

# Experience Barnsley Design and Access Statement

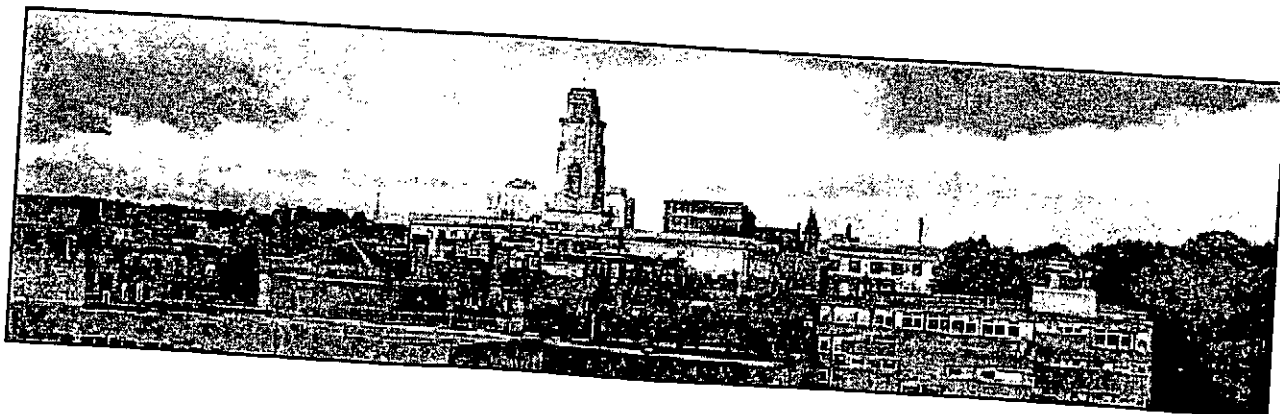
18 August 2008  
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Barnsley Museum and Heritage Service



LOTTERY FUNDED



**BARN斯LEY**  
Metropolitan Borough Council



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## Introduction

- 1.1 This design and access statement demonstrates that the proposed Experience Barnsley project, the transformation of parts of Barnsley Town Hall into heritage galleries and an archives centre, has been designed according to a robust process, which fulfills all necessary requirements for planning permission and listed building consent for alterations to a listed building.
- 1.2 This process has incorporated assessment, involvement, evaluation and design, and we are confident we are creating public spaces within Barnsley Town Hall which are easy for all in the borough to access and use, and that comply with all necessary regulations, and fit into strategic planning for the town-centre and borough of Barnsley.
- 1.3 At each step of the initiation of this project, and in the wider conservation management planning integral to its development, extensive consultation has supported and guided the design process, with relevant stakeholders, partners and, where appropriate, the people of Barnsley. The following have been consulted:
  - English Heritage
  - Heritage Lottery Fund
  - Barnsley MBC, including a range of directorates, services and divisions
  - Barnsley MBC officers
  - Town Hall Users
  - Barnsley Archives and Local Studies Department
  - Barnsley Family History Society
  - Barnsley Archives Users Group
  - Friends of Barnsley Archives
  - Barnsley Civic Trust
  - Barnsley Youth Council
  - Barnsley Cultural Consortium
  - Barnsley Football Club
  - Barnsley Football Club Supporters Trust
  - Barnsley Building Society
  - One Barnsley Partnership
  - Barnsley Development Agency
  - Voluntary Action Barnsley
  - Local businesses and economic concerns
  - Barnsley Chamber of Commerce
  - The Young Chamber
  - Schools
  - Colleges
  - Museums and heritage sites, both those within and outside Barnsley MBC
  - Barnsley University Centre (University of Huddersfield)
  - University of Sheffield
  - Sheffield Hallam University

- Huddersfield University
  - Oral History Society
  - The National Union of Mineworkers
  - Community and voluntary groups
  - Third sector organisations in the widest sense
  - Training organisations and institutions
- 1.4 In early September 2008, we, together with Barnsley Civic Trust, are holding a public meeting at the Town Hall to discuss the proposals.
- 1.5 The design process has been informed by the involvement of Barnsley MBC officers in a variety of services and divisions, in particular therein: Gareth Bruff (Town Centre Manager), Alexandra Cotton (Planning), Eric Hebden (Property and Procurement), David Murdoch (Building Control), John Openshaw (Community Planning), Archie Sinclair (Conservation), Tony Wiles (Conservation).
- 1.6 The design process sits upon a robust base of empirical local knowledge, and a detailed understanding of the immediate circumstances and built environment of the proposed project, and strategic future for the town and borough of Barnsley.
- 1.7 We are confident that the proposed design will have a positive impact on the town and borough of Barnsley, dovetail strategically with planning imperatives locally and regionally, and will produce a facility which maximizes access in its widest sense to such an important building at the centre of the town.
- 1.8 A full access report was commissioned in 2006 and its findings have been fully incorporated into the design process, as evidenced within this report.
- 1.9 This document has been created according to advice given by those bodies and organizations set out above, and in line with best-practice guidelines issued by CABE.

## Physical context

- 2.1 The Town Hall is situated in the oldest and highest part of the town, close to the Parish Church, on Church Street, and is the most imposing building in the area, due to both its architectural significance and because its central tower rises some 44 metres (145 ft) above street level.
- 2.2 The Town Hall is situated in the Regent Street/Church Street/Market Hill Conservation Area, which was designated by Barnsley County Borough Council in November 1973, and extended in April 1977 by the present council. The building was listed as a building of special architectural or historic interest, Grade II, in 1986, as a result of the national re-survey. The war memorial and the piers, railings and steps on the frontage were listed as two separate additional items.
- 2.3 Adjacent to the Town Hall lies the former Technical College, the two being architecturally complementary, designed by prominent Liverpool Architects Briggs and Thornely and opened within a few months of each other. The Technical College, now University Centre Barnsley (University of Huddersfield), has been recently restored, prompting comments from local people of the need to clean the Town Hall, to keep the civic status and aesthetic impact of the two buildings intact.
- 2.4 The Town Hall is the focus of the town's civic quarter, and is surrounded by a variety of civic buildings of significant heritage value, some still in use, others not.
- 2.5 Retail and leisure use predominates to the south and east of the building, sloping down towards the pedestrianised shopping centre of the town. The close proximity of Barnsley's retail offer to Experience Barnsley is expected to be of considerable mutual benefit, each generating distinct but transferable and welcome primary footfall.
- 2.6 The Town Hall literally towers over the town and borough, its white clock tower a visible sight for miles around. It is at the centre of the borough of Barnsley, physically and symbolically, and thus it has the potential to play a leading role in the development and future of the borough.

