Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí Cork City Council



Halla na Cathrach Corcaigh T12 T997 City Hall Cork T12 T997

Bernard Fitzpatrick
Pabia Consulting
1G North Valley Business Centre
Mallow Road
Cork

24/09/18

Ref. R 488/18

Application type

Section 5 Declaration

Description

Whether the following works are considered to be development and if so are they exempted development?

- 1. Refurbishment of retail shop 47B MacCurtain Street (former Pharmacy Unit), to provide a convenience store with fresh food deli counter and food prep area at rear; and
- 2. Refurbishment of the rear section of retail unit (Car hire unit), at 47A MacCurtain Street, (former office, office store and toilet unit), to provide customer seating area (18no. seats) with ancillary office and toilet facilities for customers and staff of the convenience store (at 47B MacCurtain Street)

Location

47A and 47B MacCurtain Street, Cork City

Applicant

PABIA Consulting Ltd on behalf of Mr. Hongjun

Wang

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am asked by Mr. Patrick Ledwidge, Director of Services, Strategic Planning & Economic Development to refer to your request for a section 5 Declaration at the above named property.

Having regard to:

Fón/Tel: 021- 4924000 Gréasán/Web: www.corkcity.ie

- Section 3 and Section 4 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), and;
- The definition of 'Structure' as set out in the Planning and Development Act Section 2.

The proposed development is considered to be development and **not** exempted development.

Yours Faithfully,

Part Hochot

Paul Hartnett

Assistant Staff Officer Strategic Planning & Economic Development Cork City Council

	Cork City Council			
PLANNER'S REPORT Ref. R 488/18	Development Management			
	Strategic Planning and Economic Development			

Application type Description

Section 5 Declaration

Whether the following works are considered to be development and if so are they exempted development?

- Refurbishment of retail shop 47B MacCurtain Street (former Pharmacy Unit), to provide a convenience store with fresh food deli counter and food prep area at rear; and
- 2. Refurbishment of the rear section of retail unit (Car hire unit), at 47A MacCurtain Street, (former office, office store and toilet unit), to provide customer seating area (18no. seats) with ancillary office and toilet facilities for customers and staff of the convenience store (at 47B MacCurtain Street)

Location Applicant

47A and 47B MacCurtain Street, Cork City
PABIA Consulting Ltd on behalf of Mr. Hongjun
Wang

REQUIREMENTS FOR A SECTION 5 DECLARATION APPLICATION

Section 5(1) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended states,

5.—(1) If any question arises as to what, in any particular case, is or is not development or is or is not exempted development within the meaning of this Act, any person may, on payment of the prescribed fee, request in writing from the relevant planning authority a declaration on that question, and that person shall provide to the planning authority any information necessary to enable the authority to make its decision on the matter.¹

¹ In this report 'the Act' refers to the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and 'the Regulations' refers to the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), unless otherwise indicated.

THE QUESTION BEFORE THE PLANNING AUTHORITY

The question has arisen as to whether the following works are considered to be development and if so are they exempted development;

- 1. Refurbishment of retail shop 47B MacCurtain Street (former Pharmacy Unit), to provide a convenience store with fresh food deli counter and food prep area at rear; and
- 2. Refurbishment of the rear section of retail unit (Car hire unit), at 47A MacCurtain Street, (former office, office store and toilet unit), to provide customer seating area (18no. seats) with ancillary office and toilet facilities for customers and staff of the convenience store (at 47B MacCurtain Street)

SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The subject site is located at 47A and 47B MacCurtain Street, Cork City. Together these two units form part of the collection of three commercial units known as Victoria Buildings. 47A comprises a car hire unit which fronts onto the street, while 47B is currently vacant, but was formally used as a pharmacy.

The units themselves are identified on the NIAH as being of regional importance, however they are not recorded on the record of protected structures. The collection of commercial buildings which form Victoria Buildings were designed by Arthur Hill. Both 47A and 47B retain many interesting features and materials, in particular timber shopfronts, tiled columns and a mosaic threshold which reads 'Victoria Buildings'.

To the immediate west the site adjoins Cork Baptist Church. To the east the site adjoins the third of this collection of commercial buildings, which is currently in use as a fast food outlet (Hillbilly's).

Within units 47A and 47B works have commenced, which I note has included the erection of internal partition walls and the demolition of an internal dividing wall between 47A and 47B.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION AND PLANNING POLICY

Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended:

Section 2(1) of the Act defines "works" as follows:

"structure" means any building, structure, excavation, or other thing constructed or made on, in or under any land, or any part of a structure so defined, and—

(a) where the context so admits, includes the land on, in or under which the structure is situate, and...

"works" includes any act or operation of construction, excavation, demolition, extension, alteration, repair or renewal and, in relation to a protected structure or proposed protected structure, includes any act or operation involving the application or removal of plaster, paint, wallpaper, tiles or other material to or from the surfaces of the interior or exterior of a structure.

"alteration" includes—

- (a) plastering or painting or the removal of plaster or stucco, or
- (b) the replacement of a door, window or roof, that materially alters the external appearance of a structure so as to render the appearance inconsistent with the character of the structure or neighbouring structures;

"use", in relation to land, does not include the use of the land by the carrying out of any works thereon;

Section 3(1) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, states as follows:

"Development" in this Act means, except where the context otherwise requires, the carrying out of any works on, in, over or under land or the making of any material change in use of any structures or other land.

