



City Centre and Beach Masterplan Engagement March – June 2022

Overview

The period March to June 2022 has included:

- Online and in person consultation for Belmont Street Quarter.
- In person engagement with Children and Young People for both City Centre & Beach masterplans.
- Engagement with key stakeholders such as Aberdeen Inspired, local Community Councils, Disability Equity Partnership and ACTUP.
- Preparation of an overarching engagement strategy.
- Making initial contact stakeholders to understand if there is interest in establishing a Stakeholder Forum: a group of key stakeholders who would meet on a regular basis to enable a range of views and voices to be heard as designs and implementation of both the City Centre and Beachfront Masterplans progress. Proposed membership included as Appendix 1

Projects engaged on March – June include:

- Belmont Street Quarter
- Beach Masterplan
- Union Street Central
- City Centre ETROs

Looking forward, detailed engagement plans are being prepared for:

- Beachfront Development Framework and Phase 1 investment
- Market Streetscape
- Schoolhill
- Union Street Building Condition
- Queen Street

Key Stakeholder Meetings

The schedule attached as Appendix 2 shows meetings undertaken and upcoming. This planner is under development and is updated when design programmes are confirmed for each project. A summary of each stakeholder engaged with, and topics covered is provided below

Who	ACTUP
When, why, What, Actions, Outcomes	10 th March – Introduction to Beach Design Team. Overview of masterplan Suggestions made by NES and DEP to ensure accessibility of engagement for all. Follow up User Journey Mapping session agreed with DEP.
	14 th April – General update given on city centre and beach masterplan progress. City Centre: Information pack on ETROs and ETRO progress. ACTUP provided with progress update. No specific actions on CCMP required. Beachfront progress: Framework document and consultation update. Agreed to undertake next steps consultation with DEP and taxi operators.
	12 th May- Specific update on Belmont Street Quarter consultation. Members of ACTUP made aware of planned consultation.
	26 th May – Special meeting to consult on Union Street Central Options. Presentation on 4 options made by design team and questions answered. ACTUP members feedback sought by 10 th June

Who	Disability Equity Partnership
When, Why, What, Actions, Outcomes	14 th March – Introduction to streets-UK, engagement lead for CCMP and Beach 28 th March Introduction to Beach Design Team. Overview of masterplan provided. Agreed to follow up User Journey Mapping session
	29 th April Online planning session between DEP and design team for User Journey mapping session. Follow up call agreed final format and attendance at session.
	9 th May Online presentation on Belmont Street Proposals to seek DEP views. String preference for semi-permanent structures and to ensure adequate blue badge parking and taxi rank reintroduced to back Wynd. Agreed to have a follow up on Belmont Street after business and resident engagement concluded at the end of May.
	19 th May – In person workshop to discuss Beach masterplan. Large format plans of Beach “As Is” and “to Be” used to understand current accessibility issues and challenges that may arise from masterplan. Further detail on “Abledeen” bus sought to inform potential mobility hubs in masterplan. Idea of “Park Mobility” discussed.
	6 th June – Follow up meeting to discuss options presented to ACTUP members. DEP agreed to issue its written response to the options presentation. 13 th June – Meeting to discuss DEP’s response to Union Street Central Options and discuss mitigation options.

Who	Aberdeen Inspired
When, Why, What, Actions, Outcomes	18 th April – In person introductory meeting with AI team and engagement lead. Summary given of upcoming projects and engagement.
	18 th April – Networking meeting with Union Street businesses. Update given on City centre and Beach projects underway and upcoming engagement. Request for further information on city centre traffic proposals (ETRO 1&2)
	19 th April – Networking meeting with West End businesses. Update given on City centre and Beach projects underway and upcoming engagement. Sentiment that there wasn’t much in CCMP for West End businesses.
	26 th April - Networking meeting with Belmont Quarter businesses. Update given on City centre and Beach projects underway and upcoming engagement with a focus on Belmont Street. Request that businesses are able to book appointments with the team. This was undertaken.
	17 th May – Presentation of Belmont Street proposals to AI Team. AI supportive of proposals and encouraged by level of businesses engaging and (mostly) positive tone of discussions.

Who	Passenger Transport Operators Meetings
When, Why, What, Actions, Outcomes	1st April 2022 (Teams). Introduction to Beachfront proposals. Discussion of present day Aberdeen network. Consideration of future network and facilities – welcomed proposals in principle
	6th April 2022 (Teams). Introduction to Beachfront proposals Discussion of present day First Aberdeen network. Consideration of future network and facilities – welcomed proposals in principle.
	7 th April - Introduction of upcoming city centre traffic changes and Union Street Central bus stop options. Discuss provisional bus stop locations for both pedestrian and bus & taxi options with First bus. Ensure additional stops are allocated to Guild Street in the pedestrianised scenario. Model stop capacity along central Union Street for the bus & taxi scenario. Organise an in-person collaborative meeting with all operators, ACC and LDA.

