1.5 Perry’s Caribbean Cuisine

Questions raised during the interviews were an important factor in the survey design. A new building was needed. Nearly all respondents indicated that they wanted to see changes at Central

and the need for a new building was also raised by those respondents who had attended the Caribbean Carnival. The majority of respondents stated that Central needs a Centre for the African Caribbean community in Reading. Many surveyed felt that Central should become the African Caribbean Centre and that more activities and services were important. Other respondents had no clear idea of what was needed.

Concerned about facilities, the lack of activities and the impact of the loss of the PFL, the majority of respondents voiced concerns over facilities, the lack of activities and the impact of the loss of the PFL.

1.5 Findings
1. Community Needs

and clear role in the community. The most pressing needs expressed by the community are the renewal of the Pel, and a

1.9 Community Needs

The loss of the Pel has had a major impact on a number of voluntary and community

1.8 Users of the Centre

access the building, help to extend its and gain benefit from the positive activities there. While moving forward to a point where the wider community feel comfortable enough to

Despite the difficulties and perceptions of Central, the community recognise that the

Importantly in the minds of the wider community, Central will depend upon this reputation being enjoyed not only in practice but more

Importantly because the community have communicated to us as a key factor. The chance of

The reputation of Central is one that is known throughout the community. Some of it

1.7 Reputation

addressed to ensure equality of opportunity for African Caribbean businesses.

Caribbean Restaurant. This report may need to be investigated further and if proven,
1.13 Management Arrangements

Voluntary groups as well as communications through existing Black forums. Developments by recognising communications with the user groups, community and developments by ensuring that the community is kept informed of progress and openness by ensuring that the council hearing general transparency
decides. Part of the healing process will involve the council hearing greater transparency
in order for the community and Reading Borough Council to work together there will
and objectives are set out in their Race Equality Scheme 2002-2005.
and recognise that they are meeting their legal obligations and that they fulfill the key aims
would have largely ignored the needs of the Black community. The council needs to be
a primary concern expressed by the community was the feeling that Reading Borough
Council can be proud of.

1.12 Reading Borough Council

What is clear is that the community deserve a modernised and refurbished centre that they
needs of the African Caribbean and mixed heritage people of Reading.
relationships which will encourage excellence and respect for diversity whilst maintaining
Our mission is to build community through empowerment, engagement, and positive
collected and the diverse needs of the community can be met.
serve the community and its need for a centre.
promotion of Central. This should include a grand opening which has medias.

- There should be investment of time and energy into the re-branding and
  needs of the community.

- Establishing the Centre be refurbished and redesigned to accommodate the
  in order for the Centre to better fulfill its function as a community centre. Once
  these needs to be an investigation into the feasibility of extending the current site
  responsibility for ensuring there is no breach in the regulations.

- Theif community should be aware of all obligations and take collective
  responsibility.

- The PFA needs to be renewed as soon as the requirements are met and then
  the performance that is offered should meet the diverse needs of the community.

Central with them.

By meeting with representative groups in R经纪ing and sharing the vision of a new
The management and management committee seek to actively engage the community
open.

- The process of selecting a management committee should be transparent and

manage the centre in its entirety.

- The representative management committee be appointed and empowered to

relation to ease relationships for the African and Caribbean community.

- The secretary seek to ensure that they are fulfilling their legal obligations in

1.15 Recommendations in Brief

community to where and build a Centre that will meet all their needs.

community and lay aside personal wishes there is a need for the
through compromise and understanding. By seeking the approval of the whole
Central. What is important is that the community recognition that the only way forward is
issues raised present a complex picture of conflicting views and opinions on the future of
To consult with a community with diverse experiences and views is challenging.

1.14 Conclusion

centre should be the responsibility of an experienced ex-venue centre manager
and keep up to date on progress and developments. The day to day management of the
and community and voluntary organisations.

