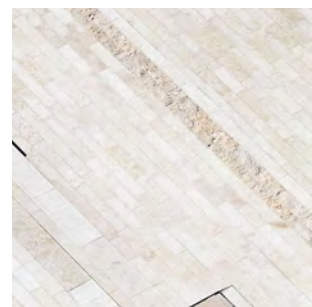


6.0 Design Proposal

6.4 Hard Landscape

The design aspiration of the public realm is to provide a high-quality and durable landscape for everyone to enjoy. Natural stone has been chosen carefully as a durable material which will blend into the surrounding public realm. Changes in tones and scale of paving is proposed in the different activity cells to respond to the individual character and uses of these spaces and to emphasise the intimate qualities of these spaces. Changes in paving sizes is used within the main routes to demarcate between cycling and pedestrian routes to aid with wayfinding and create clear and safe movement routes through the site.

The plan opposite highlights the different hard landscaping materials proposed.



1 Large format natural stone



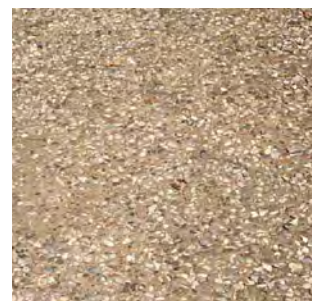
2 Medium format natural stone



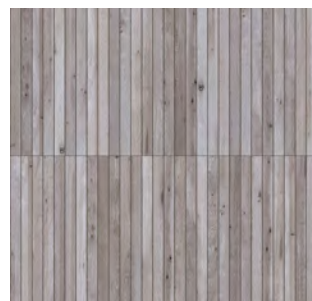
3 Small format natural stone



4 Natural Stone 'grasscrete' paving



5 Permeable Paving



6 Timber



Proposed Hard Landscape Plan NTS

6.0 Design Proposal

6.5 Edge and Boundary Conditions

The plan on this page locates the types and height of edges and boundary conditions. The edges are designed to provide planting depth for trees and understorey planting as well as to provide informal seating and play opportunities.

