

Bath Library

Approach to Design Engagement

Background

Local people have been asked to complete a survey on the future location of the Council's combined Library and One Stop Shop Service. As part of that survey expressions of interest were invited from the community to help shape and design the new facility during the next stage of the project. The proposal is that a selection of those respondents representing different groups in the community will be invited to take part in the design process with the architectural team.

The Survey responses and expressions of interest

Of the 1891 respondents 604 expressed an interest in being a part of the next stage in the process (responding either 'yes' or 'Not sure, contact me later in the year'). We have identified several key groups that represent a cross section of the communities that responded and other interested parties (some respondents might be members of more than one group):

	Group
1	Regular Library Users
2	Regular OSS Users
3	Families with children
4	People (inc. children) with disabilities
5	Younger people (age 14-21)
6	Campaigning Group
7	Staff
8	Partner organisations

The Approach

- Selection of representatives from the expressions of interest in each group will be carried out using standard research methodology. Ideal group size will be 10-12 people. Where a group may be under-represented we will seek to supplement numbers from existing networks such as disability forums, youth groups, etc.

- Where possible and appropriate the sessions will be held in the Podium so that the spaces can be visualised. The sessions will be facilitated by the appointed architects with Bath NES staff in support. The outline programme indicates that the sessions are likely to take place between November 2017 and February 2018.
- Initially 2 phases of meetings are proposed with each group where attendees will actively be involved in design using prepared materials and aids to the discussions:
 1. Concept – the spaces in scope, understanding the must haves, importance/value of different public spaces, scale of spaces.
 2. Development of detail – adjacencies, shared areas, degrees of separation required, proportions of space, design details/preferences.
- There will be the opportunity for all participants to feedback on the sessions and at the end of the process to capture and share what was discussed.
- It may not be possible to satisfy all wishes but, where compromise is required, the rationale for those decisions will be shared.