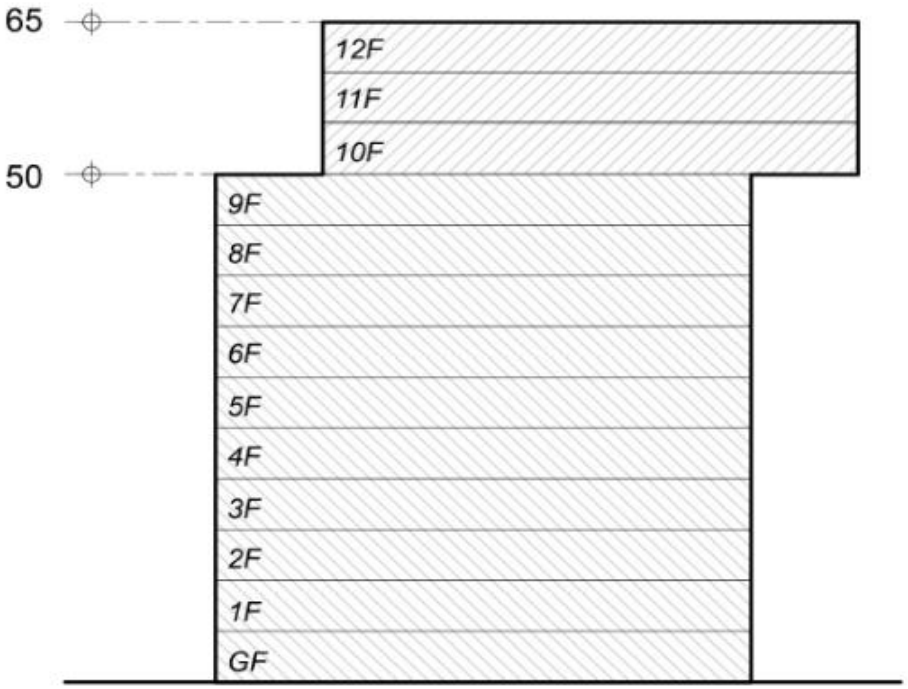
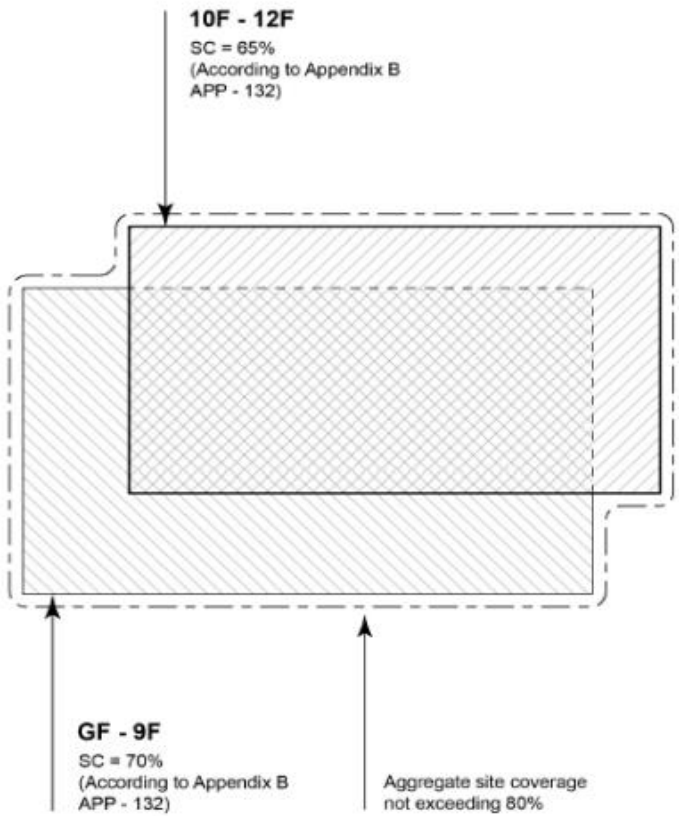
Summary of Items Discussed in 4/2023 APSEC Discussion Forum (ADF) on 17 November 2023

	Items proposed by Convenors for Discussion	Summary of Discussion and BD's Response
	Items raised by HKIA	
1.	**<u>Cladding outside Floor/Room Without Accountable GFA</u>** Further to item 4 of ADF 2/2023 held on 5 May 2023, it was agreeable to BD that for floor/room which was non-accountable to GFA calculation with the curtain wall system projecting from the outer surface of the structural elements exceeding 200 mm for a domestic building or 250 mm for a non-domestic building, BD will take a pragmatic approach to consider disregarding the entire projection of the curtain wall enclosing such floor/room from GFA and SC calculations on case basis. We would like BD to clarify if the same understanding is also applicable to "cladding".	BD advised that cladding could be disregarded from the calculations of GFA and site coverage if the relevant requirements under PNAP APP-2 were fulfilled. Whether the floors/rooms were accountable to GFA calculation or not was not a consideration under PNAP APP-2. If there were special circumstances that the thickness of the cladding exceeded the limit specified in PNAP APP-2, BD would consider each case on its own merits.
2.	**<u>Site Coverage Flexibility under PNAP APP-132 – Minor Projecting Features</u>** As one of the criteria for considering the flexible application of the site coverage requirements under regulation 20 of the Building (Planning) Regulations (B(P)R) on the ground of setting back a building for its full height from a site boundary abutting on a street, it is stated in paragraph 3(d) of PNAP APP-132 that *<u>"the setback area is properly landscaped and/or paved and open, **uncovered** and without any permanent building structures other than the landscaped features and perforated boundary walls."</u>*	BD advised that according to footnote 3 of PNAP APP-132, the projections under PNAP APP-19 was excluded from the calculation of the total covered area of the buildings on the site for the purpose of determining whether an unexcavated or backfilled area and open-sided covered areas of green features described under paragraph 4 of the said PNAP could be excluded from site coverage assessment. According to paragraph 3(d) of PNAP APP-132, building setback area should not have

