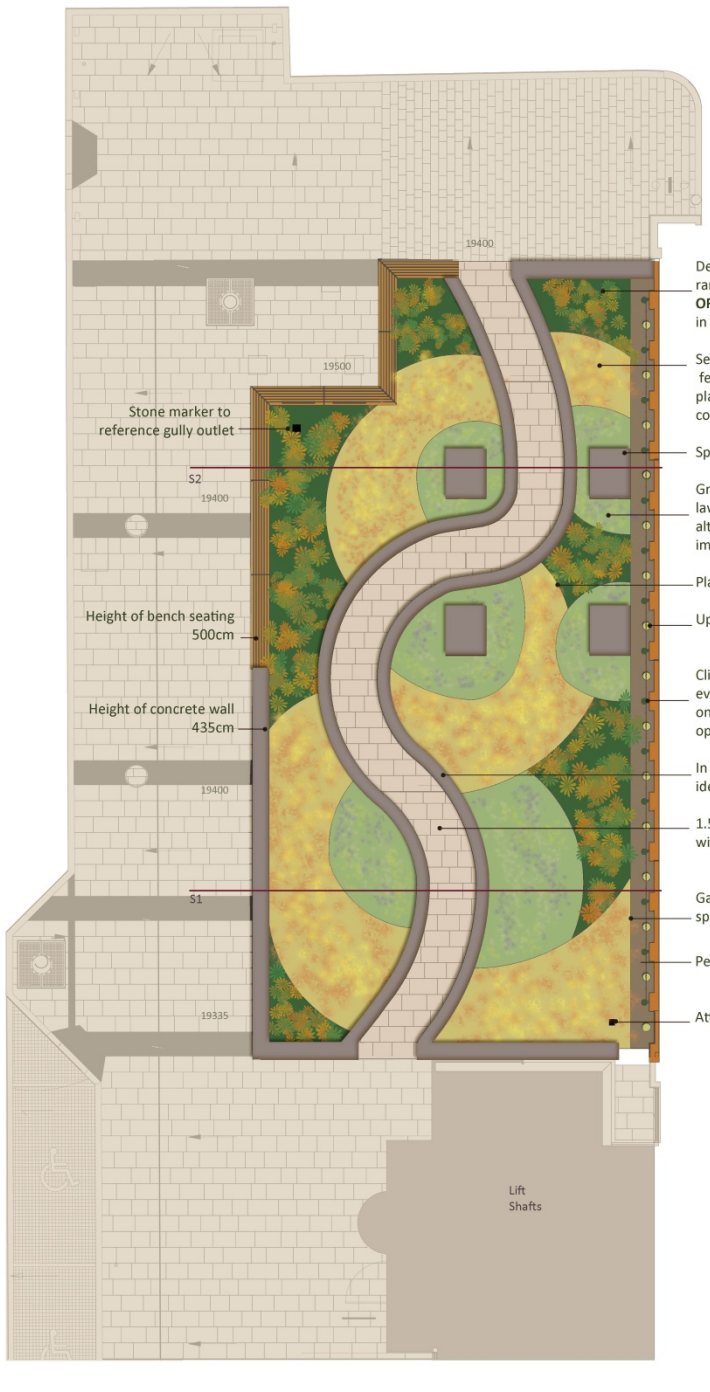
Francis Crick Institute - Garden Concept Plan with an Overview of Planting Options

Proposed Garden Concept - A gentle and inspiring space for all to enjoy and wildlife to benefit

The garden has a sequence of rounded spaces that are slightly offset from one another in a linked chain of themed planting with different textures, forms and scents. They are positioned along a gently curved pathway together softening the dramatic geometry of the surrounding space with some resonance to the curling roof above. Moving along the path, the visitor will experience a series of changing views of form and planting to excite and sooth the senses and inspire the mind. The planting will feature a mostly dense and dramatic outside edge, a softer and lighter sensory path core and a flowering ground cover. The colours will echo and complement the bold terracotta colour of the building and the plants will be wildlife friendly with long seasonal interest for all to enjoy. The garden is also designed to look appealing from the offices and laboratories above.



Denser edge planting - with **EITHER** a dynamic range of coppery grasses and rounded shrubs **OR** a broader range of woodland plants. Options in the Key and indicative images opposite. **TBD**.

