HALLÉ ST PETER'S

Travel Plan in Support of Hallé Concerts Society
Hallé St Peter's Rehearsal Facility
Extension Planning Application



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1 Executive Summary

The pupose of this plan is to support the Hallé's planning application to provide a 1123 sq mtr new build extension to Hallé St Peter's facing Cutting Room Square in Ancoats. The new extensions will provide rehearsal spaces, break our rooms and offices as well as wefare facilities and a public facing café. It will be the home to the Hallé's ensembles and education programme as well as a resource for the borader community. It will be used by a wide variety of external users for both rehearsal, recording and public performance purposes.

Although the development is an extension of existing facilities and could therefore be expected to generate more visitor traffic; the main user groups will be the Hallé and its associated ensembles. Other activites currently housed in St Michael's, George Leigh Street, Ancoats will be relocated to St Peter's and therefore the additional traffic generated is not expected to have a detrimental impact on local traffic.

The proposed development site is located adjacent to the existing Hallé St Peter's facility in Ancoats. The site has reasonably good access to pedestrian, cycle and public transport facilities. It is a short walk from Manchseter Piccadilly and Manchester Victoria train stations, which provide frequent travel to local, regional and national destinations.

The Travel Plan is intended to encourage people to choose alternative transport modes over single occupancy car use and, where possible, reduce the need to travel at all. The plan includes a range of measures and promotional activities designed to achieve this goal. It will be subject to regular monitoring and review exercises that seek to keep the Travel Plan fit for purpose through a process of evolution and not revolution. It will mirror the objectives of the Transoprt for Greater Manchester (TFGM) Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040 launched in July 2016.

2 Introduction

In 2012 The Hallé Concerts Society (The Hallé) aquired St Peter's Church in Ancoats Urban Village on a long lease with the intention to make St Peter's the Orchestra's permanent home, to be known as Hallé St Peter's. The vision for the future is that the building will provide a space in which the orchestra and various ensembles can rehearse, where the Hallé's educational programme can be based and where public performances can be held. From the outset of the project it was envisaged that the site would be developed in two phases.

In early 2013 the Hallé successfully completed the first phase of the project, the conversion of the church into a permanent rehearsal space and base for its various ensembles including adult, youth and children's choirs and a youth orchestra. In addition it provides a venue for the Hallé's education and outreach work as well as a resource for the broader community. It is also used by a wide variety of external users and has been granted Premises and Wedding licences.

After three successful years of operation work has been resumed on the second phase which will involve the construction of a modern extension to the building which will allow for the provision of greater welfare and educational facilities which in turn will enable the the main church space to be used as a performance space. The new development, which will be known as The Oglesby Centre, is based on a 1,123 sq mtr new build extension of the building towards Cutting Room Square. The new building will also provide additional rehearsal spaces, break out rooms and offices as well as kitchen facilities and a public facing café.

The Hallé secured funding enabling them to progress these development to RIBA Stage 3 and is currently progressing an application for the Arts Council's large capital grants funding programme in order to support this project. In conjunction with this, in early 2016 an open architectural competition administered by RIBA Competitions was held to design the extension to Hallé St Peter's and Manchester based Stephenson Studio were announced as the winner.

The works will provide a three story extension with a basement and are expected to commence on site in July 2017 and be completed in December 2018.

3 Location

Hallé St Peter's
40 Blossom Street
Ancoats
Manchester
M4 6BF

St Peter's Church is a grade ll listed building built in the Romanesque style in 1859 in response to the growing population of this industrial suburb. The church is situated in the heart of Ancoats Urban Village and is now seen as a key building in the area's regeneration. The hope is that the cultural and leisure uses proposed for Hallé St Peter's will compliment the adjacent cutting room square, the areas main urban space, and create a community and social hub.

Hallé St Peter's is situated in the centre of Ancoats Urban Village, on the junction of Blossom Street, Murray Street, Hood Street and the Cutting Room Square. The small estate of Ancoats is sandwiched between Great Ancoats Street (the city centre ring road, A665), the Rochdale Canal and Oldham Road (A62). It is a ten minute walk away from the retail and commercial centre of Manchester and its associated rail, bus and tram networks. Road access is excellent as Ancoats abuts the city's inner ring road with its links to the regions motorway networks.

Ancoats is undergoing a transformation with many building developments already on site delivering a number of new residential schemes primarily by the Manchester Life Development Company. We are acutely aware of the additional pressures that these schemes will place on the provision of parking and inevitably there will be an impact on our operations and to visitors to Hallé St Peter's. However, until the schemes are complete (expected late 2018) it is difficult to formulate a precise travel plan for Hallé St Peter's beyond this time.

