

# Campus Masterplan update



## Museum wins lottery money

### Manchester Museum has received initial support from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for its Courtyard Project

**T**he project will transform the Museum with a major two-storey extension, a new main entrance, and much-improved visitor facilities inspired by a new ethos of a 'museum for life.'

Work will commence in May 2018 and the finished building will reopen in early 2020. Development funding of £406,400 has been awarded to help Manchester Museum progress its plans to apply for a full grant at a later date.

The Courtyard extension will create a major new Temporary Exhibitions Gallery, providing almost three times as much space as the Museum currently has for temporary and touring shows. The new facility will enable the Museum to become one of the North of England's leading venues for producing and hosting international-quality exhibitions on human cultures and the natural world.

In addition, a permanent South Asia Gallery will be created in a landmark partnership with the British Museum. Bringing together the very best

of Manchester Museum's own South Asian collections and world-class sculpture, textiles and artefacts from the British Museum, the Gallery will explore the history and culture of South Asia and its relationship with communities in the North West of England.

Wide ranging improvements to visitor facilities - including a new street-facing entrance to create a much more visible and welcoming first impression - will enrich the experience and comfort of all. Particular emphasis will be placed on accessible design for older visitors and people with a disability.

The Courtyard Project aims to redefine the social purpose of the Museum. Inspired by the idea of a 'museum for life', it will place health, wellbeing and social inclusion at the very forefront of the Museum's role. Physical improvements will be accompanied by greatly enhanced opportunities in education and public engagement, supported by 120 new, trained volunteers.

The total cost of the Courtyard Project is expected to be £12.4million. News of HLF support marks the second major commitment to the scheme, following a Treasury announcement of £5million towards the South Asia Gallery in November 2015.

Dr Nick Merriman, Director of Manchester Museum, said: "We are thrilled that the Heritage Lottery Fund has given us this support. Manchester Museum has been delighting, inspiring and educating our visitors for over 125 years. The Courtyard Project will enable us to realise our potential on a national and international stage, whilst strengthening our commitment to our local communities. Through these measures, more people than ever before will be able to experience our world class collections."

### Latest awards

- The Manchester Cancer Research Centre was shortlisted for the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) North West Awards 2016 for Design through Innovation Award;
- The Whitworth has won the Building Conservation Award at the RICS North West Awards 2016, and has been shortlisted for Project of the Year (£10m-£30m) at the Construction News Awards 2016



## National Graphene Institute wins major regional award

The National Graphene Institute (NGI) has been acclaimed as one of the region's 10 best new buildings in the RIBA North West Awards 2016.

**T**he uniquely designed institute houses researchers and scientists who collaborate with colleagues from other universities and from some of the world's leading companies, to accelerate the commercialisation of graphene applications.

In making the award, the judges said: "A fascinating building containing a complex and groundbreaking area of research, it was delivered at an impressive pace despite the complexity and pressures and provides a flexible platform upon which future research and industry collaboration can flourish. This is a building that expertly balances the enormous servicing and technical demands of laboratory space with the experimental requirement of a place that will attract some of the brightest minds in science and industry."

The NGI was delivered by the University's Directorate of Estates and Facilities and designed by architects Jestico + Whiles.

The building has previously won the BIM (Building Information Modelling) Application Award and a British Construction Industry Award for Major Building Project of the Year (over £50m).

Other winners included Abbey Hey Children's Hospital, HOME, Library Walk Link Building, Littlewoods Bunker, Manchester Central Library, Mellor Primary School, Wirral Metropolitan College and two private houses.

## New park to be largest green space on campus

The University recently unveiled plans to create a parkland at the heart of its campus to benefit staff, students, visitors and the local community

**B**runswick Street will be extensively landscaped creating Brunswick Park, the largest green space on the campus, with the proposals including tree planting, wildflower planting, seating areas, pedestrian and cycle paths.

The opportunity to develop a large area of green public realm has been presented by the Cross City bus corridor works to Oxford Road which will close the western end of Brunswick Street to vehicles later this year meaning the route will no longer be used by through traffic.

The street will remain a public pedestrian and cycle route with improved pathways providing a better connection between Oxford Road and Upper Brook Street and forming an important gateway to the campus.

As well as providing spaces for meeting, relaxation and contemplation, the proposals would create a central space for large-scale campus events such as graduation and Welcome Week. Its prime location also provides an impressive setting for the University's historic buildings along Oxford Road including the Whitworth Hall and the Queen's Arch.