Attention, representatives and delegates from the council, users and user groups
2.2 Management Structure

Forward for_lookup Centre

Consult with a wide cross section of the community to establish their views on the way forward, including a wide cross section of the community also needs addressing. This consultation aims to form a new site for a community centre that more fully meets the needs of the whole community. Furthermore, the issue of whether the building should continue to be used for community events or a community centre that more fully meets the needs of the whole community seems to have lost its identity as a centre and needs re-characterization of its role.

Reasonable cost

For accessible purpose, Caribbean Cuisine a restaurant serving Caribbean meals at

reasonable cost.

For the Caribbean community, who are often unrepresented in the local community, the Centre has been seen as a place that represents

Unforeseeably, the Centre has been long been seen as a place that represents a sense of security and belonging for this group.

During the day, this seems to provide a sense of security and belonging for this group.

One of the sections of the community who are often unrepresented and need a place to congregate is one of the sections of the community who are often unrepresented and need a place to congregate.

Therefore, this seems to provide a sense of security and belonging for such activities. It is regularly used by some.

Like it has been used less frequently for such activities. However, since the loss of its public functions and fund raising events. However, since the loss of its public functions and fund raising events. However, since the loss of its public functions and fund raising events.
2.3 Central Aims

The Black and Mixed Heritage communities of Reading primarily see YPC programming as helping social and recreational resource which facilitates individual and collective growth of the priority ages. The fundamental aim is to be an educational, enriching, supportive Central Aims to provide programming for the 11-19 year age group with 13-19 year olds.

Policy, 2004)

2.4 Previous Research

Although there is a perception within the community that a number of consultations have been led surveys conducted with young people (11-18 years) of African Caribbean and Asian background. This research was set up between Central and McGrath/Education. If needs led surveys was conducted with young people have a number of consultations have been conducted at Central. There is little evidence for this. In April 2002, a new in-depth research to be undertaken.

was undertaken by the University of Reading into the Labour Market and that these barriers may be drawn on racial

Research. It found that BME young people face additional barriers in terms of accessing unmet BME groups including 21 African and Caribbean respondents from across experience of Ministry Ethnic Young People in Reading. This research specifically

and/or succeeding in the labour market, and that these barriers may be drawn on racial
2.5 Consultation

This consultation is the first to specifically target the users of Central and was not collected for use in the research.

Readings Youth Provision community. It aimed to determine and clarify the future role and function of Central
commissioned by Reading Borough Council in consultation with members of the

Although the results of the survey are still being processed, however, although

More recently the Arts and Leisure Services have conducted a survey for young people...
3.2 Ethnic Minorities

Consultation

Whether the equality duties and the Equality Act 2000 place objectives underpin the

Issues in employment, service provision and community life:

I. To work with partners and take a community leadership role to promote equality

II. To identify and respond to the concerns and needs of the local community,

Amendment, Act and best practice performance indicators relating to equality

Reformation, in particular, the Disability Discrimination Act, the Race Relations Act

To ensure that the authority meets the standards requirements of equalities

To embed equality into the mainstream activities of the organisation

Statement of key aims and objectives for 2002-2003:

Furthermore, the council's Equality Strategy Action Plan 2002-2005 presents a

The promotion of equality and social inclusion is aimed as one of the council's strategic

The Race Relations Act 1976 and the Race Relations Amendment Act 2000 place a

3.1 Legislation

3. Equality of Opportunity
people of Reading (Race Equality Scheme Part I).

The community have measured the success of the council not by their policies but by their actions in promoting equality for all the

RBC Race Equality Scheme has seen one of its declarations: "We believe that our success

service they are receiving or not, as the case may be.

views often refer to Reading Borough council and their perceptions of the quality of

Central Reading Youth Provision located in London Street and Relief Makers. These

This consultation document presents the views of the African Caribbean community on

3.3 Consultation

wider Black community are not being met

many within the Black community have expressed their concern that the needs of the

Reading in proportion to overall numbers of ethnic minorities in the Reading. However,

young people in the larger group of 13-19 year olds were accessing the service across

