

MILTON KEYNES:

**MAKING A
GREAT CITY
GREATER**

Commission Working Paper 2
**Results from the Commission's
Engagement Programme**

Milton Keynes Council

Milton Keynes Futures 2050 Commission



MK Futures 2050 – What makes a great city?



Stakeholder Engagement Report
MK Futures 2050 Commission
April 2016

Table of Contents	Page
1. Executive Summary	2
2. Engagement evaluation	3
3. Summary of dialogues - What makes a great city?	4
3.1 What is great about MK?	
3.2 Propositions for a future vision – What could make MK greater?	
4. Stakeholder engagement age specific key findings – What could make MK greater?	7
4.1 Parents with young families	
4.2 18 years – School/FE students	
4.3 22– 45 years	
4.4 60 – 94 years	
5. Engagement – Who, what, where, when how.....	9
5.1 Engagement methods	
5.2 Digital activity	
5.3 Stakeholder workshop	
5.4 Public events, exhibitions & open days	
5.5 Resident Association Meetings	
5.6 Partner collaborations	

“It’s easy to escape the urban and be in nature”

1. Executive Summary

What makes a great city?

MK Futures 2050 Commission has been tasked with delivering a potential longer term future vision for MK - making recommendations to the Council for their consideration in the development of their medium and longer term policy framework.

In order to obtain input from key stakeholders and the community, MK Futures 2050 Commission embarked on an engagement programme from December 2015 until March 2016 with the key findings used to help inform and

support the Commission’s final recommendations and report. The response was extensive with **1,051** recorded individuals contributing their views face to face through a series of workshops, public exhibitions, open days, resident and parish meetings, partner collaborations, school activities and over **8,139** dialogues via the website, Facebook and **14,966** impressions across Twitter and partner sites. These activities have been broken down and can be found later in this report in the section titled - Engagement programme – Who, what where when how.

“The transport links are good. MK is a practical place”

It was important to establish a baseline of people’s perception of MK today, what are the features of an ideal place to live and what do people believe would make MK a greater city to live in or be attracted to?

In order to do this, the engagement activity was structured around three open questions:

- What makes a great city?
- What is great about MK?
- What could make it greater?

2. Engagement evaluation

Feedback on dialogues obtained across all three questions was analysed and there was significant commonality expressed and a number of common themes emerged across all stakeholder groups and ages that included: **ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC SERVICES, HEALTHCARE, CULTURE, SOCIAL ACTIVITIES, NEW DEVELOPMENT, HOUSING, EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, ECONOMY AND BUSINESS.**

Within those key themes, more specific keywords were used in general conversation and referenced under **TRANSPORT, ACCESSIBILITY, LINKS, HOSPITAL, GP SURGERIES, INFRASTRUCTURE, PARKS AND OPEN SPACES, HISTORY, IDENTITY, COMMUNITY FACILITIES, YOUTH SERVICES, SCHOOLS, UNIVERSITY, POST SCHOOL OFFERINGS, VOLUNTARY SECTOR AND REGENERATION.**

“Open spaces and green spaces. Area’s which are quiet and uncongested. Good architecture and a sense of place, where citizens can identify with elements of the city and experience a bond. A mix of social elements and cultures with high standards and aesthetic housing. Good transport links and well maintained roads”

3. Summary of dialogues - What makes a great city?

3.1 What is great about MK?

The Environment

The most common theme expressed was regarding environment. Within these conversations there was particular emphasis on parks and open

spaces. Residents said that they love the open green spaces, canals, trees walks and lakes. Conversations indicated that people like the fact there is space within MK, and that countryside is also nearby. The Parks Trust was mentioned and praised as was the spacious feel of MK in general. Other keywords often spoken about within this theme were community safety and neighbourhood management. People expressed that feeling safe and having low crime rates were very important factors to a great city. As a whole people do feel safe with a low crime rate, though there was some fear that this could change as the population increase.

Public Services

Public services were also a common theme in conversation, with transport related topics high on the agenda. People felt that a great city has good, reliable affordable public transport, is easy to get around and has good links. Many people praised the Redways, appreciating how they help residents to walk and cycle around MK safely. Other community residents commented that they like the fact that MK is considering innovations to improve transport through other projects (MK:Smart).

Healthcare

There is a sense of anxiety when it comes to healthcare services within MK. For a city and its community to thrive and prosper good healthcare services were identified. The general perception is that the hospital is not big enough to support the growing population and an influx of people to the area could threaten the well-being of the whole community. Those that raised the largest concern were people with young families and people that have retired. Comments were made that many local GP surgeries to residential areas have been closed and the catchment area of existing clinics have extended further so getting an appointment when needed seems almost impossible. People past retirement age felt they were a 'burden' as no local GP/clinics are available to them so have to go to the hospital for treatment which is unnecessary and they take up potential beds for those that really need it.

Community Facilities

Communities and community spirit makes a great city and MK is big so local community is so important. People are generally happy with most facilities in MK such as Xscape and the Theatre area although feel that there is a lack of individuality and soul by the centre being the 'same as any other town'. People expressed that they would like to see more independent shops, bars, restaurants and more choice on music venues that are more accessible and cheaper for local residents to attend (the Bowl is too expensive and not situated in an accessible area having limited public transport provisions to get there). Specific residents from Netherfield commented on the activities at the Stadium MK are good but they again feel they cannot afford to attend them - and often as close neighbours of the stadium they have to deal with the noise and congestion of traffic; and litter that these large events can create. Residents of Bletchley commented that residents 'feel starved' of services that benefit their town and have 'no level playing field' when it came to financial support for community facilities with a perception that as a town, commercial business property rates became too high and not affordable – leading to the closure of many small businesses. It is generally felt that the towns need rejuvenating and more investment put back – keeping their own identity – not to be swallowed up by a new MK.

New Development and Housing

New development and housing was a recurrent theme during engagement. It was suggested that great cities provide decent homes for all and consider all communities equally. Many people felt that this was not an accurate description of MK and believe housing in some areas is in urgent need of attention. Many indicated that they feel some estates have been neglected, forgotten and not maintained.

Education

MK is great because it continues to innovate and explore ideas. As a place for education MK has a good reputation and standards are felt to be high. A large, well respected Campus University would be an improvement but it would have to be of an excellent standard to compete with those institutions that are more established. It is generally felt that younger people wishing to study as an undergraduate have to move away to do so and often it was felt that after their university experience they would not move back to MK after graduating (no hook to come back). Parents raised concerns over not enough primary/secondary/grammar schools within MK today to already deal with the current influx of



“They should deal with existing demands for current residents before they think about building new homes”

population and expressed that they would like to see more schools built to offer places for their children in an area that is of their choosing.

Employment

MK has a positive reputation as it has attracted some large employers over the past few years. Many people feel that there are plenty of employment opportunities across the town although it was fed back that many small independent investors have struggled to 'get a foot in the door' with office rates high and accessibility and support for small business start-ups in MK hard to establish – it is generally felt that people do not know where to turn to for help and guidance especially if from an international - non British background.

Economy / Financial

People commented that to make a great city you need low levels of poverty and deprivation. Housing needs to be affordable and there needs to be affordable and free activities available to cater for all of the community.

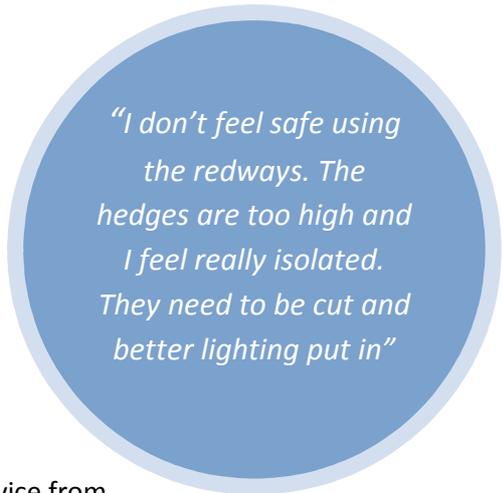
3.2 Propositions for a future vision – What could make MK greater?

Based on the key themes that already have been discussed the following are views that were put forward about how to make MK even greater.