	Following the principle for "total covered area" stated in footnote 3 of PNAP APP-132, we understand that "projections" under PNAP APP-19 are allowed within the setback area. Please confirm if such understanding is correct.	any permanent building structures other than the landscaped features and perforated boundary walls. In this regard, projections other than landscape features (i.e. metal supporting frames for growing of plants) under PNAP APP-19 were not allowed within the setback area.
3.	**Site Coverage Flexibility under PNAP APP-132 – Aggregated Site Coverage** For assessing the site coverage for buildings under PNAP APP-132 and to allow innovative building forms, would BD take a pragmatic approach to allow the permitted percentage site coverage listed in Appendices A and B to the said PNAP be applied discretely to each storey according to its corresponding building height stratum as illustrated in the diagrams below?	BD advised that in accordance with regulation 2 of the B(P)R, site coverage referred to the area of the site that was covered by the building that was erected thereon. For assessing the site coverage of the building at a particular level under PNAP APP-132, area at that level covered by the structure above should be included in the site coverage calculation. Hence, the aggregate site coverage of the non-domestic building at the levels of G/F to 9/F as illustrated in the diagrams should not exceed the permitted site coverage according to its corresponding levels set out in Appendix B to PNAP APP-132.



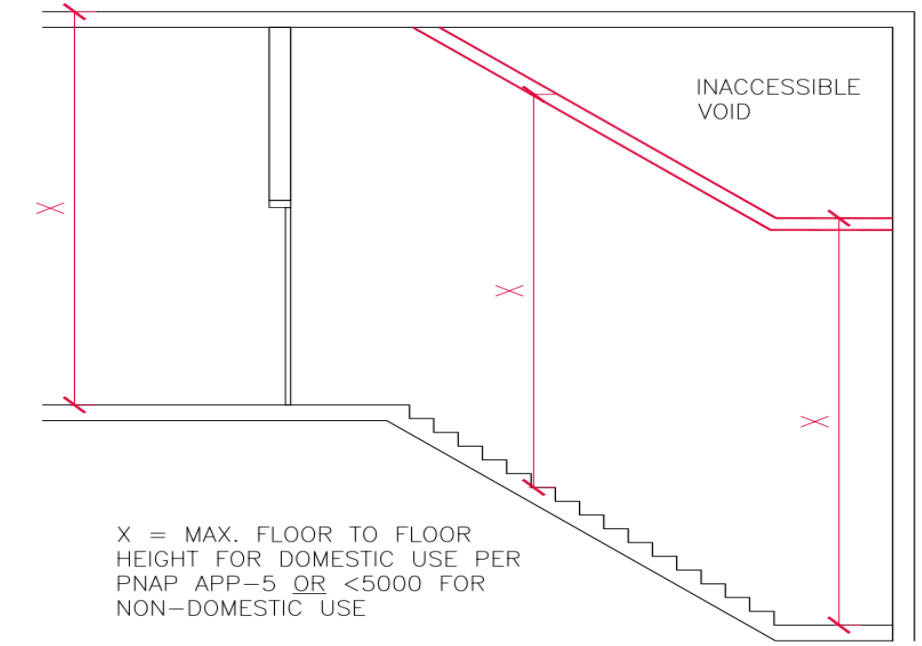
SECTION
(Non - Domestic Building)

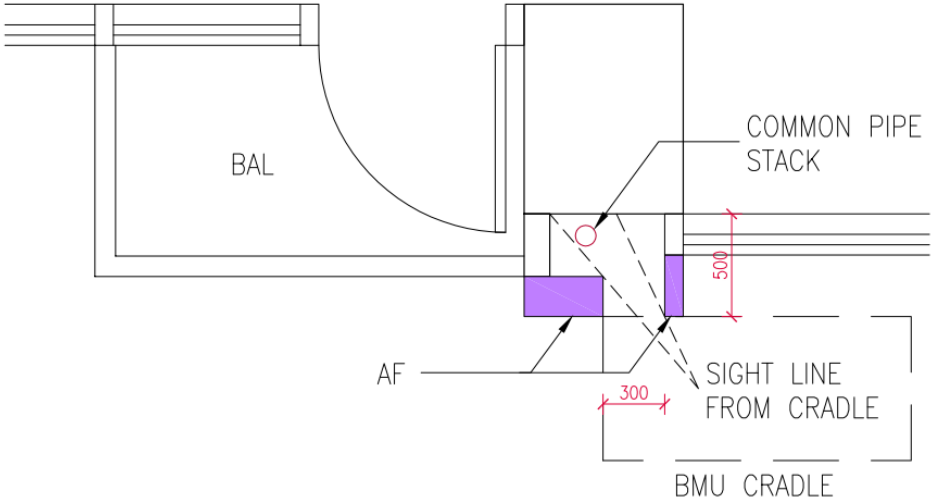
	 PLAN *(Non - Domestic Building)*	
4.	**<u>Access between Required Staircases – Clause B8.2 of the Code of Practice for Fire Safety in Buildings 2011 (June 2023 Edition) (FS Code)</u>** Clause B8.2 of the FS Code states that *"where two or more required*	(a) BD advised that the horizontal area of a corridor which served as an