The Youth and Community service identified in their service review that ethnic minority

absence of other appropriate and more suitable accommodation.

space and in need of repair and refurbishment. If this become a significant concern in the

meeting place for sections of the African Caribbean community despite being limited in

have not been fully met. Central is a council Youth Provision which has become a

complaints. Thus the need arises and objectives of the Equality Strategy Action plan

this centre is a council Provision dedicated to measuring the needs of the diverse Black

Borough wide Youth and Community Provision. But there is no documented evidence that

that they are Central only because they are members of the Local Authority Group in Reading. Currently, the community have expressed the view

The combined figures for the African and Caribbean community total 3.8% marking it as

that good relations between RBG and the community are developed and maintained.

of shared policies and recent legislation will regard to equality of opportunity and ensure
equity and the African-Caribbean community in Reading equality experience the benefits
consultation will be used to inform the council of areas that need to be addressed to
Floor in the main hall, restructuring the office space and providing a kitchen and bar area, also made it easier for people to work and socialise. As a result, the building was transformed into a community centre.

In 1979, when some young people decided to take over the building on London Street, they recognised the need for a community centre. They came to a point where they believed the building could be turned into a centre for young people. The building had previously been a police station, and the community centre was established in its place. Young people were involved in the decision-making process, and the centre was opened in 1978.

The centre became a focal point for young people who needed a place to meet and socialise. It was also a space for socialising and learning, as well as a centre for community activities. The centre was equipped with a range of facilities, including a café, a bar, and a range of community activities.

4.2 London Street

The building was then taken over by the local council and the council continued to use it as a community centre. Young people were involved in the decision-making process, and the building was opened in 1978.

The building was then taken over by the local council and the council continued to use it as a community centre. Young people were involved in the decision-making process, and the building was opened in 1978.

4.1 Origins

4. Historical Background
4.3 The Mural

The mural was painted which tells a story from the early days to the present and describes the significant role Black people have as symbols for the community today. Central Reading Youth provided symbols for the struggles that Black people have faced. This mural continues to have a strong spiritual significance for the community.
5. Programming

Continuous is a spiritual home and centre for much of the community. The building itself is in need of repair and redecoration but elderly and disabled. The building itself is in need of repair and redecoration but accessible to those rooms via a narrow and steep staircase which is inaccessible to the back of the building. There is a small upper level with two further rooms however the Centre comprises a large hall with a stage, offices, an entrance and a waiting area at drop-in to use the facilities.

5.2 Facilities

Community Centre of Central Reading Youth Provision which is situated at the front of the building. It is a venue which has enormous significance to members of the Central is identifiable because of the large mural of historical Black figures painted on the side of the street in the Centre of Reading opposite the major Coatbridge and Cinema complex. It stands in a prominent position on London
dramatically due to the centre not having a PEL. However, in recent years, the centre for functions has dropped off

The centre is used by a range of individuals and groups from the community for various

way to ensure that the requirements for renewing the PEL are met.

organisations who have used it for fund-raising events. There are efforts currently under

which has had an impact on the use of the building particularly for voluntary

The Centre has not had a Public Entertainment Licence (PEL) for approximately 2

5.4 Public Entertainment Licence (PEL)
Patronised but valued and included.

which will ensure that the African Caribbean community do not feel unrepresented and
community and serve to encourage the development of a positive working relationship.
It will provide a platform for better communication between the council and the

and the community can consider and use as a basis for change and improvement.
way forward based on these views and make recommendations which both the Council
which African and Caribbean community on the theme of Central. In particular it will map the
The findings of the consultation will inform Reading Borough council of the views of the

Looking at the opinions of independent groups and charitable trusts
and responsibilities of the users, the management and the staff to enhance

• To determine the management arrangements for the club, clarify the roles
  together to meet these needs.

• To detail how Reading Borough Council and the user groups can work
  facilties.

changing needs of the community and detail the opportunities for enhanced

To identify present and future accommodation needs in the heart of the

• which would be in line with Reading Borough Council’s corporate values.