Environment

Propositions for the future include more floral gardens in parks, exercise equipment for adults and a theme/water park. New housing needs to include good open spaces and a good garden with hedges and trees. Many of the people engaged expressed their fears of new development in MK and that it may take away the feeling of space and green areas. People expressed to keep to the traditional development plan of MK and the vision – if there is a need to build, to build as the 1st developers pioneered – new housing should include green space and enclosed with trees and hedges. The public would like the following as a 'norm'

- Improvement to Redways
- Cut back foliage to give a sense of openness
- Improve and update landscaping within current housing estates
- Maintain trees in areas – now pushing up pavements and a hazard walking
- Less fly tipping and people take responsibility for clearing up (fined if a persistent pest)
- Enable more community energy projects to reduce the city's carbon footprint (empower communities have budget control and say in contractors)



"I don't feel safe using the redways. The hedges are too high and I feel really isolated. They need to be cut and better lighting put in"

Public services

Improvements to make the transport systems better includes increased bus service from outer areas ensuring it covers all areas and does not just focus on the central routes and is accessible for people with limited mobility within the estates. Others comments included more sustainable transport in the future including:

- Autonomous pods
- Electric buses
- MK underground system (to rival London)
- Tram system (as was considered discussed some 40 years ago)
- Flying cars – manned through wireless technology like drones
- Free under 16 bus passes
- Oyster type cards that people can top up but travel on any mode of transport across MK
- Ensure Redways are still built into new development areas
- Less traffic lights
- More disabled parking
- Better road markings and signage
- Move the coach station to a more central location
- Multi story car parks (to reduce current rates – too expensive and putting people off from coming into MK)

Healthcare

People believe to make healthcare better MK needs to:

- Build another hospital
- Extend the amount of community surgeries
- Decrease the catchment areas of each surgery
- Create special clinics to service residential/care homes (can facilitate minor surgery)
- Provide mobile clinics that can visit areas of large communities to help ease pressure (work with community centres to help facilitate)

Community facilities

Initiatives such as MK:Smart are looking at improvements make MK great but as a city it could do with a wider range of affordable community activities including extracurricular and older persons clubs. More support, funding and promotions for independent groups was needed. It was suggested that young people need more 'safe' places to socialise and to utilise some of the empty buildings may be a way to achieve this that could be part funded through community volunteers, community events and national lottery services. It was also stated that MK should create social activities that play to its current strengths like having a race track associated with Red Bull which is synonymous with the town.

People's views on community facilities they would like to see:

- More affordable smaller venues
- Art and museum road shows
- Estate community cafes
- More independent small businesses / boutiques pop-up restaurants / food places
- More facilities to use for community events – hold town festivals
- Affordable all weather sports facilities
- More social activities and support for the growing older population (more 'active' social events)
- More free policed activities/social areas for school children (youth café, drop-ins)
- National marketing campaign to promote all of MK – adverts to be in train stations / TV campaign to show the history and people of MK – make MK a destination, a place that people want to visit.

New Development and Housing

Solutions for the future included improving then maintaining the standard of housing that exists, whilst some suggested re-building and re-design of some estates. The Regeneration plan for MK was spoken about as something that some residents in affected communities were worried about, saying that they do not know what to expect or what the plan is and don't want their homes demolished.

People stressed future housing needs to be:

- Affordable
 - Built to last with design that do not look dated quickly
 - Limit the amount of new properties built
 - New properties not to be 'crammed together on tiny plots
 - Open spaces to be kept throughout all development areas – playgrounds / green spaces

In terms of more general new development, lots of people said that they would like MK to develop in the same way they built the new town and some are worried that the spacious feel and green spaces will be lost.

It was suggested that the provision of employment opportunities, services and amenities should be in line with growth, too much growth all at once would not be sustainable and that planning should be holistic and long term not reactive and piecemeal.

The public engaged believe that future needs in terms of building use should be considered; asking if so much office space will be required going

"MK will be great by not messing with the very much loved principles of the original master plan"

"All that modern glass, all the buildings look the same – Legoland. They need to build more varied and interesting architecture. In other cities you can stroll around and take in the urban sights – you wouldn't want to do that in MK"

forward. It was also suggested that we use what we have, with disused spaces like the ones in the Food Hall being exploited. Additional development of amenities, shops and attractions in places other than central MK was desirable, as was building upwards. People also said that they would like to see more varied and interesting architecture in MK but also felt MK should look after and retain its heritage and retain its iconic buildings.

Education

There should be a greater investment in MK education as a whole with more diversity in types of schools offered across the community, including grammar schools and languages taught to reflect the population of an area. Help increase pride in students to their schools and feel more of a sense of community. Areas to improve include:

- Campus university within MK
- Academies and FE more focused on teaching core services needed in the area such as engineering and manufacturing
- Additional funding for after school educational activities – school clubs subsidised for lower income families
- Additional languages taught to reflect the local community to enable and cement relationships

Employment

It is felt that MK could be better by offering less agency work and zero hours contracts. Responses also felt MK would also benefit from better employment rates through a range of industries within it – less distribution and more manufacturing.

Economy / Financial

There needs to be more affordable and free activities available, costs of using public transport needs to be kept to a minimum so those on low incomes can afford it. A better investment in a stronger more thought out infrastructure for longer sustainability of core services which will help save additional financial support later as the need to redesign and repair won't be needed.

4. Stakeholder engagement age specific key findings – What could make MK greater?

Most of the engagement activity was very broad and tried to capture as many people as possible but to ensure that all age groups had a say, certain activities/mediums were targeted. This was to record any variance in responses and highlight key findings associated with that particular stakeholder age group.

As expressed there were key themes across all of the engagement activity which we have collated together but it was important to understand the different perceptions and needs of age specific groups that live today in MK, and that can help shape the future vision for the city as a whole. For the purpose of this report key findings have been collated and summarised into bulleted points.

4.1 Parents with young families

Effort was made to attend day care centres and public meeting areas for parents with pre-school aged children to discuss their vision for the future. Key main themes expressed with this stakeholder group included education, healthcare, public services and housing.

Key findings for a better MK included:

- More schools needed in high built up residential areas – to get your choice of school within your catchment area – having to travel further out of local community which is a concern for safety and a perceived cost (extra travel by bus or car)
- Better public transport (as point above) more frequency of buses during peak school hours and reduced cost for frequent users including parents
- Ensure green open spaces / playgrounds are kept open or planned in new developments and include picturesque spots for families
- More affordable housing
- More public sports facilities to help encourage children to be active
- More GP/dental surgeries across community areas – perhaps run specialised clinics for specific age groups – mobile services – drop in services

4.2 14 – 18 years – School/FE students

Key themes rose with this age group through workshops, attendance at FE fresher's fairs and school projects was environment, education (including post school offerings) employment, social activities, public services including voluntary and healthcare. Much of the feedback received had the following recommendations that they feel is integral to a better future for MK and its residents:

- More employment opportunities with large national/global employers
- Utilise open spaces and empty buildings – use these areas as community pop-up centres/cafes for young people to use and help get workplace experience by volunteering and help assist running/managing /promoting the service and place – this would enable harder up families with children to have access to the services (as could be potentially free)
- More mental health facilities (many said their families had been affected by this) it would also help to not stigmatise mental health issues and help people of their age group better understand how to help each other/parents
- More funding for the NHS – increase services by building another hospital
- Better education system – better options post school, more FE offering apprenticeships in areas that MK needs to have the workforce for (engineering/medicine/construction) not just office and retail skills. Campus university (with a good reputation nationally)
- More affordable housing – special scheme to help 'local' under 30's to buy
- More culture for different cultural groups – have pride and celebrate the diversity of cultures that live in MK
- Oyster card top up system young people can use across public services, travel and some outlets to reduce cash being handled by young people. Also parents can limit expenditure if on a low income/fixed budget

“Don't build on green spaces, we need them, else it'll look like a concrete ghetto in no time at all. Protect the grid system and green spaces”

4.3 22– 45 years

This age group was primarily engaged through social media, radio postings and adverts. As stated key themes were consistent across all age groups but the most common within this group was environment, culture, social activities, public services and housing. The following lists the most frequently mentioned priorities (in no particular order).

- Clearer better signage directions on the ground from the centre to train station and hotspots in MK (encourage people to visit MK and establish how to get about instead of MK being a joke of just many roundabouts) clean and refresh tired road/signs on a regular basis
- Car parking needs to be cheaper and more accessible especially for people that work in MK central
- Better transportation system, like driver less cars, tram system - rewards for locals that adopt a greener mode of transport (public) bring down the cost and increase services to run more often, cross towns and later at night, more trains in and out of London- remain innovative
- Revive old towns – put the original cultural feel back in MK – as a city it has lost its vision; trying too hard to be too many things to too many people – get back the local 'real' culture and identity – it's what we love about MK is its uniqueness
- All new housing to have sufficient off-street parking - some estates are impossible to walk or drive through due to parked vehicles on pavements
- Increase high rise builds to help support the growing population instead of building on the edge of grid roads and to help more social housing to help families that are less affluent
- More rural / less urban in development, increase the amount of trees
- Make it easier for independent businesses/food chains/boutiques/bars to open in central areas. MK has nothing but large chains – support local enterprises
- Better night life – more alternative music options to cater for 'non' mainstream, lots of talent in MK help grow and support instead of muting
- Adult indoor social area (like in Portsmouth) large fun swimming leisure pool with slides

“Even if estates like Netherfield are redeveloped, some of the original houses should be preserved for prosperity – they won architectural awards at the time they were built. Let's care for the unique history MK has. We're so new, we don't have much. They demolished the National Hockey Stadium for example. The point is an MK icon, it needs to stay”

4.4 60 – 94 years

To reach this age group a series of open days and closed focus groups were facilitated in key residential/retirement villages. Key themes were healthcare, public services and environment. Key findings for a better MK included:

- Better transport links/services around the borough/towns as current services not coherent
- Stop reducing the community/public services – help increase mobility for older/disabled persons across and around MK
- Maintain what is already, here do not over develop too much has been taken over – keep to the original plan and vision of MK
- More independent shops, keep and increase street markets, help keep costs down and make MK more unique not just the same as every other city
- Lower house prices build more affordable ones. Increase the amount of retirement homes as its the fastest growing population within MK
- Reduce the amount of private lettings – this is keeping prices too high and property at a premium we are losing the community feel as people come and go too quickly. Give priority to local people for buying
- Areas of MK are now run down - the local environment is dirty, overgrown, unkempt – this is bringing down the overall reputation of MK
- Need a bigger/another hospital, more community surgeries and clinics, include onsite medical services in retirement/residential areas to relieve the pressure on MK hospital as far too many old people clog up the only hospital as don't have the medical care or services needed. Introduce travel/mobile clinics in areas that have a growing older population. This will also increase the amount of medical professionals into the area which is what is needed
- Need more ground police – Redways are unsafe and need major overhaul, repair and continuous maintaining.

