The University of Edinburgh

Library Committee
11th April 2012

Agendum 9b

Library and study space developments at KB in Summer 2012: an overview

Brief description of the paper
The paper summarises the significant library and study space developments taking place at the King’s Buildings during Summer 2012

Action requested
For information

Resource implications
Yes, the KB Library is a major University capital project

Risk Assessment
There is a Risk Register, which is reviewed regularly by the KB Library Strategic Project Board.

Equality and Diversity
Does the paper have equality and diversity implications? No

Freedom of Information
Can this paper be included in open business? Yes

Originator of the paper
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Science and Engineering College Library Committee

Library and study space developments at KB in Summer 2012: an overview

Note: it is not possible at this point to give precise dates

Background

During the Summer a number of interlinked projects at KB will take place:
- Opening of the new KB Library
- Redevelopment of KB Centre Level 1
- Reconfiguration of the Darwin Library upper floor
- Closure of the Robertson and JCM Libraries and transfer of books to the KB Library
- Transfer of Helpdesk services from the Darwin Library to the KB Library

The outcome will be the creation of three study areas:
- The JCMB Learning and Teaching Cluster
- The KB Library – KB Centre
- The Darwin Learning and Teaching Cluster

The opening of the KB Library and the redevelopment of the KB Centre are designed to provide a study centre with a variety of study space for individual and group work with or without computers.

KB Library

- The new build is proceeding well and the handover date remains early June
- Fit-out: during June and July
- Opens to users: end July/early Aug

KB Centre

- Ground floor: shop will remain and the rest of the floor will be re-developed to provide study space, cycle stands, showers, lockers
- Stairways and entrances will be redecorated and improved
- Level 1:
  - The Spot Café has already closed
  - The floor will be re-developed to house: the uCreate service (moving from the Darwin Library); the group study pods (moving down from Level 3); new, reconfigurable study space with a mix of fixed and moveable furniture together with extensive power and wireless facilities; and a small number of fixed PCs
  - The design of this floor will complement the KB Library and the traditional open access individual PC spaces on the KB Centre upper floors.
  - Floor due to open: late Aug
- Level 2: there will inevitably be some noise on this floor as a result of the work being undertaken on the floor below
- Level 3: there will be no changes made to this floor and there should be limited disruption due to noise from Level 1 work
**Darwin Library lower floor**
- No changes this Summer; all print collections will remain accessible
- It will be re-branded as “KB Library Store”

**Darwin Library upper floor**
- Study area in the Swann: will be redecorated during June, resulting in a temporary loss of this area for study
- Books moved to the KB Library: mid/late July
- Helpdesk services: will transfer to the KB Library in late July/early Aug
- It will be re-branded “Darwin Learning & Teaching Cluster”
- The vacated space will be furnished with a variety of types of seating, several staff offices will be converted to group study rooms, there will be one accessible study room
- The 20 seat computer room in the Swann area: this will not be available in June, it will re-open in July, and will finally close in August when the PCs will move into other parts of the upper floor
- In the longer term, it is proposed to introduce catering and to develop this floor to bring in more natural light and improve the quality of the space. This would complete the three catered study areas across the KB campus. Funding needs to be sourced during 2012, such that the work can be undertaken in Summer 2013

**Robertson Library**
- Books will move to KB Library in mid/late July
- Helpdesk services will transfer to the KB Library in late July/early Aug
- Library will then close

**JCM Library**
- Books will move to KB Library in mid/late July and the library will then close

**Impact on users**
IS staff will be working hard to minimise the impact on users:
- Helpdesk services: at least one point will be maintained at all times
- Study space and computers: information on a week by week availability will be made available in due course
- Access to the Library of Congress book collections: will be maintained for much of the Summer, but not possible for several weeks in mid/late July as the books are packed, moved and then integrated into one collection. During this time, we will offer free inter-library loans for books in the three collections
- Access to journals and the older book collection on the Darwin lower floor: there will be no restriction on access during the Summer
- uCreate services in the Darwin Library: there will be a reduced service in June (some machines will not be available) and no service in mid/late August (all machines are moved from Darwin Library to KB Centre)
- Normal access to Helpline support will be available (tell 0131 651 5151 or email IS.Helpline@ed.ac.uk)

**Further info**

Richard Battersby, Information Services
23 Feb 2012