

Consultation 2 - the arena and hotel
Q&A on 14 July 2021

*This document is available in Welsh.
Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg.*

QUESTION		ANSWER
1	What happens if planning permission is denied, or the plans change?	During this consultation phase the scheme may change in response to feedback/suggestions received. Should the eventual planning application be refused consent, there are a number of potential options. These include an appeal against refusal or submission of a revised application.
2	I'm concerned that the hotel will remove a lot of green space and protected trees. Given there is a lack of green space in the area how will you rectify this for residents who frequently use this park. Also there will be an increase in litter in the park - how will this be resolved?	We are looking to ensure that any loss of green space is compensated for within the masterplan. Our intention is that all new green space be attractive and open for public use and enjoyment.
3	Before we build anything new, wouldn't it be better for the area to refurbish and repurpose the old existing buildings already in Mermaid Quay?	None of the existing buildings within Mermaid Quay have the ability to be successfully adapted to accommodate a 15,000 seat arena. This size of arena has been identified as the 'sweet spot' in provision and will allow Cardiff to attract a great number and variety of events to the city.
4	The plans show what look like major road/traffic changes like the closure of Ffordd Garthorne. Is this what's happening?	The connection from Ffordd Garthorne will be closed for vehicular traffic accessing Schooner Way, it will remain open as an active travel link for pedestrians and cyclists.
5	Would it be possible to make the side and back of the arena facade a bit more interesting for local people? I mean, not just a black box. Facade on the front and interior is looking good.	To the West we have deliberately looked to minimise any glazing that might overlook the adjacent residential houses. To the East we are looking at creating entrances, active edges and animation to the façade. Both sides will benefit from a strong landscape and sculptural strategy, and we are considering water features to create animation.
6	Why haven't you worked with local people when designing this project?	We are keen to hear residents' views and concerns on the masterplan and arena development, if you are able to provide feedback via info@atlanticwharfcardsiff.co.uk that would be very helpful. In addition we shall be holding further in-person consultation events where attendees will be able to provide their input in to the ongoing design development process.
7	Arena audience members travelling by car will likely be arriving over a relatively short period of time. How will traffic flow be controlled in to and out of the new multi-storey car park to avoid gridlock and cutting off access to Galleon Way / The Waterquarter? Are there any thoughts to having traffic lights on the Central Link roundabout to control the flow?	The multi-storey car park will be designed with the latest ticketless technology, meaning there are no long queues of cars waiting for a ticket machine to process their entry at a physical barrier. This will be a similar position on exiting the car park as payment will be via a smart phone or on foot. Regarding arrivals to the car park, the only means of access will be from the section of Hemmingway Road which remains open and connects to Central Link. This section is dual carriageway and for those residents wishing to access Galleon Way/Water Quarter modelling demonstrates that access will be maintained without adverse delay. Presently nothing is off the table and we are working closely with Cardiff Council's highways team, if the traffic modelling results show that interventions on the existing highway network are required we will discuss this with the council officers.
8	James has spoken a lot about planting: would be interested to know more about keeping existing trees and bushes, especially at the south end of Silurian Park and Schooner Way (opposite the hotel)	Our aim is to plant more trees than are being removed. We want to ensure that we use native trees, which support biodiversity wherever possible. Some of the southern end of Silurian Park will be needed for the development but lost trees will be replaced during the subsequent phases of the masterplan. We are also looking to introduce new planting in this area as part of the first phase of development.
9	Any consideration been given to covering the sides of the arena with green walls?	Soft landscape, green and bio-diversity to the sides of the Arena are an important part of landscape strategy. Green walls can be a fantastic addition, but also come with long term maintenance and operational challenges, and in many cases have to be replaced as the building ages. Consequently we are planning to use the rain gardens running down the side of the area to create the biophilic impact. With tree and low level planting running down both sides of the building.
10	What plans are in place to ensure people travelling by car don't try and park on schooner way and surrounding area?	Our development proposals seek to provide a new multi-storey car park as well as increasing the capacity of Mermaid Quay car park, just a short walk away. Cardiff Council have adopted policies which we have to work within, to balance onsite provision whilst encouraging use of park and ride sites, active travel and public transport. There will need to be enforcement of existing traffic regulation orders which are in place to protect local residents and ensure the operation of the highway network. This enforcement lies with Cardiff Council and we will be working with the council to ensure suitable enforcement is implemented to discourage and enforce.
11	We asked about Schooner Way last week but that hasn't been answered and this week there still appears to be a road between Halliard Court and the hotel. Would really like some clarity on this, thanks	During the first phase of development, Schooner Way will cease to be a through route. It will become an access road for the proposed Hotel and County Hall only.
12	Thanks for the answer re: Schooner Way - just for clarity does that mean for phase one it will remain in its current position - thanks	For phase one of the masterplan development, Schooner Way will cease to be a through route. It will service the hotel and County Hall.