• A clear mission statement to be established including aims and objectives,

• in consultation with users when service Central Club is provided.

• To detail the user needs and how they wish to use the club and subsequently

• To identify the current and potential user groups of Central Club.

The Terms of Reference for the consultation were as follows:

Reading Youth Provision.

The objective of the consultation is to clarify the future role and function of Central

6. Terms of Reference
7.4 Phase Three: Delivery

were used telephone calls and letters to the various groups and organisations. In some cases posters and leaflets were sent to the various groups and organisations. This was primarily done through telephone calls and letters to the various groups and organisations. The consultation was made to all the key leaders and community groups including those which were not approached directly. This yielded a large and positive response. Particularly potential users. In order for the consultation to be effective it was necessary to ensure breadth of involvement from across the community incorporating users, non-users and stakeholders.

7.2 Phase Two: Marketing

consider the best method of marketing the consultation and involving the local community. The key difficulties were managing the consultation process. During this phase initial consultation with the key leaders and key questions were raised, and an overall sense of the issues relating to central were put. Reference was made to earlier consultations. The number of consultation sessions necessary to meet the needs of the consultation was established. The number of individuals and community groups that needed to be involved was explored. During this phase the views of the current and potential users of the club were importantly involved.

7.1 Phase One: Development

The consultation was conducted in five phases between February and August 2004.

7. The Consultation Process
about the consultation's background and role before allowing themselves to be interviewed.

Others express a positive picture of the needs of the community and the role of Central, other approaches were made. It was important to ensure that a culturally appropriate and sensitive approach was made.

42 individuals were interviewed and 132 returned questionnaires.

Appendix I

A full list of the organisations surveyed and interviewed is found in the consultation. A full list of the organisations surveyed and interviewed is found in the consultation. A full list of the organisations surveyed and interviewed is found in the consultation. A full list of the organisations surveyed and interviewed is found in the consultation. A full list of the organisations surveyed and interviewed is found in the consultation. A full list of the organisations surveyed and interviewed is found in the consultation.

The consultation was conducted with key individuals from various organisations and voluntary groups. The consultation was conducted with key individuals from various organisations and voluntary groups. The consultation was conducted with key individuals from various organisations and voluntary groups. The consultation was conducted with key individuals from various organisations and voluntary groups. The consultation was conducted with key individuals from various organisations and voluntary groups. The consultation was conducted with key individuals from various organisations and voluntary groups.

OSCAR, Reading Room, Reading Room, Reading Room, Reading Room, Reading Room...

The consultation was conducted with key individuals from various organisations and voluntary groups. The consultation was conducted with key individuals from various organisations and voluntary groups. The consultation was conducted with key individuals from various organisations and voluntary groups. The consultation was conducted with key individuals from various organisations and voluntary groups. The consultation was conducted with key individuals from various organisations and voluntary groups. The consultation was conducted with key individuals from various organisations and voluntary groups.

The results of Phase One interviews and questionnaires were used to collect data.
involved in the consultation may acquire full electronic versions of the report on request. Consultation will be disseminated to the appropriate interested parties. Individuals who were consulted and the elected members of Reading Borough Council each of the terms of reference were addressed and presented. The draft was presented to 

\subsection*{7.5 Phase Five: Presentation of Findings}

been used to ensure confidentiality. Names of consultants have not 

\subsection*{7.4 Phase Four: Evaluation}

questionnaire and the interviews are given in the findings. Names of consultants have not
8.4 Difficulties

Appendix 3

A copy of the questionnaire can be found in Appendix 3.

8.3 Questions

The questionnaire consists of three parts, each containing a set of questions designed to explore different aspects of the issue. A copy of the questionnaire is available on request.

8.2 Interviews

Interviews were conducted with key individuals in the community who represent the various organizations and interests. The data collected was analyzed and is presented here.

