

# Cape Bar

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## Update on the renovation project in Huguenot Chambers

By Alwyn Möller

Huguenot Chambers has been occupied by the Cape Bar for several decades. During 2016, after the upgrade of the lifts and the renegotiation of a new lease, the new shareholders of the landlord undertook to renovate Huguenot Chambers. The renovation includes a completely new ground floor foyer design, integrated with an extensive remodelling and relocation of the Bar's common room, a new library and the Bar Secretariat offices and kitchen, with an additional arbitration room. The existing conference room (the well-known "Blue Room") is also being upgraded. All lift foyers are being upgraded to fit the new ground floor design.

All floors will receive remodelled bathrooms, ventilation and secure access. A comprehensive security system, with surveillance cameras and modernised secure access controls is being established throughout the building. A high-speed fibre backbone with redundancy will provide internet and LAN infrastructure throughout the building. A completely new server room was also established.

The library is completed, as is the common room, Blue Room and new common room arbitration annex, save for the security access controls as well as audio-visual equipment to be installed (hopefully by early 2019). The new common room, ar-

bitration annex and Blue Room now provide the primary functions of training and conference facilities for the Cape Bar (enhanced by audio-visual equipment). Previously the Cape Bar had no similar or adequate space for training, writing of exams or the hosting of events.

The work schedule for all internal construction work in Huguenot Chambers is progressing according to plan for completion by 15 December 2018. Snags will be attended to early in 2019 and the possible redeployment of the restaurant area on the ground floor for shared chambers, and the possible use of the 17<sup>th</sup> floor, is still under consideration. [A](#)