Appendix E: Photomontages

Photomontage Methodology



ORIEL PHOTOMONTAGE METHODOLOGY

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INTRODUCTION:

This document details how the AECOM Digital Media Team in Belfast prepared the photomontages for Oriel. These are Visually Verified Montages (VVM), also known as Accurate Visual Representations (AVR), as they are produced using a combination of specific site photography and accurate survey data.

GUIDELINES:

The photomontages that we prepared are based on guidance from the following publications:

- "Visual Representation of Development Proposals Technical Guidance Note 06/19" Landscape Institute, 2019.
- "Photography and Photomontage in Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Advice Note 01-11" Landscape Institute, 2011.
- "Guidelines for Landscape & Visual Impact Assessment (Third Edition)" Landscape Institute, 2013.

We also refer at times to the guidance published by the Scottish Natural Heritage. Although specific to wind farms this offers guidance on photography and the presentation of visualisations.

 "Visual Representation of Wind Farms Version 2.2" – Scottish Natural Heritage, February 2017.



SITE PHOTOGRAPHY:

The photography and surveying for Oriel was undertaken by Keith Healing, Visualisation Manager at Brunel Surveys Ltd. The photography was captured using a Canon EOS 5D MkIII (fullframe FX format) with a fixed focal length lens mounted to a steady tripod.

Ordinarily our standard requirement for capturing photos is using a 50mm lens taken in portrait orientation and then a sweep of overlapping photos to make a panoramic view. This is in accordance with LI guidelines. However, in advance of Brunel Surveys going on site we calculated that with this regular set-up most of the views would have the proposed building cut off at the top of the photo.

The LI guidelines allow for consideration of wider angle lens when there is good reason to do so. We instructed the photographer to take the normal 50mm shots at each viewpoint, but then to also use a wider lens in order to capture more vertical field of view. (When the photos are stitched to create a panorama of 90° horizontal field of view the wider angle lens versions look no different other than extra imagery to top and bottom). This would enable us to include the full extents of the proposed building in more views. However even with this set-up it would still not be possible to see the full height of the proposed in some of the closest views.

Manual camera settings were used to ensure consistent exposure across all photos taken. Photos were taken using a remote shutter release to eliminate any camera shake.

The GPS location of each camera viewpoint was recorded. Survey data was captured of fixed structures in view to aid the camera matching process. In areas where a GPS signal was hard to maintain (St. Pancras Gardens) other data was used to help align the camera, including references from Google Maps and the accurate Revit model of the existing site.



PHOTO STITCHING & POST-PRODUCTION:

The photos were loaded into specialist photo stitching software in order to create panoramic views. The software automatically corrected the photos for lens distortion and stitched them to create 90° images. Adjustments were made manually to fine-tune the blend between images where appropriate and to remove people as required.

The resulting image were output as Spherical projection to correctly match the virtual camera used in the 3D software. The software was later used to remap the images as cylindrical projection in accordance with LVIA requirements.

Virtual cameras were positioned in the 3D software according to the same real-world positions and heights as per the camera survey data. These cameras were set-up to match the field of view as the stitched panoramas. The stitched images were loaded as camera back plates.

The survey points were imported to create points in 3D space. The camera targets were then aligned to ensure the points matched the exact locations visible in the photographs.

The daylight settings in each scene were matched to the same time and location of the original photography.

The proposed design was placed at the correct geo-referenced position. The virtual camera views were rendered and composited into the background photography. The images were adjusted to mask the correct parts of the render behind existing elements in the photography. AVR1 and AVR3 versions were output as required.

Table 1 List of Views included in Photomontages

View Number	Location	Туре	
1	Adjacent to St Pancras Church looking NW	AVR1	
2	Adjacent to St Pancras Church looking NE	AVR1	
3	Gate entrance to St Pancras Gardens from Pancras Road looking N	AVR1	
4	St Pancras Gardens looking N along central avenue	AVR1	
5	St Pancras Gardens looking N along western avenue AVR		
6	St Pancras Gardens looking N across hospital site near to gate AVR1		
7	From Goldington Crescent at gate into central gardens AVR3		
8	Crowndale Road looking E from southern pavement	AVR1	
9	View across lower section/courtyard of Royal Veterinary College	AVR1	
10	Looking E along Granary Street towards canal AV		
11	View from pavement on St Pancras Way from Travis Perkins site looking SE	AVR3	
12	View from northern canal tow path looking S AVR1		
13	View from top of Camley Street steps looking W across canal AVR3		
14	View from tow path looking W across canal, just beneath Camley Street bridge AVR1		
15	View from Camley Street looking W at 101 Camley Street development AVR1		
16	View across railway bridge / St Pancras lock from tow path AVR1		
17	View from Camley St bridge across St Pancras lock and listed pump house AVR1		
18	View from upper walkway of Coal Drop across pump house and canal AVR3		
19	View from pavement on Camley Street looking NW up the hill AVR1		
20	View from corner of Granary Street looking S AVR3		
21	LVMF View 2A. 1 from Parliament Hill looking toward St Paul's Cathedral AVR1		