8.1 Introduction

Consultation Findings
move forward for the benefit of the whole community. With others of opposite views and come to a shared understanding of determination to hope. that the various individuals and groups involved will be willing to work together. The only real way forward is through compromise, understanding, and tolerance. It is important for the many players: RDC, users of Central and community groups. Conflict views have been expressed which add to the complexity of the consultation. Many
A higher percentage of men responded compared to females. 98.2% of those responding were returned by males and 98.4% by females. There were 132 questionnaires returned. The results of the analysis of the data are presented below. Three hundred and fifty four questionnaires were distributed across the community in

9. Description of Survey Sample
Table 1: Age Group of Respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 15</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 - 19</td>
<td>24</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 - 24</td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 - 30</td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 - 40</td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41 - 50</td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51 - 60</td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 60</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1 presents details of the number of respondents for each age group.

Figure 2: Age Group of Respondents (numbers in bars are percentages for each age group)

Figure 2: Age Group of Respondents (numbers in bars are percentages for each age group)

(responses were between 31-40 years. However, only 29% of all respondents were under 19 years old and included the designated age for youth provision of 13-19 years.)
Other clubs such as RASA, CAPS, and DJ were used by 38% of respondents.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Use of Centre</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27%</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55%</td>
<td>Socialising in hall</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32%</td>
<td>Computer club</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69%</td>
<td>Carribbean</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: Percent of Respondents using Facilities

By over half of those responding to the survey, see Table 2 for details.

Carribbean Cuisine was used by most respondents. The main hall was used for socialising.

The majority (69%) of those responding to the survey actually used the centre.

9.3 Use of Centre
10.1 Does Central Cater for your needs?

This question was asked on the survey the responses are shown in Fig. 3. Overall, 72% of those who responded to this question said that Central catered for their needs. 28% said no. Of those who said yes 33% were female and 67% male.

Figure 3: Percentage Response to the Question: Does Central Cater for your needs?
If a good multi-cultural environment is important, is it in a friendly place?
- Safe environment, friendly environment, a welcoming place.

Environment (%)

- Central is a place where I go to socialise with other people and take part in some of the different activities they have here.
- Central is a place where I go to socialise with other people and take part in some of the different activities they have here.
- Central is a place where I go to socialise with other people and take part in some of the different activities they have here.
- Central is a place where I go to socialise with other people and take part in some of the different activities they have here.

A Meeting Place (104%)

- Provides a computer club which I enjoy attending
- I’m able to complete assignments using the computer facilities.
- When I needed to use the Internet it was available.

ICT Suite (86%)

- The food is good.
- The café is good for the deaf and hard of hearing.
- A good lunch venue.
- Plenty of things for the deaf and hard of hearing.
- Good food. resident
- Excellent food.

Perry’s (24%)

(Responses in brackets are percentage for those who answered this question.)

Please rank the reasons why you are choosing to use Central for your needs. The statements associated with a positive response are sections of the various comments that were made in response to the question. Does this mean that there was room for improvement? The following section presents a breakdown by age groups of those within the 16-19, 20-34, and over 50 age groups (1994, 26% and 29% respectively).
Lack of information about block community: 10%

- No, no chances take place playing our part of music.
- No, they do not do a lot of activities for young people.
- Could be doing more. More workshops, history classes, health info etc.
- No courses on my interests.
- There isn't enough things going on such as parties, dances etc.
- Groups.
- No social life for big people. All activities aimed at younger or smokers.

Lack of activities: 32%

- Its regulation is very bad.
- Fell too good about the place.
- I have been there twice for meals and both times I've been there I haven't really enjoyed it.
- Not suitable for 50 and above.
- The building is shabby and uninviting.
- Central heating and a full refurbishment is needed immediately. The building is old and the surroundings are not clean.
- If it was a fast food restaurant. The building is old and the surroundings are not clean.
- Need to improve building.
- Poor facilities.

Painful: 29%

Section on the questionnaire.

cnts that respondents were not happy with what was added to the additional comments below. It was noted that there was a higher percentage of responses on aspects of the worker who operates the cafe as a service to the community.