Consultation has taken place with Manchester City Council and the Brunswick ward whilst drawing up the proposals. Further community based consultation will be taking place in the near future.

Diana Hampson, Director of Estates and Facilities, said: "The University is transforming the campus through its £1 billion Campus Masterplan and that includes a commitment to environmental sustainability by improving our green spaces and public realm. These proposals form a centrepiece of our vision and will create a heart of the University campus for staff, students, visitors and the local community to enjoy."

Work on the Brunswick Park scheme is expected to start later this year, subject to planning consent and the City Council's Oxford Road works.



## Open Meeting

The second Campus Masterplan Open Meeting was held this month, delivered by Director of Estates and Facilities, Diana Hampson and her team, this was attended by staff from across the campus and was an opportunity to see images of the designs for the engineering campus development and ask questions

[www.staffnet.manchester.ac.uk/news/display/?id=16479](http://www.staffnet.manchester.ac.uk/news/display/?id=16479)

## Tree policy

As the campus undergoes major redevelopment, the University has set out its commitment to compensate tree loss and provide a co-ordinated approach to tree planting across the campus and local community.

Increasing tree cover will complement the redevelopment of the campus and help to create a world class environment as well as providing benefit to people travelling through the campus.

Through its tree policy, it is working towards delivering across a number of areas:

- Implementation of a tree plan for the Campus, which includes new tree planting opportunities in residential areas adjacent to Oxford Road campus;
- Two for one tree replacement, with replacement on and off campus;
- Planting a new woodland at the University's Wythenshawe Sports Grounds;
- Establishment of a tree trail on the University's Oxford Road and North Campus
- Encouraging student volunteers to help plant new woodlands and carry out woodland management works alongside Red Rose Forest;



- Working with City of Trees and other partners to develop research projects to quantify the importance of trees for climate change adaptation and a range of other social and environmental benefits.

Director of Estates and Facilities, Diana Hampson, said: "We are undertaking a huge building programme within the constraints of the existing campus boundary and inevitably some trees will be lost. However we are committed to ensure that we improve the level of tree cover to create a green and pleasant environment to benefit all campus users."

In addition to tree planting, new build projects have an element of landscaping and planting including the largest MECD and also the GEIC on the North Campus where a pocket park will be created.

Brunswick Park which will be the largest green space on campus, created by closing Brunswick Street to vehicles, and landscaping the area including planting, seating and improved access for pedestrian and cycle users.

[www.estates.masterplan.ac.uk/services/psu/policies](http://www.estates.masterplan.ac.uk/services/psu/policies)



## Mosaic on the move

**T**he demolition of the Faraday building link bridge and took place on the North Campus in February, to make way for the Graphene Engineering Innovation Centre (GEIC).

Prior to the demolition the mosaic (pictured) which decorated the colonnade to the building was carefully removed and is now safely stored on campus and will be reinstated as part of the GEIC development on completion of the project in late 2017.

The mosaic, 'The Alchemist's Elements', was created by Hans Tisdall a German-born artist, illustrator and designer with a distinguished career in 20th century Britain.

## New website

A new website dedicated to the Campus Masterplan is now available on the University's corporate website outlining the current major capital projects which form part of the masterplan and the latest news around the projects.  
[www.masterplan.manchester.ac.uk](http://www.masterplan.manchester.ac.uk)

## Hotel on the up

The hotel development is now taking shape as a huge mobile crane appeared on site in March and concrete columns rapidly appeared.

The redevelopment of AMBS continues with Starbucks and Blackwells having now relocated to temporary accommodation between the Arthur Lewis Building and Humanities Bridgeford Street for the duration of the project which is scheduled for completion in 2018. Oxford Road was closed from 16 May to allow demolition works to take place.

Inevitably there has been the loss of green space and trees to make way for the construction site but, once the project has completed, this area will be restored while every tree lost is to be replaced by two more. (See Tree Policy on p3).

The University has recently secured planning permission for the construction of a temporary access road to Multi-Storey Car Park D (Booth Street West)

Traffic using the car park will enter and exit from Higher Cambridge Street. This will allow construction traffic for the Hotel/Executive Education Centre and AMBS Refurbishment projects to continue to use the access road from Booth Street West and be segregated from carpark traffic and pedestrians.

The work should commence by the end of April and should be complete for the end of June. The temporary access road will be in place for approximately 2.5 years.