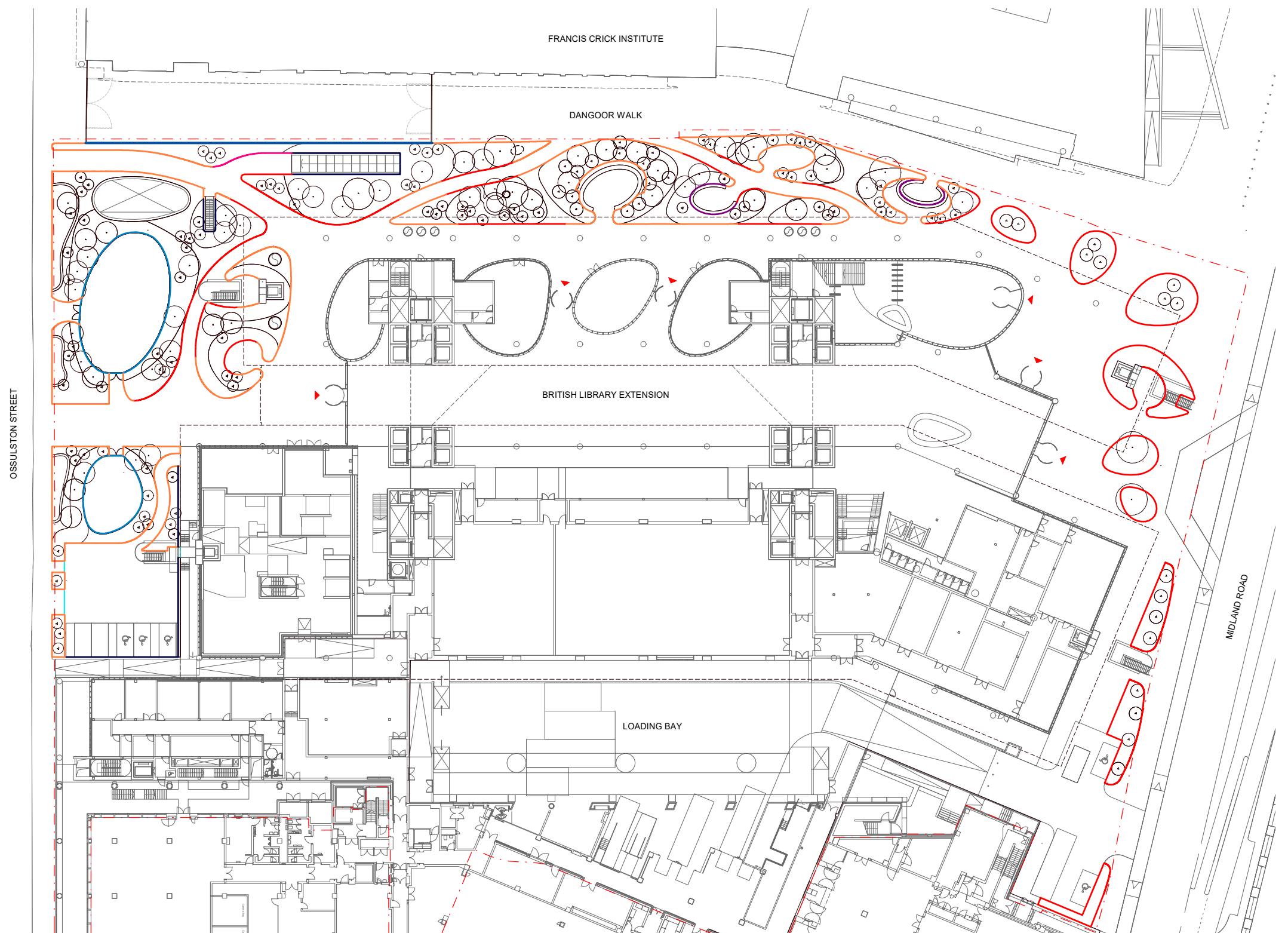
The height of the majority of planting edges is set at 450mm which will provide more seating in addition to the benches with the activity cells. This will support the project objective of providing an inclusive and accessible public realm. Further details are given in section 6.6 of this document.

Key

- Flush natural stone planter edge
- 150mm high natural stone planter edge
- 450mm high natural stone planter edge
- Transition planter edge
- Natural stone seating and planter edge
- Retaining wall
- 1400mm fence



