

2

Brief Development

2.7

Benchmarking Projects

2.7.4

Wet Laboratory vs Write Up

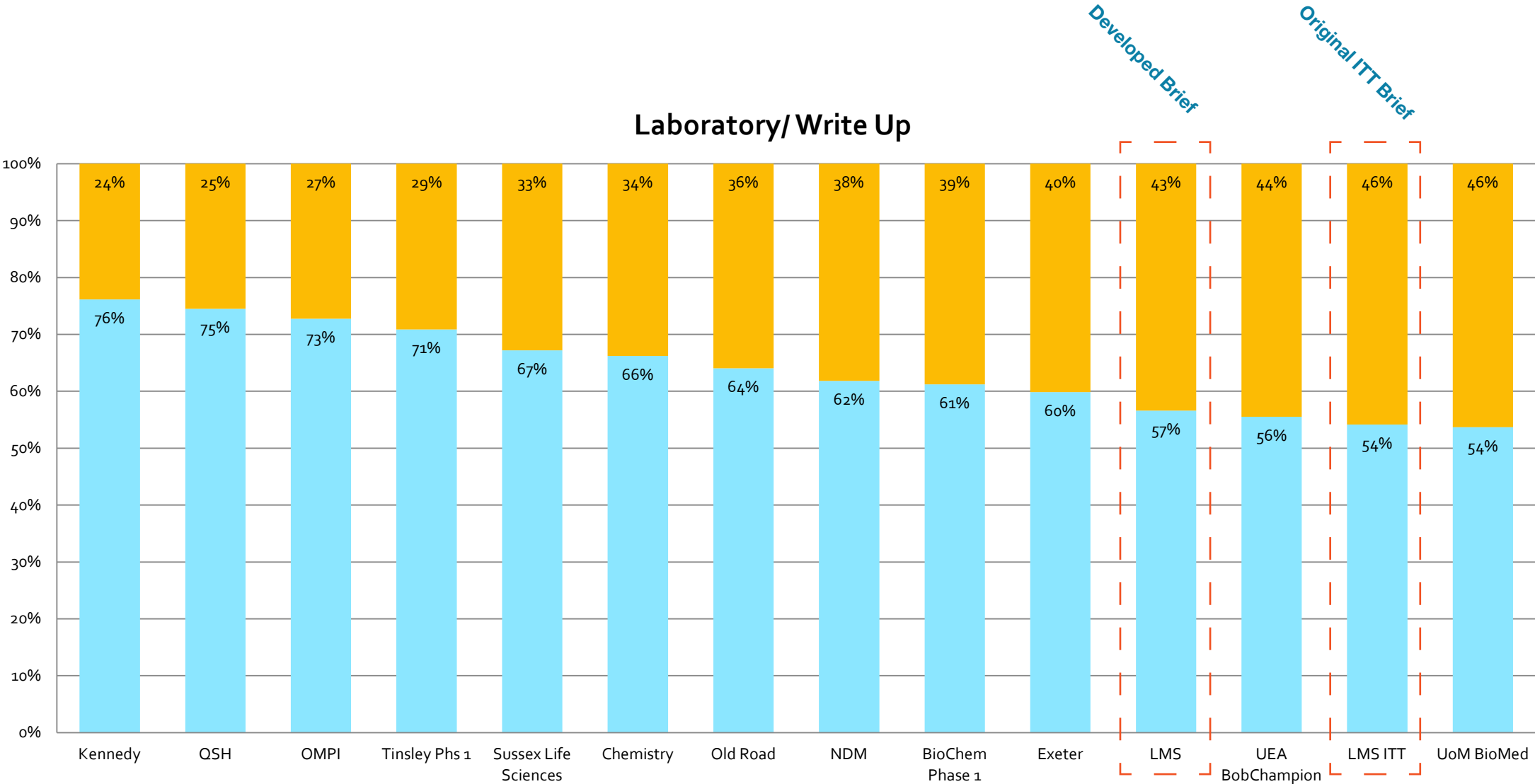
Wet Laboratory vs Write Up Commentary:

The graph opposite benchmarks the LMS brief against similar projects with regard to the overall ratio between primary laboratory and write up space.

The current brief has 57% laboratory vs 43% write-up which sits slightly below the average across the projects which it has been benchmarked against however the LMS Institute hopes to include a few dry laboratory research groups which will affect the overall percentage.

Recommendations:

This ratio will be considered further in the coming brief development to ensure that the correct balance is achieved for the LMS now as well as for the future. This ratio will also be considered in the potential adaptability of the building as the design develops.



2 Brief Development

2.8 User Consultations

2.8 Lessons Learned

The User Consultation Process:

Hawkins Brown, Abell Nepp and BuroHappold held User briefing sessions with key Group Leaders in the summer to further refine the original 2016 brief.

The Design Team issued questionnaires to the researchers to gather important high-level information regarding their needs, priorities and requirements for the new facility, such as primary research space, shared services and equipment, and key environmental criteria. Other issues such as the use of social and amenity spaces and transport modes were captured.

Information was gathered from group meetings and individual responses to the questionnaires. The data was then compiled and summarised for each group to be used during the next Design Stage.

The questionnaires have been useful to quickly introduce the Design Team to the research groups by providing background information about their work and highlighting important issues.

The questionnaires also provide an initial record of each research group's needs, type of science, key equipment and associations with others, etc. The Design Team also learned about existing concerns, "what works and doesn't" and desired new features. In this survey, we hope to find patterns that we can organise the research groups around and optimise opportunities for collaboration and the sharing of facilities.

These questionnaires will evolve over time into more detailed formats such as concept design sketches, Schedules of Accommodation, Room Criteria Sheets (RCS); defining essential provisions to be designed into each room, Room Data Sheets (RDS) showing what each room looks like and equipment schedules with key building services, environmental and spatial requirements information.

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