Section 4(1) The following shall be exempted developments for the purposes of this Act—

(h) development consisting of the carrying out of works for the maintenance, improvement or other alteration of any structure, being works which affect only the interior of the structure or which do not materially affect the external appearance of the structure so as to render the appearance inconsistent with the character of the structure or of neighbouring structures;

Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, as amended:

Article 5(1) of the Regulations as amended by S.I. No. 364 of 2005 substitutes the following for the definition of 'shop' –

'shop' means a structure used for any or all of the following purposes, where the sale, display or service is principally to visiting members of the public-

- (a) for the retail sale of goods,
- (b) as a post office,
- (c) for the sale of tickets or as a travel agency,
- (d) for the sales of sandwiches or other food or of wine for consumption off the premises, where the sale of such food or wine is subsidiary to the main retail use, and "wine" is defined as any intoxicating liquor which may be sold under a wine retailer's off-licence (within the meaning of the Finance (1909-1910 Act, 1910), 10 Edw. 7. & 1 Geo. 5, c.8,
- (e) for hairdressing,
- (f) for the display of goods for sale,
- (g) for the hiring out of domestic or personal goods or articles,
- (h) as a launderette or dry cleaners,
- (i) for the reception of goods to be washed, cleaned or repaired,

but does not include any use associated with the provision of funeral services or as a funeral home, or as a hotel, a restaurant or a public house, or for the sale of hot food or intoxicating liquor for consumption off the premises except under paragraph (d), or any use to which Class 2 or 3 of Part 4 of Schedule 2 applies'.

Cork City Development Plan 2015-2021

The subject site is located within an area zoned ZO1 City Centre Retail Area, where it is an objective of the Council to –

"To provide for the protection, upgrading and expansion of retailing, in particular higher order comparison retailing, as well as a range of other supporting uses in the City Centre retail area."

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Section 4 (4) of the Planning and Development Act (as amended) sets out that:

"Notwithstanding paragraphs (a), (i), (ia) and (l) of subsection (1) and any regulations under subsection (2), development shall not be exempted development if an environmental impact assessment or an appropriate assessment of the development is required."

Environmental Impact Assessment

Having regard to the contents of Article 103 (as amended by Article 14 of the Planning and Development (Amendment) (No3) Regulations 2011) and Schedule 7 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) it is considered that the proposed development by reason of its nature, scale and location would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment. Accordingly it is considered that an EIS is not required to be submitted.

Appropriate Assessment

The relevant European sites are the Cork Harbour SPA (Site Code 004030) and the Great Island Channel cSAC (site code 001058). Having regard to its nature, scale and location it is considered that the proposed development would not affect the integrity of the sites referred to. Accordingly it is considered that a Natura impact statement for the purposes of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive is not required to be submitted.

PLANNING ASSESSMENT

Is or is not development

There are a number of issues which require to be taken into consideration in assessing this Section 5 application, and in determining whether or not the following constitutes development -

- Refurbishment of retail shop 47B MacCurtain Street (former Pharmacy Unit), to provide a convenience store with fresh food deli counter and food prep area at rear; and
- 2. Refurbishment of the rear section of retail unit (Car hire unit), at 47A MacCurtain Street, (former office, office store and toilet unit), to provide customer seating area (18no. seats) with ancillary office and toilet facilities for customers and staff of the convenience store (at 47B MacCurtain Street)

The first matter relates to whether or not the refurbishment of 47B MacCurtain Street to provide a convenience store with fresh food deli counter and food prep area at rear. It is noted that the previous use associated with this unit was a pharmacy. Section 3(1) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, states that 'development' means the carrying out of any works on, in, over or under land or the making of any material change in the use of any structures or other land. The Planning and Development Regulations in Schedule 2 of part 4 indicate a 'shop' as a distinct use class (class 1). In accordance with section 5 of the Regulations, pharmacies are considered as a class 1 development. I am therefore satisfied that the provision of a convenience store with fresh food deli counter and food prep area is consistent with the previous use associated with the site.

However the first question raised by the applicant is inter-related to the second when considered in the context of the proposed site layout plan provided with the section 5 application. Moreover, this changes the manner in which the first question in combination with the second is assessed.

With regard to the second matter listed above which relates to the provision of customer seating with ancillary office and toilet facilities for customers and staff of the

convenience store at 47B MacCurtain Street. In essence, the provision of same requires the amalgamation of both 47A and 47B. I note as per drawing number *E-13-01-03 Proposed Floor Plan – Gala Shop* that the amalgamation of these units will be achieved by removing an internal wall. I noted on my site visit that works have been undertaken to remove this internal wall. I consider that the removal of this wall would constitute 'works', which is defined as including any act or operation of construction, demolition or alteration, and the carrying out of said works would therefore comprise 'development' as defined in the Act.

Is or is not exempted development

Having established that the proposed amalgamation of the two retail units is 'development' as defined by the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, it must then be determined whether or not such development constitutes exempted development.