Sensory planting along the core of the path will feature a soft and light planting theme using planting combinations for their texture, scent colour and form. Indicative images opposite

Sprinkler tank access hatch

Ground cover planting with **EITHER** a flowering lawn in all beds **OR** a selection of non turf lawn alternative - options in the Key and indicative images opposite. **TBD**.

Planted area edging

Uplighters to project architect's specification

Climbing plants - a series of predominantly evergreen species at even intervals trained on a steel wire trellis. Indicative images opposite

In situ formed retaining concrete wall ideally with stone cladding

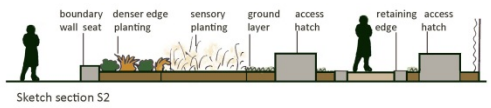
1.5m stone path raised to plant bed level with ramps at each entrance.

Galvanised steel angle to project architects specification

Peashingle

Attenuation vent pipe cover

Sketch section S1



Sketch section S2

Key to planting themes. There are planting options for the proposed edge and ground layer access hatch surrounds.

Denser edge planting with ***EITHER*** a straightforward but dynamic combination of lower evergreen shrubs with orange hued grasses for resonance with the terracotta cladding of the building **OR** a broadly woodland themed concept using a variety of predominantly evergreen and wintergreen species with hints of brighter perennial colour

Sensory planting. Using plants with varying colour, texture, and form to create areas of softness and drama with long seasonal and wildlife interest. This planting style will definately feature in the proposed scheme

Low ground cover planting with **EITHER** a flowering lawn with species such as daisy, buttercup and clover **OR** a series of no turf lawn substitutes using block planting of species such as thyme, alpines, succulents and chamomile. Both options have more colour interest than a standard lawn, are lower maintenace than standard turf as they require less cutting and provide habitat for wildlife

Climbing plants. The building will have a series of predominantly evergreen climbing plants positioned at even intervals and trained on a steel wire trellis

Indicative images for an overview of the planting proposals and options


Dynmaic pairing of Carex and dwarf Hebe


Panicum virgatum has firey tones


Coppery Carex testacea

Denser planted edge Option 1 - A dynamic range of coppery grasses such as Carex sp and firey Panicum to resonate with the terracotta building colour mixed with lower shrubs such as dwarf Hebe sp.


Evergreen plants such as ferns with hints of colour from bulbs and perennials.

Denser planted edge Option 2 - Broadly woodland themed using a variety of predominantly evergreen / wintergreen plants with hints of more vivid colour and fewer grasses. Some orange tones to resonate with the building cladding


Sensory planting combines colour, texture, scent and form to stimulate the senses

Sensory planting will feature throughout the core of the path using plants for their combined colour, texture, scent and form to create a softer, lighter planting scheme than the denser edge with long seasonal interest and added wildlife value. These beds will feature some plants and grasses that have orange tones to resonate with the building's terracotta colour.


Flowering turf lawn


An alpine rich no turf 'lawn'


Chamomile lawn


Succulent 'lawn'


Thyme 'lawn'


'Self heal 'lawn'

Ground cover planting with **EITHER** a flowering turf lawn in all beds **OR** a series of non turf alternatives such as alpines,chamomile, succulent plants, herbs or self heal. Both options are lower maintenace than standard grass lawns and provide access for the access hatches and for general garden maintenance


Star jasmine


Solanum sp


Clematis montana

Climbing plants - a series of predominantly evergreen species planted at even intervals and trained on a steel wire trellis

Notes

This Proposed Concept Design has principally referred to drawings SK-A7134-rev03 Sprinkler Tank access Hatches Design Intent, L-DTL-8051 - Raised Lawn Details and HOK140219 - Sprinkler Tank Section

Soil depth for planting is assumed to be a minimum 310mm and would ideally be 350-400mm.

Materials should ideally follow the rhetoric of the surrounding space - ie concrete clad walls and york stone paver paths

This design assumes no responsibility for underground infrastructure or structures and services on site. The final design and construction plans are to be approved by project architect and project contractor or appropriate project supervisor

Plants specified will be wildlife friendly and either native, naturalised or appropriate for the UK. Planting maintenace is anticipated to be low to occasional medium. Beds are mostly accessible from behind the boundary wall, from the paths edge and the lower 'lawn' areas with minimal need to enter into the planted beds.

London Wildlife Limited
Francis Crick Institute

Garden Concept Masterplan
Overview with planting options

LWL-FCI - SCM - 003
1:100 @ A1
04 December 2014

London Wildlife Trust