“Buses don't come into my estate due to speed bumps. There are a lot of older people here and they can't walk all the way to the main road. This has a big impact on people's lives that don't have cars. It creates isolation”

5. Engagement – Who, what, where, when how.....

The engagement programme included both off and on line activities to ensure a wide group of stakeholders had the chance to be involved in any of the discussions taking place and to initiate open conversations among peer groups. In order to do this we embarked on a series of different activities across varying mediums to capture balanced views from all ages and stakeholder groups that included local influencers, partners and general public.

5.1 Engagement methods (no particular order)

- Public exhibitions
- Attendance regional fairs and events @ MK
- Face to face open days – public libraries
- Workshops / Residential meetings
- Focus groups / baby toddler clubs / residential homes / public centres
- Coffee mornings
- Door to door canvassing
- Partner advertising / social media
- Targeted digital banner advertising
- Standalone website
- Social Media / community Facebook/ Twitter pages
- School classroom project
- PR
- Door wrap (advert) MKC

Summarised below are the main activities overseen by the MK Futures Engagement Manager (additional activities included the Executive team from Milton Keynes Council attending Council and Parish forums which can be found separately on the main Council website).

5.2 Digital activity

Website

A dedicated website www.MKFutures.com was launched in January to enable a central destination for all of the Commissions work and reports as well facilitating communication channels for stakeholder groups. The website was also to enable visitors to give more comprehensive and in-depth responses via a survey, opinion poll and open chat forum. Survey responses can be found in Appendix 1

Statistics

1962 unique visitors to site

94 Survey responses

158 poll votes on - Is MK a great place to live? **Yes 89% No 11%**

Social Media

Social media platforms were used to target people from within the community that would not necessarily be able to attend open/exhibition days being held around the regions during the day. It was also felt that more open conversations within their peer groups would take place and comments with others would be shared be it positive or negative. It was also the best way to gain maximum exposure with partner groups, local businesses and their communities.

Facebook was used to target people from MK and surrounding areas to ask – What would you like to see in MK by the year 2050? We then posted the question what do you think could make MK greater? Videos (Vox Pops) were also posted from public events to reinforce key points and themes from other activities – it also got people to discuss/agree with current findings and to link up discussions across the engagement programme so no one activity was in isolation.

Statistics

29,651 people reached

3,387 people engaged through dialogue including comments, likes and shared posts.

Age

13-24 years 14%

25-34 25%

35-44 34%

45-54 17%

55+ 10%

Gender

Total responses **45% Female** and **55% Male**

Twitter was used more to engage with key partner stakeholders, interested organisations including voluntary, ethnic and minority groups and the business sector.

Statistics

131 followers

61 tweets

14,966 impressions

5.3 Stakeholder workshop

MK Futures What makes a great city launch event

16th December 2015 7pm – 9pm at the Catapult Centre MK

This initial workshop was organised to officially launch MK Futures 2050 Commission and to start discussions around what makes a great city with invited key stakeholders, partners and interested members of the public. Every effort was made to open up the workshop as much as possible with poster promotions around MK and partner media and email campaign to people that had indicated their interest to similar projects such as PlanMK.

The workshop was facilitated by Sir Peter Gregson Chair MK Futures 2050 Commission. Guest speakers were selected to represent the varying stakeholders groups and to provide unbiased and balanced viewpoints of the MK community with opportunity for questions and open debate after. The evening was attended by **57** people.

5.4 Public events, exhibitions & open days

Intu shopping Centre Exhibition Stand

21st January 2016 10am – 4pm

This was the 1st open event held in a public centre within Milton Keynes. The decision to attend the Intu centre was to not only capture people that live and work in MK but those visiting. The stand was designed with a mock up image up MK made up of iconic places / building that shapes the current landscape. This design proved to be very popular in attracting people to the stand and start discussions. People were encouraged to complete the feedback forms / postcards or post their ideas onto the stand itself. This approach helped get a better insight from older individuals and parents whilst the posting of notes onto the stand appealed more to younger audience and children. On the day **116** people stopped and either completed a questionnaire or posted their views onto the stand.

Branch libraries – Open days

19th January Central MK 9am – 3pm

20th January Wolverton 10am – 5pm

21st January Kingston 11am – 5pm

25th January Bletchley 9am – 2pm

29th January Olney 1pm – 5pm

2nd February Newport Pagnell 10am – 1pm

2nd February Stony Stratford 2pm – 6pm

4th February Westcroft 1pm – 5pm

To extend the regional areas within the activities and ensure that we gave neighbouring towns the opportunity to have their say we embarked on a two week open day tour facilitated across MK central and neighbouring towns. The days were booked according to other events going on and as much as possible timings were orchestrated to be facilitated during parents and toddler clubs or reading and craft groups. This was to ensure stakeholders with young families were included in a surrounding that was safe and with other people in similar circumstances to open up discussions and craft reading groups to speak with more individuals that have common interests. During this period **209** people were reached in groups or individually by completing questionnaire cards/forms or participation in open group discussions.

Open University Open day

11th February 10am – 5pm

Although not a campus university the Open University does have a large open library that is frequented a lot during the day by students and staff which gave the opportunity in holding a small stand in order to get feedback through completion of feedback cards and general conversation. **47** people were reached during this activity.

Summary of all key points from the above open days can be found in Appendix 2.

Milton Keynes Hospital Open day

29th February 10am – 4pm

During the early conversations within the community the future of MK healthcare became a key theme across many age and community groups. To ensure that there was a balanced viewpoint an open day at the main hospital premises was arranged to get the perceptions of visitors, staff and patients using feedback cards and facilitating

open discussions in both group and one to one sessions. Set up of the stand was located in the hospitals main restaurant. During the day **67** people's views were recorded. Key points can be found in Appendix 3.

Lovat Fields retirement village Open day / focus groups

2nd March

With a growing ageing population across MK it was important to get the viewpoints of the senior community within this engagement activity as many would have moved from other locations around the country and brought up a family when MK was initially developed in the 1970's. Over a period of two days stands was set up in the main foyer of the main residential reception where people could come and visit and complete a card/form. Also smaller focus group sessions took place in the main communal cafe/bar area. A total of **57** people contributed in discussions. Key points can be found in Appendix 4.

New Life Church

Opportunity was given to speak with staff and visitors to some of the food bank services provided through New Life Church. This was to get feedback from people that volunteer to support community services within MK and people/families being provided with support needed. In total **16** people contributed to discussions. Key points can be found in Appendix 5.

5.5 Resident Association Meetings

20th January Water Eaton

8th February Fullers Slade

With the reach of newsletters and social media we were able to converse with many communities around MK. It was agreed that as much as possible we should also offer the chance for face to face presentations and open talks to community groups to reinforce the project as a whole. An email campaign was sent out to all of the Resident Associations to offer an opportunity for member of the Executive team to attend their meetings and present an overview of the Commission and get instant feedback on their views on 'What could make MK greater? We were invited to attend two meetings (as above). In total **42** people contributed to discussions. Key points raised from both meetings can be found in Appendix 6.

5.6 Partner collaborations

As the engagement programme was short and intensive it was decided to work with key partners to help reach those harder to reach communities and younger persons where activities, exhibitions or events were already taking part and we could help facilitate specific workshops and promote MK Futures 2050.

School Project

St Thomas Aquinas Primary school

18th – 22nd January

We worked with St Aquinas primary school based in Bletchley to deliver a creative classroom activity involving all of **300** pupils from the ages of 5 – 10 years old. The activity asked the pupils to imagine they were designers of the future city of MK and what could make MK an even greater place to live and they were to build, draw or write what was needed. The creative activity was overseen by teacher Miss Tara Williamson and delivered over one week. Each classroom submitted entries and the winners from each class received a certificate of achievement presented by commissioners Pete Winkelman and Oliver Dean.

Winning entrants ideas included:

- What I like about Milton Keynes (collage and drawing) Ciara-Mai Kennedy Aged 5
- A Waterpark (mixed media) Alfie Monaghan Aged 5
- Milton Keynes Skyscraper (mixed media) Max Jurewicz and Weronika Piwnik aged 6
- A tropical swimming pool (mixed media) Bethany Aitken aged 6
- Milton Keynes Rocket station (Mixed media) Isaac Rufai, Isabelle McGlue, Andreas Pinto and Sophie Slinn Aged 8 & 9
- The Crescendo - A hotel for Royalty (mixed media) Mia Gilmore, Natalya Bozkurt, Sam Roberts, Daphne Michelle, Jacob Palmer, Georgia Zeolla Aged 9 & 10
- An exciting Old Persons Home (computer aided) Noah Wheatley Aged 9
- A Bridge inspired by the Eiffel Tower (mixed media) Rachel Nketia, Marcella Standen-Matthews and Giselle Pinto Aged 10 & 11

Teacher resource materials can be found in Appendix 7.

