1. Welcome



Thank you for coming to this exhibition and taking the time to review our emerging plans for a new Centre for Learning and Teaching on the University of Southampton Highfield Campus.

The proposed building will transform the learning experience of our students.



Highfield Campus

At this exhibition we will share with you the background to the project and initial design proposals. In turn, we would welcome your thoughts on the issues to be addressed and the opportunities



The exhibition is arranged as follows:

Board 1: Welcome

presented by the site.

This exhibition is intended to provide an opportunity for you to:

- Learn about the background to the project and understand the University's need and motivation for the development of the new centre
- Find out more about the development and modernisation of the University
- Understand the opportunities of the site
- View the initial design and concept
- Understand the key environmental considerations that will be relevant to the scheme
- Learn about the proposed next steps and the project programme

Gower South: The proposed site for the new building

Board 2: The Need

Board 3: The Brief

Board 4: The Site

Boards 5-7: Design Development

Board 8: Summary and Next Steps We aspire to be a place of opportunity and inspiration that attracts the most talented staff and students from the UK and across the globe.)

In order to maintain its world-leading position, the University of Southampton must continue to enhance and develop its facilities for staff and students. Integral to this is ensuring we respond to change within the Higher Education sector, in particular in the provision of relevant and modern facilities that enhance the learning experience for students in the digital age.

Arguably, one of the most significant changes to have taken place in recent years has been a shift in learning patterns. With the emergence of new technologies we are seeing a change in requirements for learning environments.

Increasingly popular are modern teaching and learning spaces which offer a flexible and collaborative learning environment; for example where the functions of the library with enhanced IT are blended with lounges, cafes, individual study spaces and seminar rooms.

The proposed building will respond to this shift in learning behaviour to deliver a flexible and functional space with modern learning facilities.

2. The Need

Southampton

















3. The Brief

Southampton

A dedicated new building for learning and teaching will fulfill a key objective of the University's Vision 2020. Looking to the future, the University is consistently reviewing its role as an academic institution within the City of Southampton, and in the world of higher education.

The brief is to provide a new learning environment which enhances the University's profile and reputation.

The new Centre for Learning and Teaching will include:

- One 250-seater lecture theatre



- One 80-seater Harvard lecture theatre
- Ten seminar rooms
- One 60-seater computer room
- Two 120-seater flat floor rooms and spaces comprising:
 - A study/common room and
 - Teaching room for postgraduate business school students.
- Independent learning spaces
- A cafe



How the new learning spaces may appear





Southampton

The University's Highfield Campus is the largest campus of the University of Southampton and home to many of its principal social facilities.

The Students' Union, Staff Social Centre, Turner Sims, Nuffield Theatre and Hartley Library form the 'heart' of the campus. Many of the University's catering facilities and its popular bus interchange, are also located within this 'heart'.

As a focus for learning and teaching, the new building will experience high footfall and will support the University's other facilities. Locating it near to the campus 'heart' will ensure it is highly accessible.



The site of Building 58A and the Gower South car park has been identified because of its prominent location, lack of existing building constraints, and potential for enhanced public realm.

Locating the new Centre for Learning and Teaching adjacent to the existing bus interchange improves accessibility from other campuses and halls of residence and promotes sustainable travel in support of the University Travel Plan.

Site is well connected to the 'heart' of the campus





Existing building 58A



View of the site from the west



View of the site from the east

5. Design Development: Layout

Southampton

The site and surrounding characteristics shape the form of the new building, responding to existing or planned pedestrian routes as well as framing new spaces. Formed of two wings, the proposed building will respond to the different site characteristics of the northern and southern sides of Salisbury Road. The building mediates between the different orientation of surrounding buildings. It also creates new public spaces that will be a new focal point for pedestrian connections.



The building responds to the topography of the site, whilst remaining accessible from multiple angles, and from different levels, as well as allowing users to travel easily between surrounding buildings and facilities.