	staircases are needed, people using one required staircase should be able to gain access to at least one other required staircase at any time, without having to pass through other person's private premises. Such access should be provided in the following manners: *(a) at least every 5 storeys, and on the roof or the topmost floor accessible to the required staircases; or* (b) *in case of refuge floor(s) are provided evenly between floors of the building, at the refuge floor(s) and the roof."* *"Security measures that prevent access to a required staircase must be automatically deactivated upon actuation of a fire alarm signal or in power failure situation."* (a) For Clause B8.2(a), we understand that access between the required staircases provided through a floor without any accountable GFA, such access should also be GFA non-accountable. (b) For access under both Clause B8.2(a) and B8.2(b), it is not necessary to construct walls or other fixed features to delineate such access between required staircases, as long as security measures can be automatically deactivated upon actuation of a fire alarm signal or in power failure situation. Please advise if the above understandings are correct.	access between the required staircases required under Clause B8.2 of the FS Code should be included in GFA calculation. (b) BD advised that the delineation of an internal common corridor or passage without any physical enclosures (e.g. walls, glass, railing, etc.) on the floor for interchange between required staircases was acceptable under Clause B8.2 of the FS Code. Such internal common corridor or passage should be shown on the respective general building plans (GBP) as "common part". In addition, security measures that prevent access for interchanging of staircases should be automatically deactivated upon actuation of a fire alarm signal or in power failure situation. The above requirements should be indicated on the respective GBP. In passing, BD reminded that minimum fire resistance rating (FRR) should be provided if such internal common corridor or passage in itself was also subject to the requirements in Clauses C6.1 and C7.4 of the FS Code.

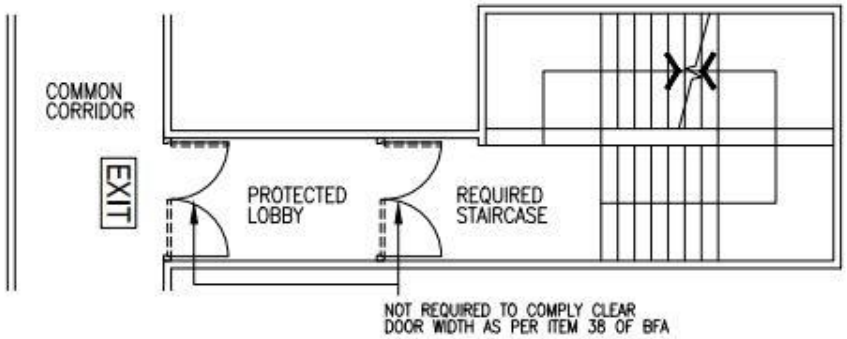
5.	**<u>Discharge Value Calculation</u>** Clause B12.1 of the FS Code stipulates that *"the required staircases serving the storeys of a building above the ground storey should have a* ***total discharge value*** *of not less than the* ***total occupant capacity of those storeys*** *assessed in accordance with Subsection B4."* It is our understanding that there is no need to demonstrate the sufficiency of the discharge value of each required staircase by dividing the total occupant capacity of the storeys by the number of required staircases serving these storeys and verifying that the divided occupant capacity would not exceed the discharge value of each staircase. Would BD please clarify whether the understanding is correct?	BD advised that under normal circumstances, it might not be necessary to demonstrate the sufficiency of the discharge value of each required staircase by dividing the total occupant capacity of the storeys by the number of required staircases serving those storeys. However, if part of the building was designed to be served by independent staircases, BD might require separate demonstrations on the sufficiency of discharge value of the staircases depending on the circumstances of the case.
6.	**<u>Temporary Refuge Space (TRS) for Alteration and Addition (A&A) Works</u>** Clause B30.1 of the FS Code states that *"at least one temporary refuge space with an area of not less than 1.5 m x 1.5 m should be provided within the protected exit or fireman's lift lobby of every fire compartment at every floor of a building to which this Section applies."* In some recent A&A submissions involving localised / minor A&A works on individual floors, provision of TRS is required even if there is no A&A works proposed within the building core or protected exits/fireman's lift lobby of the floor. In most cases such protected areas have been tightly	BD advised that the requirements of TRS were applicable to wholesale conversion or change of use of an entire existing building, while A&A works and change of use of parts or certain floors of an existing building were not required to comply with the said requirements.