YouSayMK Schools Workshops

Friday 22nd January Milton Keynes Council Civic Offices

To help engage with a younger audience in a more controlled environment MK Futures 2050 was invited to attend the YouSayMK event and facilitated three closed workshops sessions with **73** schoolchildren aged between 11 – 16 years. This was an opportunity to enable a real insight of the future of MK from a young person's perception and to get them to think about the long term future of the city. It was also an opportunity for MK Futures 2050 Commission to be represented. Commissioner Oliver Dean who we felt had more appeal and relevance speaking to this age group generally about the commission work and his own experience of being a MK resident and the aspirations that he has for MK in the future. Sessions were supported by three members of MKC executive team and one teacher. Each session followed the following format.

- Welcome, overview of session and discussion questions explained – Oliver Dean (10 mins)
- Attendees split into working groups of 4/5
- Group discussion work – What makes a great city? What is great about MK? What could make MK greater? Key points written on post it notes (20 minutes)
- Individual group feedback / presentation of viewpoints – notes posted onto stand (15 mins)
- Q&A (5 mins)
- Close

Key findings can be found in Appendix 8.

Community Action:MK

Over a two week period in January 2016 Community Action: MK supported MK Futures 2050 engagement programme using a variety of methods to reach a wide range of local people and gain their perceptions based on the three core questions. During this period **188** people contributed their views face to face and **404** dialogues recorded and tagged in their bespoke QuickChat app. Community Action: MK activity included:

Oakgrove School Kingston Survey and sweet bomb exercise

Woughton area (catchment includes Coffee Hall, Beanhill, Fishermead, Netherfield, Tinkers Bridge)

Tuesday 19th January 3pm

MK Academy, the secondary School that serves the Woughton estates, were keen to involve their students in community activity and ensure they have the opportunity to contribute to local decision making. A MK Futures 2050 focussed 'Sweet Bomb' session (a simple but effective activity used involving buckets of sweets acting as an incentive for students to stop and give their opinions) was organised with the school.

MK College Fresher's Fair

Tuesday 26th Thursday 28th January

A stand was booked to engage with young people and speak to attendees about MK Futures 2050 and start conversations around the 3 key questions. This event was a great opportunity to gain insights from a range of young adults ranging in age from 17 – 24 years living in MK.

Netherfield People's Health Trust Meeting

CA:MK was already working with residents in Netherfield on a project aimed at improving health and wellbeing on the estate. Residents come together in a steering group, which they regularly consult with their neighbours to gauge opinion on what's important to them and the Netherfield community led plan. This group have great knowledge about life in Netherfield and the aspirations of local people, so having them contribute their view of MK and ideas moving forward will provided a good insight. We also asked steering group members to promote MK Futures 2050 and the survey to their community.

Door knocking in Great Linford

CA:MK has a Community Mobiliser based in Great Linford Parish, so were involved in current activities in the area. We engaged with residents in the older, village part of Great Linford, which gave us a good contrast to some of the estates we are targeting in the Woughton Parish.

Door knocking in Tinkers Bridge

Door knocking is an effective way to reach out to residents that may not otherwise attend activities and even leave their homes often. By going out to them in this way we ensured that 'hard to reach' voices were heard and represented.

Moorlands Centre coffee morning Beanhill

CA: MK has done a lot of work in Beanhill and so have some good links to local residents and community activities. The coffee morning run by volunteers at the Moorlands Centre on the estate is a popular social activity that is usually well attended. We arranged to visit the group and use this opportunity to sit with residents at an informal session and initiate discussion and ideas for the future.

Community Facebook pages promotion and targeted communication

Community mobilisers have worked in a number of communities in MK and Facebook has been an important part of connecting with local residents. This means several community Facebook pages specific to individual areas, with a good bank of 'friends' made up of residents and stakeholders within estates that were used to promote MK Futures 2050 and communicate directly with community members and to engage them in online conversations. Community Action: MK also supported the activities with regular updates in their electronic newsletter.

Appendixes

Appendix 1 Survey responses Website

Appendix 2 Key findings of public open days including Intu Shopping Centre, Regional libraries and Open University

Appendix 3 Bulleted points of discussions during public open day Milton Keynes

Appendix 4 Bulleted points of discussions Lovat Fields retirement village

Appendix 5 Bulleted points of discussions New Life Church

Appendix 6 Bulleted points of discussions Resident Association Meetings

Appendix 7 Project and teacher resource materials St Aquinas School Project

Appendix 8 Key points from YouSayMK Schools Workshop

Appendix 1

Survey responses Website

MK Futures 2050
Generated: 4 March, 2016, 11:42

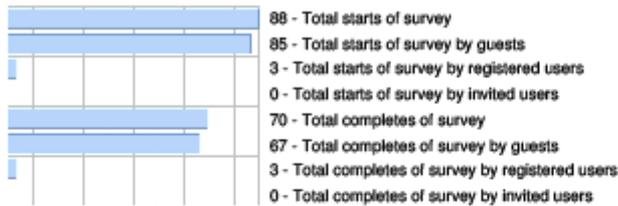
SURVEY INFORMATION

Name: What Makes A Great City?

Description MK Futures 2050 want to hear what you feel makes a great city. Obtaining feedback from the public is vital to the review process. We would appreciate your taking the time to complete the following survey.

It should take around 5 minutes of your time to complete.

Your responses are voluntary and will be confidential. Responses will be not identified by an individual. All responses will be compiled together and analysed as a group.



How Old Are You?



Do you live, work, study or visit Milton Keynes?



Where do you live in Milton Keynes?



Holm

MK8 9HW, central Milton Keynes, Shenley Church End, Fullers Slade, I live in Woburn Sands having previously lived in Woughton Park for 25 years., Bletchley, Bradville, broughton gate, Bradwell, Woolstone, Fenny Stratford, Emerson Valley, Oxley Park, Wolverton, Wolverton, Great Holm, Bletchley, Bradwell Common, Bradwell Common, Bletchley, Broughton, Bradwell Common, Bletchley, hub, Stony Stratford, Oxley park, New bradwell, Bletchley, Wolverton, Furzton, Blakelands, Stony Stratford, North, Great Linford, Shenley Lodge, New Bradwell, Stony Stratford, Oldbrook, Emerson Valley, fishermead, Emerson Valley, LOUGHTON, Broughton gate, Great Holm, Emerson Valley, MK7, Wolverton, Shenley Brook End, Wolverton, Wavendon Gate, Broughton gate, Emerson Valley, Medbourne, Newport Pagnell, Campbell Park, Bradwell, Stacey Bushes, kents, Kents Hill, Kents Hill

What do you think the key components to a great city are?

