

## Appendix 8 - Note of interest from potential tenant

### Scran Academy and Gracemount Mansion

This document serves as a statement of interest regarding the potential of Scran Academy utilising agreed space within the proposed Gracemount Mansion House redevelopment.



### Context

Scran Academy are a youth-work charity providing empowering educational and employability services that support young people in learning, work and wider life. We run multiple programmes in Edinburgh, working in partnership over several sites to run food-based vocational training and youth work activities for young people facing poverty-related barriers to success. Key to our provision is a successful community food enterprise that hosts private and community events run by young people, providing them with transformative real-life work experience and leadership opportunities.

Scran was founded in North Edinburgh and has a historic focus there, including long relationships with local schools and community organisations. However we have worked across the city to deliver our services, and have strong connections to Gracemount and South Edinburgh which we would be keen to build upon.

### Scran Academy and the Mansion

Scran Academy has been working around the Gracemount Mansion House since 2021, using our food truck, the Scran Van, to host detached youth work, community meals and latterly, an education programme for young people facing barriers to learning. We have built relationships with multiple community partners, including local schools and youth agencies, and have seen great outcomes from our collaborations. We would like to explore working in the area in a more permanent capacity.

### Statement of Interest

We would be interested in exploring a partnership with GMDT for Scran Academy to utilise the renovated Gracemount Mansion and surrounding greenspaces.

Using approx. 150m<sup>2</sup> of internal space as a kitchen and youthwork space, we would aim to run regular programmes in the building, bringing our model of education and employability structured around a community food enterprise to South Edinburgh for the long term.

The proposed development could provide Scran with a multifunctional resource to deliver empowering outcomes for local young people and their families. Kitchen areas would enable food-based learning and employability programmes, which would also produce food supporting local community events and potentially an on-site café. A youthwork space would enable the delivery of programmes and activities aimed at developing young people, providing confidence, resilience, integrity and wellbeing. The connection between the inside and outside of the site at Gracemount Mansion would enhance both of these strands of work – the link to a community garden providing meaningful fork-fork food education, and the greenspaces creating opportunities for broader youth work and wellbeing activities.

Scran Academy will look forward to engaging with the Gracemount Mansion House redevelopment, and plan to work as part of an ecosystem of services onsite to ensure the community is served in meaningful ways.

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