## Social

- 3.1 The proposed facility will serve to increase engagement with the urban built environment. There is considerable pride in the Town Hall as a building, but also a lack of direct physical engagement:

*'Beautiful Town Hall'*

Questionnaire response, June 2008

*'Our magnificent Barnsley centrepiece, the Town Hall'*

Questionnaire response, June 2008

*'The Town Hall's own story. Do the people of Barnsley truly understand what an amazing building they have got? The design, funding and construction could be an interesting story to tell.'*

Questionnaire response, August 2008

- 3.2 Over 5,000 local people signed a petition to support the transformation of parts of the building into a public resource: this support has continued, and an increased depth of consultation and conservation management planning has served to demonstrate the thorough support behind it.
- 3.3 There is a clear need for a socially-accessible building at the heart of the town, which can act as a hub and centre for local people's engagement with the town-centre. Experience Barnsley will provide this, dovetailing the town's cultural, community, leisure, learning and heritage offers.
- 3.4 The type of facilities offered within Experience Barnsley will create a resource of wider significance for the town centre. There will be four accessible toilets, two with baby-changing facilities, a refreshment facility, and learning facilities which a wide variety of organizations, institutions and individuals will be able to use for their learning activities.
- 3.5 The greatest social impact is anticipated to be in the way that local people understand their town and borough. This project, including Experience Barnsley as a physical facility, will serve to increase local people's understanding of the town around them, boost civic pride and serve to generate a great deal of social capital through its activities and partnerships.

## **Economic context**

- 4.1 Barnsley has experienced an intense period of economic reconfiguration as a century-old dependence on heavy industry ended with the collapse of its key industries, particularly coal. The last Barnsley pit closed in 1991, marking a period of structural decline. The time since has witnessed economic transformation and uncertainty, with intense social and cultural implications, something local people will be able to reflect on and get to grips with, many for the first time, within the new facility.
- 4.2 Barnsley's economic character is unrecognizable compared to only twenty years ago, with a much higher dependence on the service economy, and a common awareness of ongoing economic change. The economic and specifically retail offer of the Town Centre has similarly been transformed over the last thirty years, some in a way typical to many other towns and cities, but others specific to Barnsley, with its strong market heritage.
- 4.3 It is indicative of the anticipated positive implications of this project, and its role amidst the wider regeneration program, that it is being considered for ERDF support, and is firmly established aside the regenerative stable of the Barnsley Development Agency (BDA), and the *Remaking Barnsley* program, informed by the consultative process of *Rethinking Barnsley*.
- 4.4 Job creation is an integral part of the Experience Project, through the capital build, fitting out and restoration. In the long and permanent term, the facility will create jobs directly, through its associated retail and refreshment offer, and its core functions.
- 4.5 Through acting as a spur to town-centre footfall at times crucial to the local economy, Experience Barnsley is anticipated to have a considerable impact. The opening times of the proposed facility are 9.30am to 7pm, Monday to Friday, with weekend (including Sunday) opening.
- 4.6 Projected visitor numbers for Experience Barnsley by Y5 are 50,000 per annum, which is anticipated to have a considerable impact on the town. We are confident of reaching this target, and potentially exceeding it.
- 4.7 Experience Barnsley will spur the emergence and strength of the heritage community as a significant force within the borough's third sector.
- 4.8 It will boost confidence amongst volunteers and nurture skills and learning amongst visitors, and empower what is expected to be a veritable army of volunteers, with direct and measurable effects for their labour market expectations and economic confidence.

- 4.9 An increased cultural status for the town nationally will have wider ramifications, including economic, and will challenge and reconfigure representations of the town and borough's economic past, and therefore internal and external expectations as to the borough's economic potential.



## Planning policy

- 5.1 The aims and designs for Experience Barnsley sit comfortably amidst local planning policy objectives and strategy for Barnsley, and planning guidance regarding historical buildings (PPG15).
- 5.2 The Barnsley Unitary Development Plan (adopted 2000) cites the following objectives and imperatives which are considered directly relevant to this project:
- 5.3 *Strengthen the vitality and viability of Barnsley Town Centre, and principal shopping and commercial centres as foci for shopping, commerce, leisure and other community facilities and services (p. 26).*
- 5.4 *Encourage the provision of indoor leisure and recreation facilities in urban areas, especially those which are in areas of disadvantage and where there are deficiencies of provision (p.29).*
- 5.5 *To improve the buildings, infrastructure and environment of older industrial and commercial areas to enhance the image of Barnsley and maintain/improve employment opportunities (p. 30).*
- 5.6 *The council will have special regard to the desirability of securing the retention, repair, maintenance and continued use of buildings of special architectural or historic interest. Development which would adversely affect the special architectural or historic interest character of listed buildings will not be permitted. Other buildings considered by the council to be of special architectural or historic interest will be put forward to the department of national heritage for listing (Policy BE2).*
- 5.7 The following are taken from *Planning Policy Guidance: Planning and the Historic Environment* (1994, rev. 2005)
- 5.8 *Once lost, listed buildings cannot be replaced; and they can be robbed of their special interest as surely by unsuitable alteration as by outright demolition. They represent a finite resource and an irreplaceable asset. There should be a general presumption in favour of the preservation of listed buildings, except where a convincing case can be made out, against the criteria set out in this section, for alteration or demolition. While the listing of a building should not be seen as a bar to all future change, **the starting point for the exercise of listed building control is the statutory requirement on local planning authorities to 'have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses'** (section 16). This reflects the great importance to society of protecting listed buildings from unnecessary demolition and from unsuitable and insensitive alteration and should be the prime consideration for authorities in determining an application for consent.*
- 5.9 *Generally the best way of securing the upkeep of historic buildings and areas is to keep them in active use. For the great majority this must*

*mean economically viable uses if they are to survive, and new, and even continuing, uses will often necessitate some degree of adaptation. The range and acceptability of possible uses must therefore usually be a major consideration when the future of listed buildings or buildings in conservation areas is in question (3.8).*

