To: CHMG 25.01.11

Suggestions from MScSLS Year B re. overcrowding in CH social space:

- The sofa in the open area of the ground floor is not an efficient use of space as it does not provide maximum seating, and also makes it difficult to talk to others as one has to face outwards when seated. It also means that it is difficult to eat when sitting as there is no surface on which to put food. Another suggestion is booths with seating and tables staggered in the open area on the ground floor (see attached document). We are aware that this is a fire exit route so there would need to be a clear route through. Staggering the booths to the side of the area would still allow a clear walkway while providing seating for up to 8 people per booth at the side. Failing this, the sofa could be broken up into pieces and these new benches situated in a similar position to the proposed booths (see attachment).

- The outside courtyard area is very underused. If a covered area could be provided, students may see this as a viable option during dry weather.

- A long bench running along the length of the balcony area on the ground floor would allow for a much greater number of seats.

- Drop down seats attached to the brick walls along the balcony area would also provide more seating and would take up less room when not in use.

- Benches situated in various places through out Chandler house (e.g. reception area) against walls would encourage students to spread out at lunchtime and provide extra seating, as well as easing overcrowding.

- A slightly more left field suggestion from one of the students was 'carved wooden animals with padded cushions'! While this would certainly make Chandler house a more interesting place to be, the idea of more space efficient stools could be a good way of increasing seating capacity.

PTO
Rough sketches of suggestions to improve seating capacity in Chandler house

Booths

Door to G10 etc

Balcony area

booth

booth

booth

kitchen

Door from reception area

Using pieces of the sofa