

# The Steeple Church, Dundee

## A church at the heart of a city

The last twenty years have seen a new Dundee emerging from its industrial past. The landscape is changing, with the modern Overgate shopping centre, new office blocks, and exciting plans in place for the development of the waterfront. Culturally, educationally and socially, there are many examples of the rich diversity of our developing city community. Our research-based industries and universities are highly regarded. However, we also recognise that for us as a city community there remain deep-rooted problems and challenges. Our 'church at the heart of the city' shares the hopes of many for a better city, and agrees with our local council that Dundee must continue to develop into **a vibrant and attractive city with an excellent quality of life where people choose to live, learn, work, and visit\***. This Development Project will enable The Steeple Church to serve a vision of a changing city more effectively.

### **We share the hope of a city that models caring community.**

The Development Project will encourage the Parish Nursing initiative in Dundee. Medium sized room space will be required between 10am and 3pm for five days a week.

### **We share with others the value of providing opportunities for people to express their creative abilities.**

The Development Project will provide space to display art and foster artistic ability. Space will be provided for concerts and drama.

The largest meeting space (ground floor) will be available during evenings and lunchtimes. The atrium area and smaller room space will be used for displaying and encouraging art.

### **We share with others an appreciation of the younger generation who live in our city.**

The Development Project will provide space for meeting and counselling students from within the UK and beyond. Space will be provided for the work of the Hot Chocolate Trust.

Small room size space will be required occasionally for counselling meetings. Designated medium size space will be provided for Hot Chocolate. Other areas of space will be available for Hot Chocolate's work during their programmed events.

### **We share with others the importance of helping the disadvantaged.**

The Development Project will provide a minimum 60 hours a week 'doors open' building with the provision for appropriate guidance in crisis situations.

### **We recognise that our city is a regional retailing centre and we share with others the importance of supporting those who operate and use the shops in our city centre.**

The Development Project would permit the church to work more effectively in partnership with the Overgate.

It is planned that a medium sized room space be designated for a permanent crèche facility offering both structured play and learning sessions as well as a more informal 'Shoppers' Crèche'.

### **We recognise the value to the city community of the success of different interest groups and organisations.**

The Development Project will provide improved venues for these activities. Examples of present users include Scottish Slimmers, Parkinson's Support Group, and Line Dancing.

Between 10am and 3pm six days a week at least two or more medium sized room spaces will be used for these activities. One medium sized space will also be required on many evenings.

\* Opening statement in Dundee City Council's Vision for Dundee

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## A church at the heart of a city

### **We share in the story of a city that values the heritage of its past.**

The Development Project will restore in our building aspects of this heritage. The Development Project will provide suitable facilities to display exhibitions relating to the city's history.

The atrium area will periodically display heritage exhibitions.

### **We share with others the importance of learning in our community.**

The Development Project will offer much-needed space for conference events as well as one-off educational events.

The largest meeting space (ground floor) will facilitate meetings for several hundred people. Catering space is provided to service such events.

### **We recognise the increasingly multi-cultural composition of our city.**

The Development Project will provide enhanced facilities for activities such as English classes for Chinese visitors.

Small sized room space will be required two or three times per week.

### **We recognise the importance of the spiritual life of our city.**

The Development Project will provide facilities for the community of Christian believers to worship and learn. Improved facilities will also be provided for meetings involving city-wide church organisations, as well as permitting educational courses relating to faith and life issues.

The large meeting space will be in regular use on Sunday mornings. Other units of space will be required on Sunday morning, early afternoon and evening. Medium sized room space(s) will be required for a Korean Church and potentially other international groups of believers during Sunday afternoon. Medium sized or small sized room space will be required for two to three hours daily between 10am and 9pm.

**We firmly believe The Steeple Church has a uniquely important role to play in our changing city. Investment in transforming this building will contribute to a vision of a better future for Dundee.**



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