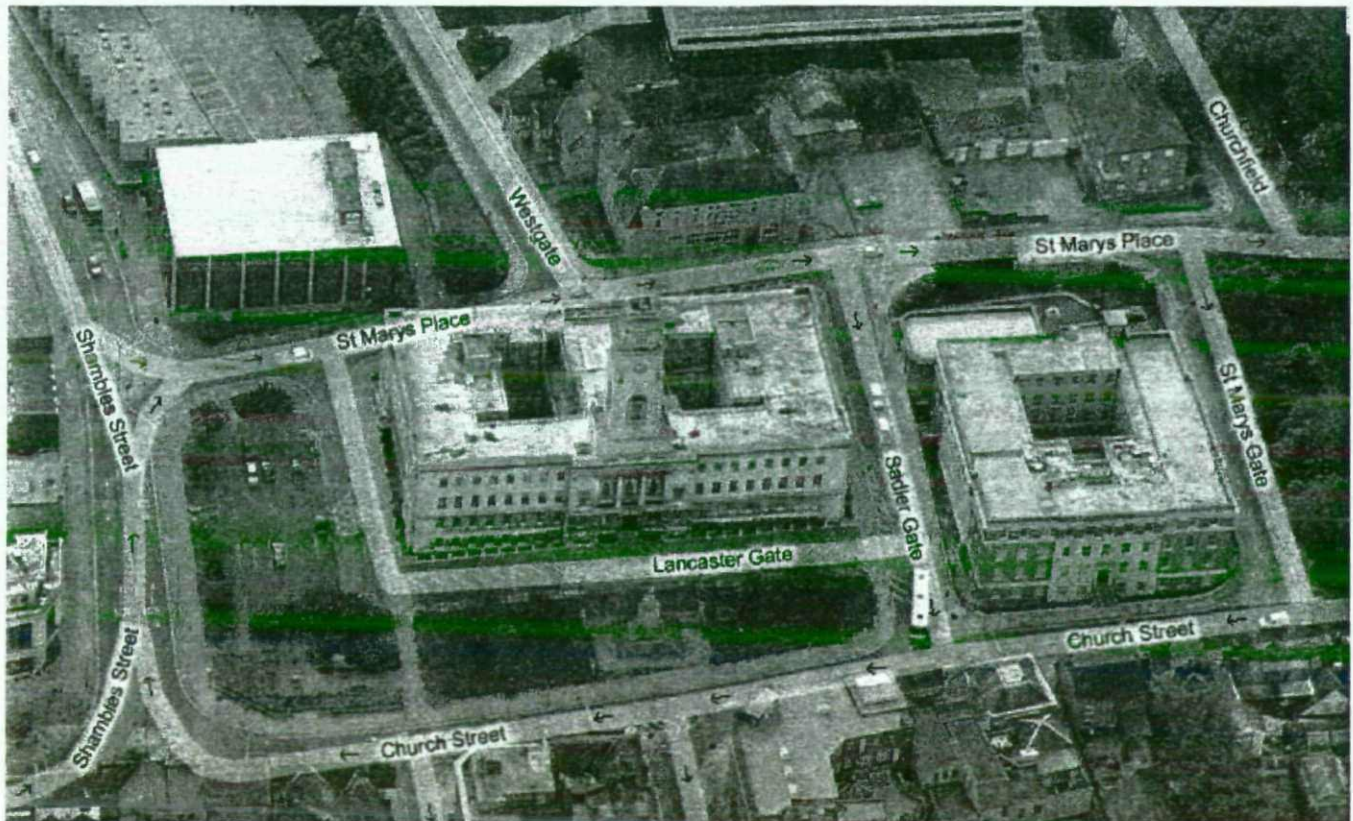
- 5.9 **We understand that the transformation, with minimal work to the fabric, of parts of the Town Hall into a facility which showcases and enables access to the heritage of the building, and that of Barnsley's wider built environment, is an acceptable use of the building, both with regard to its listed status and current planning strategies, given the widespread positive implications which it is understood the project entails.**

## Use

- 6.1 The Town Hall is a physical hub for the Town of Barnsley. Physically and conceptually, it forms the lynchpin around which the town is orientated.
- 6.2 The Town Hall stands where lines linking Barnsley's social, cultural, learning and community offers intersect. In its relationship to the built environment, as conceptually, Experience Barnsley has the potential be a lynchpin at the centre of what Barnsley has to offer.
- 6.3 The Town Hall is understood to represent an excellent opportunity to house the proposed project. There is already a strong footfall amongst local people exploring the Town Hall gardens, simply coming to spend time in the vicinity of the building, or moving between different sites.
- 6.4 There is an emerging cultural presence in this area, a development into which the proposed project fits particularly well. To the east lies the new Barnsley Civic, to the west the Lamproom Theatre, to the north the Cooper Gallery. A major museum facility at the centre of this triangle will be a major landmark on the town's cultural landscape.
- 6.5 There will be a combination of uses associated with the space. Learning is key, and again here we find the Town Hall in perfect situ amongst learning environments, namely the College, University Centre and the Central Library, all of whom will have strong links and relationships.
- 6.6 By its very nature, Experience Barnsley will play a central role in community activities, both communities in the vicinity and across the borough. In this role, the Town Hall takes its place alongside other community facilities, and in particular the Core, being the new home for Voluntary Action Barnsley (VAB) which serves to support and nurture the borough's third sector.

## Amount

- 7.1 This project will occupy most of the ground floor of Barnsley Town Hall, and parts of the basement. The proposed amount of building work is minimal, being the removal of partition walling and some changes to corridors, mainly aesthetic.
- 7.2 It will also involve the cleaning of the exterior of the building, something which is expected to have a major impact on popular perceptions of the building and the urban skyline of the town and borough.
- 7.3 The change of use of the space from an office space to a major visitor attraction will involve the increased footfall of 50,000 people per annum by Y5. The impact of this on the town and borough is seen as being positive, and that infrastructure developments over coming years, prior to and after the opening of the project, will enable the town to meet the logistical and wider needs of these visitors.
- 7.4 It is anticipated that this increased footfall will act as a positive stimulant to the local economy, and consultation is ongoing, and communication strategies have been developed, to ensure that local businesses can and will respond in a positive and flexible way to the increased demand which is likely to be made of them.



## Ensuring access: transport links and vehicular access

8.1 Experience Barnsley is expected to open by 2012. We will know in January 2009 whether the project is definitely going ahead, at which point a wide-scale incorporation of the project into strategic planning relating to the town's transport links and vehicular access will be initiated.