Examples of proposed edges. Reference: Bridget Joyce Square



Proposed Edges and Boundary Conditions Plan

NTS

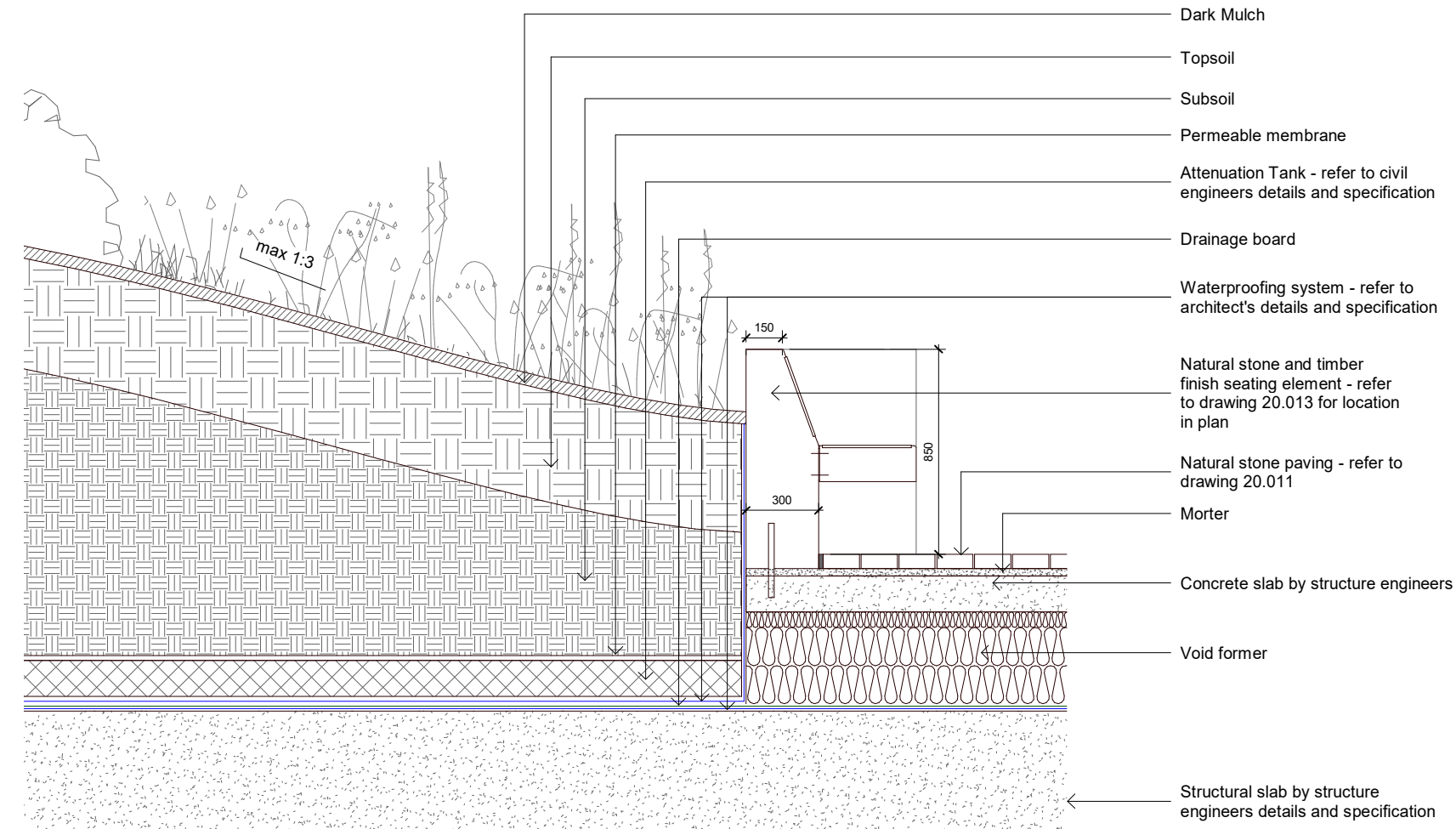
6.0 Design Proposal

6.6 Seating and Street Furniture

Street furniture is designed and located to provide fluid movement for pedestrians and to create resting spaces in quieter, more intimate zones within the public realm. The Streetscape Design Manual by London Borough of Camden has been reference as touchstone guidance for the furniture proposals.

The design seeks to de-clutter the public realm while providing opportunities to rest and enjoy the landscape. A design of the benches are proposed in a light stone with timber infill so that they feel integrated within the overall composition of landscape elements; in particular the edging and upstand details to the planters. Armrests and backrest will be developed to cater to a wide range of users. A section through a typical bench detail is shown adjacent.

The images below provide examples of furniture elements proposed to the public realm.



Detail Section through a Typical Bench Detail



Precedent Examples of Benches



Precedent Examples of Structures for climbing plant



Precedent Examples of cycle parking

6.0 Design Proposal

6.7 Soft Landscape

6.7.1 Tree Planting

A planting character has been developed that both compliments the site's microclimatic conditions and also enhances the biodiversity of the British Library site as a whole.