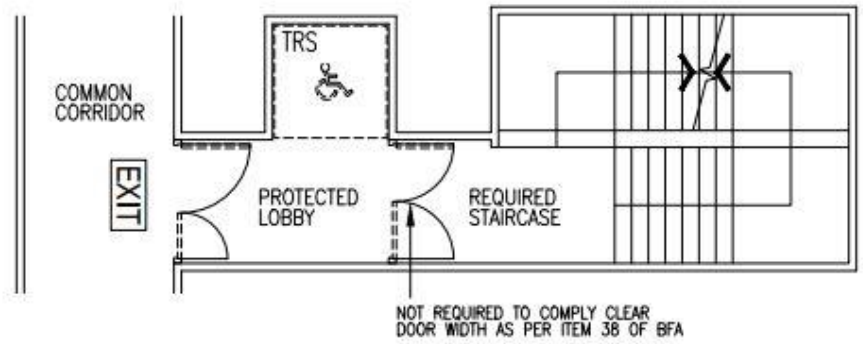
	packed within structural cores alongside with other essential facilities such as toilets and plant rooms, leaving no room for the provision of TRS. This poses immense design hardship to A&A works for existing buildings. We suggest BD to confirm the provision of TRS is not necessary for A&A works not involving the building core area. Otherwise, BD may have to consider establishing criteria for the provision of TRS for A&A works in existing buildings.	
7.	**Submission of Secondary Building Elements – Curtain Wall, Window Wall, Cladding etc.** Based on item 1 of ADF 5/2022 held on 25 November 2022, BD advised that secondary building elements, such as metal ceiling, will not be required to be shown in the GBP provided that they had been indicated in the general notes and/or with typical details in the GBP. Would BD please clarify that the same principle could be adopted for curtain wall, window wall, aluminum/stone cladding, and/or similar secondary building elements so that not all of their elevations are required to be shown in the GBP, as long as their locations and detailed elevations are indicated in the separate structural submissions for these secondary building elements. Would BD please confirm if the understanding is correct?	BD advised that according to item 1 of ADF 5/2022 held on 25 November 2022, some secondary building elements, such as metal ceiling needed not be shown in the GBP, provided that the secondary building elements had been indicated in the general notes and/or with typical details in the GBP. However, such practice would not be applicable to curtain wall, cladding and the like, or other secondary elements that demonstration on compliance with the relevant requirements on planning, fire safety and/or building control was required in processing the GBP submission.
8.	**Maximum Headroom of Required Staircases for Common Use** In some recent cases, APs are required to add a false slab above the area with	BD advised that the HKIA's understanding was correct.

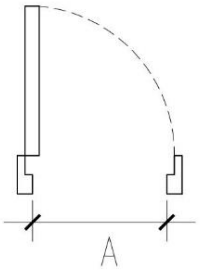
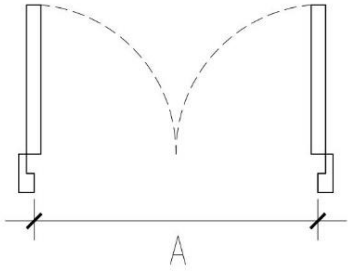
	headroom higher than the maximum storey height allowed in paragraph 5 of PNAP APP-5 in the required staircases for common use in domestic buildings, which is normally found at their uppermost flight, so that the headroom would not exceed the maximum storey height allowed in the said PNAP. It is considered that the concerned area is a common area of the building and the chance of abuse of use is highly unlikely, if not impossible. It is our understanding that such false slab is therefore not required. Would BD please clarify whether our understanding is correct or not?  	

9.	**<u>Partial Screening of External Drainage Pipes by Architectural Features – Appendix C to PNAP APP-93</u>** In accordance with Appendix C to PNAP APP-93, the pipes should be exposed to the external at least on one side. As illustrated in the sketch below, direct visual sightline for pipes can be achieved via a building maintenance unit (BMU) with a reachable distance for maintenance. Would BD consider that such arrangement fulfils the requirements in Appendix C to the said PNAP.  	BD advised that the proposed arrangement illustrated in the sketch was not acceptable as the pipe could not be readily inspected without the use of BMU, and hence did not fulfill the requirement in Appendix C to PNAP APP-93. Also, pursuant to paragraph 1.2 in Part 3 of the Code of Practice on Access for External Maintenance 2021, the maintenance and repair (M&R) should enable the workers to reach the extended external building elements within a hand-reachable range of not more than 500 mm. It appeared that architectural feature in the sketch would hinder carrying out the M&R works.

10.	**<u>Separation between Common Internal Corridor and Rooms or Flats – Clause C7.4 of the FS Code</u>** Example (a) "Travel distance requirements for Use Classifications 1 and 2" illustrated in Diagram B2 "Internal Corridor Access" of the FS Code, which was amended in its June 2023 Edition, indicates that the internal corridor is a **protected corridor**. Clause C7.4 of the FS Code only requires that "*every common internal corridor serving rooms or flats in different occupancies should be **separated** from such occupancies **by fire barriers** having an FRR of not less than that of the Use Classification of that floor".* In this regard, our understanding is that such internal corridor does NOT need to be a protected corridor which should comply with the requirements stipulated in Clause C9.3 of the FS Code, unless one of the lifts opening into such internal corridor is a fireman's lift. Please advise if our understanding is correct.	BD advised that the issue would be separately discussed.
11.	**<u>Required Clear Width of Doors under Design Manual: Barrier Free Access 2008 (2021 Edition) (DMBFA)</u>** Paragraph 38 in Division 10 of DMBFA states that *"door, including one leaf of a pair of double doors, shall have a clear width of not less than 800 mm between the open door and opposite jamb or the other leaf."* Paragraph 37 of the same division of DMBFA states that *"the requirements of this Division apply to doors on accessible routes"*, and according to Chapter 3 of DMBFA, *"accessible route is a continuous unobstructed path which is easily identifiable for persons with a disability or the elderly to approach, enter and leave the building and to use the facilities therein without assistance or undue difficulties."*	BD advised that as long as the door at the protected lobby only led to the required staircase, HKIA's understanding was correct. In case the protected lobby including its doors not only led to the required staircase, but also to other facilities (e.g. TRS, accessible unisex toilets, etc.) or areas/passages to which persons with a disability should have or might reasonably be expected to have access, all the relevant requirements under Divisions 9 and 10 of Chapter 4 of DMBFA should be complied with.