8.2 The key times in terms of Experience Barnsley visitor numbers fall outside current pressured times for the town's transport infrastructure, namely 10am-4pm during weekdays, post-rush-hour in the evening, and at the weekends, particularly Sundays. In short, Experience Barnsley will not compound pressures on transport links in the town at key periods, and instead will bring welcome footfall to the town at times its transport infrastructure can cope.

8.3 The Town Hall is situated just a short and direct walk from the transport interchange (shown to the right) and it is envisaged that most visitors will travel by public transport to the site, by either train or bus. This will be encouraged through marketing and other means.

8.4 The use of outlying car-parks will be encouraged, something which is made all the more possible by the way in which the project highlights and points visitors towards heritage sites across the town.

8.5 School groups will be dropped off by coach in the vicinity of the building and coaches will be expected to wait away from the site. Coaches will be expected to drop-off between 9.45am and 10.00am, and pick-up between 2.00pm and 2.30pm.

8.6 Experience Barnsley will triumph the use of public and green transport for visitors' exploration of the borough's heritage sites.

8.7 Additional car-parking spaces will be made available to disabled visitors, as has been discussed with Town Hall management and facilities management.

8.8 A small drop-off point will be established to enable visitors to be dropped off at one of the easy-access entry points, without interfering with traffic flow.



## **9.1 Layout and fitting out: A space-by-space demonstration of best practice museum design and consideration of access**

- 9.2 The layout of the facility has been designed according to best practice museum design, within the physical constraints of the historical significance of the building, whilst ensuring maximum access to the building and its heritage, in the widest sense.
- 9.3 A detailed access report was carried out in 2006 specifically for this project, by the Adapt Trust, based on professional understanding and consultation. The findings of this report have directly informed the design process for the facility. We are confident that disabled people will find the facility fully accessible, not by segregation but through access-orientated design for all.
- 9.4 Several initial key concerns were highlighted by the Access Report, including the rear corridor space and how it would work, points of entry and egress, toilet and changing facilities. The findings of this report were integrated into the design process and form an integral part of the brief to which the Lead Design Consultants are working.
- 9.5 A comprehensive fire and security system will be created, and which will be fully integrated, controllable from twin panels at two stations within the building.

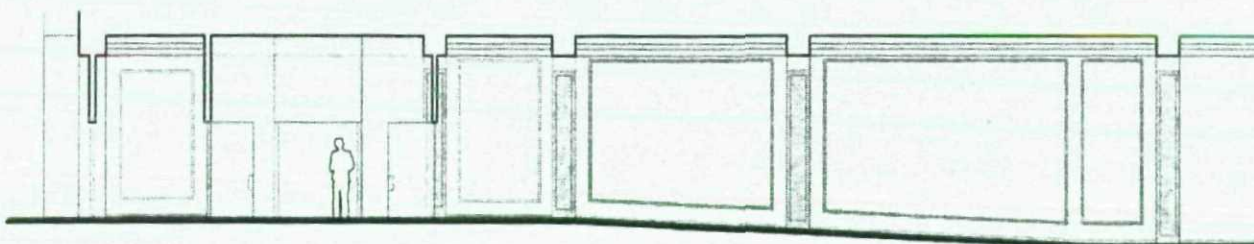
## Entering the building

- 9.5 The main point of entry for the Town Hall will be on Lancaster Gate, to the south of the building. The entryway will be improved by the incorporation of handrails on the ramp, as recommended by the Adapt Trust Access Audit Report (2006), which noted that 'there is no reasonable option to alter the gradient of this path'. However, we feel that it is possible to do some work to this ramp to make it partially shallower and to make it easier to use.
- 9.6 In order to ensure access for those who may struggle with the ramp, either wheelchair users or ambulant disabled, a call-for-assistance point will be installed at the bottom of it. To avoid responding to nuisance use of this facility, front-of-house staff will use the CCTV system to monitor use. It is recognized that staff must be on-hand immediately to provide support to those who require it, and this will be ensured through effective facilities management. It is also understood that a second member of staff will also be close-at-hand to respond to any situation, such as supporting access. Importantly, the door mechanisms will be improved to ensure access: from labouring heavy wooden doors, to automatic glass doors, but with external doors which are shuttered open when the building is in use.
- 9.7 A new point of entry will be created on the west-side of the building, where visitors can be dropped off in a protected space, to a supervised entrance point on the ground floor. This is understood to be a significant improvement in access to the building. A pavement will run from the main entrance to this alternative entrance.
- 9.8 It is understood that many visitors will still use the 'civic' entrance to the front of the building, and this will not be discouraged as such. However, we are keen to highlight the southern entrance as the principal entrance, with it being accessible and thus creating a common and effective welcome for all visitors.
- 9.9 The main entrances will be open at all times when the Town Hall is in use. There will be supervision over both entrances, by front-of-house staff, with support available for visitors. The rear (western) entrance will be a level means of egress, much improving the means of egress to that corner of the building as currently exists (multiple steps).
- 9.10 There will be extensive, multi-format and multi-media signage and orientation for visitors