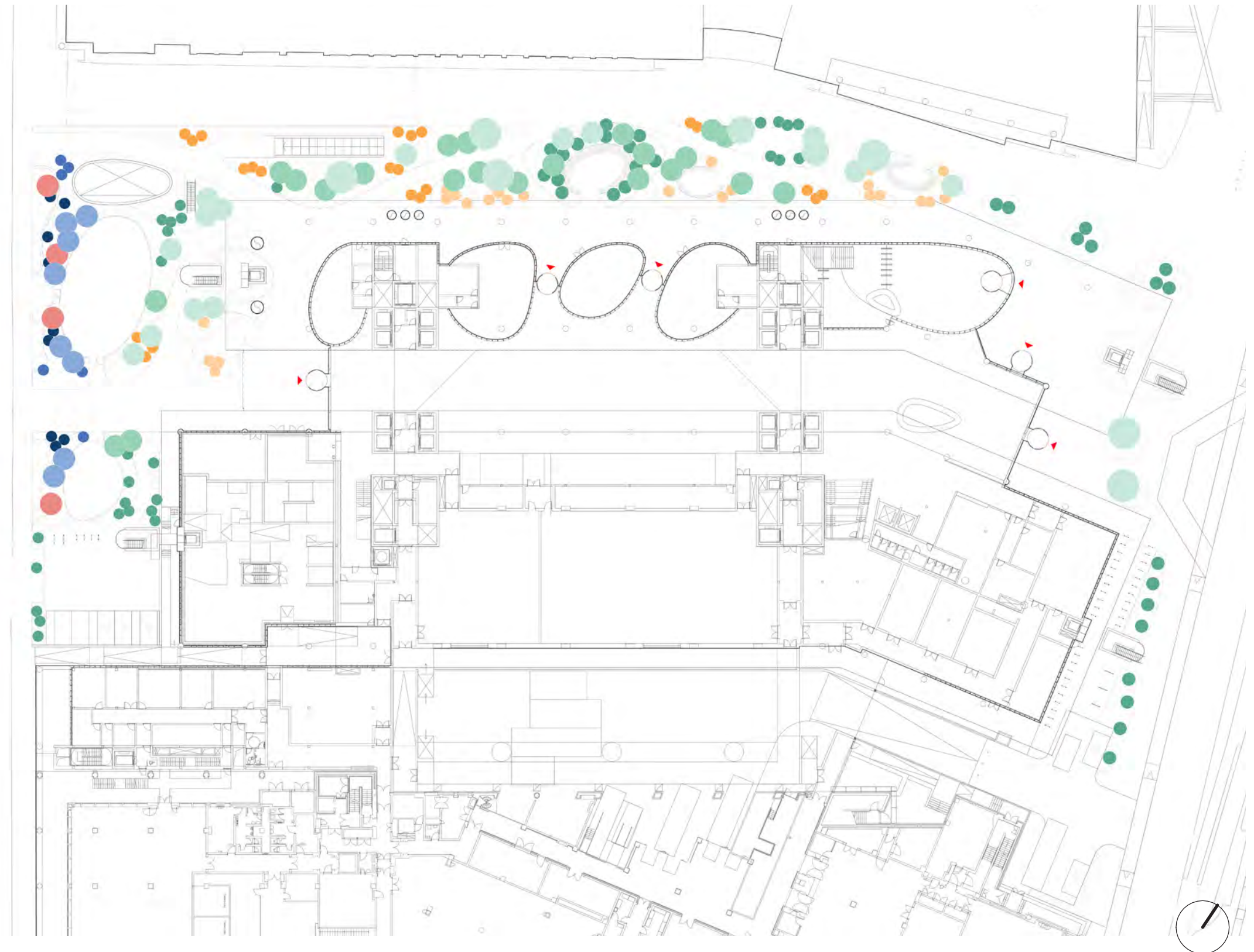
This drawing locates the proposed tree species types across the public spaces of the British Library Extension site and shows the specific tree planting mix for each of the cell spaces. 175 new trees are proposed in total, subject to detailed design and further site investigations.

The proposed tree planting scheme is predominantly made up of Birch trees, *Betula Pendula*, *Betula Papyrifera* and *Betula Pubescens*, with some other species used to highlight particular site conditions. These include willow trees, *Salix Alba*, which typically grow along riverbanks, and are proposed to grow on the edge the rain garden at Ossulston Street, and *Cornus Controversa* which are located to highlight routes and pathways through the site. Images of the proposed tree types are shown on the page opposite.

The proposed tree planting, and soft planting scheme generally, has been designed in consultation with Arup's Ecology team. This section is to be read together with Arup's Breeam Ecology Assessment and TMA's Arboricultural Report.