What makes a great city?	What is great about MK?	What could make it greater?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community spirit. Good quality local Employment. Good quality amenities. Good quality • High standard major shopping centre. Good local shopping centres. High quality waste disposal collection service. Good landscape management. Positive philosophy for the town which transfers to the people both residents and visitors. Plenty of opportunities for the young to participate in leisure and learning activities. Redway system. , trees, good traffic flow green and open space • cultural spaces • Innovation, A balance of everything from people to facilities to resources. • True equality for all who live here., good transport system • public activity • reasonable childcare price • Adequate shopping facilities, good transport links whether by bus, train, car bike or walking, protected open spaces, excellent employment prospects, Excellent medical facilities, first class schools. Limited growth so keeping identity. Communication and consultation with Parish Councils and individuals and listening to their opinions and acting on them., Open spaces, things to do e.g. libraries, cinema, theatre. Employment opportunities. Nice houses, sense of place and belonging, A wide variety of pleasant well designed homes in the right proportions and locations, giving a mix of owned, shared-ownership and rented (both private and Housing Association), from single bedroom to executive properties, all in a pleasant environment. • Fast and convenient travel, walking, cycling, driving and in public transport. Excellent range of employment opportunities. • A wide range of affordable and convenient leisure facilities. • A well planned infrastructure that leads, and doesn't lag behind, development. Good quality sustainable architecture and services. • , Enough for every age group to do, 1) Space for people to play (something which you are destroying by letting developers build on this space) 2) road infrastructure (shame you never thought about that when you started throwing down housing estates left and right, creating the grid system to lock up every working day.) 3) Shopping facilities (Shame that Milton Keynes is just a load of chain restaurants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are a very modern city who were not afraid to do things differently • Its people and their love for the place Roads and greenery • The green spaces and the red ways city At present it is open and green with a good road and rail network. Access is relatively easy to shopping and entertainment venues. Coverage of all of Milton Keynes by Parishes giving a proper level of governance • The green spaces - we have so much land and outside space. • No 19th century design limitations to work around, The Milton Keynes Master Plan. • The forward thinking and not being restricted by historical buildings etC • Well it ain't the football club (stole that), it isn't our differing range of chain restaurants (Hmm...Nandos or Pizza Express?), • the building of homes in such close proximity of them means you are cutting back on living space...so I guess it's the concrete cows. Sad really. Nothing unique except for an art installation in Bancroft which you will probably build on anyway. • family friendly, easy travel everything you could ever need, Grid system to keep traffic problems down. Good links to London. Great park areas and woodlands. • Its grid square (which are actually bad for non car drivers and for bus services) and its green spaces which are very good. But the old towns hold their own too so a mix of types of housing is good. • Estates segregated by road systems • The can-do, experimental ethos • The passion that local people have for the place • Ease of access to large amounts of high quality open space, It's urban form, it shapes the culture of the city. • It has good transport links and has a lot to do, It has everything. • Its feeling of being spread out - with amenities and high streets to go to beyond the centre. Its design of grid roads making navigating away from queues easier plus plenty of redways and underpasses offering easy walking and cycling routes. The feeling that it is still growing and that there is plenty to discover both new and old beyond the residential area in which you live. • The spread out layout which gives enough space to individual / group to grow • The redway network is a fantastic and unique at that should be updated, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More independent shops - not just high street - more boutiques Make it in to a city • Higher density housing, bigger hospital, keep the quality of life, Improved equality • Listen to what residents say rather than the vested interests of MK Partnerships and HCA. Proper expansion of Health facilities and Schools rather than. Limit growth of Milton Keynes without expanding any further. Complete link to M1 junction 13, improve bus services at an affordable cost, increase housing at a level which is rentable at a truly affordable costing. Impress on rail companies to provide fast services both north and south and a better link to Gatwick. • Make the Milton Keynes bowl a vibrant entertainment hub improving road and rail links. Just a few suggestions! • Better and more bus routes - not everyone drives, remain innovative • Stop this developer-led piecemeal planning that puts profits before a successful coherently planned and delivered city. • Reinstate the concept of grid roads designed around a fast and convenient bus /tram service. Redevelop the early estates that were built to a low standard of construction, excessively low density, and with an insufficient mix of housing types • Put coherent planning ahead of development and a clear vision of the future against the current total disregard. • Indoor music venues • Better city centre parking. • More tech industries • Better transport links from East to West and vice verca. • Reviving the old towns like Wolverton and Bletchley by getting the local shops back, better public transport so people dont have to use their cars all the time (this would help the terrible parking at schools) and more GP surgeries (this is a huge issue to most people in the new city parts of MK as a serious problem and some are moving out as cant get a GP). • By not getting too big • Being a bit braver about making difficult decisions about its future; trying new things even if it is different to the way things have been done in the past, or might be unpopular in the short term, • Density, better transport, more things for young people, more homes for younger people

<p>then, nothing original/unique about it) and a city centre to be proud of (shame that the places like Westcroft/Stadium have taken core business from Milton Keynes unique selling point)</p> <p>4) Housing (Or should I say the green coloured buildings all piled in together with no room between them, no back gardens or front gardens for these new builds and yet you and the house contractors believe paying £200k is value for money? It's like battery chickens, you are trying to maximise space/living quarters to line your pockets. What about people's well being?)</p> <p>Overall Milton Keynes has lost its way from being a garden city, and turned into a Housing developers paradise where grid design has been thrown out the window and instead of promoting local business would rather put ANOTHER Nandos/Pizza Express chain store in then lower the rent to allow locals to nature their local cuisine., leisure facilities, family friendly, easy travel, Good transport links, green areas, job opportunities, God culture that is easy to access so good bus services plus cheap rate for key groups to access the cultural events. Plus good quality housing, good play areas for teenagers, not just younger children, so that the teenagers are occupied.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good transport Modest size, Effective public transport A vibrant and varied cultural offering Resilient economy Green space, clean air rich ecology, climate adaptive • Resource efficient and sustainable • Diverse economy • Inclusive and equitable • Connected great transport options Opportunities for employment • Range of culture and opportunity to exchange ideas , Local community, home grown local businesses and few chain shops, To offer all that mk has to offer in a setting of trees and green spaces is perfect. • A good balance between business and community • Easy access to entertainment and retail as well as more secluded open air parks and outdoor areas to enjoy • Plenty of cultural events on the calendar for residents to enjoy and attend as well as attracting visitors from outside the city • Good transport links. • It is vibrant, Inclusive, progressive and creative, Connected, open spaces, great architecture, a range of diverse services, and a unique sense of character. • A place to be proud of, to aspire and motivate, no matter age or ability. Key 	<p>expanded, and promoted. We have a greater density of green spaces than any other town or city I've visited. Nowhere else can I start at a shopping centre, take a walk through a park and end up at a lakeside, all without crossing a road. Our road network is also cutting edge, easy to navigate, and far less traffic laden than most other road networks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travel pleasantly to work, education, leisure, health facilities, - everything you need, really quickly. The fabulous road network, rail services, bus services all work, without excuses to enable travelling and enjoying, very well designed landscapes throughout the city. • Redway system and lots of green space. Very friendly to bikers and dog walkers • Its layout and planned identity, Different but very effective and pleasant urban design; the grid roads make driving much less stressful and cramped than other places in the UK, while the redways and footpaths make it a nicer and safer place to walk and cycle. The abundant green space makes it incredibly pleasant to move through, especially by foot or by cycle. The lakes and parks make for great ecological and recreational focal points. The city centre provides easy and central access to a lot of great stores, while the local centres make smaller, more regular amenities very easy to access. Each grid square has its own unique character. Many unique buildings and homes from past architectural projects and expositions. There also seems to be a great sense of pride among residents; people from outside MK often don't understand it or poke fun at it, but most people who actually live in MK long enough to 'get it' really love the advantages conveyed by the unique design., The people and the wonderful unique layout of the "City" • Green infrastructure is extremely well developed as well the road system. Employment areas are well distributed and not concentrated in one area. Commercial offerings still rival other regional centres and it's position within the South East makes it very accessible. Importance of landscaping, green as well man built, is/was of a high standard. • It's layout. • A positive modern outlook, open to accept new ideas • Open spaces , • MK is unique because it has the potential to be whatever it wants to be, without being restricted by legacy or tradition in the way that other cities re. • The grid system is brilliant, the parks and cycle routes makes it a very nice environment. The shops are great and it 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support local community, local business and local culture • Mk doesn't need to be made greater, it is great. It's a destination. • The remaining green spaces around the city centre and estates close by should remain (I heard they were going to be built on) and enhanced with more planting. • Mk has everything for the consumer, a night out, all manner of leisure activities, restaurants everything. • I don't understand the constant need for renewal., • A greater sense of inter-connectedness both within and between estates. More shared knowledge - ease of which to find out what is going on and where, I think the biggest thing which is lacking in milton Keynes is correlation to all the estates and areas within the region. • If we have a way to connect these it will be unique place which not only has space where people can go to their individual creative outlets but also hubs where we work together • Upgrade and expand the redway network, promote our green spaces and the activities of the Parks Trust more extensively, and rejuvenate some of our local centres to bring them back up to date and foster a sense of community. • Major landmark as part of City Centre. MK to Bedford Canal built. Sculptures on all roundabouts (make them a feature) While constructing developments, landscape around edges of sites, don't wait till all building works complete. • Ensure all access roads and their verges are kept in first class condition - especially J14 M1 • Clean and refresh tired road signs on regular basis • Litter taskforce • Better lighting and maintenance of redway system. Some patches ie between Neath Hill and Bradwell Common very potholed and dark at night. • Connected cultural offer • Better 'lateral' transport (especially rail) connections to places other than London and Manchester, such as Bedford and Oxford. • Some lengths of 'high speed' redways that are more direct arteries for moving from point to point through MK to encourage cycle commuting on the redways (they're currently fantastic for dog walking etc., but can be a bit of a maze for trying to get across town quickly). • By finally getting the recognition from the Government and the powers that be by giving us the official title of City of Milton Keynes.
---	---	---