Section 4(1)(h) of the Planning and Development Act (as amended) states that development consisting of the carrying out of works for the maintenance, improvement or other alteration of any 'structure', being works which affect only the interior of the structure or which do not materially affect the external appearance of the structure so as to render the appearance inconsistent with the character of the structure or of neighbouring structures comprises exempted development. The external configuration of 47A and 47B will be altered in terms of access provision to both units through amalgamation.

I further note that section 4(1)(h) refers to 'structure' in the singular, and in this regard it is important to consider the each unit as singular structures, which I consider most pertinent in the case of assessing these individual planning units.

47B currently comprises a floor area of approximately 97sq.m, through its proposed amalgamation with 47A will increase in area by up to approximately 70sq.m including lobby access (and sluice room). This is an increase of up to 72% in floor area. I am of the opinion that this amalgamation and increase in floor area of the two units into a singular larger unit constitutes a change of use, which I considered to be a material change of use.

The carrying out of works for the facilitation of the provision of a refurbished retail unit including the provision of customer seating and ancillary spaces requires amalgamation as identified in the accompanying site layout drawings. I therefore consider that these works to individual units would not come within the scope of Section 4(1)(h) of the 2000 Act, in that they would not involve works for the maintenance, improvement or other alteration of a structure. I therefore consider that the proposed amalgamation of no. 47A and 47B MacCurtain Street is not exempted development.

RECOMMENDATION

Having regard to:

- Section 3 and Section 4 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), and;
- The definition of 'Structure' as set out in the Planning and Development Act Section 2.

The proposed development is considered to be development and <u>not</u> exempted development.

S-Many

Siún McCarthy
Assistant Planner
Strategic Planning & Economic
Development Directorate

17/09/2018

Agreed. S. Mihm (SEP) 19.09. 2018

The Development Management Section,
Strategic Planning & Economic Development Directorate,
Cork City Council,
City Hall,
Anglesea Street,
Cork

Attn: The Senior Staff Officer

Date: 20/08/2018

Ref: Section 5 Exemption Certificate Application for 47A & 47B McCurtain Street, Cork

Dear Sir or Madam,

We wish to apply for a Section 5 Exemption Certificate Application for refurbishment of premises at 47A & 47B McCurtain Street, Cork.

A 7 Day Notice and Fire Safety Certificate application were made at the commencement of the works and the FSC was duly issued on 21 June 2018. The works proceeded on the basis that planning was not required as retail use was being maintained in the entire development and as such no planning was necessary.

This exemption application is being sought to ensure that there will be no future queries on title of the property should ownership change.

Enclosed please find an application form and 2no. copies of the following:

- E-13-01-01 Site Location Map, scale 1:1000 @ A4
- E-13-01-02 Existing Floor Plan Former Pharmacy, scale 1:100 @ A3
- E-13-01-03 Proposed Floor Plan Gala Shop, scale 1:100 @ A3
- E-13-01-04 Proposed Shop Unit Front Elevation and Section, scale 1:100 @ A3

We trust that our application will receive your approval.

Yours Faithfully,

Bernard FitzPatrick, BE, MIEI

Comhairte Cathrach Chorcaí Cork City Council

2 1 AUG 2018

Strategic Stanning & Economic
Development Directorate

COMHÀIRLE CATHRACH CHORCAÍ CORK CITYCOUNCIL

Strategic Planning & Economic Development Directorate, Cork City Council, City Hall, Anglesea Street, Cork.

R-Phost/E-Mail planning@corkcity.ie

Fón/Tel: 021-4924564/4321 Líonra/Web: www.corkcity.ie

SECTION 5 DECLARATION APPLICATION FORM

Under Section 5 of the Planning & Development Acts 2000 (as amended)

1. POSTAL ADDRESS OF LAND OR STRUCTURE FOR WHICH DECLARATION IS SOUGHT

47 A & B McCurtain Street, Cork City

2. QUESTION/ DECLARATION DETAILS

PLEASE STATE THE SPECIFIC QUESTION FOR WHICH A DECLARATION IS SOUGHT:

Sample Question:

Is the construction of a shed at No 1 Wall St, Cork development and if so, is it

exempted development?

Note: only works listed and described under this section will be assessed under the section 5 declaration.

Are the following works considered to be development and if so are they exempted development?

- 1. Refurbishment of retail shop at 47B McCurtain Street, (former Pharmacy Unit), to provide a convenience store with fresh food deli counter and food prep area at rear; and
- 2. Refurbishment of the rear section of retail unit, (Car hire unit), at 47A McCurtain Street, (former office, office store and toilet of unit), to provide customer seating area (18 No. seats) with ancillary office and toilet facilities for customers and staff of the convenience store (at 47B McCurtain Street).