The following plan will set out the options for travel to Hallé St Peter's and how the Halle intend to encourage the use of more sustainable modes of transport. As the facility will predominatey be used for Hallé activities the main focus of the plan is for staff, volunteers and visitors to the Hallé's educational projects in the space.

4 Local Transport Links

Hallé St Peter's is located between Blossom and Hood Street in Ancoats Urban Village making it easily accessible by road or public transport.

1. Rail

   The cities two main train stations Manchester Piccadilly and Victoria are both within walking distance (0.6miles).

2. Metrolink

   Piccadilly and Shudehill station stops are both within walking distance (0.4 miles). The stop at New Islington (0.2miles from Hallé St Peter's) for visitors using the East Manchester/Ashton line.

3. Bus

   The bus stations at Piccadilly Gardens (0.4miles) and Shudehill Interchange (0.5miles) are within walking distance for numerous routes and more specific routes are available near by.

4. Cycle/Walk

   Ashton Canal and Rochdale Canal towpaths extend into the city centre.

   Route 66 of the National Cycle Network runs through New Islington.

   All of the facilities and public transport links of Manchester City Centre are within walking/cycle distance.

5. Road

   Manchester's inner ring road is less than 250m away with its connections to the regions motorway network. There are a number of public car parks within walking distance of Hallé St Peter's (0.5 miles)

5 Travel Plan

The Hallé intend to use Hallé St Peter's/The Oglesby Centre as an opportunity to improve their environmental impact by encouraging staff, volunteers and visitors to make a greater use of public transport. The Transport for Greater Manchester (TFGM) Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040, launched in July 2016, identifies a vision of "World Class connections that support long-term, sustainable economic growth and access to opportunity for all". We intend to mirror many of the aims and objectives identified within this strategy in our own planning, particularly those relating to Quality of Life, Protecting the Environment and Using Technology to inform, access and transact. This travel plan is developed in conjunction with the Hallé's Enviromental Policy (2016) – appended.

Previously the orchestra rehearsed at the Bridgewater Hall in Manchester City Centre but the ensembles including youth orchestra, choir, youth choir and childrens choir rehearse at numerous venues around the city, often with very poor public transport links. By providing a home for the orchestra and ensembles in an area with an excellent public transport network combined with actively promoting the use of sustainable modes of transport it is hoped that this will lead to a reduction in car useage.

1. Aims

   To actively encourage those who visit Hallé St Peter's (staff, volunteers and visitors) to use more sustainable and active modes of transport.

   To reduce pollution and improve the environment by cutting down on car travel.

   To promote accessibility to Hallé St Peter's for all staff, volunteers and visitors.

2. Objectives

   To set out the various greener travel options available for staff, volunteers and visitors.

   To provide clear and readily available information about options for greener travel for both staff, volunteers and visitors travelling to and from St Peter's.

   To establish and increase the percentage of staff using public transport, cycling and walking.

To evaluate the success of the plan and respond to findings.

The Plan

Area	Action	Target	Timescale		Responsibility	Progress	Achieved
Travel	Car parking facilities will not be provided at St Peter's.	To reduce the percentage of staff, volunteers and visitors travelling by car.	On going	-	Martin Glynn, Venue Manager	-	-
	The venues team will make available up to date records of what public parking is available.	To provide parking for staff, volunteers and visitors for whom travel by car is essential	On going	-	Martin Glynn, Venue Manager	-	-
	The Halle will organise the storage and delivery of larger instruments so that individuals do not have to travel with them.	To reduce the percentage of staff, volunteers and visitors travelling by car.	On going	-	Stuart Kempster, Concerts Director	-	-
	Be active in lobbying for the provision of new bus routes for regenerated Ancoats	To provide visitors with alternative access to	On going	-	Martin Glynn, Venue Manager	-	-
	Maintain cycle racks in the design for an extended Hallé St Peter's and include staff showers within the new building.	To reduce the percentage of staff, volunteers and visitors travelling by car.	Autumn 2018	-	Martin Glynn, Venue Manager	-	-
	Inform visitors of the cycle racks in Cutting Room Square opposite Hallé St Peter's should Hallé St Peter's provision reach capacity	To reduce the percentage of staff, volunteers and visitors travelling by car.	Ongoing	-	Martin Glynn, Venue Manager	-	-
	The Halle are part of the cycle to work scheme.	To encourage staff and volunteers to cycle to Hallé St Peter's.	On going	-	Matthew Wyatt, Finance Officer	-	-