<p>components - A major landmark (with unique satellite landmarks in each community?) to enable MK to be regarded as a fabulous grown up city. Fast fibre optic broadband , Accessibility - public transport and infrastructure for eco-commuting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green space and parks • Good shopping and leisure facilities., Leisure and Culture offer good transport networks economic prosperity Comfortable to live in, abundant green space and healthy integrated ecosystems, a strong and sustainable economy, good transport connectivity both within the city and to other locations, public safety and cleanliness, fun public events, a sense of pride among residents. • High Speed Internet; A Strong Infrastructure and excellent employment., A mixture of facilities, such as cultural, social and commercial. Access to good environment and accessibility across the whole city. • Lots of events, good facilities, well cared for city centre, good public transport links. • Good job opportunities, good entertainment venues, restaurants, sports venues, interesting buildings , good shops, Space, grid roads , open parks , I don't know , - A distinct identity that makes residents proud to call a city home <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - strong infrastructure planning across housing, transport and amenities - educational centres of excellence. Drawing on key local industries and businesses to develop talent of the future - great leisure facilities centred in hubs across the city. Casual and upmarket dining, entertainment multiplexes, cultural experiences and distinct shopping quarters for high end and high street retailers - a range of sports clubs competing at a national level - a future focused strategy that delivers care to those who need it when they need it - excellent health care standards and facilities, Places of interest to visit, easy transport links, sports teams, restaurants and parks. Cycling routes are important too, Quality of life, environment, access, facility and community. • Relaxing places • Somewhere great to go out, Variety of all activities/things to do for everyone, Shops and clubs, Busy high streets Top quality facilities • Hundreds of independent restaurants, shops and bars, Good Employment with 	<p>is the best place I have lived, It's a spacious, half city, half countryside American style town. With a rich mixed cultured community and a ambitious town spirit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It's got everything, Grid road system, It's better than anywhere else locally • How green it is and how easy it is to get around the city, Green spaces, excellent access around the city, Its layout and general ease of access to the hub (City Centre). • That is a City with lots of visitors and a thriving night time economy • The open spaces, linear parks, trees, woods, lakes, footpaths and cycle paths. The landscaping, street furniture and (at least some) of the innovative architecture by MKDC to a quality and standard originally that probably can never be repeated due to lack of resources. Pioneers in low energy buildings and now smart city technology. The good train links to London and the North and the Grand Union canal. The Open University. Historic towns, Stony Stratford, Wolverton and Olney, old villages and beautiful parts of MK, such as Great Linford. • Youthfulness • The grid system and the high level of greenery • Redways, good open spaces. • Shopping centre. • On the main, being a new town. • grid system. homes not on main roads. • Its great grid road system which means you can't get completely lost. It is cleaner than most other cities. • It's grid system is fairly unique • Grid system and amount of parkland. • Grid roads and being the most successful "New town" • Grid road corridor infrastructure (which can adapt over generations as needs change - why have they stopped being delivered?!); good balance of employment types across the city in a planned manner; MKDC delivered housing (since then, housing is in the main just like everywhere else...); network and quality of local and strategic open spaces. • Until the last 10-15 years, a place that was comprehensively planned for current and future potential needs, rather than the recent more piecemeal approach that has compromised the principles that MK was founded on (read above). • I'm not sure it is socially unique. The grid is unique. • Physical layout, Layout and vibrancy • Green, spacious, clean, grid roads well ordered, lots of clubs and activities, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better walkability, areas of the city are very inaccessible unless you can drive which lends to the city to over-reliance on a car. Promotion of independent businesses in the city centre as well as in local areas such as Bletchley and Wolverton. Improvements to public transport are required, massively. City centre fabric is deteriorating and ageing rapidly. • Make the different areas more individual. • More professional companies based here, a better public transport system a tram or monorail just something other than the incessant drive to improve the bus service. The positivity and drive seems to be failing somewhat at present with the collapse of the badminton centre move, the proposed water park at the bowl, the xscape expansion. • More independent restaurants than the chains that we always seem to get. • By keeping open spaces, focusing on locals , developing local old towns as real food towns, not becoming a commuter town for London • An indoor water park, • Focus on developing health care and education that is nationally recognised as outstanding. • Neither the capacity nor the quality are good enough at the moment • Much better transport strategy, solving the parking issues and improving the public transport network. Become the UKs capital of cycling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop an identity - Develop the city centre to bring in more major employers and also create more leisure facilities. Fewer chain restaurants, more high quality independents., Could do with more things to do especially in the winter, Regeneration of deprived estates and deprived commercial buildings. The more leisure and entertainment facility the better. A water park and theme park would be good for a family orientated town like MK. , Put some culture in it, More city/town events E.g the rugby wc event at Campbell park, Allow small independent shops, bars and restaurants to operate around the centre. Currently the city is lifeless, It could strive to be a 'healthy city' businesses could work together to achieve this both for employees and general population , Maintenance and improvement of its legacy infrastructure, better public transport, Continue with innovations, Better(Cheaper) Parking, Improved and cost effective public transport, more free parking to attract visitors., Improve the hospital , new developments model on existing ones; ie a main road runs
--	---	--

<p>competitive pay to other southern cities, attracting people to work in this area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good shopping facilities • A variety of good restaurants and bars • Good road and rail links <p>affordable housing, connectives - a feeling that everyone is singing from the same songsheet</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I would argue that three things in particular would make a city great: Scale and Purpose; Coherent means to get about for the foreseeable future; and a full cultural offer. Below I relate them to the MK reality. • Scale and Purpose. A city cannot be small (30,000 would be absurd) and merely being big is not enough. It needs scale and purpose, but it also needs the leadership to drive forward in the medium and long term, freed from a weekly/monthly/annual preoccupation with short-term discomforts among a short-term electorate. It is disappointing that MK has not moved at least to 4-yearly electoral cycles which would allow the longer pace that ambitious urban development demands. Leadership needs the freedom to be bold over many years. • Coherent means to get around. This is important in the present, where scale is still such that the private car works for most purposes at most times. But that will not last. MK is well served by external links, particularly if we assume East West Rail is completed, and links to airports are improved. The challenge is our internal movement. Tens of thousands of private cars are not the answer for the future, no more are tens of thousands of smart pods. There needs to be a coherence of movement, not dependent on individual vehicles, which will increasingly use scarce resources (public and private) of land, energy and time. The opportunity cost is unacceptable. There needs to be a public transport system (of whatever technology is not important) which can cope with a sustained increase in demand for journeys. RWC was a hint of what can work when required. • Full Cultural offer. Any great city needs the full cultural offer that comes from a student body of tens of thousands of undergraduates. Many towns and cities smaller than MK is, let alone than MK will be, already have that. Students provide resources (their own spending, their ideas, their restless energy); they provide a part-time workforce; they provide cultural appetites and cultural creativity; an endless local supply of graduates; a local pipeline of economic and social enterprise in all sectors. If that substantial student body cannot be secured in the medium-term, we must 	<p>fantastic shops, easy access to music and theatre (if you want it, I don't).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On the negative side we must be unique in not having a proper town centre (no civic pride), only a shopping mall. • Grid road layout, Its design, the mix between urban and rural • Easy to find your way around when you are living here. Relatively good transport links within the city and to London. Great parks and lots of green areas. • It's attitude, people and design are points of difference but we still face many of the same challenges as other cities, especially increasing congestion and pressure for skilled workers. • Roads and greenery, its people and their love for the place • We are a very modern city who were not afraid to do things differently 	<p>through Broughton. not enough local amenities in the new estates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • better transports that is not overprice, runs on times and links better; takes about an hour to travel if you need to take two buss. if you need to travel beyond the city centre, you will need to take two busses. • foster local business and smaller brands. Mk has a habit of building new developments, filling them with repeated brands (MK1) and then 10 years later that development is forget about (theatre district). • The hospital must be made larger and better - too many people are having to travel to other towns to get treatment. Bring back the services for people that are being cut. Some older, unattractive housing estates do not reflect well on the city - these need to be rebuilt as soon as possible, and rents increased to reflect the improved homes. • Improved facilities for transport other than the car, Infrastructure before expansion ... always. • Yes, health, public transport and connectively with other towns and city's. • Return to the established master planning principles of the MK Planning Manual, rather than planning it in the same way as everywhere else (MK is unique, that's why we love it - don't dilute it). Plan for the growth to help attract investment. • PROMOTE MK as a great place to live, work and play in the way it was previously (ie red balloon tv ad); make more of the great place MK is, the businesses that are located here etc. • Cheap/free public transport. • Tackle homelessness. • Money spent on public spaces = maintenance of redways, paths, landscape. • More employment opportunities city centre parking and other sporting venues • A civic pride engendering town centre and a vibrant, non generic offering of things to buy and participate in • More music venues • More independent stores, restaurants and bars • Unique locations that aren't just chains • Better transport links from East to West and vice versa. Currently it seems to be good North to South and vice versa, but not the other way around. • It could improve mobility for all with an eye to a future where car ownership is not the prevailing model. We can't succeed by just being the biggest and best car park in the UK! • Make it in to a city, more independent
--	--	---

<p>look for proxies that will generate comparable cultural capital. In 2007 we came close to getting a 13th BBC broadcast region (it was in Greg Dyke`s, and Mark Thompson`s corporate plans), which would have led to a share of decentralising BBC. In 2016 we might look to create 500 new studio spaces each year, offered at prices that will draw creative`s from an overpriced London studio market, to which we are well connected up the WCML. It can be done! There will be other proxies as well as those two – there`s a big gap that must be filled.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open spaces, good internal and external public transport, lively culture, friendly people, good public architecture, low carbon development, variety of housing, Friendly. Good transport. Open spaces., Great facilities, Culture, Open Spaces, Open Green Space. Work Opportunities. Shopping Centre. Roads. Walkways, good housing. good transport. free parking. good shops. good entertainment. open spaces., Infrastructure I.E good roads, clean , good transport. ample amenities (gp, shops) activities for all age groups not just families and children. diverse local business. , Excellent services for all citizens from children to elderly, disabled and able bodies. Attractive environment, clean surrounds, arts and entertainment, attractive shops to bring more people in, low parking charges so people can afford to park. A good infrastructure - roads, hospitals, GPs, dentists etc, schools and facilities for each age group, sports venues., Capable infrastructure, Infrastructure / facilities / grid system / activities for all ages / parkland and greenery., Public transport, schools and education, connectively to other towns and city's, health and environment, technology leaders , Appropriate infrastructure (physical and community), quality of place (less • Housing that looks like everywhere else!), vibrant mixed use centres, mixture of job types in the right locations, and quality open spaces (which MK is renowned for - don't let it slip). , Opportunities... to learn for leisure for jobs for travel, Local Business Regular Cultural Activities • Facilities. Landscaping. Events. Neighbourly, Vibrant colourful city centre with non-generic shops / stalls, special events, arts, food markets etc. which impart a sense of belonging to something wider than your own housing estate. Get us off our sofas and onto the streets!, Good public transport , people , 		<p>shops - not just high street - more boutiques</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A better culture offering
--	--	--

