

University of Glasgow

Academic Standards Committee – Friday 12 February 2016

**Periodic Subject Review: Updated Response to Recommendation 4
Arising from the Report of the Review of the Centre for Open
Studies held on 11 and 12 March 2013***Recommendation 4*

The Review Panel considers the currently allocated Art Room to be unfit for purpose due to its size and its lack of accessibility for students with limited mobility. The Panel **recommends** that accommodation of suitable size and accessibility be identified and refitted in consultation with the Centre within the next six months. [Paragraph 4.6.5 and 4.8.1]

Action: Director, Centre for Open Studies
For information: Head of College of Social Sciences,
Director of Estates & Buildings

Initial Response:

This matter was discussed with Estates & Buildings Colleagues at the meeting on 6 November 2014. Suitable accommodation has not yet been identified and this issue is the subject of ongoing discussions between the Centre and Estates & Buildings.

Updated Response – April 2015:

This issue is the subject of ongoing discussions between the Centre and Estates & Buildings. The most recent statement from Estates & Buildings indicates that a survey of access to the Art Room has been undertaken, the costs of making reasonable adjustments to improve access to the room for students with limited mobility will be identified, and the availability of a budget to make these adjustments will be subject to further review. As yet no timescale for this process has been identified and I am awaiting further information from Estates & Buildings.

Updated Response – October 2015

Estates & Buildings prepared costs for providing a platform lift at the lower mezzanine staircase and alterations to the corridor fire doors to make them automatic. However, this would still only provide access for smaller wheelchairs, as the proposed platform lift and existing mezzanine area lift could not accommodate larger wheelchairs. As an alternative solution Estates & Buildings are now looking at costs associated with swapping the art room (559) with one of the School of Education administrative offices (556), which is already on the same level as the fully accessible main entrance lift. However, the feasibility and costs for this option would have to be discussed and agreed with the School of Education who currently own rooms 556 and 559. As yet no timescale has been identified and I am awaiting further information from Estates & Buildings.

Updated response, Director of Estates & Buildings – November 2015

The comments of the review panel with regard to movement of students across campus and the inadequacies of some accommodation are noted. The University recognises the issues and the development of a new Learning & Teaching facility is being designed to address these issues. The centre forms part of a major ten year capital investment plan which has

been shaped to address some of the key space issues which we currently have. The new facility should be completed late 2018.

Specifically for Open Studies, we are also investigating the benefits of relocation to Kelvin Hall 2 which would provide modern, DDA compliant accommodation.

The resolution of the Arts room DDA access continues to be a challenge and with the current space pressures across the campus there are no relocation options. E&B continue to try and find a solution.

Updated Response – February 2016

Estates & Buildings continue to work with Open Studies to find a short term practical solution to Art room.