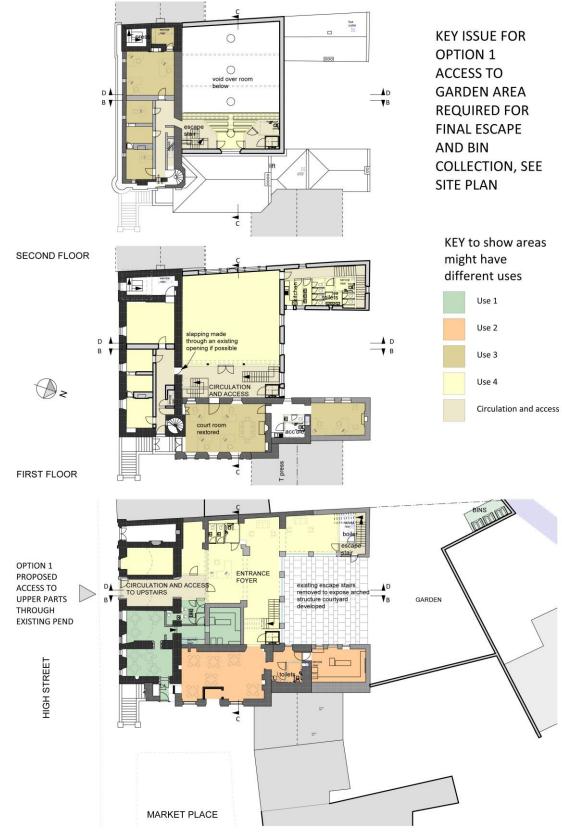
1.1.1 Option 1 access through the existing pend under the Tolbooth



FLOOR PLANS PROPOSED OPTION 1
ACCESS TO UPPER FLOORS FROM HIGH STREET

Option 1 description

In **Option 1** the existing café and restaurant are retained except that the restaurant kitchen has to be re-located to allow for the new lift and stair to access the upper floors.

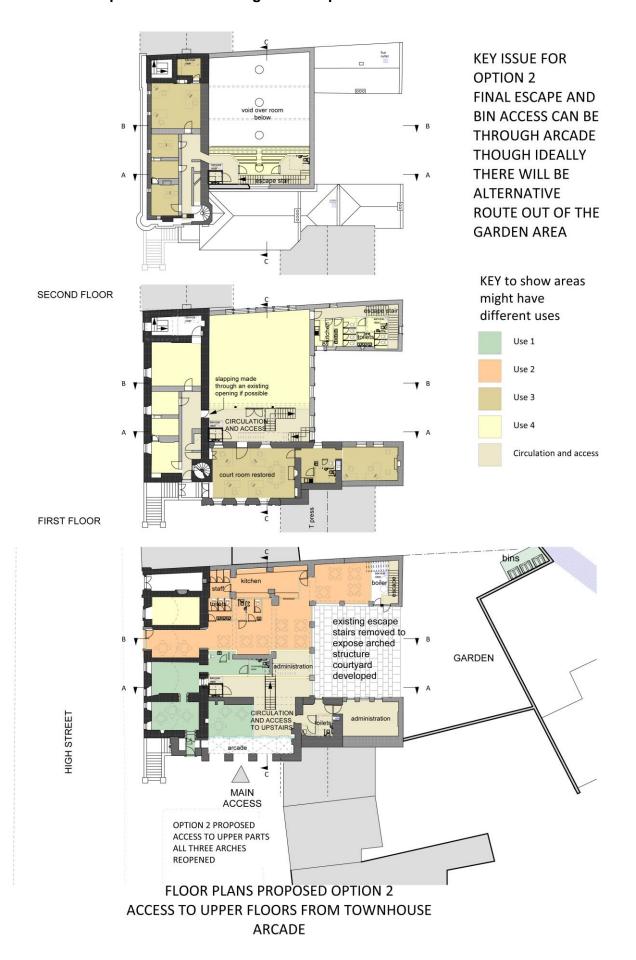
The construction of two new stairs within protective zones would allow the removal of the existing external escape stairs at the rear so that the courtyard area could be developed into an attractive space.

The bins are currently located in the pend and would need to be moved from there into the rear area and we have indicated a suitable storage area for them against the rear wall. Because access into the garden area is not possible at present, as discussed above, the final escape route has to be back through the building. The bins also would need to be taken out through the building for collection.

This succeeds in the objective of keeping all the existing spaces almost unaltered while obtaining access to them, but it does mean that the new access is divorced from the existing main external stair and does not relate either to it or to the more open area of the High Street around the Mercat Cross.



1.1.2 Option 2 access through the re-opened arcade under the Town House



Option 2 description

In this option the restaurant is re-located which allows the arcade to be re-opened, so restoring its original appearance, and enabling it to become the new main entrance into the building. This position relates well to the existing stair and would complement it well, and also relates to the open area of the High Street around the Mercat Cross and is within the obvious 'front' to the building, especially if the area becomes a market place again as originally intended.

As far as the upper floors and escape and bin arrangements are concerned this proposal is similar to Option 1 and if the access issues identified on the site plan can be resolved the functionality of the buildings would be much enhanced.

1.1.3 Recommended option

We recommend that ways are investigated to allow service and escape access to the garden area. This would improve the potential usage of the building considerably.

Option 2 seems to provide an exciting way to develop access to the upper floors while at the same time restoring some of the original appearance of the building.



SECTIONS PROPOSED OPTION 2
ACCESS TO UPPER FLOORS FROM TOWNHOUSE ARCADE

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