

Lighting Project: Cathedral community consultation – January 2014

Go to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/lightingcathedral>

The Cathedral's existing internal lighting system is in need of renewal and significant improvement.

As part of the wider development plan for the Cathedral, the Dean established a Lighting Project Group to determine new internal lighting requirements and to produce a draft lighting brief setting out these design requirements.

As part of this process, the Dean and Chapter wishes to consult with the congregation, staff, volunteers, visitors and wider community to obtain additional views on the content of the lighting brief which will then be finalised and used in the development of a lighting concept for the Cathedral's interior.

To assist this consultation a summary of the draft lighting brief is set out below. A copy of the full Draft Lighting Brief is available to view in at the Cathedral offices.

- The questionnaire can be completed online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/lightingcathedral>
- If you do not have access to the internet, you can request a printed copy from the office

Summary of the Draft Lighting Brief

The draft brief begins with a vision statement, which gives emphasis to the wide variety of uses in the building and the need to produce a high-quality scheme which enhances the experience of services and events, as well as the architectural form and features of this Grade-I listed building.

Energy efficiency and the use of environmentally sustainable materials are very important, as is a simple and flexible control system. The design must also account for the parallel development of a sound system and the attendant digital and wireless technologies.

The Liturgical Plan and Mission for the Cathedral is explained with due emphasis on worship, music and teaching.

There follows an outline description of the layout of the Cathedral and the key uses of the main areas, which many will be familiar.

Master plan

The master plan requirements are summarised as follows.

1. The scope of the design should include all internal public areas of the Cathedral.
2. The overall lighting strategy must consider the space as a whole and respond to:
 - liturgical requirements;
 - architectural form and features;
 - space for performance;
 - general display of art work and objects;
 - visitor information and circulation.
3. The Regimental, Lady, Fraser and Jesus Chapels should be treated as independent spaces.
4. The wide variety of activities makes the flexibility and control of the lighting vital.
5. Controls must be simple and proven in use.
6. The design should allow for surface lighting to be adjusted, in order to counter variable background light.
7. The strategy should create a changeable hierarchy of light intensity for features and services.

Areas of the Cathedral

The main section of the draft brief contains an 'area by area' description of the Cathedral interior, noting architectural features and uses of the space, with specific comments on lighting requirements where relevant.

Key considerations are:

Nave

- the many uses of this space, such as large performances, processions and major civic events, as well as the retractable platform and the font
- the specific lighting demands of these events and need for rapid change of light settings
- lighting up the new organ
- the width of the Nave and the many architectural features on the walls and ceiling
- variable natural light conditions

Tower & rear Nave

- distinctive lighting for the tower and its interior elements
- emphasising historical features
- the lighting of windows

Quire and High Altar

- differing lighting needs of daily services and for visitors
- careful and distinctive lighting for the many separate architectural and furnished features
- precise lighting for the decorative quire carving, misericords and new organ
- highlighting ceiling decoration and long view features

Side Aisles

- subtle lighting for important areas of transition between key spaces
- careful lighting of sculpture, windows and long views
- flexible, feature and practical lighting for processions through these areas
- possibility of an east entrance into the Cathedral
- temporary exhibition areas

Chapel Areas and Chapter House

- individual lighting responses for each of the chapels
- flexible lighting design for the Regiment chapel to reflect multiple uses of that space

Summary of Requirements

- The method of installation and the design should fully account for the historic and Grade-I listed status of the Cathedral
- An overall level of good general lighting to all areas when required
- Zoning and timing of individual and multiple areas as required
- Individual control of luminaires
- User-friendly interface with rapid transition between 'scenes'
- Colour-change facility to zones and individual points of interest
- Interface option for 'sound to light' control and programming
- Locate luminaires in such a way as to reduce their visibility and any 'glare' as much as possible
- Colour fittings and wiring to blend discreetly with the Cathedral fabric
- High quality materials with a proven record of longevity
- Cabling should be sized for need plus 20% additional loading. It should be suitable for the conditions and have a proven longevity
- Energy efficiency and environmental sustainability
- The design should take into consideration current and anticipated developments in lighting technology, however fittings and control equipment should be selected on the basis of proven usage
- The schedule for phased lighting installation should take into account the regular use of the building and the desire to clean substantial parts of the interior in conjunction with the installation of lighting fittings and infrastructure improvements
- The main control equipment should be located in an agreed, secure location. Control and 'scene setting' should be operated from this location with a real-time viewing of set-up scenes. A remote wireless tablet interface should be included. The control system should include pre-programmed lighting settings for ease of use
- The possibility of a simple, hand-held control should be explored, for use by Cathedral Guides to highlight religious, historic and architectural aspects of interest

The brief concludes with a section dealing with the Cathedral power infrastructure which will need further inspection and improvement in order to accommodate a new lighting system.

Thank you for reading.

Please tell us your thoughts at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/lightingcathedral>

(or request a printed copy from the office)