Table 2 Key to Photomontages

Key:		
AVR1	Wireline representations with a solid line to the edge of coloured areas indicating portions of schemes visible in front of existing structures or vegetation.	
AVR3	Photorealistic representations with overlaid AVR1 versions of cumulative and emerging schemes.	
Blue	Oriel – the Proposed Development	
Red	2017/5497/P Ugly Brown Building. Demolition of the existing building (Class B1 and B8) and erection of 6 new buildings ranging in height from 2 storeys to 12 storeys in height above ground and 2 basement levels comprising a mixed use development of business floorspace (B1), 73 residential units (C3) (10xstudio, 29x1 bed, 27x2 bed 7x3 bed), hotel (C1), gym (D2), flexible retail (A1 - A4) and storage space (B8) development with associated landscaping work.	
Pink	Cumulative Schemes (see list below).	
Green	Emerging Scheme on the remainder of St Pancras Hospital Site	

Table 3 Summary of Cumulative Schemes, shown in pink on Photomontages

PINK CUMULATIVE SCHEMES					
Planning Application Number	Address	Description			
2020/0728/P	70-86 Royal College Street	Demolition of existing buildings (Class B2); erection of 5 storey building (plus rooftop pavilions/plant and basement) to provide a mixed Class C2/D1 healthcare facility (Sui Generis).			
2018/4813/P	King's Cross Central Building S5	Reserved matters relating to Plot S5 within Development Zone S for the erection of a 15 storey residential building (Class C3) with flexible retail A1-A5, B1, D1 and D2 uses at ground floor level and associated public realm works, as required by conditions 9, 10, 14, 16-22, 24, 27, 28, 31, 33- 36, 37, 38, 39, 42. 42a, 43, 45, 46, 48, 49, 50A, 51, 55, 56, 60, 61, 63 and 64-67 of outline planning permission reference 2004/2307/P granted 22/12/06 (subject to S106 agreement) for a comprehensive, phased, mixed-use development of former railway lands within the King's Cross Opportunity Area.			
		Amendment to reserved matters application 2018/4813/P dated 20/12/2018, namely alterations to the unit mix to increase total number of dwellings from 158 to 163, additional terrace at level 5, 9 additional balconies on west and east cores, alterations to brickwork at ground floor level and increase in on-site cycle parking provision			
2018/2628/P	King's Cross Central Building P2	Reserved matters relating to Plot P2 within Development Zone P for the erection of a 12 storey building for office use (Class B1) with flexible retail (A1-A5) and theatre (Sui Generis) uses at ground floor, and public realm works to parts of Handyside Street, Wollstonecraft Street and between the proposed building and the Gasholder Triplets. As required by conditions 6, 9, 10, 14, 16-22, 27, 28, 31, 33-36, 37, 38, 44, 46, 48, 49, 50A, 51, 56, 60 and 64-67 of outline planning permission reference 2004/2307/P granted 22/12/06 (subject to S106 agreement) for a comprehensive, phased, mixed-use development of former railway lands within the King's Cross Opportunity Area.			
2017/5204/P	King's Cross Central Building S1	Reserved matters relating to Building S1 within Development Zone S for erection of a 12 storey building, plus single level basement, with mixed office (B1), flexible office or leisure (B1 or D2) and retail uses (A1-A4) at ground floor, mixed office (B1) and flexible office or leisure uses (B1 or D2) at 1st & 2nd floor and office (B1) uses at 3rd-12th floor, and associated servicing, cycle parking, plant, and public realm on Handyside Street, Canal Reach and within the tertiary routes of zone S along the northern and eastern side of the building and between S2 and S4, as required by conditions 9, 10, 12, 14, 16-22, 27, 28, 31, 33- 38, 45, 46, 48, 49, 50a, 51, 56, 60, 63-67 of outline planning permission reference 2004/2307/P granted 22/12/06 (subject to S106 agreement) for a comprehensive, phased, mixed-use development of former railway lands within the King's Cross Opportunity Area.			
2017/3133/P	King's Cross Central Development Zone A	Reserved matters in relation to Zone A for erection of 7-11 storey building for use as offices (Class B1) with ancillary staff facilities, including a cafe, gym, pool, Multi Use Games Area, events centre and landscaped roof garden; retail at ground floor level (Class A1) and two levels of basement incorporating a loading bay, 4 x accessible parking spaces, mechanical plant; and works to public realm in			
2016/3195/P / 2018/3682/P	King's Cross Central Plot T2-T4	Reserved matters relating to Plots T2-T4 within Development Zone T for erection of two buildings, T2 (part 9, part 10 storeys) and T3 (part 10, part 12 storeys), for use as offices (Class B1) on upper floors, a primary health care centre in T2 (Class D1) at ground floor and flexible commercial/office/leisure units to ground and first floors (A1-A4/B1/D2) and a fuel cell to the south west corner of T2. Associated cycle and car parking, refuse store, storage and plant areas provided. Public realm works to the western side of Canal Reach. As required by conditions 9, 10, 14, 16-22, 27, 28, 31, 33- 36, 45, 46, 48, 49, 50A, 51, 56, 60 and 63-67 of outline planning permission reference 2004/2307/P granted 22/12/06 (subject to S106 agreement) for a comprehensive, phased, mixed-use development of former railway lands within the King's Cross Opportunity Area. Variation of Condition 2 (approved plans) of planning permission 2014/4385/P dated 18/03/2015 (as varied by 2016/6311/P dated 14/07/2017) for (Demolition of existing building and new building ranging from 6 -13 storeys comprising 2,220sqm employment floorspace (Class B1), 121 residential flats, pedestrian footbridge over the Regent's Canal and associated works) CHANGES INCLUDE external amendments to the approved development - Landscaping works, façade development (spandrels, doors, glazing, canopies, windows), terraces and balconies, edge protection and building services			

