

Main Library Redevelopment Project Update June 2011



Before and after. Image of the 4th floor (left) which will close shortly for redevelopment in contrast to one of the developed floors.

Main Library Usage

During 2010-11 recorded statistics for semester 1 and 2 show an average increase of occupancy rates in the Main Library of 24%. This is represented by a 42% increase in semester 1 and a 15% increase in semester 2. This is further to the previous year's increase of 54%.

Spring Book and Journal Moves

The spring book moves which marked the beginning of the clearance of Floor 4 were successfully completed on 14th April. Crown relocations moved approximately 4,800 linear metres of Dewey books and approximately 3,200 metres of journals to the recently opened Library Annexe at South Gyle.

Opening of Library Annexe

The new delivery service at the Library Annexe was successfully launched on Monday 18th April. The Library Annexe is located at South Gyle Industrial Estate and was acquired to provide additional storage capacity for library materials, both General Collections and Special Collections. The initial intention was to provide the required capacity as floors became unavailable in the Main Library during the redevelopments, however, the additional storage also allows the library to continue to add to and expand its collections. The recent moves to the annexe mark the latest phase of movement of General Collections from the Main Library.

General Collections Material relocated to the Library Annexe includes;

- Lesser Used monographs
- Journals with current electronic subscriptions
- Existing reference material
- Material from Site Libraries

In addition, the Library Annexe houses lesser used Special Collections material, University Archives and Lothian Health Services Archives.

General Collections material from the Library Annexe can be delivered to the Main Library or to site libraries by means of an online request form. A twice daily delivery service is provided and the service is treated in the same way as Intra-Library Loans and so is provided free of charge for both staff and students. Scans of specific journals articles or book chapters can also be requested via the ILLiad electronic delivery service. During week days delivery of scanned articles are made within 4 hours.

The new delivery services at the Library Annexe were launched very successfully and feedback so far has been very positive. To date there have been 273 Callslip requests and 205 ILLiad requests for scans.

For more details of the new Library Annexe service see section on IS web site.
<http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/information-services/services/library-museum-gallery/using-library/lib-locate/library-annexe/library-annexe>

Summer Book Moves

Harrow Green move contractors have been appointed to carry out the summer book moves and work commenced on Thursday 26th May. The continued clearance of Floor 4 will allow for the next phase of the redevelopment. Harrow Green have undertaken a number of book moves during previous stages of the project. This phase of the move will see the relocation of approximately 11,500 linear metres of books, microfilms, newspapers and the closed music collection to Floor 3 and the Lower Ground Floor (see below for details of move schedule including approximate linear meterage).

In order to minimise disruption the moves are again taking place primarily during the Summer Teaching Vacation and following the busy exam period.

Summer Move Schedule			
Dates	Material	Location	LM
Thurs 26 th May	CAS, Serjeant and Watt	Lower Ground Floor	450
Fri 27 th May- Mon 6 th June	LC Collections – Section P	Floor 3	3,800
Tues 7 th June - Monday 13 th June	East Asian Collection	Floor 3	1,800
Tues 14 th June - Fri 24 th June	Dewey Book Collection	Lower Ground Floor	3,500
Thurs 23 rd June	Closed Music Collections	Floor 2 & Floor 3	80
Thurs 23 rd June	Newspapers & Microfilm	Lower Ground Floor	450
Fri 24 th June - Wed 29 th June	LC Collections - Section Q-Z	Floor 3	1,700

Prior to the opening of Floor 3 there will be a period when collections will be unavailable for self-retrieval. During this period a request and retrieval service will be

in place. An online request form is available on the library catalogue with collected material available for pick up from the Main Library Helpdesk twice daily.

Floor 3 Summer Opening

Floor 3 remains on track for the completion date of Friday 10th June and the handover meeting will take place on Monday 13th June. Public access will be available as soon as all book moves have been completed with the intended opening date of Floor 3 remaining set at Monday 4th July.