	27th April 2022 (Teams). Introduction of upcoming city centre traffic changes and Union Street Central bus stop options. Present bus stop location and receive feedback. Make amendments to the maps according to the meetings discussions. Sign off on amendments to be complete in the next two weeks.
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Who	CCMP Public Transport Form
When, Why, What, Actions, Outcomes	20th April 2022 (Teams). Monthly update meeting for bus operators, taxi and ACC. Update on project progress. Await outcome of the collaborative meeting on 27th April.
	18th May 2022 (Teams). To finalise amendments in the last consultation and sign-off bus stop locations. Minor amendments to be made on bus stop locations. Proposed bus stop locations to be formally proposed to ACC committee once minor amendments have been made.

Who	Direct Cycle Groups
When, Why, What, Actions, Outcomes	10th May 2022 (Teams). Introduction to Beachfront. Outline of general principles to Beachfront re-design and discussion on access for bicycles, including present day constraints and issues. Further updates to be given as Beachfront project progresses. Introduction to the project and considerations for ongoing design captured. Welcomed proposals in principle

Who	North East Sensory Services (NES)
When, Why, What, Actions, Outcomes	18 th May – introductory meeting. Overview of plans and discussion about how to ensure all engagement is as accessible as possible. Agreed to explore having an accessible event designed specifically for NES Users.

Who	Aberdeen Civic Forum
When, Why, What, Actions, Outcomes	19 th May – Introductory Meeting Overview of plans and discussion about future engagement/. Agreed to attend October Civic Forum meeting.

Who	City Centre Community Council
When, Why, What, Actions, Outcomes	18 th May – Meeting with Chair to understand Community Council issues – women’s and young persons safety are priorities. Agreed to attend upcoming meeting.

Who	City Centre Policing Team
When, Why, What, Actions, Outcomes	19 th May – Meeting to understand key issues for Belmont St Quarter and City Centre in general. Traffic enforcement is main issue in Belmont St. Anti social behaviour amongst those misusing substances and young people requires a more coordinated approach.

Key Engagement and Consultation Events

Children and Young People – City Centre & Beach
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Permission obtained to take photographs

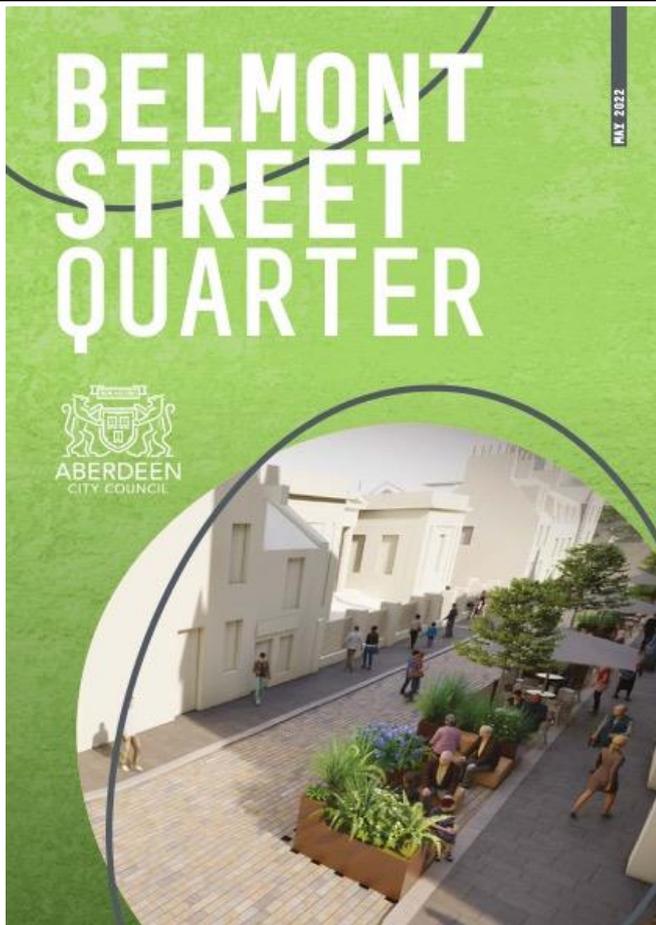
<p>When, Why, What, Actions, Outcomes</p>	<p>9th -13th May</p> <p>450 P6 pupils from Hanover Street, Seaton, St Peters, Ferryhill, Ashley Road, Gilcomstoun and Skene Square schools</p> <p>Young people were “on site” at Beach and in City Centre. Aim was to contributing further to more detailed design elements now being considered by the design teams, particularly around play and street furniture.</p> <p>The children became ‘urban explorers’, choosing locations to focus on and working with the design team members and facilitators to understand the design process and clarify what is important to them in these spaces. The exploring was followed by discussion and debate using giant maps of the locations and the children’s thoughts and feedback gathered by the team. As well as being of enormous benefit to the design teams, the process was also beneficial to the children’s learning around elements of geography, sustainability, citizenship, participation and creativity. The findings of the exercise will be shared with the schools through a bespoke website that the children can contribute to and utilise to share with other pupils and family members and can be updated on an ongoing basis as the design process continues.</p>
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<p>Belmont Quarter Businesses and Resident Engagement</p>	
<p>When, Why, What, Actions, Outcomes</p>	<p>17th -27th May.</p> <p>Local businesses and residents were asked to comment on proposed design options for Belmont Street Quarter and to state their preference between umbrella/barrier or semi permanent structure. Those interested in operating outdoor spaces were asked to note interest.</p> <p>Online, newsletter drop and in person activity undertaken. Newsletter distributed to 500 businesses and residents within the area. The Council communications team issued press and social media releases to raise awareness.</p> <p>People attended drop in events in the City Art Galley over 2 days. Events were staffed by ACC officers and design team. A project webpage was set up to enable people to book an appointment and view and comment on plans online.</p> <p>Outcome of the consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 55 people attended the drop-in sessions over the two days • 44 people responded to the online survey or via email • There is overall support for the proposals. However, there are a few objectors • The preference is for semi-permanent structures (two thirds of those who expressed an opinion preferred this option even although implementation timescale is longer) • 14 businesses expressed interest in operating outdoor space • Concerns were raised about