(Use additional sheets if required).	VELOPMENT:

3. APPLICATION DETAILS

Answer the following if applicable. Note: Floor areas are measured from the inside of the external walls and should be indicated in square meters (sq. M)

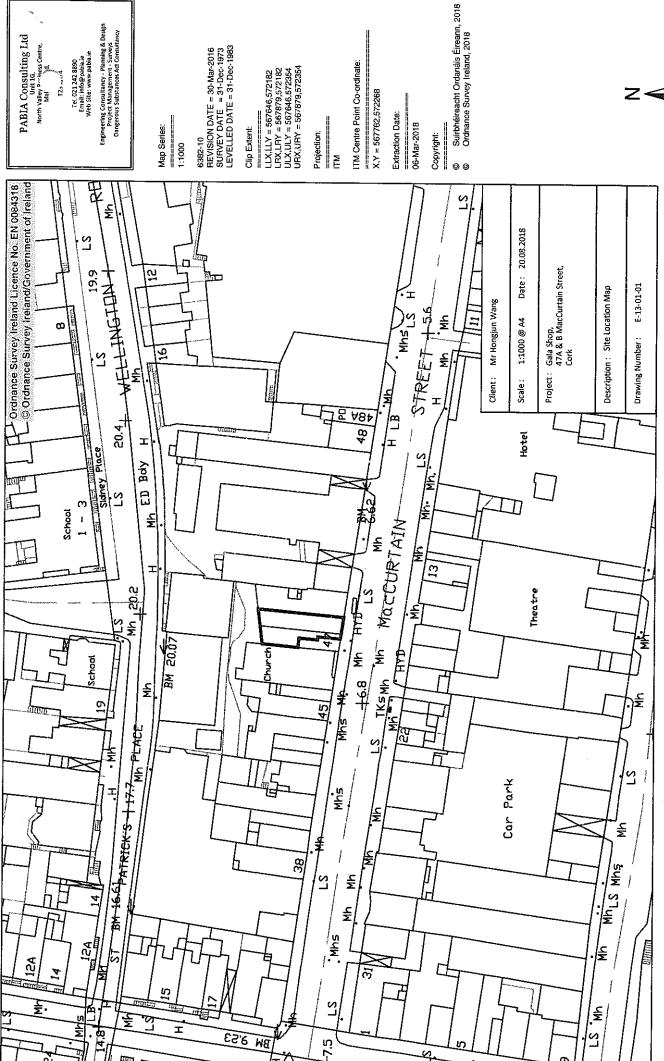
(a) Floor area of existing/proposed st	149.49 Sq.m				
(b) If a domestic extension, have any extensions/structures been erecte location after 1st October, 1964, (incl for which planning permission has obtained)?	Yes Nox If yes, please provide floor areas. (sq m)				
(c) If concerning a change of use of la	and and / or I	ouilding(s), please state the following:			
Existing/ previous use (please circle)	Propose	d/ existing use (please circle)			
Retail Pharmacy		Retail Shop			

4. APPLICANT/ CONTACT DETAILS

Name of applicant (prin	cipal,notagent):	Mr Hongjun Wang
Applicants Address	24 Old Avenue, Rivers	town, Glanmire, Co.Cork
Person/Agent acting on	Name:	PABIA Consulting Ltd
behalf of the Applicant (if any):	Address:	Unit 1G, North Valley Business Centre, Mallow Road, Cork
	Telephone:	
	E-mail address:	
Should all correspondence (Please note that if the answer is 'No address)	e be sent to the above all correspondence will be se	re address? Yes x No