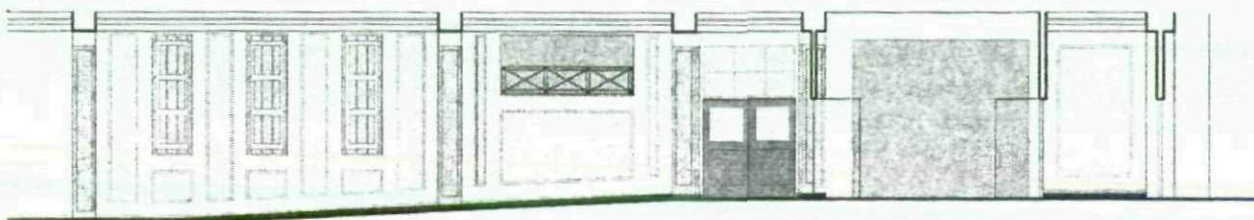


## Exiting the building, emergency and egress

- 9.13 Compartments delineate the uses of the Town Hall, as established through discussions with Barnsley MBC building control. All compartments are rated at 60 minutes, with other spaces at 30 minutes. This includes work to take place on upper floors to upgrade doors around the lift-shafts to become 60-minutes graded.
- 9.14 The corridors are grade 0-listed protected corridors, and all proposed fitting out content is to be approved by Barnsley MBC building control. This will take place before any fitting out is finalised. All corridors will have 1:20 slopes installed, with full handrails on both sides, marking a great improvement to the access which is currently available.
- 9.15 There are two exits from all spaces that require there to be so, and it is understood and incorporated into all facilities management documentation that this must be maintained: for example, and as returned to later in this document, a secondary exit exists from the café area through the changing exhibition space and into the main gallery, which prohibits the partial-opening of any of these spaces in isolation.
- 9.16 Visual as well as audible alarms will be installed where those with hearing loss may be on their own.
- 9.17 All corridor and transit spaces have been designed according to advice provided by Building Control, in terms of materials used and absence of obstacles to users seeking egress through them. In short, the build designs and fitting out will comply with their protected status.
- 9.18 Means of egress will be clearly signed and staff will be trained to provide necessary support to those visitors who require it. Principal means of egress exist from the western end of the northern corridor (level, on the western wall), the Learning and Community Space (level, on the western wall), the Lancaster Gate entrance (ramped, southern wall) and stepped exits on the northern and eastern walls.

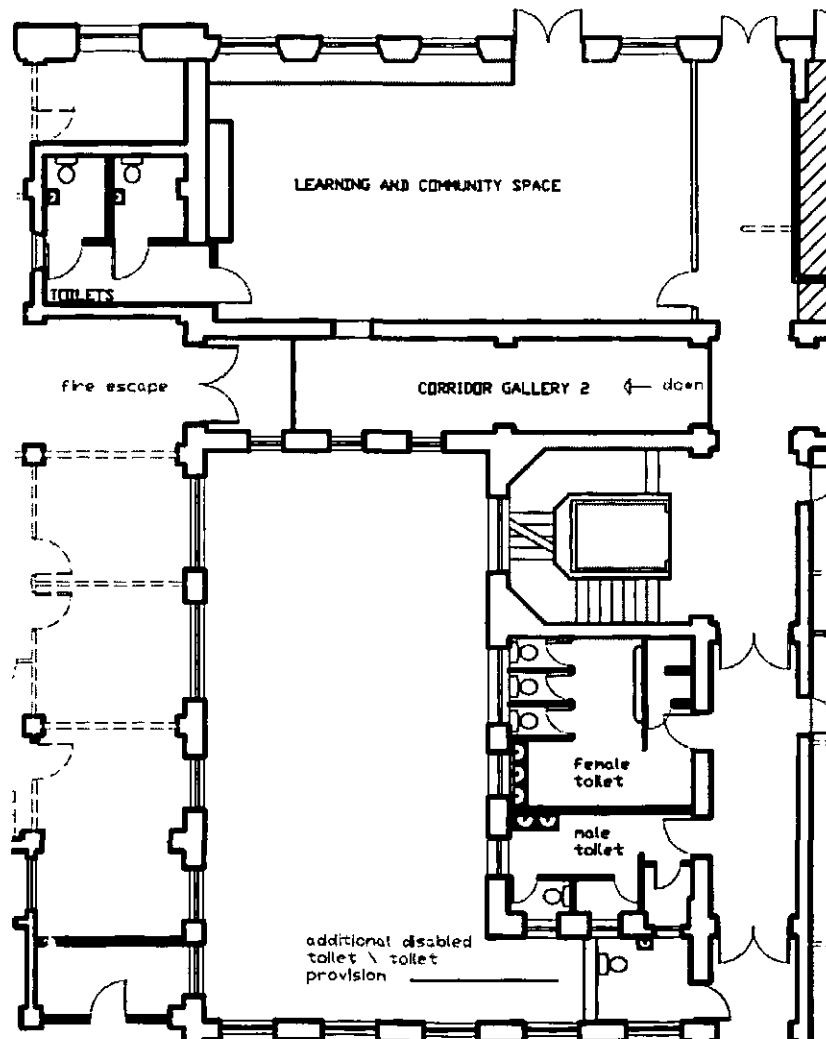


Proposed gently sloping corridors which rejuvenate the aesthetic and heritage of the Town Hall corridors, maximising access for all