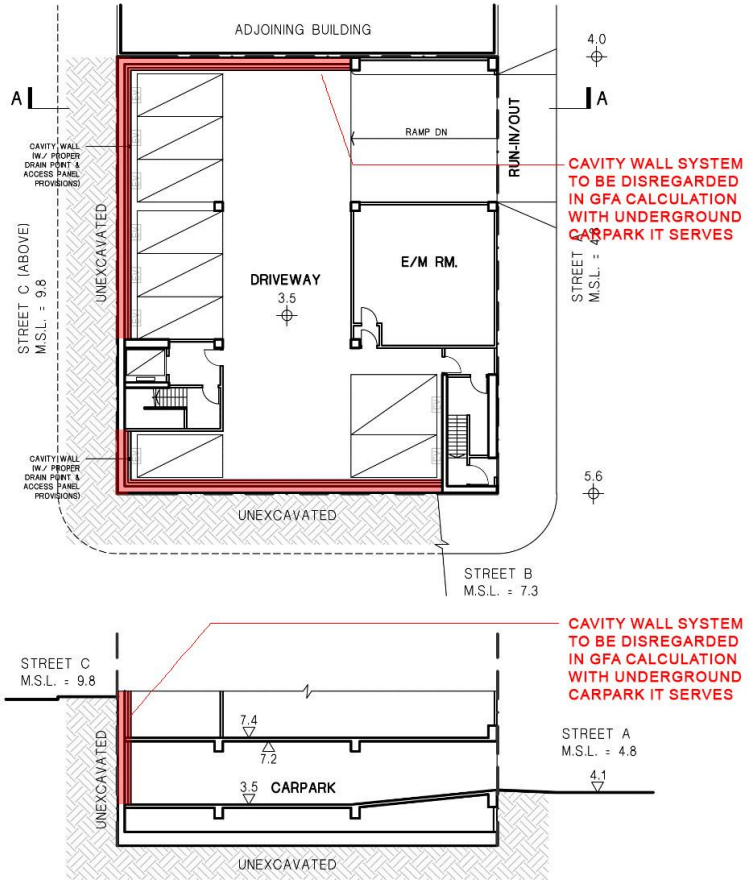
	It is our understanding that the required staircase and its protected lobby are not "accessible route", and therefore the related doors do not have to meet the requirement stated in paragraph 38 in Division 10 of DMBFA, as shown in the diagram SK01 below. The exception is that if TRS is located in the subject protected lobby, doors leading to TRS should meet the said requirement, as shown in the diagram SK02 below. Would BD please advise if our understanding is correct or not?  SK-01	BD also drew members' attention to Clause B30.3 of the FS Code which required the minimum clear width of door leading to a TRS to be 850 mm. Item 15 of ADF 3/2016 held on 27 May 2016 was relevant.

	 SK-02	
12.	**<u>Measurement of the Width of Exit Door</u>** Notes 2 of Table B2 of the FS Code states that *"the width of an exit door should be the least clear width measured between the vertical members of the door frame."* Our understanding is that the measurement should be taken according to the diagram below. Would BD please advise if our understanding is correct or not?	BD advised that HKIA's understanding was correct.

	 	
	Items raised by HKIE	
13.	**<u>Building Works outside Railway Protection Area</u>** Paragraph 5 of PNAP APP-24 states that guidelines given in Appendices B and C only apply to building works within Railway Protection Area. Whilst AP/RSE/RGE should ensure their proposed building works will not cause any adverse impact on the railway facilities and structures, we suppose MTRCL's comments on the proposal shall not be regarded as conditions imposed upon granting of consent to commence works outside Railway Protection Area. Would BD please confirm the above?	BD advised that if the site was wholly outside the Railway Protection Area, HKIE's understanding was correct. If the site was located partly within the Railway Protection Area and the works outside such area might have impact on the railway facilities and structures (e.g. deep excavation works), BD would consider the case holistically including imposing MTRCL's comments as conditions upon granting of consent to commence works outside Railway Protection Area on case basis.
	Items raised by AAP	
14.	**<u>Compliance Assessment under BEAM Plus NB – PNAP APP-151</u>** Paragraph 10 of PNAP APP-151 mentioned that "*the pre-requisites for*	BD advised that AAP's understanding was correct.

	granting GFA concessions and relevant provisions in paragraphs 6 to 9 above are applicable to all new GBP or major revision of GBP for development proposals submitted to the BA for approval on or after 30 June 2024 and to GBP which have been previously disapproved and are resubmitted for approval on or after 30 June 2024." Would BD please confirm the new pre-requisites shall not apply to localised major revision of GBP for development proposals submitted to the BA for approval on or after 30 June 2024?	
15.	**<u>GFA Calculation for Cavity Wall Systems at Car parks</u>** Cavity wall systems are commonly provided in underground car parks to allow for proper drainage in case of water seepage and are considered as good practice according to Guidelines on Prevention of Water Seepage in New Buildings issued by the Buildings Department. It is commonly accepted for cavity wall systems at underground car park floors to be disregarded from GFA calculations. It is our understanding that the GFA of cavity wall system shall be determined in accordance with the determination of GFA for the car park floor it serves. Examples of scenario as below: <u>Scenario 1 – Semi-sunken car park considered as an underground car park fulfilling circumstances stated in paragraph 3 of Appendix C to PNAP APP-2</u> By the same token as underground car park, cavity wall systems for	BD advised that AAP's understanding was correct. The cavity wall of basement or semi-basement which served as underground or aboveground car parks could enjoy the same percentage of GFA concession as that of the relevant car parks according to paragraph 18 of PNAP APP-2, provided that the car parks fulfilled the relevant requirements under the same PNAP.