A large number of east/west and north/ south pedestrian movements converge in this location and highlight the importance of this site to the campus. The proposed footprint has evolved to ensure the building can be approached and appreciated from many different directions. Building orientation and external spaces



The building will also serve as a conduit for these different routes and approaches that pass through the site.

Building orientation and key pedestrian routes

6. Design Development: Building

Southampton

A scale and massing study examined the surrounding topography to determine the optimal arrangement of the building and its siting. The building mass will be expressed differently in each of its wings as they respond to different contexts. The lower wing will relate to Buildings 2 and 58 on the lower level of the site and the upper will relate to taller buildings on the eastern side of the site. The building's mass will relate positively to neighbouring buildings particularly the nearby Faraday and Maths towers and the Mountbatten Building, mediating its scale with that of the wider campus.

The internal layout is still to be developed, but the building will be designed to maximise teaching and learning uses, allow for high occupancy circulation, and create flexible spaces.







View 1 Existing

View 2 Existing

View 1 Proposed



View 2 Proposed



View 3 Existing



View 3 Proposed

Views plan



Cross section showing site and surrounding building heights



View 4 Existing



View 4 Proposed



7. Design Development: Public Realm

Southampton

The proposed site is at a meeting point for pedestrian routes that bring people into the campus from the Common and Burgess Road.

This meeting point of Salisbury Road is currently used by pedestrians, cyclists and motorists. The development provides an opportunity to reconsider the public realm at this important meeting point and re-prioritise pedestrians and cyclists.

Existing pedestrian approaches from the south will be opened up and enhanced to create a more connected campus. Traffic calming measures on Salisbury Road combined with tree planting and narrowing of the road will also assist in creating a pedestrian-friendly environment. It is proposed to de-adopt Salisbury Road to enable the University to deliver the necessary upgrades whilst remaining accessible to the public.







The loss of the Gower South car park has also been considered. Car parking spaces will be relocated alongside existing car parking provision in Broadlands and North Gower car parks, resulting in no net loss of car parking spaces.

The enhancement of public realm around the building will compliment other interventions the University has made around the Highfield Campus



8. Summary and Next Steps

Southampton

Thank you for coming to our exhibition. We welcome your comments on the emerging plans that have been presented. Please feel free to complete a feedback form with your comments.

Environmental investigations

In support of the design process, an analysis of the site's environmental characteristics has begun to inform a detailed design. The technical reports expected to be produced are:

Carbon Management

The building will be designed to be sustainable and energy efficient, in line with the University's policy to provide carbon efficient buildings and attain BREEAM excellent. Water use and waste will be minimised and sustainable materials and development practices will be followed.

Biodiversity and habitats

A walk over survey will be undertaken to establish what habitats and species, if any, are on or near to the site and the potential impacts of the building and works on those habitats. This will inform the landscape strategy which will mitigate adverse impacts, enhance the local environment and encourage biodiversity and habitat creation.

Ground investigations

a strategy assessing which are to be retained and protected throughout construction or removed if diseased or dying.

Travel and Transport

The proposals will accord with the University Travel Plan to encourage and facilitate sustainable travel options for staff, students and visitors, for example by prioritising pedestrians, and providing cycle parking facilities. Travel surveys at the site will be undertaken and assessed by highways engineers, the results of which will be used to inform the detailed proposals for Salisbury Road, and the redistribution of parking spaces.

Flood Risk

The site is at low risk of fluvial flooding. Surface water runoff is to be kept to existing rates through use of sustainable drainage systems. The foul water drainage systems will also be reviewed. Surveys will be carried out to check the status of the soil and ensure there is no contamination which could affect groundwater supplies, or have health and safety consequences for users of the site.

Trees

An arboriculturalist will assess the type and quality of all the trees on the site and draw up

Archaeology

The site is within an area of archaeological interest, further studies will follow.







It is our intention to present
our detailed plans and findings
in a follow up exhibition later
this year, before submitting our
finalised scheme in a planning
application to Southampton
City Council at the end of the
year. The building is targeted to
open in 2018.