- Traffic enforcement & delivery times
- How outdoor spaces will be allocated
- Maintenance and use of public seating areas
- Safety of semi-permanent structures overnight
- Public seating attracting anti-social behaviour
- Including/excluding pavements in the outdoor seating areas
- Moving taxis back to Back Wynd
- Not installing Bollards
- Location & numbers of blue badge parking

Several businesses are interested in doing more for the area: for example, running young persons events, holding street events to create interest and excitement and collaborating on joint initiatives.

The team will now issue feedback addressing the above issues and explaining next steps including the process/timescales.



 A smaller aerial photograph of the Belmont Street Quarter development, similar to the one on the left, but with a different perspective. The text 'BELMONT STREET QUARTER' is visible on the right side of the image.

WHAT NEXT?

A team of designers and engineers are developing detailed designs for the area alongside the overall operational plans and how these changes will be implemented as well as look.

Both businesses and residents will continue to be consulted on the draft design over the coming weeks.

A drop in surgery will take place in the Seminar Room, Level 2, Aberdeen Act Gallery Schoolhill, from 2pm until 5pm on Tuesday 17 and Wednesday 18 May. Members of the public and businesses can either drop in or book an appointment in advance to talk to one of the team. You can book an appointment via www.stceats-uk.com/belmont

From Tuesday 17th May you will also be able to view the proposals online at www.stceats-uk.com/belmont and comment. You have until 27th May to submit your comments via the website or in person on the 17th/18th May. Council officers will be available from 2pm until 4pm each day to answer specific licensing and planning questions.

GET IN TOUCH

Should you have any queries you can contact us at:-

CCMP@aberdeencity.gov.uk

If you require this leaflet in an accessible format please get in touch.



Extract from Initial New sletter

Union Street Central Stakeholder Engagement

When,
Why,
What,
Actions,
Outcomes

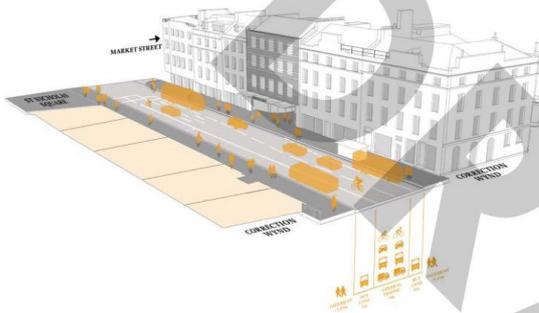
26th May – ongoing

A special meeting of ACTUP was held on 26th May to consider 4 options for Union Street Central. The 4 options were prepared from a long list of initial options considered by ACC officers and the design team. The diagram below summarises the 4 options.