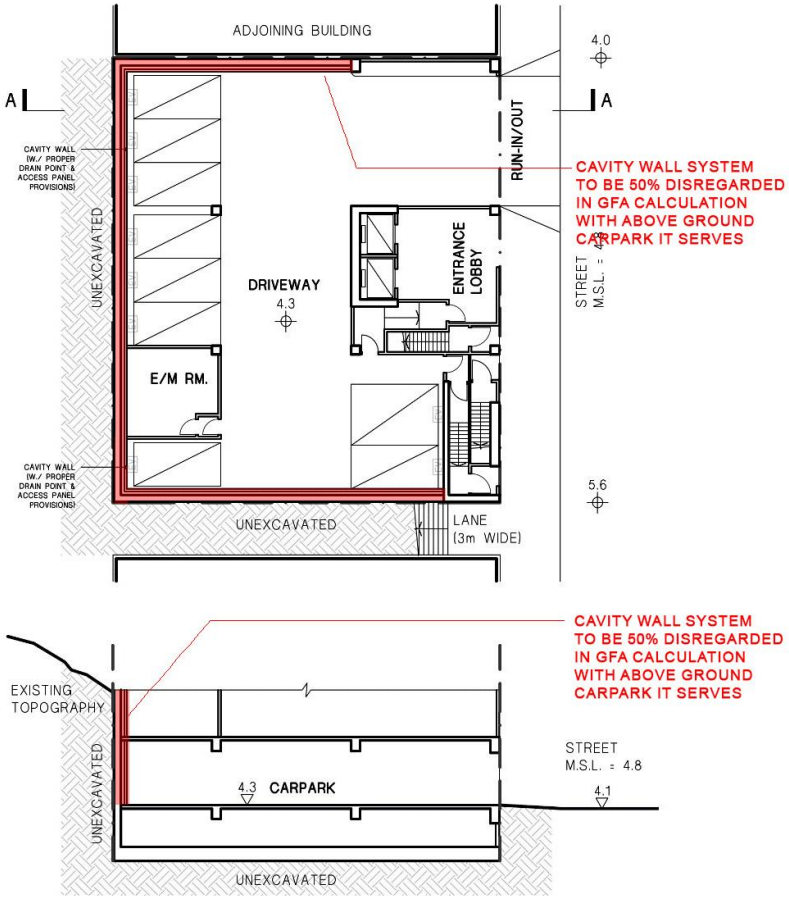
semi-sunken car park considered as an underground car park fulfilling circumstances stated in paragraph 3 of Appendix C to PNAP APP-2 shall also be disregarded from GFA calculations.



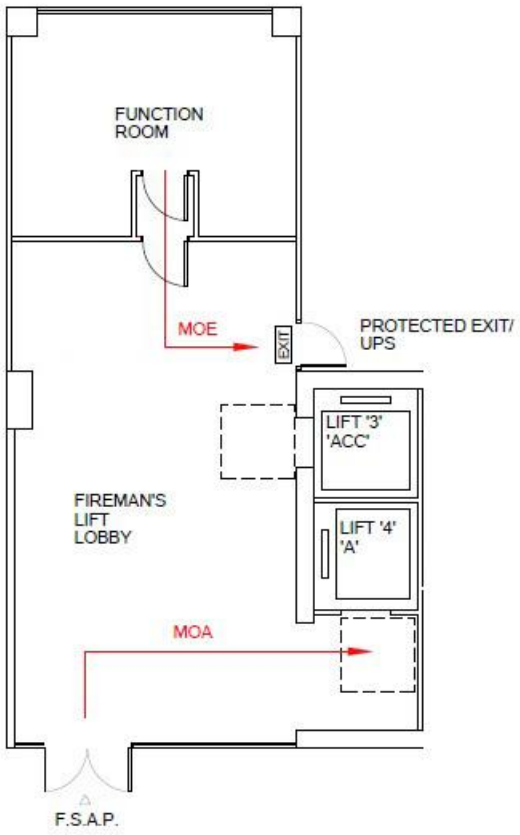
Scenario 2 – Semi-sunken car park not considered as underground car park under paragraph 3 of Appendix C to PNAP APP-2 (i.e. considered as

"aboveground" car park)

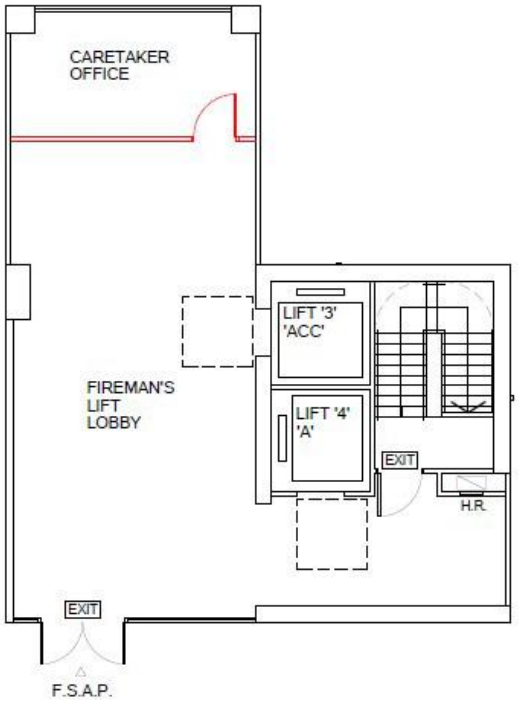
The private car park is considered aboveground under the prescribed requirements in PNAP APP-2. 50% of the floor area of the cavity wall system ancillary to car park shall be disregarded together with that of the car park floor it serves.



