

The West End



Points of Interest:

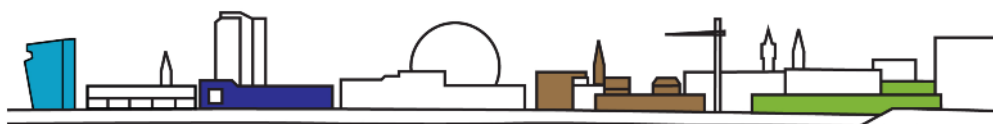
- St Mary's Cathedral
- Union Plaza
- Thistle Court
- Johnstone House
- Chapel Street Car Park

School: Robert Gordon's College

Date of Fieldwork: 17 June 2013

Top 5 'Main Issues' affecting this area:

1. Cleanliness (bins, litter, spaces for recycling)
2. Lack of Greenery – more Green Spaces needed
3. Unattractive Place and Unwelcoming
4. Condition and Width of Pavements (too narrow, uneven in places)
5. Not a very interesting place – more activities needed



The West End

Summary of Likes:

There were a lot of things which participants liked about this area, for example:

Trees and hanging baskets; modern buildings (like Union Plaza); historic character of Huntly Street and St Mary's Cathedral; lots of different land uses – a lively area in parts; granite buildings; cobbled streets; good connections to Union Street.

Summary of Dislikes:

There were however things that participants didn't like, for example:

Dirty and grey buildings; litter; too much traffic; noisy; dull; too much granite (not enough colour); not much open space; modern buildings stick out too much; feels unsafe; unattractive; too many cars parked on street; not enough signage.

Summary of Opportunities and Proposed Enhancements:

- Better variety of shops
- Needs to be cleaner and brighter
- Less granite
- More trees, gardens & open space
- More entertainment facilities
- Better maps and signage
- Buildings painted brighter colours
- Turn surface car parks into greenspaces
- Tower blocks should be demolished
- Pedestrianise important areas
- Traditional buildings retained
- Better lighting
- Needs to be more welcoming
- Car parking should be underground
- More sports facilities
- Reuse abandoned buildings for other things (shops, restaurants)

What Happens Next?

The information gained during this exercise will help to us prepare a 'Main Issues Report' which will discuss the 'Main Issues' the next Local Development Plan for the City should consider. The Main Issues Report will be presented to the Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure Committee in November 2013 and be released for public consultation early 2014.