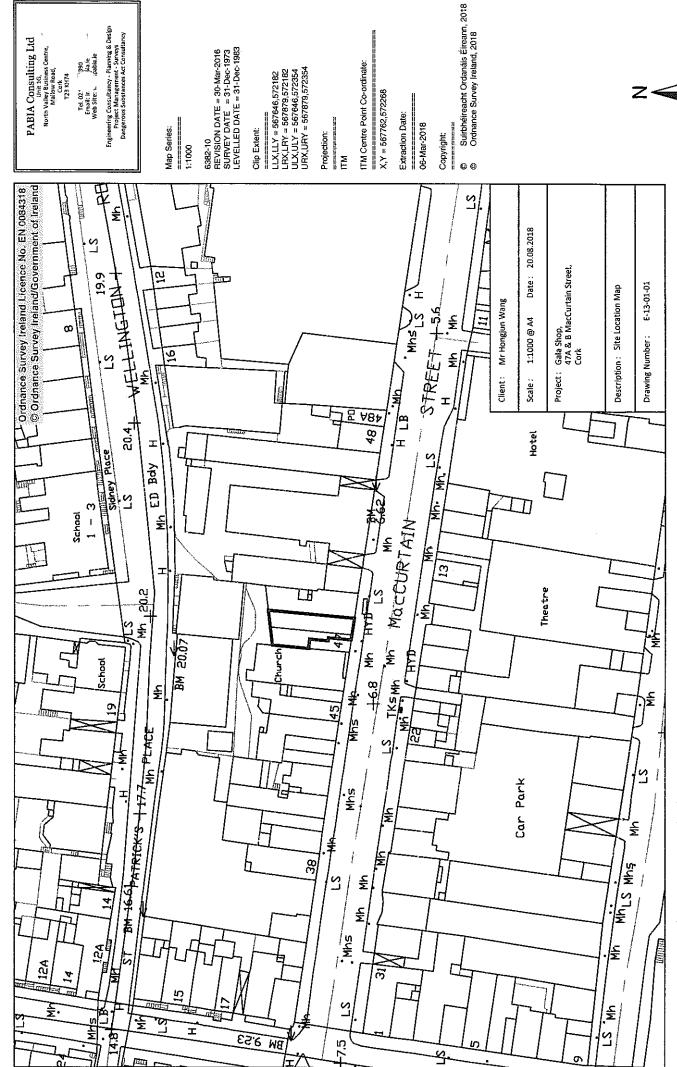
5. LEGAL INTEREST

Pleasetickappropriateboxtoshowapplicant's legal interest in the land or structure	A. Owner	B. Other x	
Where legal interest is 'Other', please state your interest in the land/structure in question	Property leased fro	om owner	7111
name and address of the owner if available	Mrs Angela Mac(c/o Maclock Ltd (59 Old Blackrock Cork T12 PA9H		