	Please confirm if our understanding is correct.	
16.	**<u>Access to a Fireman's Lift at Ground Storey – Clause D7.3 of the FS Code</u>** As discussed in item 8 of ADF 2/2023 held on 5 May 2023, the communication between the remainder of the ground floor with occupancy and passage from the fire service access point (FSAP) to the fireman's lift at ground floor cannot form an exit route for such occupancy use. We would like to seek BD's clarification on whether the exit route for such occupancy use can go through the passage leading from the FSAP to the fireman's lift at ground floor but not discharging through the FSAP, as shown in the diagram below:	BD advised that according to item 8 of ADF 2/2023 held on 5 May 2023, the arrangement shown in the diagram was not acceptable as the opening serving as the exit of the function room which possessed occupant capacity, instead of serving for communication purpose only.

		
17.	**<u>Access to a Fireman's Lift at Ground Storey – Clause D7.3 of the FS Code</u>** Clause B9.1 of the FS Code stipulates that "*the enclosing walls of every required staircase should be so continued at ground storey as to separate from the remainder of the building any passage or corridor leading from the*	BD advised that the arrangement depicted in the diagram generally fulfilled the separation requirement within the enclosing walls of the required staircases at ground storey in Clause B9.1 of the FS Code, but

	required staircase to its ground storey discharge point. Every opening from the ground storey to such passage or corridor should be separated from it by a protected lobby; provided that in the case of a building severed by two or more required staircases, a cloakroom, lavatory, water-closet, caretaker's office, fire control room or caretaker's counter may open off such passageway". We would like to seek BD's clarification on the following: 1) Whether fire barrier and protected lobby are required for opening in the wall between the abovementioned underlined uses and the exit route of the required staircase, which also serves as an access to a fireman's lift at ground floor. 2) Whether the exit route for abovementioned caretaker's office with occupancy could be discharged through the FSAP at ground floor. Example layout diagram as follow:	did not fulfil the requirement for opening to the passage from the FSAP to the fireman's lift in Clause D7.3 of the same code. BD would seek comments from the Fire Services Department on such arrangement of means of access.

		
18.	**<u>Lighting and Ventilation of Rooms used as Office – Regulation 30 of the B(P)R</u>** Regulation 30(2)(b) of the B(P)R stipulates that "*prescribed window*" is required to "*face directly into external air*" with minimum area fulfilling regulation 30(2)(a)(i) of the B(P)R, however such requirement is not stipulated for window being openable for ventilation with minimum area fulfilling regulation 30(2)(a)(ii) of the B(P)R. The above requirements are	BD advised that the simplified assessment method on natural ventilation requirement stipulated in PNAP APP-130 was not applicable to office. Meanwhile, the applicability of the said PNAP was under review.

	applicable to rooms used for habitation or as an office or a kitchen. According to paragraph 2 of PNAP APP-130, as a simplified assessment method on natural ventilation requirement, the Building Authority accepts a room used for habitation or as a kitchen to have met the performance standard of natural ventilation if the conditions stipulated in paragraph 4.1 of Appendix A to said PNAP are satisfied. Under same token, we would like to seek BD's clarification on whether the same simplified assessment method for natural ventilation also applies to office.	
	Items raised by ACEHK	
19.	**<u>Replicating Content of Clauses from Codes of Practice into Plans</u>** Recently during BD vetting process, we have been asked to copy the text from the relevant sections of the Codes of Practice to the submission drawings (Figure 8.5 – Factors for lapping bars in the Code of Practice for Structural Use of Concrete 2013 (2021 Edition), as well as Table 9.8 – Design tension strength of bolts, and Table 9.6 – Design Bearing Strength of Bolts in the Code of Practice for Structural Use of Steel 2011 (2023 Edition)). Since the above code requirements are clearly stated in the relevant Codes and the general notes have already referred to these documents, we propose that the content of the specific clauses, figures or tables need not be reproduced on the submission drawings to minimise duplication or possible inconsistencies as long as the design is in full compliance with the relevant Codes.	BD advised that essential information for structural submission should be clearly shown in structural plans according to PNAP ADM-8 and ADM-19. In case information from the relevant Codes of Practice was directly adopted, simply quoting the relevant sections/clauses of the Codes in the submission was acceptable.

20.	**Central Data Bank (CDB) References** Recently we have been asked to provide supporting documentation such as fire test reports for pre-accepted fire protection products listed in the CDB during BD submission stage. Often, the aforementioned test reports have a period of validity and in fact there are report references listed in the CDB with validity expired. When we submit the test reports, the BD officer requests that the expired, current test reports and the clarification letter from the manufacturer for updating the fire test assessment shall all be submitted prior to approval of plans. Since the products listed in the CDB is pre-accepted by BD, we propose that we quote these products without providing the aforementioned supporting documentation in the first superstructure plan submission, and the suitable timing to provide those documents can be deferred to consent application. We would like to enquire if this is a pragmatic approach to ease the burden of both the practitioners and BD officers.	BD clarified that CDB contained only historical information on material acceptance in respect of a development project and did not confer any pre-acceptance of building materials or products. BD advised that AP/RSE had the responsibility to ensure that the test reports of materials/products were valid for adoption in a project and such valid test reports should be submitted to BD upon completion of works.
21.	**Thickness of Fire Protection Coatings for Pre-accepted Fire Protection Coatings in CDB** There has been increasing requests from BD officers on stating the exact fire coating thicknesses and steel section factors (Hp/A ratios) in the steel member schedules for every steel section specified. Since the products listed in the CDB is pre-accepted by BD, we propose that we can quote these products without providing the exact fire coating	BD advised that as the requirements of different fire protection coating products/systems varied, the information of the fire coating thicknesses and the Hp/A ratios were required to be provided in the structural submissions for consideration.

