

Response by MUCH to Public Consultations

Overall, we feel that the designs were well received by the public, but there were some significant comments made which we feel need a positive response and incorporation into the final design.

External Design

We would like the large faces at the ends of the building, particularly the entrance end to be “broken up” with some feature, be it a window or other texture (metal feature?) or possibly even a properly designed name of the building in large letters. The concerns about light and heat from window openings we feel are being overstated. The entrance ends are facing northwest and would not get much sun, except in the very height of summer. We are concerned about fresh air ventilation, especially in the height of summer.

We are concerned about the maintenance ramifications of the use of timber cladding. What is the expected life of this timber cladding? MUCH will have to make long term plans for the financing of the timber cladding’s maintenance and eventual replacement.

Interior design

We would definitely like to proceed with the additional rear entrance. The original solution was to push the office sideways to allow for this. However, we would like the office to be moved to the front of the building (as per attached design sketch)

This is for the following reasons:

- i) The office will eventually become the ticket office for the planned station nearby and it makes sense for this to be near the building’s entrance.
- ii) It makes more sense for added security to have the office near the front of the building
- iii) It will reinstate the original size of the large storage area, which is particularly important for drama and theatre usage of the main hall.

We would like one shower room to be included, big enough to accommodate disabled people

We would like natural light to be available in the kitchen area. It is our understanding that roof lights will be designed into the foyer area - why not the kitchen?

As well as the access requirements for physically disabled people to be included for the whole building, we would like consideration to be given to making the smaller hall to be autism friendly - for example, superior acoustic deadening and softer shaped features.