Key

- *Betula pendula* (multi-stem)
- *Betula pendula*
- *Betula papyrifera*
- *Cornus controversa*
- *Acer platanoides* 'Palmatifidum'
- *Betula pubescens*
- *Betula pubescens* (multi-stem)
- *Crataegus monogyna*
- *Salix alba*



6.0 Design Proposal

6.7 Soft Landscape

Proposed tree species

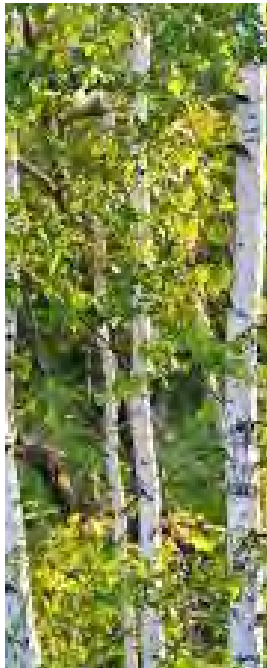
Images of the proposed tree types are shown on this page.

Birch tree planting

The tree planting scheme is designed to appear as in a natural urban green space, as birch trees typically grow as pioneer species on fallow urban and industrial sites.

The benefits of the choice of Betula pendula trees in this scheme are as follows:

- The light, open canopy of the birch allows us to establish a rich layer of understorey planting below it to further increase the green space of the British Library Extension site.
- The slender form of the stems of the birch trees will allow views through the landscape. Tree planting is used to defined the space of the cells for events, seating and other uses but the form of the stems of the birch trees will mean that a visual connection is always maintained and none of these spaces will be closed off from the wider public realm.
- The white stems of the trees will lighten the more shaded areas of the site.
- The weeping branches and foliage of these trees will slowly move in the wind adding a gentle dynamic element to the 'cells' and informal pathways through the site.
- Betula pendula is a robust urban tree growing to a mid size appropriate to the size of the planting depth that we have available above the basement structure.



Betula Pendula
Silver Birch



Betula Pubescens
Common White Birch



Cornus controversa
Giant Dogwood / Wedding Cake Tree



Acer Platanoides
'Palmatifidum'
Norway Maple



Betula Papyrifera
Paper Birch



Crataegus Monogyna
Common Hawthorn



Salix Alba
White Willow



Birch trees with understorey planting

6.0 Design Proposal

6.7 Soft Landscape

6.7.2 Understorey Planting

An approach to the soft landscape has been developed which creates a layered landscape that maximises biodiversity opportunities and is appropriate to the specific climatic conditions of the site.

Two layers of understorey planting are proposed to provide a low level coverage at eye level which helps to demarcate space and reinforce movement and views through the site.

