

Royal Hospital for Sick Children (RHSC) and Department of Clinical Neurosciences (DCN) Re-provision Project



AEDET Review - 15th October 2009

Introduction

The first Achieving Excellence Design Evaluation Toolkit (AEDET) Event for the Re-provision of the Royal Hospital for Sick Children (RHSC) and Department for Clinical Neuroscience (DCN) was held on the 15th October 2009.

A range of representatives, both internal and external to the NHS, including the Clinical Management Team, staff and users of the service, Edinburgh City Council Planning Department and the Scottish Health Council, were invited to attend the event to provide feedback on the design of the new hospital to date. Although the designers and main contractors were present at the event they did not complete AEDET surveys. A full list of invited attendees can be found within Appendix one.

The AEDET survey was used to provide the opportunity for attendees to score on the aspects of the project relevant to the current stage of the design (Concept Design). The following aspects were scored:

- Character & Innovation
- Form and Materials
- Staff and Patient Environment
- Urban and Social Integration
- Functionality – Use and Access

Review feedback

The opportunity to comment on the proposed design of the hospital was welcomed by participants at the event. There was acknowledgement of the complexity of the brief and the challenges this presents to the design team. A lot of positive feedback was received, particularly in relation to the overall building, the use of natural light, maximising access to outside space and landscaping.

A number of participants commented that it was difficult to assess the design at this stage of the design process. There were also comments on the fact that the presentation was very children's hospital orientated. Both these areas will be considered in the planning of future events.

Royal Hospital for Sick Children (RHSC) and Department of Clinical Neurosciences (DCN) Reprovision Project



A number of areas of concerns were raised, including: access at the new hospital site; entrance layout; and the use/design of outdoor space. These are summarised as follows:

Access Issues

1. It was noted that there is a lack of vehicular access to the building.
2. There may be reduced access to the site due to changed bus routes and the cul-de-sac design which may deter bus operators coming into the site.
3. Concern arose that one entrance may be chaotic.
4. The availability of drop off points within suitable distance to the entrances was deemed inadequate.
5. The lack of parking for disabled persons/parents with children and the distance of parking from the hospital were highlighted.
6. Signage, with regards to disabled and patient parking, was queried – how will RHSC and DCN parking be differentiated from RIE parking?
7. Concerns were raised regarding accessing the children's hospital through the RIE.

Hospital Layout

1. Patients may experience confusion as the A&E is located at the back of the building.
2. The Royal Infirmary entrance is overshadowed by the back of the proposed RHSC building.
3. A level surface is required in the plaza area.
4. Access will be required to replace both MRI and X-ray machines (not by crane)
5. It was noted that MRI machines need to be located on an outside wall.
6. It was suggested that a separate entrance is required for the DCN.

Use and design of outdoor space

Suggestions and queries were raised in relation to the use of outdoor spaces and possible conflicts including:

1. Health and safety concerns with regards to the courtyard.
2. Will there be opportunities to integrate indoor and outdoor space with recognition of the importance of the external therapeutic environment?
3. What will the green roof areas be used for?
4. Concerns were raised that the plaza will become a place for smokers.

**Royal Hospital for Sick Children (RHSC) and Department of Clinical
Neurosciences (DCN) Reprovision Project**



Other queries

Other issues that arose included:

1. Whether rain water and solar panels will be used.
2. How will the building be 'future proofed'?
3. How will waste be moved around the hospital?
4. The visibility of the stairs – will they be obvious to encourage their use and healthy living?
5. What provision will be made for meeting and seminar rooms and staff rooms?
6. It was suggested that it is better if areas for staff and areas for patients and their relatives do not cross over.
7. How will the DCN service link with Stoke in the RIE?

AEDET Scores

The final scores are an average of all surveys completed by attendees at the AEDET event. Each section in the survey comprised of 3 or more questions. The responses for each question were then used to create an average for each section to produce an overall score for each aspect of the new hospital.

Scores (1 lowest – 6 highest)

- Character & Innovation **4.0**
- Form and Materials **3.7**
- Staff and Patient Environment **3.8**
- Urban and Social Integration **4.0**
- Functionality: Use **3.6**
- Functionality: Access **3.0**

Further details of the questions within each section can be found in Appendix One.

Next steps

The detailed results from the review will be shared with the design team and will be reflected on as the design progresses to the next stage. A further AEDET review will be organised in Feb 2010 towards the end of the scheme design (1:200) stage.

Rose Byrne
Louise Cavana
Nov 2009

Appendix 1 - AEDET toolkit report with attendee list and summary table.