

**To : Vice-Chancellor and President,
The University of Hong Kong**

**Project Definition Statement for
Rejuvenation of the Main Building
The University of Hong Kong**

Please complete a Technical Feasibility Statement for the above project in accordance with Financial Circular No. 4/2012.

1. Policy Objective

One of the Government's policy objectives in post-secondary education is to assure the quality of tertiary education and ensure its relevance to the needs and development of the community. The proposed project aims to renovate the Main Building of The University of Hong Kong (HKU) for meeting the learning and teaching needs of its students.

2. Source of Policy Approval

This project is to rejuvenate a historic building – the Main Building and the open plaza in front of it to meet the operational need of HKU and to protect, conserve and revitalize the building for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations. It is supported by the University Grants Committee.

3. Justifications for the Project

The Main Building was constructed in the early twentieth century, and the exterior of Main Building is a declared historic monument. Time has left its marks on the building and some of the facilities are not up to the current standards. Over the years, air-conditioning and electrical installations have been added to the building in an ad-hoc manner. These installations are now very old and need to be updated. Besides, the interior of the building has been changed due to individual minor renovation works over the years, and the original spatial layout and quality have gradually been lost.

The building was previously occupied by Departments of the Faculty of Arts, which have moved to the university's Centennial Campus upon its completion in 2012. HKU proposes to take the opportunity to carry out improvement works to re-organise the space, to upgrade the installations and facilities therein,

and to restore their interior and exterior to the original design before the new users, mainly student services units and administration, move in.

Facilities that were split up into various locations due to the lack of space previously will have a chance to be organised onto the Main Building. HKU preliminarily plans to change the use of the building as follows:

Previous Users

- Central Time Teaching of Registry
- Estates Office
- HKU Staff Association
- HKU Students' Union
- Office of the Faculty of Arts of the Registry
- Registry
- School of Chinese
- School of English
- School of Humanities
- Loke Yew Hall
- University Libraries

New Users

- Teaching & Learning Space
- Multi-purpose Supporting Facilities and Meeting Venue
- Office Facilities
- Student / Staff Amenities
- Exhibition / Archives

In addition, the external plaza, which is a formal entrance to the Main Building, will be upgraded as a civic pedestrian precinct.

4. Target Date for Project to Come into Operation

Target completion date for the project is April 2019.

5. Description of Project Scope / Special Requirements

The project involves the rejuvenation of a listed historical monument building, i.e. the four-storey Main Building (13,000 m² in CFA or 5,903 m² in NOFA) and the open plaza at the front. The site area involved is 8,500 m², which includes the front open plaza.

The existing building will be updated on the provision of fire services and building services to the current standard and regulations. Both the interior and exterior of the building will be restored to their original historical architectural characteristics. 942 m² (in CFA) of open space will be converted into indoor space by enclosing two internal courtyards of the Main Building. Additional fire escape staircases and one lift will also be added for vertical traffic. There will be footing and foundation works for the structure for enclosing the internal courtyards and additional lift shaft. The main roof of the main building will be strengthened to support new roof garden and green roof features.

The changes in construction floor area (CFA) and net operational floor area (NOFA) are shown in the table below:

CFA		NOFA	
Existing	New	Existing	New
12,058 m ²	13,000 m ²	5,903 m ²	5,903 m ²