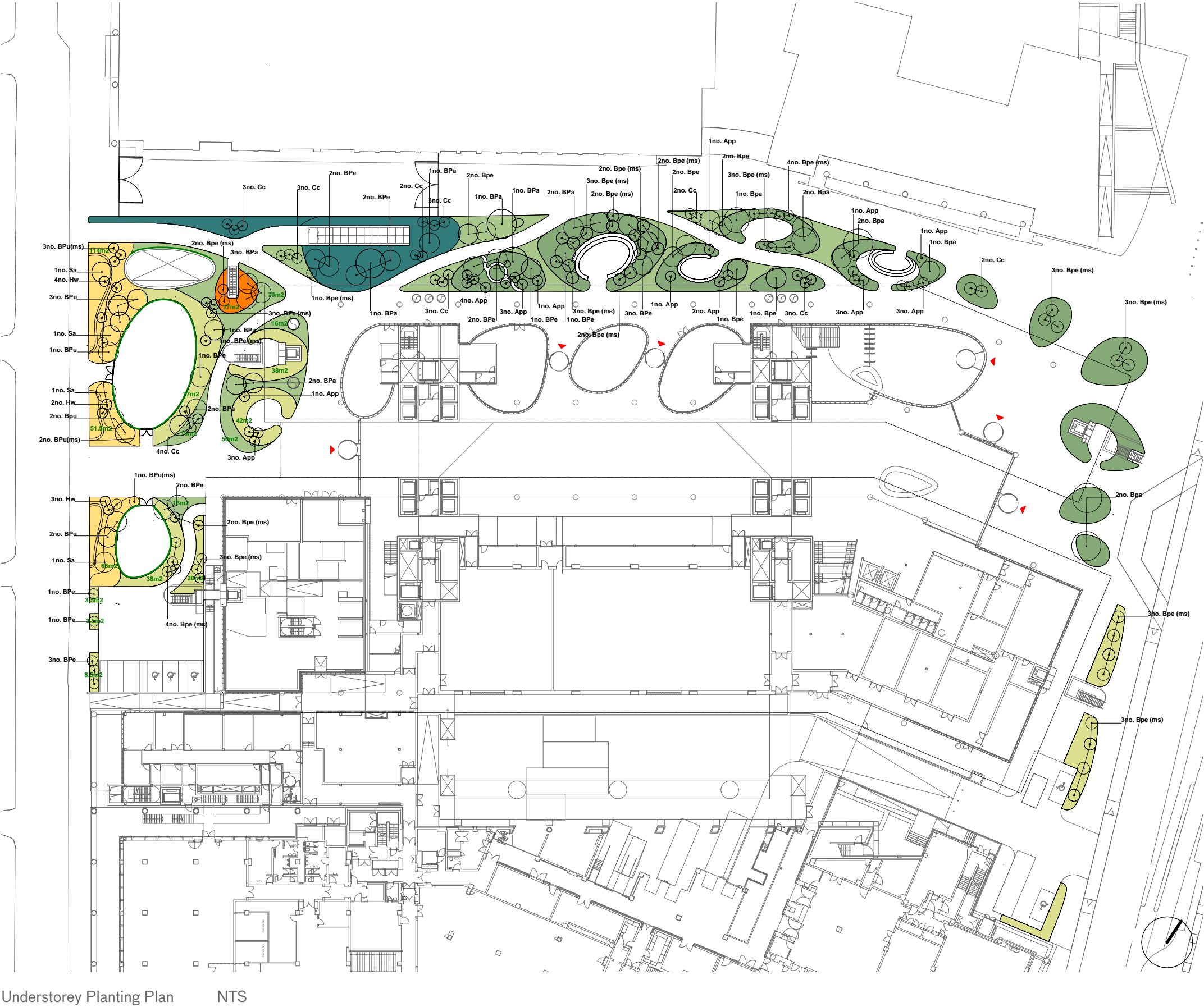
Understorey planting species have been selected according to the particular microclimate conditions on each part of the site. Mixed shrubs and herbaceous species are proposed as a secondary layer to the ground cover and will add height and depth to the landscape.

Planting Mixes

The planting mix types are located on the plan on this page. Planting in shaded areas will be predominantly green with accents of white and purple while planting in sunnier areas will have more grasses and colour from flowers. A specific 'SUDS' planting mix is proposed for the rain garden on Ossulston Street.

Key

- Proposed Planting Mix 1: Shade/Partial
- Proposed Planting Mix 2: Sun
- Proposed Planting Mix 3: SUDs planting
- Proposed Planting Mix 4: Climbers
- Proposed Planting Mix 5: Ground cover
- Proposed Planting Mix 6: Ground cover
- Proposed Planting Mix 7: Grasslands



6.7 Soft Landscape

Examples of Proposed Understorey Plant Types

Read in conjunction with the proposed planting schedule.



Molinia caerulea



Phlomis russelliana



Stipa tenuissima



Rudbeckia goldsturm



Athyrum filix-femina



Polygonatum odoratum



Vitis coignetiae



Tracehlospermum jasminoides



Parthenocissus tricuspidata



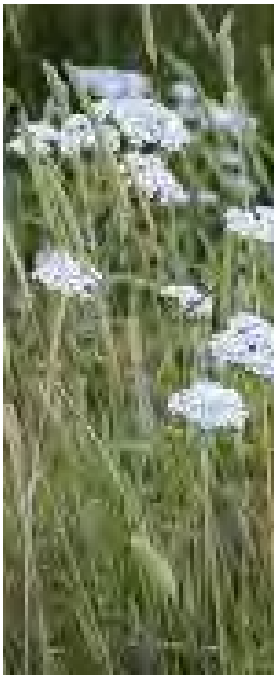
Persicaria amplexicaulis



Veronicastrum virginicum



Libertia ixioides



Achillea millefolium



Sanguisorba officinalis



Lonicera periclymenum



Hedera helix (twining, non-invasive varieties)