LAND TO WHICH THE SECTION 5 DECLARATION APPLICATION RELATES



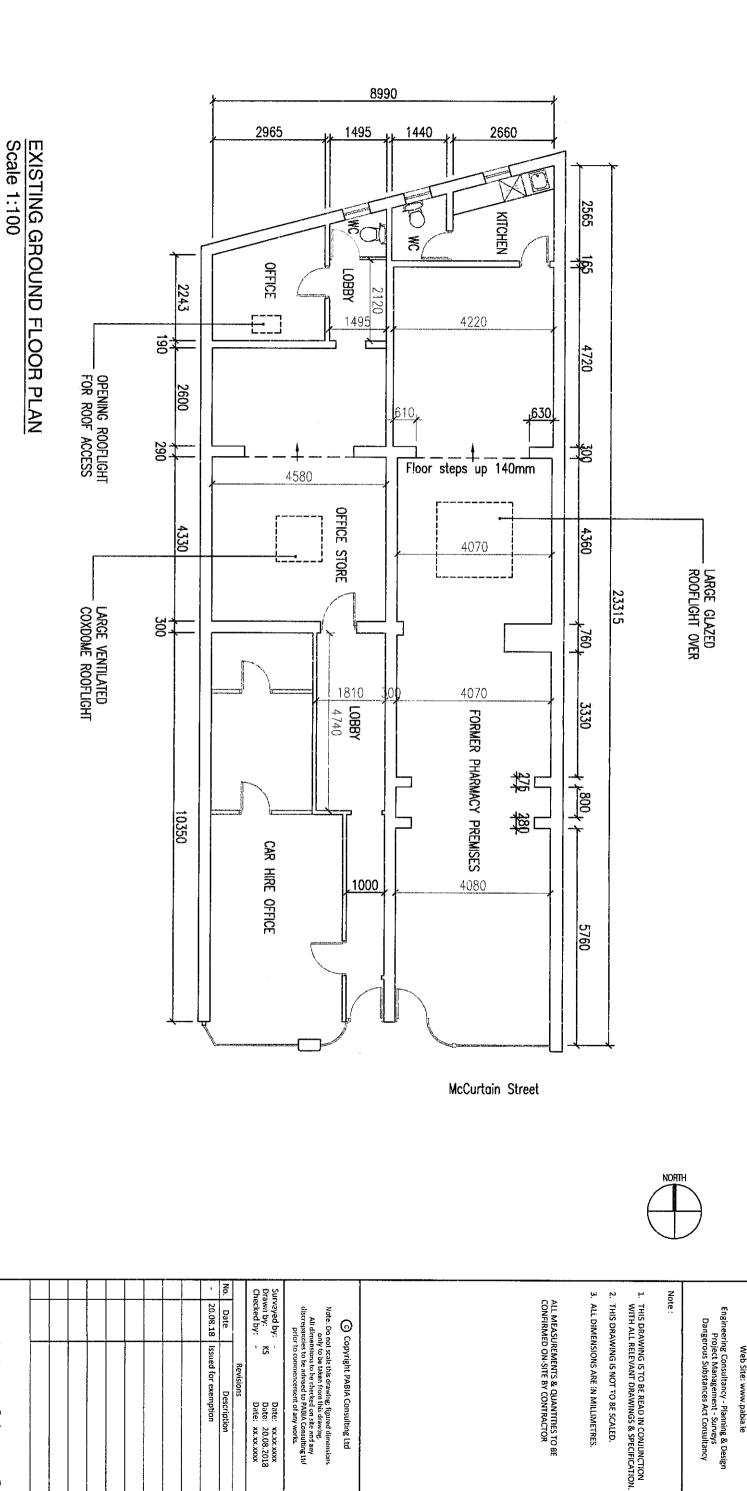


LAND TO WHICH THE SECTION 5 DECLARATION APPLICATION RELATES

Signature: A Example Signature: Bernard FitzPatrick, BE, MIEI

6. I/We confirm that the information contained in the application is true and accurate:

Date: 20 August 2018



Date: xx.xx.xxx Date: 20.08.2018 Date: xx.xx.xxx

Drawing Number: E-13-01-02

Description: Existing Floor Plan - Former Pharmacy

Project: Gala Shop 47A&B McCurtain Street, Cork City

1:100 @ A3

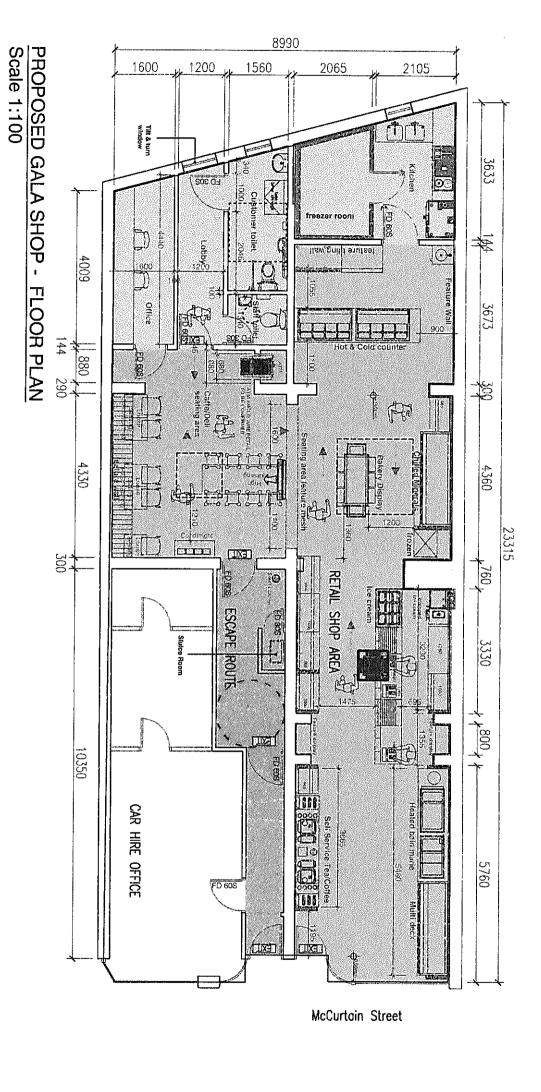
Client: Mr Wang

PABIA Consulting Ltd

PABIA Consulting Ltd
Unit 16,
North Valley Business Centre,
Mallow Road,
Cork
T23 KH74

Tel. 021 242 8890 Email: info@pabia.ie Web Site: www.pabia.ie

Engineering Consultancy - Planning & Design Project Management - Surveys Dangerous Substances Act Consultancy





PABIA Consulting Ltd Unit 1G, North Valley Business Centre Mallow Road, Cork T23 KH74

Engineering Consultancy - Planning & Design Project Management - Surveys Dangerous Substances Act Consultancy Tel. 021 242 8890 Email: info@pabia.ie Web Site: www.pabia.ie

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- 3. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN MILLIMETRES. 2. THIS DRAWING IS NOT TO BE SCALED.

ALL MEASUREMENTS & QUANTITIES TO BE CONFIRMED ON-SITE BY CONTRACTOR

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ABL			20.08.18	Date		Surveyed by: Drawn by: Checked by:	Note: Do n or All dim discrepant prio	<u></u>	
PABIA Consulting Ltd			Issued for exemption	Description	Revisions	- Date: xx.xx.xxxx KS Date: 20.08.2018 Date: xx.xx.xxxx	Mate: Do not stale this drawing; figured dimensions only to be taken from this drawing. All dimensions to be efseked on site and any discrepancies to be advised to PABIA Consulting Ltd prior to commencement of any works.	Copyright PABIA Consulting Ltd	

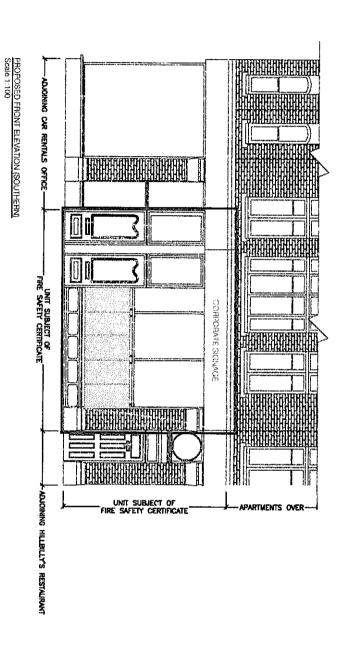
Client: Mr Wang

Scale: 1:100@A3

Drawing Number: E-13-01-03

Description: Proposed Floor Plan - Gala Shop

Project: Gala Shop 47A&B McCurtain Street, Cork City



FFL 0.00 N PROPOSED TYPICAL LONGITUDINAL SECTION A.A. Scale 1:100 FOOD PAEP Existing asphalt roof
on vapour barrier on insulation
on ply
on timber rafters RETAIL

PABIA Consulting Ltd Unit 16, North Valley Business Centr Mallow Road,

Cork T23 KH74

Tel. 021 242 8890 Email: info@pabia.ie Web Site: www.pabia.ie

Engineering Consultancy - Planning & Design Project Management - Surveys Dangerous Substances Act Consultancy

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Surveyed by: Drawn by: KS:
Checked by: -Date: xx.xx.xxx Date: 20.08,2018 Date: xx.xx.xxx