<p>Sense of community, history, identity, lots of activities to do , Good transport network, good parks and recreational spaces, good management from the council, It supports its people to be happy and productive and always looks ahead and adapts to stay ahead. , Better education, Diversity, efvev, A place with good community spirit with a wide offering of leisure activities.</p>		
--	--	--

Appendix 2

Bulleted key findings of public open days including Intu Shopping Centre, Regional libraries and Open University

What makes a great city?	What is great about MK?	What could make it greater?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easy accessibility to all amenities • People and all good things to keep your entertained • Lots to do easy access • Lots of amenities • Variety of activities • Society, variety, buzz & energy • Lots of big events • People / community • Good transport and network • Similar to London but more chilled • Less housing / more green open spaces • Culture • Live in harmony across all races • Cathedral • Not to get left behind – remain forward thinking as we grow • Outdoor activities • Community integration • Quality of life, balance of city, town and country life • Good employment opps • Safe environment • Entertainment not always commercial • Resident feeling s belonging – owning what they have and loyalty • Architecture • Integration of cultures - understand each other and beliefs • Infrastructure – services a growing population - not just for now • Architecture that stands the test of time • Celebrated history • Resident feeling s belonging – owning what they have and loyalty • Good medical facilities - hospital and clinics • Diversity of cultural activities, people outdoor space and fun activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It's got everything that you need in one place • The amount of different things for young people • Lots to do • Good travel access • Schools and variety • Attracts large employers • Cinema – 1st imax screen • The Future plan • Active / busy • Nothing – no identity no independent shops • The green open spaces • Open places to walk / lakes easy to get about • Fantastic bike lanes / cycle paths • Inside shopping centre • Nightlife • Polite people • Its infrastructure • Good sports facilities MK Dons • Family are all here • Progression • Roundabouts / grid system • It's continued growth and vision • Proximity to London • Services for the community (libraries) • Its cycle paths although a little unkempt 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More character – more uniqueness • More larger events (national exposure) • City status • More business opportunities for small set ups • A safer place to live • More traditional arts festivals • Keep to the original plan • Stop building more houses on green sites or at least give spaces like parks between • Careful look at transport accessibility for place of work • Picturesque spots for families • Less traffic congestion – better public transport services • Swimming pool • More options on venues to socialise in • Kids facilities that embraces everyone • More affordable housing • More public sports facilities all too private/expensive) • 24/7 opening hours more a 'city' like London • More transport between satellite shopping parks and main centre • Better football team – home grown talent • Look after what is here – regenerate • Community factor needs to be stronger in a progressive city • A good indoor music venue – central location with good transport • Intergenerational • Themed bars and more restaurants - world cuisine • Multi-cultural centre - better young people's services • Covered sports facilities • Transport Pods (heated) with up to date service information • More imaginative use of existing resources

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Race track (Formula 1 red Bull links) • Another hospital - more regional medical centres • More facilities for adults / couples without children • keep it green - open spaces • Children's open farm – educational • Own University more schools including grammar
--	--	--

Appendix 3

Bulleted points of discussions during public open day Milton Keynes Hospital

What makes a great city?	What is great about MK?	What could make it greater?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friendliness, people, community spirit, open spaces, good interlink travel. • Scenery, kept woodlands, parks - think about what is built and the impact. • Shopping, good open clean spaces, friendly people. Ease of travel, good network links rail. Freedom of access (look after don't keep closing buildings and leaving them empty). History and identity. • Diversity. People from all backgrounds to come together as a unit. Unity. • Good facilities that can accommodate the size of the population. • Clean place, invest money into run down areas - invest in the people already of MK. • History, culture identity. • People that have a sense of pride. Good employment prospects, good homes. • Services that can serve the population it has. Money invested wisely and thinks of future health and well being of its residents. Has a shared vision across all communities. • Its citizens, open green spaces, reduced pollution (litter/transport) pioneering. • Good provision of services. Clean air. A progression to move life and its people on. A sense of belonging. Care in the community. Healthcare that evolves with the time and technology. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was a good place - now we are falling behind - bad schools, bad reputation - why would you come here? • It has some historical towns with real identity - but these are overlooked a lot and forgotten - MK is not just a new town! • People that come from MK (born and bred) are passionate about their surroundings and loyal to its continuing development. • Ease to navigate round- you can't get lost in MK! • Good theatre, shopping social activities. Areas that have a good sense of community with its services. • Was a good place now tired and old.MK living in the past too much? • Good social facilities, parks. Have good employment opportunities. • Likes Bletchley stadium area - enjoys the restaurants, shops social activities good layout easy to get to and from. • Green areas kept, Centre MK shopping, sports venues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop so much development, stop taller buildings being built. Areas now becoming overdeveloped. Modernise Redway system for safety / used to use a lot when young now wouldn't not as not deemed safe. Keep attracting new employers/ proper careers (reflect what the UK economy needs to keep manufacturing) like engineering to encourage young people to stay. • Litter is a big issue (Willen Lake) areas not kept or maintained. Needs to be less populated in areas as well - keep open areas. • Parking in town/make cheaper and more of. More local run activities and festivals. Better healthcare facilities. Another hospital and more mobile clinics. • Better transport system, especially for those people working shifts. Better cultural social areas. Multi-faith centres. More markets with cuisine from around the world. • A infrastructure that can cope with the population and demand of new technological advances (IT). Funding being better utilised in key areas. MK doesn't need more shops we need services for the people to live a balanced healthy life. • Develop areas with more open spaces and lakes. Parks with easy special needs facilitates for wheelchairs. More money into the hospital and extend the paed wards. Better investment into the supporting systems. • Regeneration of run down areas. Better transport system. Campus University. Investment used wisely and across the whole of MK. Take care of older towns (Bletchley) • Clean it up and areas that are public. Some parks are run down tired and littered. Not safe for children to play in - dirty not a good impression. • Expansion and development that happens based on the needs of the

		<p>residents. More disabled access and care programmes for the elderly (growing population are now retired).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For a new city it is already run down and needs money and care in some of its boroughs and residential areas. Needs to improve outside reputation within the UK. Not a joke that is ridiculed to make people want to come visit/invest. Make people of MK united and proud again. • More money placed into the right areas. Why the need to keep dismantling and rebuilding a town? A city needs a good healthcare system. Without it people are ill which costs more money in the long term. People talk of looking after buildings - look after its people! Extend MK Hospital - get pop up centres to go out to harder to reach areas and areas that have a lot of elderly residents.
--	--	--

Appendix 4

Bulleted points of discussions Lovat Fields retirement village

What is great about MK?	What could make it greater?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low unemployment. Grid road system (although needs repair) open green spaces in the original built areas. • Grid system. The thought out landscaping. Low building stipulation. Open spaces. • Redways, easy access in wheelchair. Grid system good segregation of business and community areas. Good central shops. Identified areas around MK to support social activities (Millennium route for bikes). • Lived here since 1970's - it is great for getting about as in a wheelchair the Redways give freedom although would not use in bad light as don't feel safe. • Moved to MK in 1950's as upcoming society. Lively good for young and old, lots of open green spaces. • Well kept garden areas, hedgerows, green spaces, flowers, play areas for children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better transport links/services around the boroughs. Current services not coherent - you have to get a bus from a borough into Centre Mk to then get another bus out again to neighbouring borough - should have a better transport system that allows travel between boroughs. Do not over develop, too much taken over. Maintain what is here - Money and houses are too much of a focus. More independent shops, keep costs down, more original boutiques. Lower rent/houses as financially too high for young people. Too many buy to lets - keeping prices high and property at a premium and you lose that community feel as people come and go. More housing to be facilitated through the council, less private rents. People should be fined for not looking after properties esp if a council rent. Areas and some estates are dirty, unkept areas brings down the reputation of the area and its people. Parking is an issue - families having more than 2 cars as bus/links services are poor and expensive. People should be encouraged to leave their cars at home - rewarded for car share schemes - lower rent if they take the scheme up. Lots of foreign national now in MK with no room. Need a bigger hospital - more clinics, Dr Surgeries, dentists - have onsite support services in places like Lovat - older people clog up hospitals as they don't have the medical care that they need locally? Increase Dr Clinics reduce older people in hospital. Need more police in MK on the ground. Redways are unsafe need major overhaul and security officers to patrol. • Have to get a taxi into centre as have no transport services to get in with a wheelchair. Healthcare build another hospital or have a hospital that can cater look after the needs of the elderly so main hospital can concentrate on young people/specialised care for cancer patients - better use of funding money for needed care/research. More buses needed and to not to stop before 10pm. Look at the services that are needed for housing developments/ don't develop all at once, look at smaller plots. Think of residents more - think of the bigger picture not just money! • Better transport system - stop reducing the community services. More accessibility for disabled persons out of MK centre. More doctors locally. MK Museum not about MK! All about Victorian times nothing post Mk development. Canal systems used again and extended (from Campbell Park). Better IT broadband system for all (bad connection services in a lot of areas - why have people not invested to get better service - feel penalised due to their location. • Wonderful Redways but now not safe - hidden from view due to no gardening/maintenance of the grass/bushes in those areas - also people don't feel safe so crossing on the roads which is unsafe for everyone. Another hospital more doctors clinics. Better public transport Mk was built as a car town - is the future based too much on it and should provide other ways to move around. More retirement villages free up