Clematis montana var. Grandiflora



Thymus Vulgaris

6.0 Design Proposal

6.8 Playspace and Public Art

1 Playspace Strategy

Guidance from ‘Shaping Neighbourhoods: Play and Informal recreation (2012)’ has been use to develop an approach to play. Our aim is for the entirety of the public realm to provide an informal and immersive recreational experience for children to play and learn about the environment. A integrated approach to providing playspace is proposed, whereby playful elements have been introduced into the landscape such as playful topography, undulating planter edges and trails through planting which encourage children to interact and play.

2 Public Art

A number of locations have been proposed for art installations. These are proposed to create an engaging and educational environment for users while also providing visual markers which aid in wayfinding.



Opportunities for pop-up art in the landscape



Interactive Art



Proposed Location of Furniture NTS

6.0 Design Proposal

6.8 Playspace and Public Art

Types of playspaces

A dedicated playspace within the Garden spaces to the south of Dangoor Walk areas as illustrated in section 6.3.2.

The landscape proposals in general across the site include a structures are proposed that offer opportunities for informal play, interaction and engagement to allow for learning, socialising and exploring for children of all ages. In addition to opportunities for learning, the proposed landscape design provides and area for carers to meet, and in this way, play a wider role in bringing the community together.



Trails through the Landscape



Slides and 'natural' play equipment



Undulating walkways which allow informal play, gatherings and social activities



6.0 Design Proposal

6.9 Lighting Strategy

An indicative lighting strategy has been developed with Arup to create a safe and inclusive environment 24 hours a day. The lighting design for the site has been developed to provide a positive contribution to the night time experience of this prime central London location. The lighting will encourage evening use of the amenity spaces for local residents; will contribute to the night time economy; and will reinforce the identity of the British Library and its external spaces whilst ensuring that it sits comfortably within its local context and character. The following considerations define the overall lighting approach:

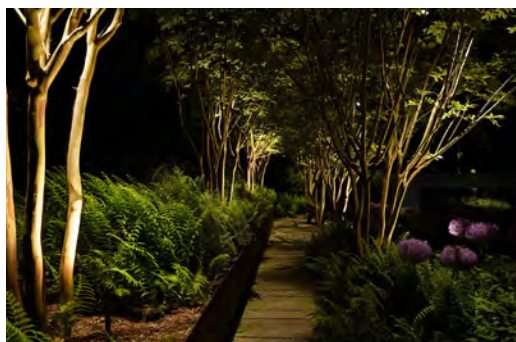
Safety - creating a safe environment through positive lighting after dark. This includes ensuring that appropriate light levels are provided along routes, as well as ensuring that people's faces are well illuminated and that changes of levels or other hazards are clearly identifiable.

Identity - meeting the functional lighting requirements in a way that also creates a memorable and attractive identity with a pedestrian neighbourhood character after dark.

Legibility - balancing light intensity and distribution to create an environment that is intuitively legible after dark.

Movement - using light to encourage movement into and through the site by clearly identifying entrances, framing routes and highlighting destinations.