PINK CUMULATIVE SCHEMES		
Planning Application Number	Address	Description
2016/1530/P	Kings Cross Central Development Zone W (Buildings W1 and W2)	Reserved matters relating to Development Zone W for: - A shared part lower ground part basement area across Development Zone W Plot W1 for the erection of a 12 to 17 storey building to provide 140 residential units (Use Class C3) and commercial space to ground floor (Use Class A1-A5) Plot W2 for the erection of an 8 storey building to provide 78 residential units (Use Class C3)(including 36 social rented and 23 intermediate) and commercial space to ground floor (Use Class A1-A5) Basement area to include 363 cycle spaces, 48 car parking spaces, plant, refuse and ancillary uses. As required by conditions 2, 4, 6, 9-19, 20, 22-30 of outline planning permission granted at appeal subject to a S106 agreement (Appeal Ref: APP/X5210/A/07/2051898, Council Ref:2004/2311/P) for a comprehensive, phased, mixed-use development of the Triangle Site of former railway lands within the Kings Cross Opportunity Area.
2015/2704/P	Central Somers Town	Demolition of existing buildings and the provision of approximately 2,190sq.m replacement school (Use Class D1); approximately 1,765sq.m of community facilities (Use Class D1); approximately 207sq.m of flexible Use Class A1/A2/A3/D1 floorspace and 136 residential units (Use Class C3) over 7 buildings ranging from 3 to 25 storeys in height comprising:
		• Plot 1: Community uses at ground floor (Use Class D1) (approximately 1,554sq.m) to include a children's nursery and community play facility with 10no. residential units above;
		• Plot 2: 35 residential units over flexible A1/A2/A3/D1 floorspace at ground level (approximately 137sq.m);
		Plot 3: Extension of Grade II listed terrace to provide 3no. dwellings;
		Plot 4: Replacement school (Use Class D1);
		Plot 5: 20no. residential units over a replacement community hall (Use Class D1) (approximately 211sq.m);
		Plot 6: 14no. residential units; and
		• Plot 7: 54no. residential units over flexible A1/A2/A3/D1 floorspace at ground level (approximately 70sq.m). Provision of 11,765 sqm of public open space along with associated highways works and landscaping.
2013/8088/P	Agar Grove Estate, Agar Grove	Demolition of all existing buildings and structures except Lulworth House and Agar Children's Centre (249 existing Class C3 residential units and 2 retail units), and erection of new buildings ranging between 4 and 18 storeys in height along with the refurbishment and extension of Lulworth House (extending from 18 to 20 storeys in total) to provide a total of 493 Class C3 residential units, comprising 240 market, 37 intermediate and 216 social rent units; a community facility (Class D1); 2 flexible retail shop (Class A1) or restaurant and cafe (Class A3) units; business space (Class B1(a)); 2 flexible retail shop (Class A1), business (Class B1) or non-residential institution (Class D1) units; refuse and recycling facilities; car and cycle parking facilities; landscaping / amenity space; and associated works.

Photomontages