	<p>hospitals so you have the right care at the right place. Better facilitates for disabled persons (special care homes). More after school support for special needs people. More schools needed to ratio of immigrants too high.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bigger or new hospital to support the growing population and to help attract more professional healthcare practitioners to MK (out of London). Get rid of traffic lights - we have roundabouts - or have a system that they are only used during peak hours. Development to continue along the original plans - houses low and high green banks. Now houses being developed on the roads. Dual carriageways - you don't need them. Litter is an issue need to invest more in keeping MK clean! Refuse collections - get rid of plastic bags and invest longer term by providing bins - vermin are an issue with the current bin waste service. More markets - closing down the central one in exchange for ANOTHER high street shop - why? It is generally felt that MK boroughs are not £ financially equal and do not have the same amount spent or invested as others (perception is that the central areas are better kept than that of outer boroughs where people don't see). New housing does not have enough parking - the land spaces are too small and cramped, people cannot park safely. Population of MK is now too high for schools to cope with - agree that we need to grow but are we attracting the right professionals to the area that MK needs? or just an open gate to low paid uneducated, foreign migrants - seems to be a shift change in everything to cater for Polish migrants and MK 'locals' being pushed to the side - will our local schools be teaching in English anymore?
--	---

Appendix 5

Bulleted points of discussions New Life Church

What makes a great city?	What is great about MK?	What could make it greater?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arts history architecture, diversity of people. • Culture, recognise the different history, people and has its own unique identity which is beneficial to people that live as it brings others in and boosts the local economy which goes back into support services and needed medical/professional care and development. • Identity that makes it unique. Known for something either history or culture. Great facilitates think of its people and pushes to accommodate people from all ethnic backgrounds and social standing. • Culture, integration. Good roads and rail links. Sufficient and accessible healthcare. Good housing. Feeling of community belonging with optimism and wellbeing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MK has lots to do, sports, theatre, and cinema. Has lots of open spaces fairly well looked after. Good links to airports and rail services around key locations. Employment is good and even when there was a recession 1990's it didn't have a huge impact on the local economy and MK financially came out strong in comparison to other towns. Good place to bring up a family relatively safe. The original plan of MK was well thought out and integrated well. • Transport and getting about is good IF YOU HAVE A CAR. Transport and shopping links to parts of the country well thought out and planned. All well designed, greenways, spaces, lakes good open environment for people. • Grew up in MK (Springfield) studied at Canterbury University (felt more of a part of something through its history. Growing up was a good experience near canals, lakes and Willen park. Visited Great Linford and was always something to do only ever go out of MK to visit Primark before it came to the stadium area. The development of the Hub was a positive impact and a good place nice and lively good for everyone in the community. • MK man plan - purpose built. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The plan has been overtaken by need. Too much development too quickly. Pre-planning taken over by need. MK now behind as a city (was pioneering and modern) now a victim of its own success. MK had the air to be ahead and now it seems to lag behind other bolder towns/cities. Housing is too expensive even for young professionals - being pushed out of the central location - houses are not even on the market for a day and sold above the asking price. Seem to be big plans for big housing developments but no schools or surgeries just absorbed into the local community increasing pressures even further. • MK does need better public transport. Although built for the car people think differently today and some cant afford their own transportation. Not enough public transport into other boroughs/centres has caused pockets of people to live in isolation. Older people feel trapped in a area or use shops that they can walk to that are often more expensive than market/shops in the centre location. Also hard to walk around unless you use the Redways which are unsafe as no pavements to walk on at street level. Rent is just as expensive as to buy. MK lacks corporate share system/match system. • If you don't have a car you will struggle to get around MK. Better facilities and transport links across MK. Parking in MK Centre is complicated (as it changes all the time) and is too expensive. Puts

		<p>visitors off - you need to encourage people from other towns/boroughs to visit - perhaps a bigger park and ride system regular service that services until late at night.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would like to see more community activities to bring people together. Have more community amateur dramatics, more social activities for older people in the estates. Develop smaller community events in the villages get more people to volunteer to help and support each other. Use community centres more not just for private hire. Community Foundation is great in MK but a lot is run by the same people. Try and unite persons across MK to support their own volunteer services to benefit them - if they benefit directly and see that they are more likely to support.
--	--	---

Appendix 6

Bulleted points of discussions Resident Association Meetings

What makes a great city?	What could make it greater?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good cheaper reliable public transport • Lively business centres and shops • Solid infrastructure • Clean, green areas • History, Culture • Greater say in contractors - money spent - local to appoint what services matter to them the most - what funding should be spent on • People - a well respected community base • Good drainage systems • Safety - roads too busy, no reliable public transport to get you around during darker evenings • More quality schools with less children per class • People • History, museums, culture • Good transport systems • Residents to have a say in what happens in their areas • A good reputation (MK has a bad one - the Cows are a national joke) • Well lit and kept roads and paths • Easy access for all people all ages of all physical abilities • Strong community - look out for each other / proud of where they live. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bletchley and surrounding towns to have a better share of the money invested through rates. • People feel starved of funds - not an even playing ground • Lower business rates to attract and retain businesses • Cheaper public transport • Fundamental good underground systems / provisions / no flooding • More investment in nightlife and services in the towns • More independent shops to offer different things to attract people to the outer centre towns • Spread the wings of Mk embrace the whole place to attract people to it- more than just a central shopping venue • Redways - better services and maintained - better signage so more uptake of use • Infrastructure MK centre - bad maintenance - pathways in need of repair • Parking - cheaper, wider bays and more needed • Personal signs - need updating and cleaning - often dirty and can't read • Promote MK at key locations (stations etc) - local people don't know what is in and around MK so how will visitors? • Design better architecture that stands the test of time - often modern buildings lose their charm and nothing that people feel proud of to point out.

Appendix 7

Project and teacher resource materials St Aquinas School Project

Teacher Resources

Learning Objective:

- To use drawing and sculpture to develop and share their ideas and imagination.

(Depending on what you materials you decide the children will use, please select one or two elements of art that you can link this back to)

Success Criteria:

- I can talk about what would make MK better.
- I can create a model/ drawing to represent this.
- I can think of new ideas.
- I can use the material in new ways.

Outcome

Children create a model/ drawing/ design for an idea that would make Milton Keynes better. To be completed by Friday 22nd Jan.

Key vocabulary

Utopia – An imaginary place or world where everything is perfect.

Modernism – A 20th Century art movement which influenced a style of buildings often seen in cities where the design is simple, un-decorative and often made using man-made materials such as concrete.

Architecture – The practice of designing and planning buildings and spaces.

Possible artists and themes to explore (optional)

- Gareth Jones
- Helmut Jacoby
- Stephen Gregory
- Boyd and Evans
- Utopia
- Modernism
- Local history
- Architecture
- Memory

Online resources linked to MK (optional)

Original 1983 TV Advert for Milton Keynes: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XfSoZ6_x7kk

A short documentary from the Guardian looking broadly at the architecture in Milton Keynes:

<http://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/video/2010/jun/07/outrage-revisited-milton-keynes-architecture>

Artist, Gareth Jones, takes a tour through the unbuilt visionary architecture of Milton Keynes, as depicted in the 1970s by Helmut Jacoby. http://www.mkgallery.org/channel/play/looking_for_MK#sthash.in5pM0cd.dpuf

Appendix 8

Key points from YouSayMK Schools Workshop

What makes a great city?	What is great about MK?	What could make it greater?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor market • Low crime rates • Cleanliness and organisation • less congestion • Diversity, wide range of facilities. Tourist attractions. Transport in the city. Transport out of the city - good links. • Nice community • Secure and safe environment • Lots of activities for all ages • Culture and history • Good and well respected education system • Good employment opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redways – good to get about in a safe way without going on the roads. • Lots of greenery, parks and open spaces • Good grid system for travel/access • Job opportunities – varied • Transport system • The roundabouts easy to get around • Good social activities • Green city 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More employment opportunities - with large national/global employers • Utilise open spaces • Update building spaces • Use empty buildings as community centres or pop-up cafes for young people • Cathedral • More mental health facilities • More funding for the NHS • Another hospital • Own campus university • More school funding (classes too full) • More opportunities post school (college/apprenticeships) • More houses that are more affordable - special scheme for under 30's to buy • More culture for the Asian community • Better education system - better options post school • More connections/relations with other cities • More youth facilities (free run on volunteers/people doing apprenticeships/training) • More local produce sold (support for independent business people) • More sports activities / community support and academies