Library Committee

20th October 2010

Agendum 8a.

Building Projects: Main Library Redevelopment Update

Brief description of the paper
This is one of a regular series of updates on the Main Library redevelopment.

Action requested
For information

Resource implications
Does the paper have resource implications?
Yes, the Main Library redevelopment is a major University capital project.

Risk Assessment
Does the paper include a risk analysis? No, but a risk register is maintained for the project.

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

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

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October 2010
Edinburgh University Library Committee

Main Library Redevelopment Project

October 2010 Update

Opening of redeveloped Floor 2

On Monday 13 September, the University Induction Week, Floor 2 opened to users of the Library. The Floor is the first of its kind in the project, primarily housing books. It has a prominent location in the Library, with access via the feature staircase.

The Library of Congress (LC) Current Lending Collection categories A-N have moved from Floor 4, and are located on this floor, including the Music Collection. Floor 2 is also home to 300 study spaces, over 150 of these with computing equipment. There is also a bespoke bookable music listening room, housing keyboards, hifis and a clavinova.

From the start of semester, the floor has proven very popular with students. By mid-afternoon on weekdays, it has consistently been more than two thirds full. The proximity of quiet study areas to the collections, where material can be self-issued, is working effectively.

Closure of Floor 3

Floor 3 is now closed and the next phase of the Redevelopment Project has commenced. This floor will also house a large part of the Library’s collections - categories P-Z of the LC Collection, alongside some specific collections, including East Asian, Centre for African Studies, Serjeant & Watt. The East Asian collection will be stored on compact shelving. The Floor will also offer up a further 200 study spaces, and be home to Student Services. Student Services, including the Disability Office, Careers Service and Student Counselling, will be accommodated in the East part of the floor.

The floor is expected to open mid-June 2011.

Collection locations

Over the course of nine weeks in the summer, a removal company worked around the clock to move 22.5 linear kilometres of books within the Library. This allowed the accommodation of the LC Collection on Floor 2, as well as the clearing of Floor 3 in preparation for the next phase of works.

Signposting was updated regularly across the Library; information was available on the plasma screens in the Forum; messages went out to the Colleges; and the MLRP website was updated near-daily with the move schedule. The work was completed on time.

All journals have been relocated to the Lower Ground Floor, the remainder of the LC Collection and the Dewey Older Lending Collection, plus some of the specific collections have been temporarily relocated to Floor 4.
You can see more information on current collection locations below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collection</th>
<th>Current Location</th>
<th>Former Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Library of Congress Current Lending Collection (categories A-N, including Music)</td>
<td>Floor 2</td>
<td>Floors 3 &amp; 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library of Congress Current lending Collection (categories P-Z)</td>
<td>Floor 4</td>
<td>Floor 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main Library Journals</td>
<td>Lower Ground Floor</td>
<td>Floor 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Back issues of newspapers &amp; microfilms</td>
<td>Floor 4</td>
<td>Lower Ground Floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dewey Older Lending Collection</td>
<td>Floor 4</td>
<td>Floors 3 &amp; 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centre of African Studies Collection</td>
<td>Floor 4</td>
<td>Floor 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serjeant &amp; Watt Collections</td>
<td>Floor 4</td>
<td>Floor 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Asian Collection</td>
<td>Floor 4</td>
<td>Floor 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linguistic Atlases</td>
<td>Lower Ground Floor (Room L14)</td>
<td>Lower Ground Floor (Room L16)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Map Reference</td>
<td>Library Research Annexe</td>
<td>Lower Ground Floor (Room L16)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Planning for Floor 4

Although the contractors have just moved on site to commence works on Floor 3, the Design Team is already working to finalise the layout for Floor 4.

### Extension to Library Research Annexe

As work continues on the Main Library, there is an ongoing requirement to maintain a Library Research Annexe (LRA). At the start of the project, it was calculated that we would need a store of approximately 30 linear kilometres, but the University was unable to locate
such a site at the time it was needed, so a store of 20 linear kilometres was secured (LRA1). We are now fitting out a second building LRA2, adjacent to LRA1, to provide sufficient capacity for the rest of the project.

A move management firm, Thomson Bethune, have been working with the project, to help identify the optimal locations for collections throughout the phases, including how best to use the annexe building, and in calculating by how much the collections are expected to continue to grow. It is the growth of the collection (about 1% per year, or 650 linear metres - not including new, unique collections), alongside the increased provision for disabled access, and the previous fullness of the shelving in the Library, that will see us maintain a store on a more permanent basis. The additional store (LRA2) is likely to be required for the length of the project – whilst one floor within the Library is always unavailable at any given time.

In preparation for occupation of the second annexe space, there are two major bits of work underway:

1) Identifying the most appropriate material to relocate to the annexe building, in conversation with the Colleges. It is likely to be some of the Dewey Older Lending collection, and some journals which have a current online subscription.

2) Preparing for an enhanced delivery service from the LRA, which will include digital and physical document delivery, browsing, and improved presence of collections in the online catalogue.

More details will emerge on decisions made through consultation in the coming weeks and months. MLRP staff and liaison teams will ensure that all efforts are made to communicate such information effectively.

**Further information**

Throughout redevelopment work, there are weekly construction updates available on the MLRP website. You can also subscribe to these through the RSS news feed. Plasma screens in the Library are also updated weekly.

Monthly updates are also available on the webpage, alongside news articles about specific elements of the project.

College Librarians will keep colleagues updated, as and when appropriate, with more targeted information relating to their area of interest.

If you are unable to find the information you require on our website – [www.ed.ac.uk/is/mlrp](http://www.ed.ac.uk/is/mlrp) - or have any further queries, please contact mlrp@ed.ac.uk.

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12 October 2010