13	Will Schooner Way will be connected to Hemmingway Road for residents' private cars?	In the initial phase Schooner Way will not connect to Hemmingway Road, however when the masterplan is completed there will be a connection from Schooner Way to Hemmingway Road. We are discussing with the Council, as the highway authority, how this would operate in the future.
14	What about car drop off and pick up points? For example, when teenagers come to their first concert without adults but need to be dropped off and picked up by parents to be safe?	The arena will be connected by public transport links including the Metro and is only a short walk to a wide area of Cardiff. We will be encouraging trips to be made by sustainable modes, however if drop off and pick up is required this can be done using car parks.
15	How will you stop people parking in local residential streets and causing chaos for us? It is already an issue when there are big events on in the bay. This isn't just for events. It will be an issue when there are more things to do across the development	As part of the development proposals it is proposed to provide a new multi-storey car park, likewise there are proposals to increase the capacity of Mermaid Quay car park only a short walk away. Cardiff Council have adopted policies which we have to work with to balance onsite provision and encourage use of park and ride sites and active travel and public transport. There will need to be enforcement of existing traffic regulation orders which are in place to protect local residents and ensure the operation of the highway network. This enforcement lies with Cardiff Council and we will be working with the council to ensure suitable enforcement is implemented to discourage and enforce. the accessibility to Cardiff Bay in the future will be a step change from what is available today with the provision of the Metro, Cross Rail, bus and rail service improvements which are being promoted by Transport for Wales and Cardiff Council.
16	Two of the proposed taxi / bus drop off points are adjacent to the Water quarter. How will pedestrians access these locations so to avoid the Wate quarter site?	The proposed bus and taxi drop off points which were presented in the webinar were highlighted as being work in progress and, working with the council, a number of locations are presently being considered and appraised. These will be presented in the future planning application with further supporting details.
17	Just a point about the hotel in relation to the houses and apartments closest to it to the north. I did some rough calculations based on it being 40m away from our houses and it appears that it will completely shade our properties from late October to early February and also leave us with no privacy. This is quite a concern given we currently have nothing to the south of us. I appreciate this only impacts a small number of people for such a big project but it really is our main concern about the project. Can you offer us any reassurances about these concerns	We appreciate your concerns and relation between the building and the existing residential buildings is very important to us. We have looked to maximize the distance from the existing buildings within the site available, and as part of the design process we will be undertaking a shadow analysis of the building, and if needed will look at ways of mitigating any issue.
18	Promoting sustainable management plans to individual contractors wont stop them driving in. Our streets are rammed at the moment with contractors vans at times parking very dangeourously because of the development on the old Wharf site. How will they be stopped rather than just encouraged?	The strategy is to make further parking available, to avoid having workers parking in the residential area. We have engaged ABP to enquire about surplus land, to make available off-site parking for all operatives, and it has been confirmed that land is available in the vicinity.
19	If you cant manage a webinar how will you manage the project?	Thankfully, the delivery of this project does not rely upon an uninterrupted wi-fi signal at our Landscape Architect's home!
20	When will we actually get to have a conversation about this rather than just being told? Covid isn't an excuse to not do this	The partnership bringing forward the Atlantic Wharf regeneration are committed to meaningful community engagement. This series of webinars are a first phase of consultation and are a result of the current Covid restrictions. Once circumstances allow, we will look to undertake other events. In the meantime we would like to hear your views on the specifics of the masterplan and arena development. Please contact us via info@atlanticwharfcardsiff.co.uk
21	Will Schooner Way will be connected to Hemmingway Road for residents' private cars?	In the initial phase Schooner Way will not connect to Hemmingway Road, however when the masterplan is completed there will be a connection from Schooner Way to Hemmingway Road. We are discussing with the Council as the highway authority how this would operate in the future.
22	Can you offer any information on how you're planning to prevent visitors to the arena from parking in residents' spaces?	There will need to be enforcement of existing traffic regulation orders which are in place to protect local residents and ensure the operation of the highway network. This enforcement lies with Cardiff Council and we will be working with the council to ensure suitable enforcement is implemented to discourage and enforce. It is proposed that a residents/local area group liaison meetings will take place when the arena opens so any issues can be considered and agreed actions put in place.
23	The landscaping looks fantastic but will there be any opportunity to intergrate existing community events/volunteer gardens into the project?	We would be keen to discuss further opportunities to integrate community events /volunteer gardens.
24	When will we have more details about the hotel?	The proposed hotel will be operated by Travelodge and will replace their current hotel, which will be demolished as part of the redevelopment.
25	Having an 18m high hotel 40m from your house really doesn't make for an interesting backdrop!	We have looked to maximize the distance from the existing buildings within the site constraints. Clearly the current site is open and the street experience will be different to the current condition. However 40m is a wide street, by urban standards, and we will look to use tree planting and landscape to enrich the backdrop.

26	Could the Arena design reference any of the rich heritage of Cardiff Bay?	We are really hoping to embrace the rich heritage of the Bay. For example whilst the character of Millennium Centre is influenced by the Copper & Slate which was exported to the world, we are looking to celebrate coal export legacy and the energy of the nearby steel furnaces. The landscape scheme will also look to include micro interventions that are related the heritage of the Bay.
27	If Ffordd Garthorne is closed to schooner way then that means that residents of plaza 1 (amalfi house etc) will now be trapped when there are events on Lloyd George Avenue (half marathon etc) How will this be managed. It feels like those residents are taking a massive hit from this plan	The connection from Ffordd Garthorne will be closed for vehicular traffic accessing Schooner Way, it will remain open as an active travel link for pedestrians and cyclists. In future when there are events such as the half marathon, the event plan will need to consider the means of access to the properties.
28	Not putting road joining schooner way to hemming way road as part of stage 1, is not taking residents into account who have to travel into and out of their properties. Can this be added to stage 1 planning?	We have considered this but unfortunately it is not possible in phase 1.
29	Diolch	Many thanks.
30	Thanks all	Many thanks.