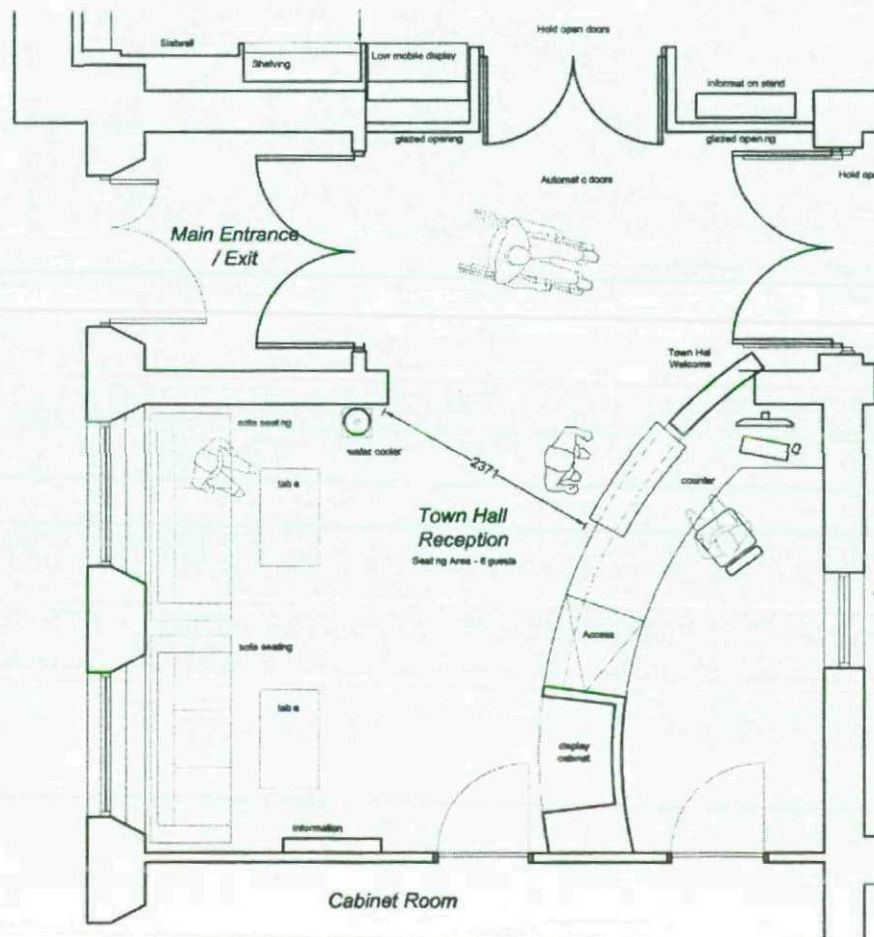
## Toilet provision

- 9.18 The 2006 access report recommended the introduction of a disabled toilet into the public spaces occupied by the Experience Barnsley project.
- 9.19 This has been carried out by Property and Procurement, incorporating a toilet, sink-area and changing suite with hoist system.
- 9.20 In addition, a baby-changing facility has been introduced alongside existing toilets.
- 9.21 Experience Barnsley proposes three new disabled toilets. One will be positioned at the northern end of the building, mirroring that which has recently been installed at the southern end.
- 9.22 In addition, we will create two disabled toilets in the Learning and Community Space, one of which is designed larger to accommodate a baby-changing facility.
- 9.23 We feel that such additional provision is a major plus for the project, and marks it out as a important and accessible resource in the town centre.



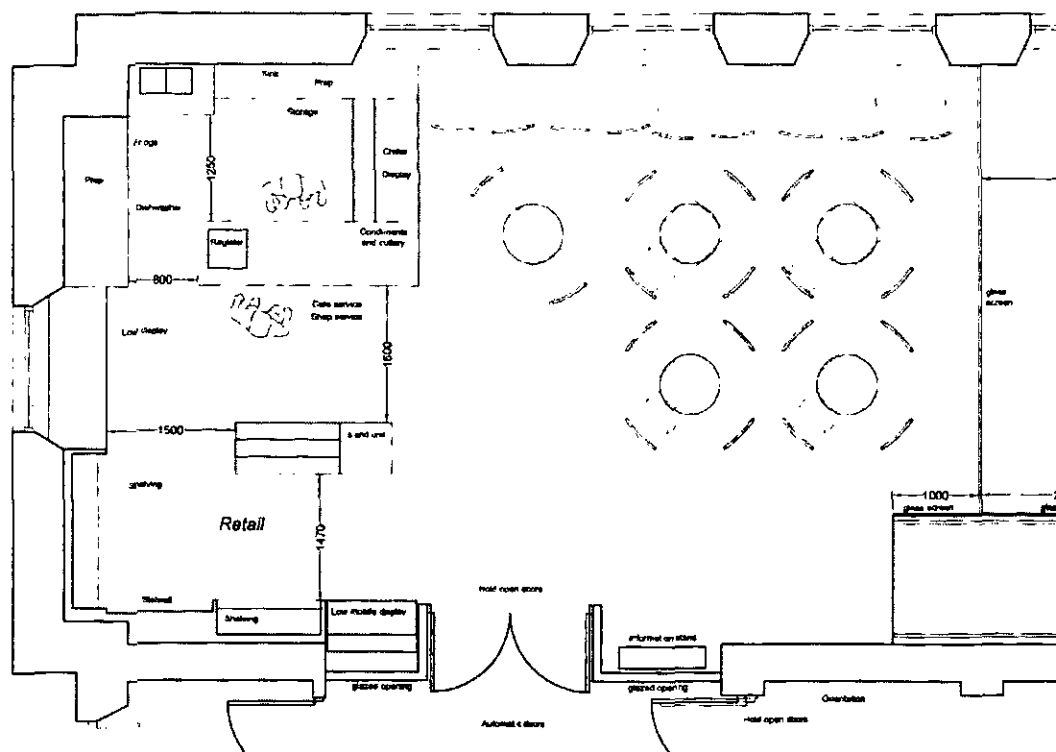
## The main reception area

- 9.24 We have reached what is hoped to be an effective compromise, creating a space which is welcoming, accessible, yet also maintains a necessary degree of gravitas and sense of civic function.
- 9.25 Full attention has been given to access, with an overhaul of the door mechanisms, an altering and lowering of the main reception area and reappraisal of floor coverings.
- 9.26 Signage in this space will be replaced, to ensure both the heritage aesthetic of the space is retrieved, and that it works most effectively for users/visitors.
- 9.27 A new high visibility screen setting out events and key points of information for those looking to access any of its functions will be installed in this space.
- 9.28 Wall to the western side of the reception area will be broken through to match that on the eastern side. 60-minute graded glazing will be incorporated into both for the purposes of aesthetic symmetry but also visibility: anyone in the reception space will have a clear view of happenings in adjacent spaces, and vice versa, which is considered beneficial in case of emergency.