	thicknesses for each type of member in the first superstructure plan submission (on the other hand, fire resistance rating should be included in the plan). We can supplement the information on thicknesses separately once the steel fabricator is appointed and before consent application. Please advise if this arrangement is acceptable.	
	AOB Items	
22.	**<u>Assessment of Occupant Capacity</u>** (Item raised by AAP) Referring to Table B1 in Clause B4.1 of the FS Code, to our understanding, for the calculation of occupant capacity for Use Classification 1b regarding *"flats with corridor or balcony access having five or more flats on each floor served by each staircase"*, the occupant capacity shall be equal to **<u>the sum of usable floor area of all flats on each floor</u>** divided by the occupancy factor (usable floor area in m^2 per person), i.e. 4.5. Please advise if our understanding is correct.	BD advised that separate assessments of occupant capacity within a room, a fire compartment and a storey were all required for demonstrating the compliance with different requirements under the FS Code, including the minimum number and width of exit doors and exit routes under Table B2 of the same code. In this regard, assessment of occupant capacity of individual room would be required for "Flats" and other Use Classifications. [**Post-meeting note:** under the staged submission of essential information on GBP referred in PNAP ADM-19, AAP's understanding was correct upon the submission of GBP for the first approval (i.e. Stage I), as shown in sample drawing no. C042 in Appendix A4 to PNAP ADV-33. However, in the submission of GBP prior to applying for consent for the commencement of the superstructure works (i.e. Stage II), the rounded-up figures of the occupant capacities of individual units/flats should be summed up for the assessment of occupant capacity of each storey, as shown in sample drawing no. C057 in Appendix A4 to

		PNAP ADV-33. Amendment of MoE Table and DV calculation shown in Stage I submission drawing should be made correspondingly.]
23.	**<u>Excel Calculator for Area Checking</u>** (Item raised by BD) To facilitate practitioners' preparation of GBP submissions, a Microsoft Excel template had been developed by BD for the calculations of GFA and site coverage, as well as compliance checking on various GFA concession items. The template was available for download at BD website. The automated calculation functions built in the template would save the manual effort in handling and verifying the accuracy of the information or data involved and in turn enhance the efficiency, quality and certainty of the submission. The standard schedules produced by the tool could be readily imported and updated in the calculation sheets prepared by AutoCAD for submission to BD. BD would conduct workshops with the respective institutes/associations in December 2023 to provide demonstration and briefing on the key features of the tool. Meanwhile, BD and Lands Department were collaborating to develop plug-in tools for automated checking of floor areas for GBP submissions adopting Building Information Modelling (area tool) which was tasked to be released in Q1 of 2024. Further workshops to introduce the area tool would be conducted in due course.	Members welcomed BD's provision of the Excel template and supported the upcoming workshops. Members were also encouraged to submit the area calculations completed with the Excel template together with the GBP to facilitate BD's processing of plans. [**Post-meeting note:** Two workshops were conducted at the premises of HKIS and HKIA on 18 and 21 December 2023 respectively. Around 400 practitioners attended the workshops in person or through online platform.]

24.	**<u>Construction Site Safety</u>** (Item raised by BD) In light of the recent incidents on construction sites, BD reminded practitioners to enhance site management and review the provisions on site/labour safety in the construction contracts. A Circular Letter was issued on 30 March 2023 to encourage the adoption of Smart Site Safety System (SSSS) and funding support was available under the Construction Innovation and Technology Fund. BD also reminded that in case of major/serious incidents, the Building Authority might serve order under section 23 of the Buildings Ordinance (BO) to require the ceasing of works.	Members agreed that construction site safety was of paramount importance. However, they considered that site operation relating to labour safety should be the responsibility and under the expertise of contractors, hence, AP/RSE/RGE should not be liable for the malpractice of the contractors causing such site safety incidents. They concerned if the supervisory role of AP/RSE/RGE under the BO would cover the labour safety issue which was not under the purview of the BO. As such, they also enquired on the delineation of responsibilities between AP/RSE/RGE and registered contractors regarding activities on construction sites under the BO. Some members also raised that to enhance the safety working culture among construction workers, it was suggested including the registration of safety officer in the site supervision control mechanism. Members also supported that the registered contractors should report major/serious site incidents to the BA within a specified time frame. BD advised that, the government was comprehensively exploring measures to tighten the safety requirements on construction site. In this regard, BD was considering relevant legislative amendments and reviewing the requirements in the Code of Practice for Site Supervision 2009 (2021 Edition).

25.	**<u>Vote of Thanks</u>** (Item raised by BD) AD/NB1 proposed a vote of thanks to Mr AU-YEUNG Hoi-pang, AD/NB2 who co-chaired this Forum for the last time before his retirement.	Members supported the proposal and wished Mr AU-YEUNG a happy retirement.