

Design and Access

Design

The design of the platform will remain as built in its current location. In essence, it is constructed from 4 shipping containers stacked on top of each other in pairs, with an external scaffold staircase providing access to the roof. The roof is timber decked, with a retaining fence/handrail around the perimeter.

The entire structure, shown in submitted drawing 14861-D02, is wrapped in a sheet of hoarding covered in white vinyl. The words 'Viewing Platform' wrap around the upper circumference of the structure in black and grey lettering. This will be retained as part of the current proposal.

Dimensions

The dimensions for a single shipping container are as follows:

Length: 6.2 metres

Width: 2.51 metres

Height: 2.6 metres

Taking into account the doubling up of the containers, and the addition of an external staircase, the dimensions for the platform as a whole are as follows:

Total Length: 6.2 metres + 2.4 metres for staircase

Total Width: 5.02 metres

The total height of the structure, including the retaining fence, is 7.155 metres.

The total area of the roof is 29.6 square metres.

Landscaping

The proposed scheme does not involve any changes/amendments to current landscaping on site.

Figure 7 (Opposite): Platform in situ at the south western corner of the junction between the King's Boulevard and Goods Way, summer 2013

Access

Vehicular and Transport Links

The proposed location of the platform remains easily accessible via foot from the King's Boulevard or Goods Way. It is well served by public transport, given its close proximity to both the underground and mainline services to and from King's Cross and St Pancras stations, and to bus services on York way.

Car Parking

Although the scheme does not include provision for car parking spaces, there are car parking spaces available locally to the site, including a public car park in St Pancras station which has 12 disabled parking bays.

Inclusive Access

Access to the Viewing Platform is free and open to all.

Access to the platform is via a lockable staircase. The temporary nature of the platform along with the use of containers, which pre-determine its form, makes the provision of a lift impracticable.

Management of the Platform

The platform will continue to be managed on a day to day basis by the King's Cross Estate Services team (KCES).

KCES will be responsible for aspects of the platform such as security, monitoring, opening and closing of the platform and for cleaning.

Waste produced by visitors to the platform will continue to be managed in two ways:

- 1) using existing waste bins located on King's Boulevard; and
- 2) KCES cleaning staff regularly cleaning the platform and its environs.

Opening Times

The opening Times of the platform are as follows:

8.30am-9pm Monday to Friday

10am-7pm Weekends and Bank Holidays

The platform is currently open seven days a week both within standard working hours and into the evening, to allow different groups to access the facility. This will not change when situated in its new location.