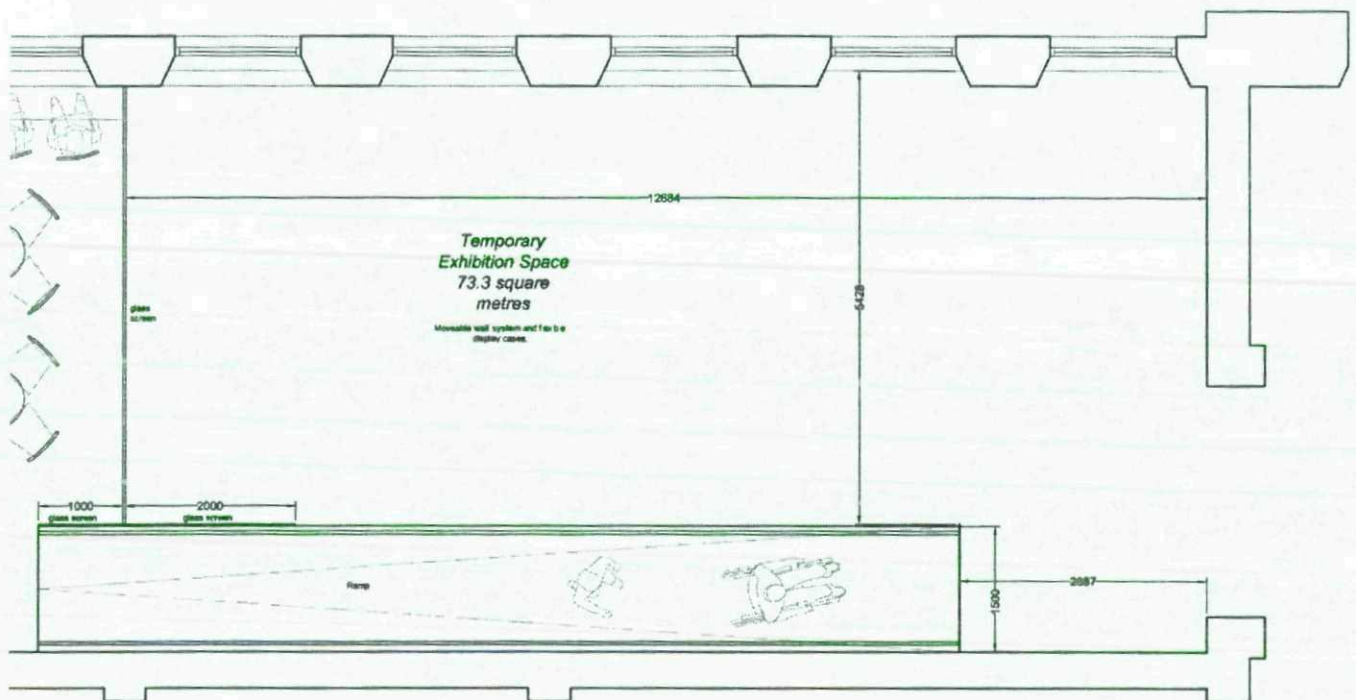
## Refreshment and retail space

- 9.29 As demonstrated on the floor plans, the refreshment and retail space has been designed for ease of use, access and to act effectively as an accompanying space for the galleries and archives centre.
- 9.30 The layout and type of tables has been designed to ensure access.
- 9.31 The counter will be sufficiently low.
- 9.32 The area will be lit well and will have an open feel. There will be full lines of sight through the changing exhibition space, into the main gallery, and across into the reception space. It is our understanding that this will be beneficial in the case of emergency, but also for the feel and welcome of the space.
- 9.33 The type of food being prepared and served in the refreshment space will be tightly controlled.
- 9.34 There are two exits from this space, which can be shuttered at night, but which will be permanently open whilst the building is in use. Neither means of egress from this will be closed while the building is in use.



## Changing Exhibition Space

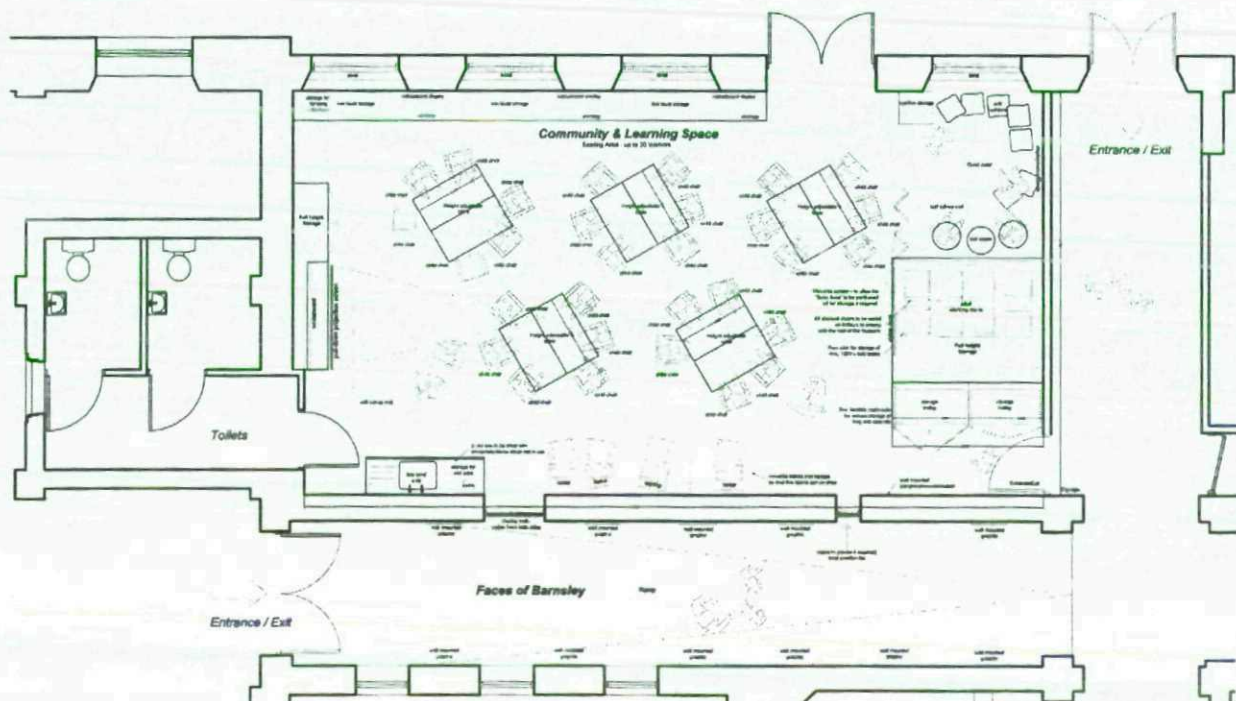
- 9.35 The changing exhibition space is essentially a blank canvas in which exhibitions of various types can be held.
- 9.36 There are two means of egress from this space, into the main gallery and its protected corridors, or by slope through the retail space into the main reception area.
- 9.37 The doors and divides between this and adjacent spaces give both an important sense of space and lines of sight in case of emergency.
- 9.38 This is a sizeable exhibition space, at 73.3 m<sup>2</sup> and all exhibitions hosted will comply with access and learning considerations.
- 9.38 All staff will be aware that this space can never be closed while any other part of the building is open, but it has the potential to be made secure when the building is closed, in order to comply with guidelines, standards and best-practice in gallery design and exhibition hosting.





