

Queensferry Living Well Locally – Stakeholder Workshop Feedback Summary

Tuesday 18 February 2025, at Rosebery Hall

Background

Following on from a successful Queensferry Asset & Services workshop in February 2023 a second event was held on Tuesday the 18 February at Rosebery Hall. Council Service representatives, Third Sector Organisations and Partner Providers were invited to attend the workshop. The purpose of the workshop was to share and update local stakeholders on how current projects in Queensferry were progressing and create another networking opportunity by bringing everyone together again.

The main aim was to share our vision for the Queensferry Campus and raise awareness of the community engagement process.

The workshop was attended by the following service providers:

City of Edinburgh Council; Local Ward Members, Strategic Asset Planning, High School and Primary School Leadership Teams, Facilities Management, Community Empowerment & Engagement, Libraries, Sport & Wellbeing, Heritage, Transport & Environment.

Other Agencies: Queensferry District Community Council, NHS, Police Scotland, Edinburgh Leisure, Rosebery Hall Management Team, Squids (After School), Queensferry Heritage Trust, Forth Bridges Tourism, Queensferry Parish Church Youth Team, Queensferry Priory Church, Queensferry History Group, Craigmmond Scout Group, Queensferry Men's Shed, Rotary Cub.

Objectives

To create an open and creative forum to discuss the proposals and gain a better understanding on whether the 'vision' presented meets the needs of the local community. Allowing service providers to come together and explore the concept in more detail, determine any positive or negative impact for their service area and

consider whether anything has been missed or should be explored further as part of this process to address any community concerns, changing priorities or aspirations.

Agenda:

- A brief update on all things Queensferry and introduce key officers: High Street Improvements, Active Travel Connections project, Museums review, accessibility audit Rosebery Hall.
- Progress update on all learning estate projects: new Builyleon Road PS, additional High School capacity.
- Discuss the Queensferry Campus Vision: strengths and shortcomings of the proposals.
- Queensferry District Community Council update on the communities Local Place Plan.

Workshop format, discussions & feedback

The format of the workshop was based around tables of service providers and community representatives to discuss the strengths and shortcomings of the Queensferry campus proposals and provide feedback on any other matters worth consideration.

Questions asked:

Question 1: Do you like the proposal for Queensferry Campus?

Questions 2: What are the strengths of the proposal? What opportunities does it present?

Question 3: What are the shortcomings of the proposal? Can we turn these into opportunities?

Key Feedback Themes:

Strengths

Level of Investment

The level of proposed investment in new and improved infrastructure and longer-term vision is generally welcomed and would appear to address some of the growing community's unmet needs. There is support for improving the quality, suitability and energy performance of buildings being retained and disposal of buildings that are life expired.

A New Community Hub

Bringing services together into a central location, with designated public access, as well as shared and flexible use of facilities, internal and external spaces by different service providers was viewed as beneficial.

Opportunities

Redevelopment of the Depot site

Many comments were made about exploring alternative uses for the depot site for an Early Years facility rather than the park or as designated drop off/pick up, parking or turning circle.

Traffic Improvements

Numerous suggestions were made about improving traffic and congestion in and around the school by either: closing Burgess Road permanently, introducing a one-way system, providing bus access only or restricting access during pick up/drop off and break times.

Service Transformation

A new Community Hub has the potential to improve the range and availability of Council and Partner Provided services being delivered in Queensferry. Creating an opportunity to deliver multi-generational activity programmes, through improved partnership working and increased opening and operational hours.

Shortfalls

Loss of Park/Greenspace

Whilst many understood the rationale for building on the park, many thought that this was a compromise too far and want alternative options to be reconsidered particularly developing on the depot site to protect the much-valued open greenspace.

Road Safety

A longer-term solution is required to resolve the current situation with traffic congestion, poor parking behaviour and road safety concerns for pupils as part of the campus proposals.

Detailed Design Proposals

Many were looking for more detailed design and layout proposals, not yet developed, to determine the allocation, types of space and facilities that might be available for the residents and school before any added value could be assessed.

Operational Management

It was difficult for some services to determine how the flexible use and sharing of space might work in the future with different service providers without knowing what changes will be made to the existing operating model.

Access to Sports and Leisure Facilities

Many concerns were raised about the lack of leisure provision in the area, and restricted access and affordability of existing facilities for the community.

