

Learning and the Development Plan

As part of the Trust upgrade a new Learning Area is being planned. The intention is that it will be accessed via a single sign on procedure. The Trust website and learning area will be accessible by design.

The recent member survey has shown that a high percentage of our members do access the internet with the majority doing so using mobile devices, particularly tablets. Therefore, by design, the website and learning area will be designed to work across on the range of devices our members use.

The Trust upgrade is planning for the future but at the present time not all members use the internet, they will not be left behind.

Learning is at the heart of the U3A movement and providing opportunities for learning will continue to be developed and enhanced. The old DVD library is currently undergoing a review and whilst the most popularly accessed DVDs will be retained, the content and resource provision will move to downloadable resources and content as well as web-based content.

The content and resource provision will be reviewed and refreshed on regular basis, with new content and resources being added as appropriate. A robust content and resource search facility will be a key provision. National Office will be taking on new staff to facilitate the management of the content and resource library.

A variety of content and resources will be made available -

- A survey of our membership will be undertaken, to identify what our members actually want.
- Where possible content and resources to support those 'wants' will be provided.
- The content and resources provided will need to 'quality assured' and will hopefully include some of the excellent member generated content that exists with U3As.
- Where appropriate licenses external content and resources will be obtained. There will be also 'signposts' to relevant extant content from external sources.
- Partnerships with external organizations will be established with a view to providing additional content and resources such a MOOCs and other courses.

Subject advisers will have a continuing presence, with easy access to advice and resources for members. Ways of encouraging interactivity e.g. web-based discussion forums are being explored.

The learning area will be developed on an ongoing basis, to ensure that our members have access to the latest content and resources.