Current Senior YOUTH and Community worker at the centre with the support of the ICT

It should be noted here that the ICT Suite is not funded by RBC but is an initiative of the

be on offer for the club to shine and the youth can socialise.
- In a club that is very good for the community, but more services needed to
- More places for building needed for functions and meetings.
- More personal needs but it could do with improvement. It is too dark inside.
- Needs more chairs and tables for seating. Other facilities need improvement.

Improvements: 8%
Summary

10.2. Impact of the Loss of the Pet (%)

- Not at present. I did use it recently when there were functions and when they were carbonated music and felt together.
- Lived to go there for dances that were held there. I used to be good to hear after.
- No. Entertainment licence is no longer available. This has made it impossible to have nice concerts here which I liked very much.
- Musicians playing things going on such as parties, dances etc.
- There isn’t enough things going on here.

- I’ve not changed going to Central and am aware of what goes on here.
- Not specific no.
- Not knowing what the facilitators have to offer, I can vaguely say yes but being
We all need a place to meet.

- Good for socializing.
- To keep the young people off the street and somewhere for them to go and enjoy.
- To make the youth get together.
- I think there's youth need a place to socialize.

A Centre for Socializing (16%)

A large number of comments were made in response to this question. Figures in brackets are percentage of those who answered this question. Percentages for each response (Numbers in bars are estimated). Figure 4. Does Reading need an African Caribbean Centre?
Yes, because it's a good thing for young people and old people.

We need separate clubs.

The African Caribbean community has nowhere to meet.

Need for a Centre (32.7%)

Why for meetings and fund raising?

Generations of the black community.

There is nowhere in Reading which provides entertainment for the older;

To have more entertainment.

African have opportunities to do different activities.

Yes, Central is place for the Caribbean centre where young people Black.

Yes, because Reading needs a place where African Caribbean food is prepared.

For youth to go some activities and get off the street.

A Centre for Activities (9.6%)

caller all of ages of the black community.

got out in Reading. We need to go forward and not backwards. This centre should also

Because black people need to be recognised often.

As we need to join together and be one great people.

We should all come together.

For unity.

Mixed community is good.

Promote community spirit.

To bring all the community together.

What will the children of the future do?

What is a community without any service for their culture without this club?

To Build Community (14.9%)

So black people can learn.

We need to interrel and learn about our roots and culture.

Culture and learning.

If needs a centre for excellence to welcome other cultures in embrace the said.

Something for the culture to thrive.

We need to uplift our youth with knowledge of our herinage.

To help with cultural education.

To create awareness of African culture.

Education and Cultural Awareness (6.9%)

To socialise and relate to each other.

So different cultures can socialise.

So our black people can socialise.

To socialise and meet people with similar culture.

For people to socialise meet one another.

We all need somewhere.
The question community were important reasons given. Many simply responded by answering yes.
and there may be a need for two centers. Having a center for socializing and to build
community. Some suggested that the cultural needs of Africans and Caribbean differ.

The majority of respondents stated that Reading needs a center for the African American

10.4 Summary

No, we should all come together.

There was only one negative response to this question:

A really fed-up community.

This is not a good message to send out to
the community. All they need is.

African American and Caribbean.

They are limited resources and centers for us in the area.

African American and Caribbean.

Yes, because I’m exposed to racism in other areas.

To provide for Black needs.

There is no real space for the Black community.

Yes, because we don’t have anything apart from Central.

Yes, because we don’t have anything apart from Central.
Question

Presented below: Figures in brackets are percentages of those who answered this need for a centre and it is well known and established. A sample of possible communities is communities covered the following topics: ideal location, socialising, centre for learning, etc.

Most were many community groups which were similar to those made in Section 10.3.

Figure 5: Do you think Central should become a centre for the African Caribbean?