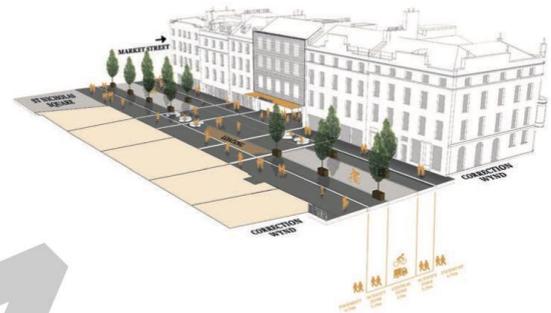
A full presentation pack was prepared and issued in advance to ACTUP members. An audio description accompanied the pack issued to DEP. The diagram below provides an overview of the 4 options.

Proposed Union Street Central Options

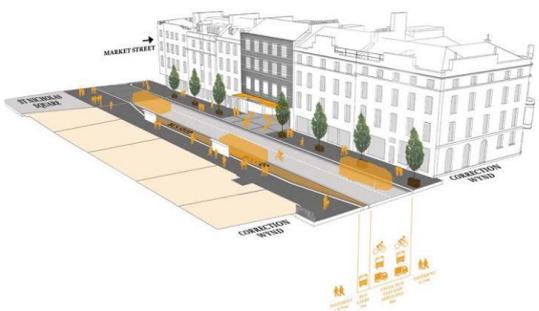
Option 1 - Do minimum



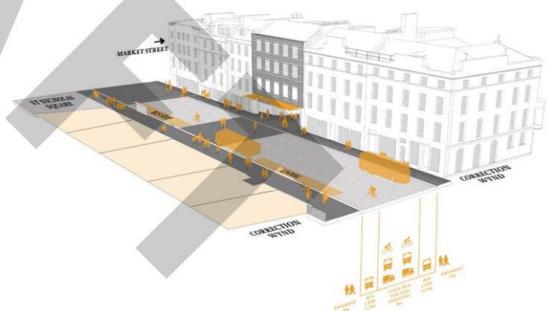
Option 2 - Pedestrianisation



Option 3 - 2 lanes with bus stop laybys



Option 4 - 4 lanes



ACTUP members were asked to issue initial feedback by 10th June. Aberdeen Cycling Forum, DEP and Grampian Cycle Partnership all took the opportunity to provide written feedback which can be summarised as follows:

Aberdeen Cycling Forum: Option 2 preferred

DEP: Option 3 preferred

Grampian Cycle Partnership: Option 2 preferred

A separate report to committee provides more detail on Union Street Central recommendations.

Representing	Organisation	Contact
Active Travel	Aberdeen Cycle Forum	Rachel Martin
	Grampian Cycle Partnership	Jon Barron
Accessibility	DEP	Katrina Michie
	North East Sensory Services	Libby Hillhouse
Community	Community Council Forum	Jonathan Smith,
	City Centre Community Council	Fiona Rennie
	George Street Community Council	Michele Macleod
	Rosemount & Mile End Community Council	TBC
	Castlehill & Pittodrie Community Council	Jacob Campbell/ William Rae
Net Zero	Aberdeen Climate Action	Alison Stuart,
Heritage	Aberdeen Civic Society	Dominic Fairlie
Tourism	Visit Aberdeenshire	Chris Foy
Business	Aberdeen Inspired	Adrian Watson
	Chamber	Russell Borthwick
	FSB	David Groundwater
	Property Industry Group	Darren McRae
Seniors	Aberdeen Voice of Experience	Via GREC
Young People	Aberdeen City Youth Council	Martin Carle
Equality	Grampian Racial Equalities Council	Dave Black
	Equalities Participation Network	Myshele Hayward



Aberdeen City Council - City Centre & Beach Masterplan
Engagement Planner March to June 2022

Key	
	Stakeholder Meetings
	Engagement & Consultation Events
	Council Boards & Committee

	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu														
Mar-22						1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th	15th	16th	17th	18th	19th	20th	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th	28th	29th	30th	31st							
																CC Forum			BOARD							CCMP Public Transport Forum																	
Apr-22						1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th	15th	16th	17th	18th	19th	20th	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th	28th	29th	30th								
May-22						1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th	15th	16th	17th	18th	19th	20th	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th	28th	29th	30th	31st							
Jun-22						1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th	15th	16th	17th	18th	19th	20th	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th	28th	29th	30th								