Response Summary:

Vision - Strengths	
<i>Level of Investment in the community</i>	<i>Investment in Children for the future</i>
<i>All services together</i>	<i>Best Value</i>
<i>Better use of what we have</i>	<i>School fit for the community</i>
<i>Future proof service provision – including library</i>	<i>Bigger school playground</i>
<i>A new Community Hub</i>	<i>After School Care merge with school</i>
<i>New bespoke facilities – fit for purpose</i>	<i>Modern Early Years Centre –fit for purpose</i>
<i>Separate public community entrance</i>	<i>Landscaping for nursery</i>
<i>Better location for library</i>	<i>Better quality greenspace</i>
<i>Relocation/co-location of the library to a central location</i>	<i>Enhanced greenspace/informal spaces/outdoor learning</i>
<i>Access to multi use space – linked with library services</i>	<i>Changing facilities/ toilets/ bike sheds</i>
<i>Flexible use of spaces/ multi-functional, innovative storage – fits well with library service</i>	<i>Re-sale of existing assets</i>
<i>More space for library & activities programme</i>	<i>Demolishing buildings that are not fit for purpose</i>
Vision – Opportunities	
<i>Close Burgess Road outside the school similar to other ‘school streets’</i>	<i>Building capacity – needs to be bigger</i>
<i>Bus lane only – Burgess Road / restricted bus times to avoid school pick up/drop off/ breaks. Introduce one way system</i>	<i>Longer working hours/opening hours</i>
<i>Increase amount of double yellow lines</i>	<i>Offer other council services/health services from the Hub</i>
<i>Enhance proposals to further reduce car usage- improve active travel.</i>	<i>Council Services – payments, transactions, NHS</i>
<i>Close burgess Road – although Lothian Busses say they cannot negotiate Station Road</i>	<i>Places to meet - spaces that are affordable</i>

<i>More parking/designated school drop off/pick up – use the depot site for this purpose.</i>	<i>Opportunity for multi generation activities and programme</i>
<i>Increase parking for teachers, provide disabled parking and parent drop off point</i>	<i>Increased use of library by schools during school day</i>
<i>Benefit of a transport corridor linking Kirkliston</i>	<i>Community access and use of other schools.</i>
<i>Early Years could go ...elsewhere?</i>	<i>Maximise learning opportunities associated with Library & Museum</i>
<i>Can the depot site be developed for an Early Years building.</i>	<i>Further community engagement required to understand opportunity for learning & teaching</i>
<i>Garages – are they used? CPO? Current waste of space</i>	<i>Improve library link – outreach service for existing library users disadvantage by the move.</i>
<i>Changing facilities and accessible public toilets on the depot site</i>	<i>Provision of a district community heating network</i>
<i>Opportunity to maximise indoor floor space by making Early Years 2 storeys- utilise for After School Care seen as more of a benefit for local community</i>	<i>Better community facilities for the area - overcome resistance to loss of green space</i>
<i>Improve weekend activities as part of the park expansion</i>	<i>Relocate or purchase the BUPA dentist site</i>
Vision – Shortfalls	
<i>Does relocation of the library limit the space available for community use/ library might need too much space</i>	<i>Traffic congestion around/near the schools – impact of safety for young people</i>
<i>Loss of dedicated After School building – requires designated building and the service needs to expand</i>	<i>Proposals attract additional people to the area creating additional pressure on transport routes</i>
<i>Community access to buildings/ concerns regarding loss of community control over flexible access/key holding facility</i>	<i>Traffic /Impact on the existing transport network – existing issues with Station Road</i>
<i>High or increased cost for use of Council facilities</i>	<i>Need to take a long-term approach to solving traffic and safety issues – move nursery on to the existing road and divert the road across the park.</i>
<i>Loss of income generation for Rosebery Hall</i>	<i>Impact on other facilities – restricted parking spaces/ no drop off facilities</i>
<i>Need to include equivalent floor space to existing huts</i>	<i>Number of teachers parking Station Road.</i>
<i>Loss of community storage (accessible by clubs)</i>	<i>New Leisure Centre, swimming pool and soft play – instead of park</i>

<i>Limited increase in space within the EY centre – despite level of upheaval – does that satisfy the need?</i>	<i>Issues with lack of swimming pool access and management</i>
<i>Not clear what net gain in community space/ EY is?</i>	<i>Lack of proposed investment in other schools – Echline new dining/gym hall, Dalmeny – dividing the community</i>
<i>Changes to existing operating model</i>	<i>Depot provides a valued service – demonstrate that no detrimental loss of service provision associated with proposed closure</i>
<i>Need to understand how the HUB would work along with other assets (Rosebery Hall?)</i>	<i>Management resources to maintain landscaped spaces in future?</i>
<i>Would the hub layout provide what is needed for the community</i>	<i>Losing much valued informal play space for children on Burgess Park – particularly at weekends and holiday periods</i>
<i>Impact of relocating the library for existing users</i>	<i>Loss of greenspace /loss of trees – area well used</i>
<i>Not a vision for the whole community</i>	<i>Park used for dog walking/ Ferry Fair</i>
<i>Provide examples of Libraries & Community Centre working well together – McMillan Hub/Ratho CC & Library</i>	<i>Provide illustrations on how the park could look/or be improved not everyone can visualise</i>
<i>Is there sufficient budget to fund the proposals?</i>	<i>Drainage/flooding issues associated with the park & depot sites – burn safety</i>
	<i>What's the use of the formal pitches (HS?)</i>