Date 20.08.18 Issued for exemption Description

PABIA Consulting Ltd

Client: Mr Hongjun Wang

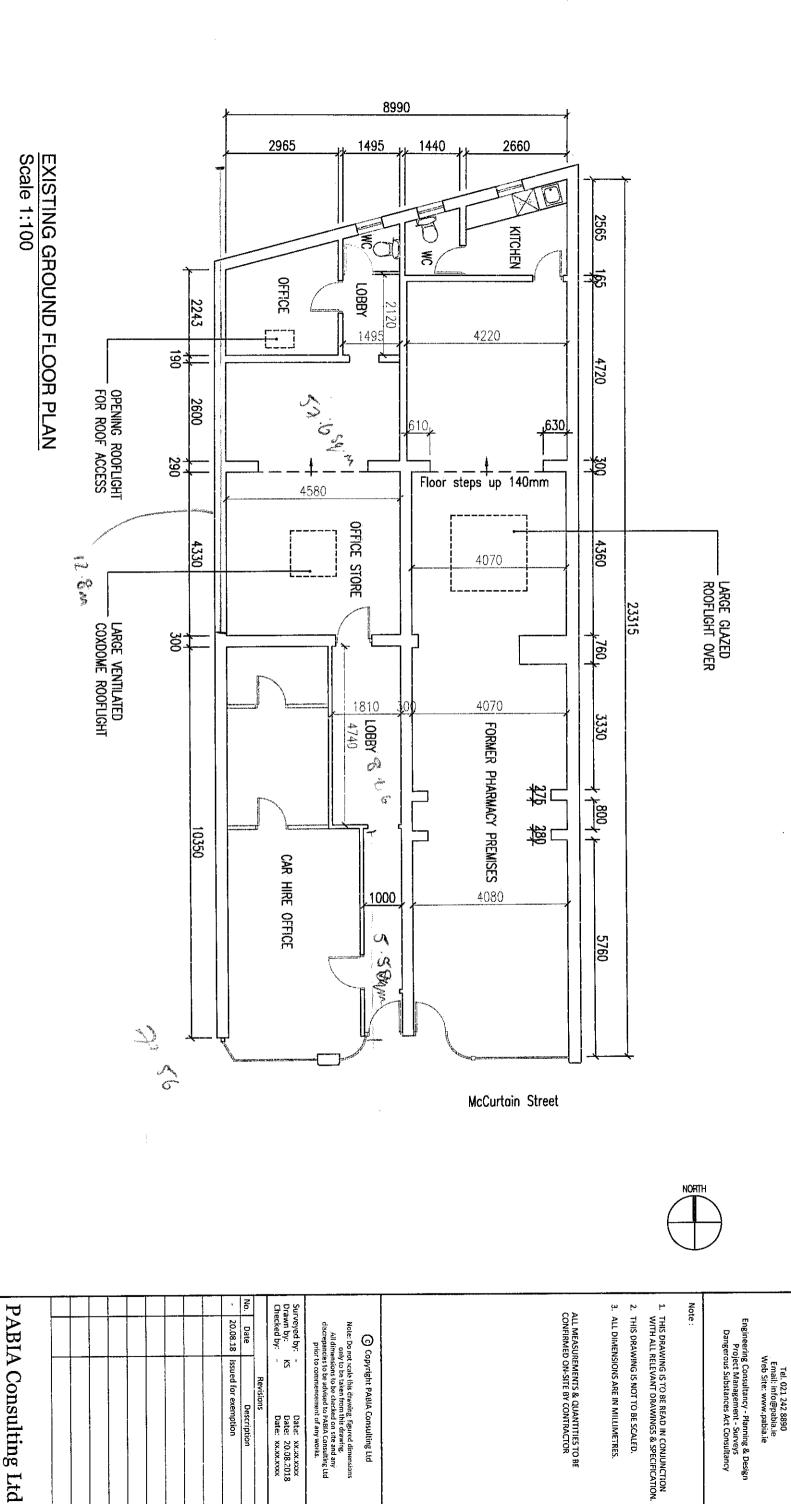
1:100 @ A3

Project: Gala Shop 47A&B McCurtain Street, Cork City

COMPARTMENT

Description: Proposed Shop Unit Front Elevation and Section

Drawing Number: E-13-01-04



Description

Date: xx.xx.xxx Date: 20.08,2018 Date: xx.xx.xxx

PABIA Consulting Ltd
Unit 16,
North Valley Business Centre,
Mallow Road,
Cork

T23 KH74

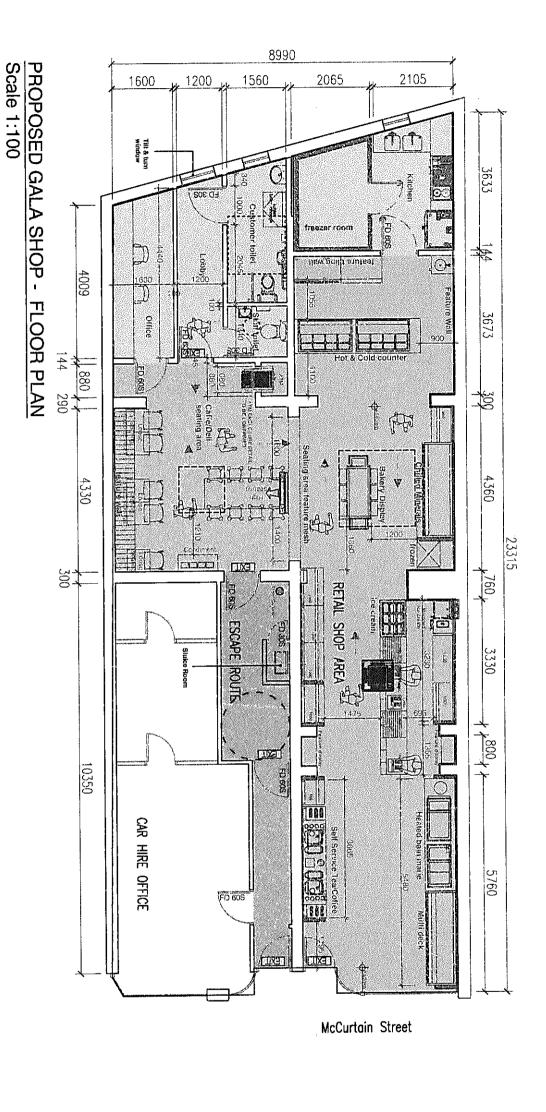
Client: Mr Wang

Scale: 1:100 @ A3

Drawing Number:

Description: Existing Floor Plan - Former Pharmacy

Project: Gala Shop 47A&B McCurtain Street, Cork City



Surveyed by: Drawn by: KS
Checked by: -

Date: xx.xx.xxx Date: 20.08.2018 Date: xx.xx.xxx Note: Do not scale this drawing: figured dimensions only to be taken from this drawing.

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Date Description 20.08.18 Issued for exemption

PABIA Consulting Ltd

Client: Mr Wang

Scale: 1:100 @ A3

Project: Gala Shop 47A&B McCurtain Street, Cork City

Drawing Number: E-13-01-03