Raise Awareness	Provide clear information about greener transport options to staff, volunteers and visitors.	Provide information on bus, cycle and walking routes from the main city centre train stations to Hallé St Peter's. Publish on internet site and in events leaflets.	Autumn 2018	-	Martin Glynn, Hallé Venues and Events Manager	-	-
		Stay abreast of TFGM and Manchester City council transport initiatives and disseminate information to all staff, volunteers and visitors.	Ongoing	-	Martin Glynn, Hallé Venues and Events Manager	-	-
		Alert staff and volunteers to greener transport options through regular emails and social media postings relating to public transport options.	Summer 2016 and ongoing	-	Martin Glynn, Hallé Venues and Events Manager	-	-
		Encourage staff to use greener transport options by disseminating information via email on initiatives such as cycle to work, installation of cycle racks and car share schemes.	On going	-	Martin Glynn, Hallé Venues and Events Manager	-	-
Performance Measurement	Evaluate impact of St Peter's Travel Plan with staff, voluteers and visitors.	Produce and issue travel survey to establish the current modes of travel used by staff and regular volunteers to travel to and from rehearsals/activities.	Autumn 2018	-	Martin Glynn, Hallé Venues and Events Manager	-	-
		Re-issue the travel survey 6 months after the re-opening of Hallé St Peter's and at regular annual intervals thereafter to establish changes in travel patterns and the impact of travel plan.	Spring 2019 and then on going.	-	Martin Glynn, Hallé Venues and Events Manager	-	-
		Produce report on findings of each survey, set targets for reduction in car travel and outline actions to achieve these goals.	On going	-	Martin Glynn, Hallé Venues and Events Manager	-	-

6 Information Provision

The following information is currently provided to all visitors to Hallé St Peter's together with the appended map. This information is regularly updated.

With parking in Ancoats currently at a premium visitors it is our strong recommendation that visitors use public transport when visiting Hallé St Peter's whenever possible. Ancoats is a 10 minute walk from Manchester Piccadilly Train Station, Piccadilly Gardens and Shudehill Bus Terminals and Metrolink stops and a 15 minute walk from Victoria Train Station. New Islington Metrolink Station is now open (Ashton-under-Lyne line). There is a short direct walk to Hallé St Peter's via the new Ancoats Jubilee Bridge and Murray Street.

From Piccadilly Gardens the easiest walking route is along Newton Street and straight across Great Ancoats Street, which takes approximately 5 minutes.

NEAREST BUS STOPS:
EB2438 - GT ANCOATS ST, DEAN STREET towards PICCADILLY
EB2437 - GT ANCOATS ST, JERSEY ST towards DROYLSDEN
EB3235 - OLDHAM ROAD, BENGAL STREET towards MANCHESTER
EB2435 - OLDHAM ROAD, OPP BENGAL ST towards OLDHAM
Bus routes: 24,74,76,77,78,80,83,88,89,180,181,182,184,216,217,218,231, X84

BIKE RACKS:
There are bike racks for visitors to Hallé St Peter's located on the Hood Street side of the building. The racks are covered by the Hallé St Peter's 24 hour CCTV surveillance cameras. It is possible that we will increase provision of bike racks in this area subject to demand.

ORCHESTRA TRUCK AND DELIVERIES/COLLECTIONS :
The loading bay for Hallé St Peter's is located on the Hood Street side of the building. As part of the Manchester Life Development Works the north end of Hood Street is being permanently stopped up and the end to the south is being built upon in a way that will restrict access for the largest vehicles to regularly visit the venue, the Hallé Orchestra truck and the Enterprise bin wagon. Accordingly the operations team will be in regular contact with the management of these sites to identify the best routes to travel to ensure access and safe passage through the building compounds. This will be subject to weekly review.

COACH PARTIES DROP OFF/COLLECTIONS:
Schools and larger groups visiting Hallé St Peter's, using coaches and mini buses to drop off are instructed to approach the Blossom Street entrance of the building from Bengal Street, Once visitors have disembarked the drivers of the vehicles are requested to depart and return at a pre-agreed pick up time using the same route. Discussions are underway to identify areas to direct waiting vehicles to alternative sites.

7 CONCLUSIONS

- This Transport Plan provides and appraisal of transport aspects associated with the proposed new extension to Hallé st Peter's, Ancoats.
- The proposals are for a new three storey extension with basement providing two rehearsal/workshop spaces, practice rooms, offices, welfare facilities and a public facing café.
- 5 permament staff will be based at the venue and the core users will be the Hallé and its ensembles and educational activity programme.
- The facility is in an accessible location and some of the acitivity will be relocated from the Hallé's existing use of St Michael's, ancoats and therefore is not expected to have a severe detrimentalimpact on the operation of the local highway network.
- The Hallé is already successfully promoting the use of wlking, cycling, public transport to its staff and visitors.