

Appendix B - Workshops summary feedback

1) Access/Movement & Parking

As expected a large number of comments focussed on parking & travel problems from both staff, students and local residents but there were a number of ideas around improving parking arrangements, encouraging cycling and bus usage and also way-finding and access including needs of disabled users.

Parking:

Comments around restricting parking to essential users but also recognising the needs of others such as parents and students who use cars for other purposes as well as work, those supporting disabled plus dedicated parking associated with the nursery. A concern about lack of parking for students living on campus and resulting 'illegal' parking elsewhere, the need to enforce any parking restrictions and the importance of early implementation of a UWE travel plan and alternative options re parking.

Ideas about parking payment such as swipe cards, number plate recognition software linked to monthly payroll for staff or online payments and siting of kiosks in car parks. There were positive suggestions for promoting car sharing, a car club and/or pool cars and a park & ride scheme.

Wider Transport

Need to consider the requirements of those who travel from further afield and calls to improve the whole Bristol network. SGC and housing developers on adjacent sites also need to agree parking strategies.

Cycling

Many positive suggestions around improving and increasing cycle usage, such as 'hire a bike facility' and scope to link in with a park & ride service e.g by providing secure cycle parking. Support for better lighting along paths and considering safety of those using key routes. Generally there was support for more cycle facilities with lockers & showers including drying rooms/tumble dryers and secure cycle storage across the campus covered by CCTV. Some suggested a big cycle hub with some facilities near building entrances, others liked the idea of storage and cycle facilities spread across the campus. Differing comments around segregating cyclists from pedestrians and from vehicles and distinguishing routes through surface treatments.

Public Transport

There was support for increasing the attractiveness and efficiency of transport services with more capacity, later running of buses to help those working part time or living on campus, more reliable and regular buses and improved rapid travel links to Parkway Station. In connection with a possible park and ride there was a suggestion for a rapid transport shuttle along a dedicated route and provision of secure cycle storage.

Way-finding & Access

Suggestions included better signage and route maps at key entry points for both University users and visitors including those with disability and sight impairment and the need for a taxi rank. Consideration of access for all using the campus, including level access to buildings and regular bus and vehicle stop off points for those with limited mobility plus concerns around balancing accessibility and security especially for pedestrians at night.

2) Central Heart Space/Plaza

Comments covered the potential uses and functions of both the outside space and the buildings around the central plaza by both the University and the community during the week and at weekends and also ideas about the landscape and design treatment.

Open space

Support for outside performances with provision for electrics and sound plus an attractive landscaped area to sit and wait. Scope for temporary uses such as outdoor seminars, summer schools, a bookable space for clubs & societies, a market, freshers fairs, speaker's corner or Dr Bike sessions. Suggestions about ways of dividing areas or designing an amphitheatre with different activities at various levels.

Design

Needs seating and some form of shelter from sun, wind & rain with scope for water features whilst some wanted also soft landscaping and planting.

Facilities

Include active uses such as cafes, shops plus toilets with the reception area clearly visible and easy to find. Walkways drawing people in from all over the campus, clear signage and maps including a 'what's on' display.

Specific buildings

A comment that building 9 has too many functions, another that it should include student-facing services. Also that there should be a main entrance from the space to the library.

3) Public Art, Street Furniture and Way-finding

A wide range of ideas mainly for public art and use and design of external spaces coupled with suggestions for improving way-finding via digital and traditional methods.

Public Art/Design

Range of ideas about sculpture and public art with scope for encouraging student integration including a possible presence for Bower Ashton, as well as non student art. Importance of creating spaces and then commissioning appropriate artists. Comments about ensuring spaces are well designed spaces not leftovers, providing break out spaces near the academic street and small pocket spaces close to more densely used buildings. Scope to use steps as meeting/congregating spaces.

Way-finding

Ideas for including lighting and colour coding in designs e.g. to show routes. Embracing digital technology such as talking guides, GPS systems connecting with rail services as well as access points for Internet, interactive plasma screens etc. Ensuring signage is clear and DDA compliant as well as easy to update.

Street Furniture

This should be something people can engage with/have a social purpose, be hard wearing, funky, adaptable – maybe involve students in design. Could include water recycling facilities.

4) Landscape & Recreation

Many points are covered by other groups' responses particularly regarding the central plaza/open space but a wide variety of ideas came forward for the detailed design of spaces and potential uses.

Landscape/ design

Suggestions included infilling/covering part of ravine to create flexible uses such as BBQs and other recreational activities, a further quiet green space, a sensory garden and a vegetable garden/allotment area. Comments around making the theatre and swimming pool and associated green areas accessible on foot to encourage community use and maintaining a pedestrian area from the bus station to the central hub. Ensuring that the academic street is wide enough and useable in poor weather.

Recreation

Suggestions ranged from creating an elevated public viewing area on the iconic building, a separate conference centre, a cultural space with cinema, a larger more centrally located retail centre. Also spaces for community events, sports facilities such as volleyball, athletics, cricket pitch and climbing wall through to scope for student union events and outdoor performances.

5) Opening up the New Campus

There were a wide range of ideas for facilities and amenities that could appeal to the local community, most of which have been suggested in previous consultation. New comments included the size and role of the CPA and scope to bring in partners/commercial organisations. The point was also made that the public are not aware of UWE facilities available for use as these are not well publicised and that availability/accessibility/ cost and incentives need to be considered including reduced rates for staff & students to keep them on campus.

Facilities/Amenities

Importance of good quality restaurants, bars and social spaces open to the local community plus enhanced retail provision open longer hours. A health centre or walk-in centre was again raised. The location of the heart at night was raised re parking/safety.

A number felt that the auditorium/CPA/entertainment area is too small and could host much larger/broader events e.g student/youth concerts of 1500 + with potential to have flexible walls so that can accommodate 400, 800 and 1500 spaces. Also look at scope for bookings/exhibitions in the ECC. The name CPA is limiting as it could expand its scope and interest e.g media. It could also include drama studios, cinema, theatre, concert hall, lecture theatre, rehearsal space/rooms etc.

Sports

There was continuing support for the swimming pool especially a 50m competition pool and other suggestions including a running track and cycling track around the campus. A link should also be made with WISE.

Those attending the various workshops, the campus sites exhibitions and/or the public exhibition at the Street Cafe were able to fill in a feedback questionnaire (see *Appendix C*) either as hard copy or they could refer to the website and complete this online.