30% said yes, 68% said no. However, gender more makes than African Caribbean community in Reading, 17% said no. Across gender more males than those who responded to the question said yes. Central should become a centre for the Caribbean community in Reading (see Fig. 5). In terms of overall percentages, 62% of most of the respondents felt that Central should become a centre for the African Caribbean community in Reading?

10.5: Do you think Central should become a centre for the African Caribbean community in Reading?
Need for a New Centre (48%)

- There is no license, is dirty and it needs upgrading with wheelchair access.
- Central is too small to cater for the entire Black community.
- An alternative should be made which offers a more modern way forward.
- Central should provide something new in a different area.
- A new centre is needed with better facilities and a new identity for the African Caribbean community.

Reading almost half said that there should be a new building to serve this purpose. Indeed these communities made their response relatively to the question. Of the 17% who said that Central should not be the centre for the African Caribbean community in Reading almost half said that there should be a new building to serve this purpose.

- There are no other facilities for the Black community to get together and meet.
- Because it is needed, every other race has their own.

A Need (22%)

- There is no other place for them in Reading.
- Central is the only place in Reading where Black African Caribbeans have to go.
- To promote and celebrate culture and social activities among different African communities.
- To provide somewhere we can feel at ease, relax and call our own.
- Somewhere that people can socialize and relax.
- Somewhere that people can socialize and learn.

Education and Socialising (28%)

- Found it easier to get there.
- Loss of people know about Central is well known and I guess most people will access.
- It is in a Central Location where all facilities of the community can share easily.
- Central in to get to transport wise.
- It is an ideal Location.
A new bigger building that can cater for all our needs.
They should pull down the whole building and provide us with a decent centre.
Building needs to be Builders and improvements made to make it more suitable for
Close it down and start from scratch.

New Building (%)

More car parking space.
I think Central needs a Gym.
A music studio.
More investment in learning facilities.
Need more.

The central room is excellent and helps our many people but we need more.
We don’t need an area for entertainment like an arena in Scotland, which TV’s lens is in an ideal location for all types of people and must be refurbished.

The lighting is not that good and the whole place looks old. It is in need of
improvement.

In addition, more chairs and tables.

Improvement of all toilet provision.

Renovation and improve the place property.

Renovation (58%)

The suggestions for changes to Central covered the following topics: renovation, more
activities, new building, Public Entertainment Licence (P.E.L.), and improved promotion.

The suggestions for changes to Central covered the following topics: renovation, more
activities, new building, Public Entertainment Licence (P.E.L.), and improved promotion.

Overall 93% of those who responded to this question indicated that they would like to see
changes taking place at Central. Similar percentages of males and females responded in
this question. 92% and 94%, respectively. There was a wide range of additional
changes taking place at Central. Similar percentages of males and females responded to

10.7 What changes would you like to see taking place at Central?

Almost half of this group suggested that a new building was needed.
however, a small number responded negatively to the question and
most respondents to the survey felt that Central should become the African Caribbean

10.6 Summary
Promoting Central

Once improvements made, an extensive publicity campaign should take place

- Making people more aware of it.
- Foot and vehicle passes. It is a prime location.
- More marketing from the front of the building as a great column for pride builds.
- More work needs to be done on advertising and marketing. It’s large, hard to find.

Promotion that will get more people going into the club.

- They need to have a steady flow of activities happening there with good...
were made were associated with better promotion of the centre once refurbishment has
Refrumishment and more activities and services were important. Other communities that
Nearly all respondents indicated that they wanted to see changes at Central

10.8 Summary

Functions and events

book them they failed to provide opportunities for the Block communities to hold block
Very disappointed that Reading Borough Council promises equal opportunities
and affordable hall which is of a high standard.

needs, which includes the provision of a larger, Ability locked, well managed
Reading Borough Council should take note of these people and cater for their
are voluntary and non-profit making. This makes it more difficult to hire hins wny.
Ethnic minority groups in Reading play an important role as most of these people

In future I would like to see Central as it was before.

