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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ES. 1

The UK Centre for Medical Research and Innovation (UKCMRI or the Institute) will be a world-class medical research institute. UKCMRI will reinforce London's position as a global scientific centre for the 21st century, enable groundbreaking research, and ensure that Camden, London and the UK are at the heart of innovation. It will also attract high value investment, create jobs and inspire a new generation of scientists.

ES. 2

UKCMRI is a not-for-profit partnership between the Medical Research Council, Cancer Research UK, UCL (University College London) and the Wellcome Trust. Each organisation is committed to public involvement in its work through outreach, education and engagement.

ES. 3

UKCMRI will be a substantial institute employing around 1,500 staff, including 1,250 scientists from a range of disciplines. The St Pancras site provides essential proximity to a significant range of centres of medical and academic excellence enabling interaction between biomedical researchers, clinicians and a wide range of other scientists supporting the vision for UKCMRI in medical science. The size and location of UKCMRI is critical to enable it to develop the capacity and opportunity for multidisciplinary research and to promote active translation of discoveries into future health benefits.

ES. 4

The vision for UKCMRI as a national resource for medical science will deliver, in addition to research, an exceptional and inspirational range of public engagement and outreach opportunities for schools, students and the community, both locally and nationally, across a broad range of science interests, continually updated and supported by demonstration in the teaching laboratory.

ES. 5

UKCMRI's research will have the potential to touch many people's lives. It is important that its work is carried out with public engagement. UKCMRI also believes it is important to consider design, public areas, open space and programmes of activities with input from stakeholders, residents, community groups and other interested parties. The Institute intends to play an important role in the local neighbourhood and will host community events as part of its public programme.

ES. 6

To inform and deliver this vision, UKCMRI began public consultation with residents, stakeholders and other interested groups in April 2008. The first 'meet and greet' road-shows introduced local residents to the founders of UKCMRI and the broad vision for the project. They also represented UKCMRI's first opportunity to hear the views of local people. Comments from these and other events have shaped developing plans. Feedback from these first meetings provided a valuable benchmark against which future consultation was and will continue to be judged. Over time there have been perceptible changes in local attitudes to the project, with increasingly positive feedback recorded at the on-site exhibition and road-shows.



Fig ES-1. START festival, Chalton Street, July 2009



Fig ES-2. On site exhibition



Fig ES-3. Aerial view of Somers Town looking over Purchase Street Open Space towards the British Library and the site



Fig ES-4. Somers Town in bloom

Executive Summary

ES. 7

UKCMRI wishes to establish a long-term relationship with the St Pancras and Somers Town community and to become a valued neighbour. The pre-application consultation with the local community and relevant stakeholders has been extensive. UKCMRI's primary objectives have been to raise awareness of its plans, actively seek feedback and identify appropriate ways in which it can benefit the local area and Camden.

ES. 8

The UKCMRI approach has been underpinned by a commitment to inclusivity and transparency, and by the desire to establish an ongoing relationship with neighbours. Throughout the consultation UKCMRI has sought to follow advice from Camden's members and officers. It has employed a wide range of consultation mechanisms to ensure that it has accessed all sections of the community, including harder-to-reach groups. In addition, UKCMRI has funded the London Wildlife Trust to support temporary allotments on the site prior to development.

ES. 9

The proposed design for the UKCMRI building has taken account of feedback from consultations with statutory bodies and the community; the latest version of the design has been substantially influenced by this. Views on the proposals have not only influenced design, but are considered vital in helping to create opportunities to bring additional benefits to the local and wider community during the construction of the building, and once the Institute is up and running. UKCMRI is fully committed to ongoing engagement, and to establishing itself as a valued member of this community.



Fig ES-5. Temporary community allotments located on the site



Fig ES-6. Temporary community allotments located on the site