Floor 3 will house Library of Congress lending collection sections P-Z, presently housed on Floor 4, the East Asian Collection and a section of the Closed Music Collection. Floor 3 will also feature in excess of 200 additional quiet study spaces and approximately 90 PCs.

Student Services Move to Main Library

Student Services, which encompasses the Careers Service, Student Counselling and the Disability Office, will be moving into Floor 3 on the following dates:

- Student Counselling Service – Monday 20th June
- Student Disability Service – Monday 18th July
- Student Careers Service – Tuesday 19th July

Harrow Green will carry out the move and work is ongoing with the Move Managers. Members of Student Services visited Floor 3 ahead of their June/July move in dates and a number of tours of the Main Library have been conducted to date with staff members to introduce them to the building ahead of the move.

Easter Exam Period

During the Main Library Redevelopment Project there is at all times one floor closed for redevelopment and a resultant loss of study spaces. It was accurately anticipated that the library would be very busy during the exam period so a number of measures were put in place in an effort to alleviate the pressure on study spaces.

The measures put in place were as follows:

- Provision of extra seating in study areas.
- Employment of Student helpers to assist students with finding vacant study spaces.
- Two meeting rooms in the first floor meeting suite were allocated for extra study space.
- Communication of alternative study areas and pc labs out with the Main Library.
- Undergraduates were permitted to use the postgraduate 5th floor study space.

There were no major problems reported due to capacity in the building during the exam period and it was felt that the above measures had a significantly positive impact. It is hoped that the employment of Student Helpers will be able to be repeated during the winter exam period.

Floor 4 – Clearance and Commencement of Construction Work

The clearance of Floor 4 is now underway with both the book and furniture clearance due for completion by Friday 1st July. On completion in spring 2012 this floor will house 600 study spaces, and nearly 8,000 linear metres of shelving. Following the closure of the Lower Ground Floor in 2012 there will be a temporary relocation of staff to Floor 4 to allow for the redevelopment of the Lower Ground.

Lower Ground Floor Planning and Design

Discussions continue regarding the layout and design of the lower ground floor with a number of planning sessions scheduled over the coming weeks. Around 170 IS staff members will be accommodated on this floor alongside two book stores, the lower ground floor strong room the staff café, mail room and loading bay.

On-going Facilities and Services Issues

The Main Library Redevelopment Project Team are aware that there are a number of on-going facilities and services issues in the Main Library and continuing efforts are being made to address these. Discussions over the problems with the main entrance are still on-going between the University Estates and Buildings team and the manufacturers. A meeting has been scheduled during June to progress this and other outstanding maintenance issues.

The library is also experiencing ongoing maintenance issues with the lifts and problems of break down have been experienced during the book moves. A review is being carried out by both the MLRP design team and Estates and Buildings to assess the best way to resolve the issue.

Throughout redevelopment work, we will keep you up to date with progress and regular construction updates are available on the MLRP website - www.ed.ac.uk/is/mlrp. Plasma screens in the Library are also updated regularly.

If you have any queries, please contact mlrp@ed.ac.uk.

Please see below for a summary of the key dates this summer.

Summary of Move Schedule and Key Dates	
Summer Book Moves from Floor 4 to Floor 3 and Lower Ground	
Library of Congress, Sections P-Q East Asia Collection Centre of African Studies Collection Serjeant & Watt Collections Dewey Books Newspapers and Microfilm Closed Music Collection	Thursday 26 th May – Wednesday 29 th June
Furniture Clearance of Floor 4	Thursday 29 th June – Friday 1 st July
Student Counselling Service move to Main Library	Monday 20 th June
Student Disability Service move to Main Library	Monday 18 th July
Student careers service move to Main Library	Tuesday 19 th July
Anticipated Opening of Floor 3	Monday 4 th July
Closure of Floor 4	Friday 1 st July

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19 June 2011