Description: Proposed Floor Plan - Gala Shop



Note:

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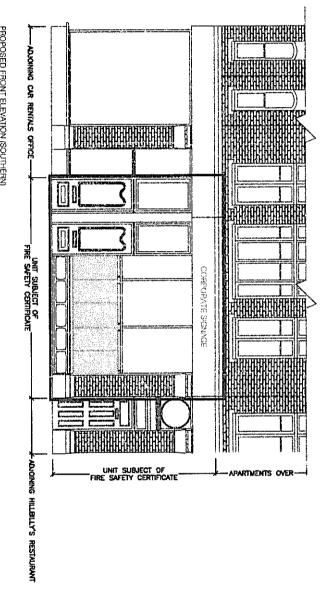
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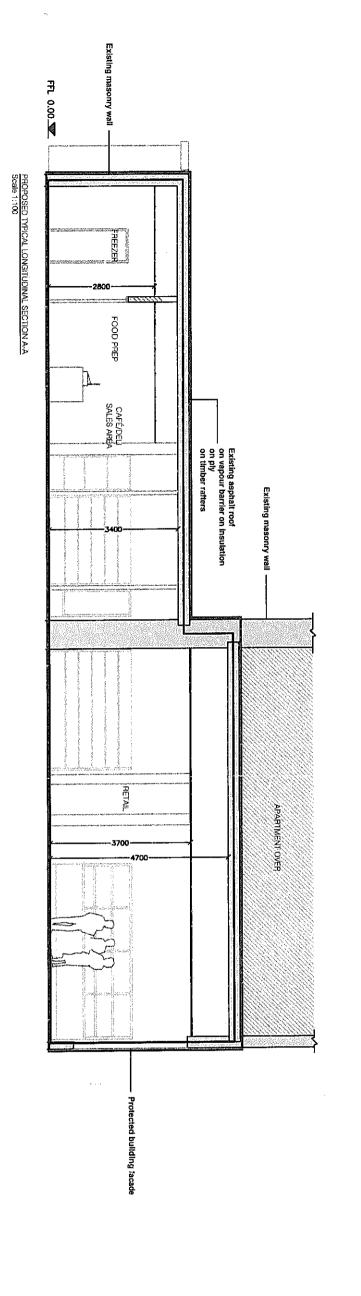
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Email: info@pabia.ie
Web Site: www.pabia.ie
Web Site: www.pabia.ie
Engineering Consultancy - Planning & Design
Project Management - Surveys
Dangerous Substances Act Consultancy



PROPOSED FRONT ELEVATION (SOUTHERN)
Scale 1:100



PABIA Consulting Ltd
Unit 16,
North Valley Business Centre,
Mallow Road,

T23 KH74

Engineering Consultancy - Planning & Design Project Management - Surveys Dangerous Substances Act Consultancy Tel. 021 242 8890 Email: info@pabia.ie Web Site: www.pabia.ie

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					20.08.18	Date	
					Issued for exemption	Description	

PABIA Consulting Ltd

Client: Mr Hongjun Wang

Scale: 1:100 @ A3

Project: Gala Shop 47A&B McCurtain Street, Cork City

COMPARTMENT

Description: Proposed Shop Unit Front Elevation and Section

Drawing Number: E-13-01-04