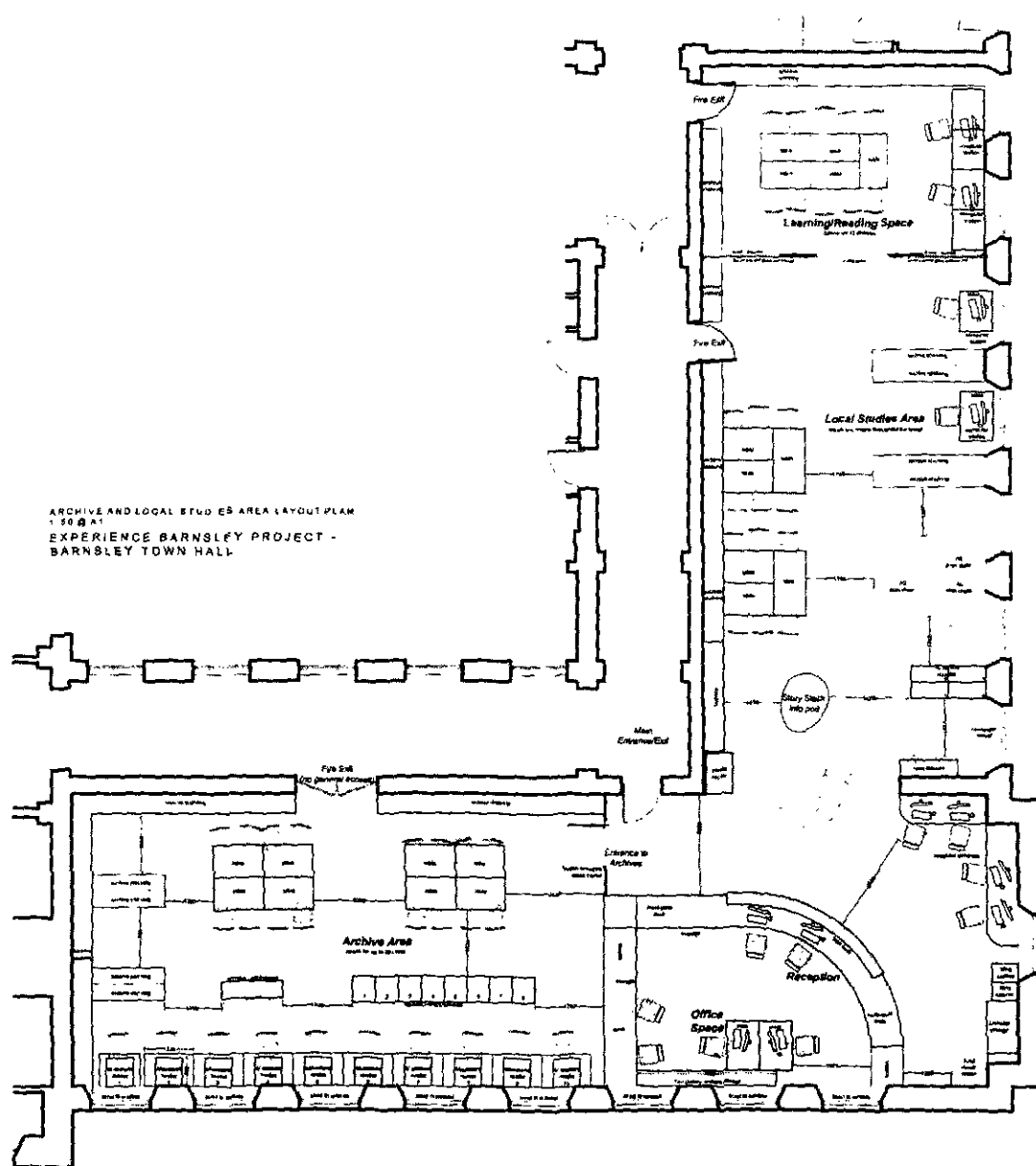
## Learning and community space

- 9.45 The design of this space has adopted best practice in facilities design for learning and community activities, with specialist advice from many, including Tim Whitten, whose work in learning in a museum and gallery context is widely recognized.
- 9.46 Many facilities are at low level, such as work-surfaces, sinks and storage units for equipment and handing collections. We have designed the principal surfaces (i.e. tables and desks) to be of variable height. For example, we are investing in tables which can be highered and lowered within seconds, to ensure maximum access.
- 9.47 Two accessible toilets have been designed within close proximity to the Learning and Community Space, both according to necessary standards. One of these will also accommodate a baby-change facility.
- 9.48 The opportunity to provide learning opportunities for all people within the town centre is a major benefit of the project, and this facility, because of what it represents in terms of equipment, design and access, is expected to be used by a variety of partners and stakeholders.
- 9.49 An entrance and means of egress, which is level and has vehicular access, close-by is considered to be a major design and access benefit for this space.
- 9.50 From advice from Building Control, this space will be strictly limited to sixty occupants, including staff. From a facilities management perspective, we have no doubts whatsoever that we control occupancy of this space.



## Archives centre

- 9.51 The proposed Archives Centre is understood, in terms of facilities, access and design, to be one of the foremost centres of its type in the north of England, comprising full compliance with BS5454:2000, full DDA compliance and best practice in archives design.
- 9.52 The Archives Centre comprises an archives area, local studies area and quiet study area.
- 9.53 All these areas have devoted means of egress to protected corridors in case of emergency.
- 9.54 The fitting out has been designed to maximize access, to the facility physically but also its collections.
- 9.55 On advice from Building Control, this space will be strictly limited to sixty occupants, including staff. From a facilities management perspective, we have no doubts whatsoever that we control occupancy of this space – all those seeking entry have to pass by a reception desk, and thus control of numbers is anticipated to be a straight-forward task.



## Basement Stores

- 9.56 This space does not constitute a change of use.
- 9.57 It will remain private, for staff use only, principally for limited office space and archives storage
- 9.58 The stores have been designed according to BS5454:2000 and best practice museums collection management. This is in line with the recent accreditation achieved by Barnsley Museum and Heritage Service for its sites.
- 9.59 Access has been fully taken into consideration and the needs of any future staff who may work in these spaces
- 9.60 The designs incorporate innovation but mostly demonstrate a firm commitment to user needs and design and access standards.



## Conclusions

- 10.1 It is understood that the proposed project meets all planning requirements, and that this has been achieved through a robust design process, creating a facility which is accessible to all and in-line with its proposed environment.
- 10.2 The proposed physical alterations to the building are minimal but the positive implications of it are expected to be considerable, and in line with planning policy and strategy.
- 10.3 The proposed facility is expected to boost local people's engagement with their local built environment, including the heritage of the Town Hall and its surrounding conservation area.
- 10.4 Planning considerations have been incorporated into the design process thus far and will continue to be so, through the build process and as the facility enters into operation.