Bring back the old days when Central was a nice meeting and eating place.

of people to help build society.

good. It will also enable us to live better as Black people and to be a stronger set
should get together and get that clubs up and going again because it is for our own
Readers for the Black people. I strongly believe that all Black people in Reading
for us, a Black people to stand up and fight to help build a better community in

I think Central should be open. It has been closed for too long. I think it is time

Presented here.

Questionnaire: Additional comments which have not been covered elsewhere are

There were a number of other comments that were added at the end of the

Other Comments

communities to have equal access.
also references to maintaining the centre in such a way that would allow other
hall, no smoking, and dealing with the negative stereotypes. There were
respondents who made reference to the removal of older men who hand in the main

These were the main suggestions although there were lower percentages of
Nearly one third of those using the Centre over the period of 8 weeks were aged 31-40 years old. 9% were in the 16-19 year age group and 10% were recorded as being under 16 years of age (see Figure 6).

These were an average weekly attendance of 355. Of the number the largest group were males making up 51% of those entering the building. Females made up 49%.

Over the period of 8 weeks there were 2845 counts of individuals entering the building.

Independent record.

This is useful data but must be treated cautiously as it was not over the period. This is useful data but must be treated cautiously as it was not an individual age group the recorded data gives an indication of the use of the centre. People were recorded from 12.30pm whilst there is a level of subjectivity in judging gender and to broadly indicate the age group of those attending. The security centre were asked to keep a checklist of all those entering the building. They were asked if they entered the building. The number found to be a check on the Centre. Over a period of 8 weeks (March - April 2004) the security personnel on the doors at the entrance of the Centre.

10.9 Survey of Users Attending Centre

A questionnaire was an important factor in the interview data. Reference to the reputation of the Centre although made by few in the taken place.
Because we concern ourselves with many who responded to this question, the condition of the facilities, lack of activities, and the impact of the loss of the many things was qualified with additional comments about other needs that were not being well attended. Most respondents felt that Central cared for their needs, however, for the most part of the center, with socializing in the hall and the ICT center also.

Most of the survey respondents actually use the center. Perry’s Caribbean cuisine was very popular, and there were many users in the 12-17 age group, but just under half the minority of those who responded were in the 31-40 age group. The majority of the children provided. There were more males than females who responded. Over 1250 attended, with an average of the responses who expressed their views. The questionnaires contained a general suggestion that those who responded to the survey.

10.10 Summary

There are no records for the number of youth using the center during the evening. The figures above do not account for the period outside 12-5 p.m. as recoding did not take place. The majority of those who responded for the period outside 12-5 p.m. as recoding did not take place.

![Figure 7 Age Groups Attending the Centre Over the Period](image-url)
Black community in Reading describe the need for increased and refurbished community centre to meet the needs of the whole community.

Overall, the questionnaire results indicate that the centre should become the centre for the activities to be offered.

Despite the strong desire to keep the centre at the African Caribbean Centre for Reading, most respondents highlighted their concerns by highlighting the need to refurbish and improve the current site. There was also a desire for the PFI to be renewed and for more building on a different site.

The majority of respondents expressed a need for an African Caribbean Centre in Reading.
commercial properties.

The council may wish to investigate this situation further to ensure compliance with applicable provisions. Once they are made aware that the property is for a town centre restaurant and has seen a number of obstructions when applying to become a restaurant, they have not been able to acquire the property on numerous occasions within the town centre to use as a restaurant.

The manager of the restaurant is keen to develop his business and move his business premises. The manager of the restaurant has been approached by the management of the property and they have suggested that the restaurant needs to be moved to the premises on the Ormeale which can cater for more eating places.

Many community members have suggested that the restaurant needs to be moved as a business venture due to the security of its current location. In recognition of the success of Perry's Caribbean cuisine is evidenced in the high numbers of individuals attending the restaurant to access the restaurant.
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<td>12.1 Introduction to Interviews Data</td>
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Table 3: Percentage of Interliewees Responding to each Topic.