, representatives of other court users and lay members.

16. We consulted the Panel on 10 July 2012. In response to Members' questions, we explained the design of the large courtroom, particularly the acoustics aspect, space for case bundles and the use of information technology, as well as the arrangements for consultation rooms and the use of the library in the future CFA.

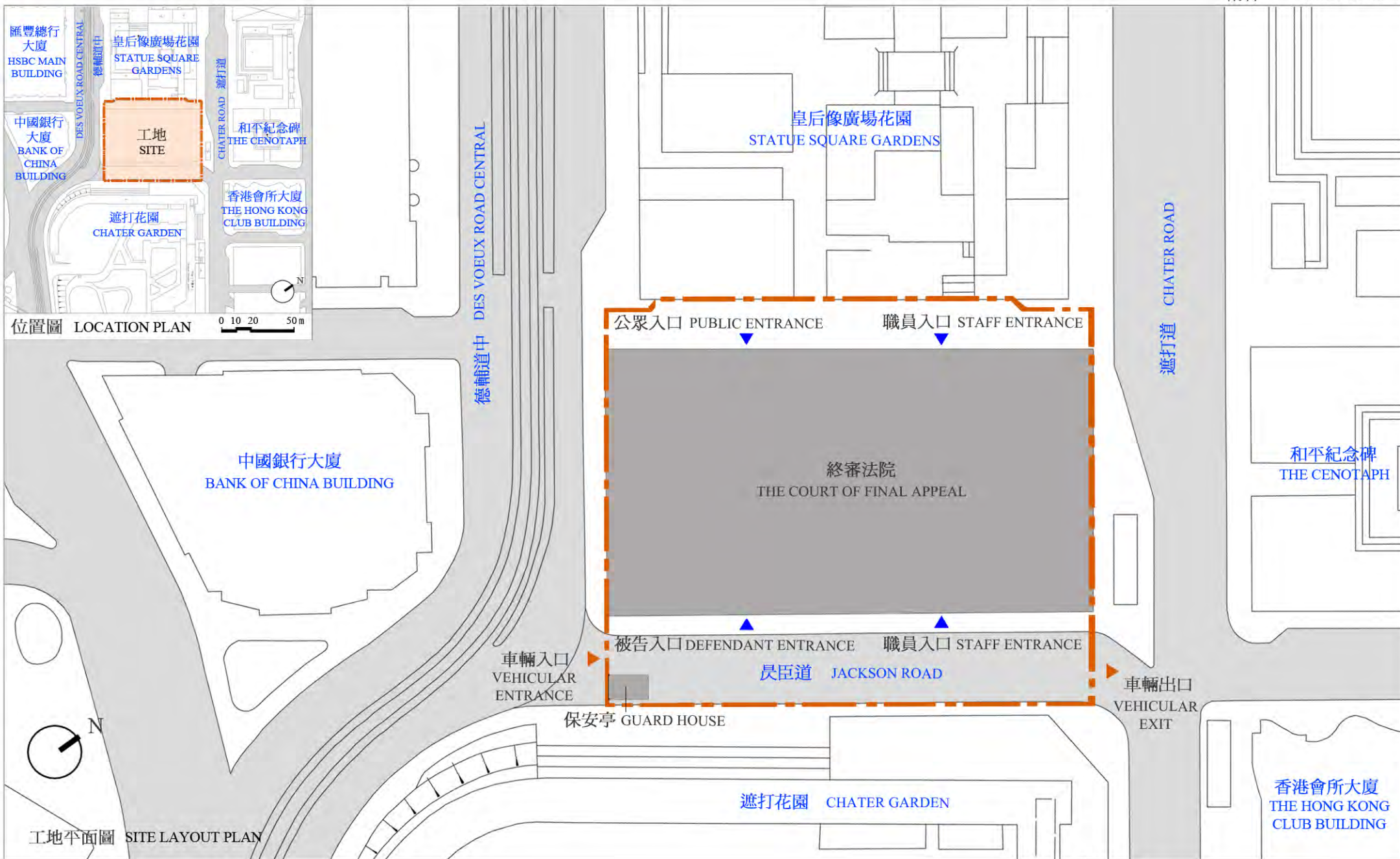
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

17. The estimated cost of the project is \$463.6 million in money-of-the-day prices. The estimated annual recurrent expenditure arising from the project is \$15 million.

ADVICE SOUGHT

18. Subject to Members' views, we will consult the PWSC and FC on the proposed project on 13 March 2013 and 3 May 2013 respectively. Subject to the FC's funding approval, conversion works for the future CFA Building are expected to commence in May 2013 for completion in March 2015.

Judiciary Administration
February 2013



終審法院遷往昃臣道8號
RELOCATION OF THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL TO NO. 8 JACKSON ROAD



大法庭的構思透視圖

VIEW OF THE LARGE COURTROOM (ARTIST'S IMPRESSION)

終審法院遷往昃臣道8號

RELOCATION OF THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL TO NO. 8 JACKSON ROAD

比例 SCALE:

不適用 N/A



建築署
ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT



小法庭的構思透視圖

VIEW OF THE SMALL COURTROOM (ARTIST'S IMPRESSION)

終審法院遷往昃臣道8號

RELOCATION OF THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL TO NO. 8 JACKSON ROAD

比例 SCALE:

不適用 N/A



建築署
ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT



外圍地面重舖及美化工程
EXTERNAL REPAVING
AND BEAUTIFICATION
WORKS

建築物外牆維修及修復工程
REPAIR AND RESTORATION
WORKS TO BUILDING
FACADE

從西北面鳥瞰建築物的外觀圖
BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF THE BUILDING FROM NORTH-WESTERN DIRECTION

終審法院遷往昃臣道8號
RELOCATION OF THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL TO NO. 8 JACKSON ROAD

比例 SCALE: 不適用 N/A