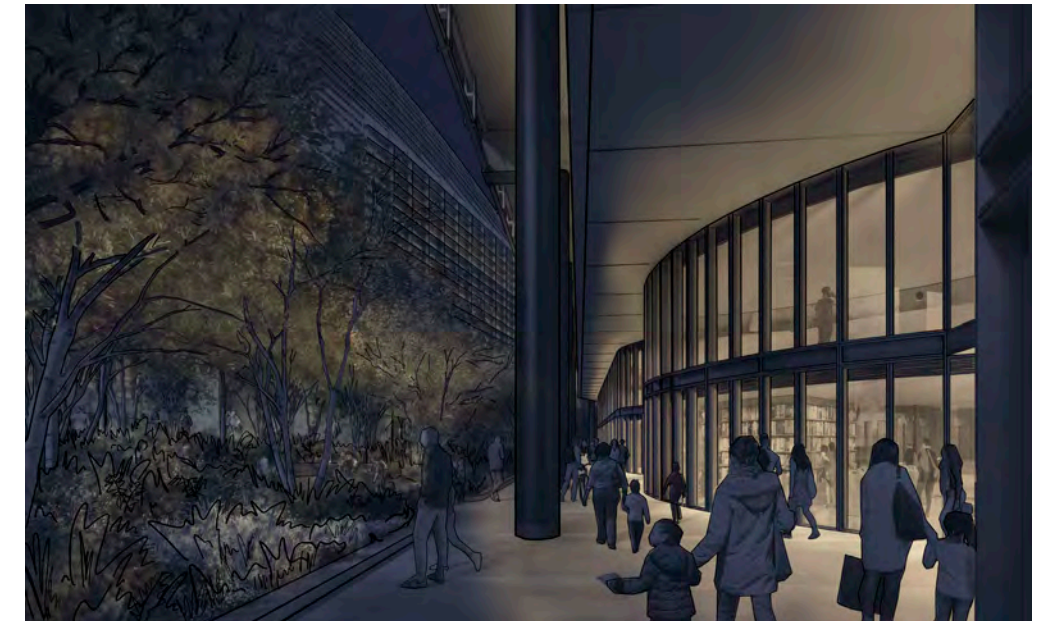
Careful consideration has been given to ensure that any proposed lighting does not have a negative impact on the ecology or diversity of landscape and its habitat. The following images have been taken from Arup's lighting strategy report which has been submitted as part of this planning application. Please see this report for further details.



Lighting in planted areas



Illustrative lighting view of Midland Road Entrance (From Arup Lighting)



Illustrative lighting view of new east-west route paralleled to Dangoor Walk (From Arup Lighting)



Illustrative Lighting Section through Dangoor Walk and the north facade of the British Library Extension (From Arup Lighting)

NTS

6.0 Design Proposal

6.9 Security Strategy

The proposals for external public spaces at the British Library Extension have been designed with particular regard to security, informed by the Threat and Risk Assessment prepared by Arup. As part of the detailed design process, we will consult with all necessary third parties and stakeholders, including the British Library, to agree the final specification of all security measures.

A range of different security measures and strategies are proposed, and the design aspiration for achieving the security requirements on site are shown on the plan on this page. These measures include using the landscape features themselves as part of the security strategy, as well as more typical bollard and gate installations, to provide protection to the public spaces. We propose to take this approach in order to provide the necessary protection to the site, while avoiding having the character and atmosphere of the public spaces being overly impacted by security requirements.

Key - Indicative Security Measures

- Security Line
- Gates (Community Garden)
- Raingarden
- Planters with concealed bollards

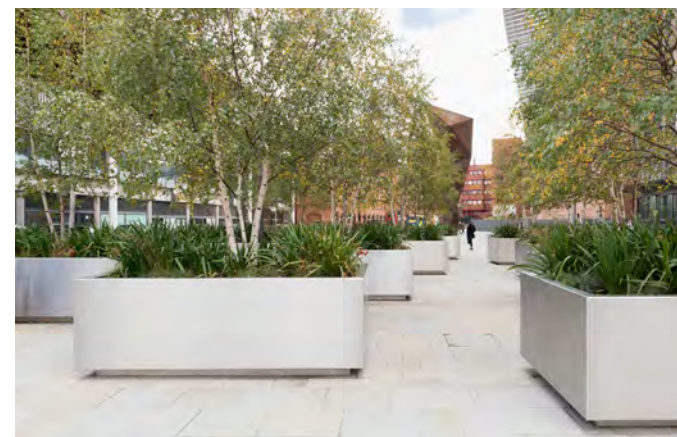


Security Strategy

NTS



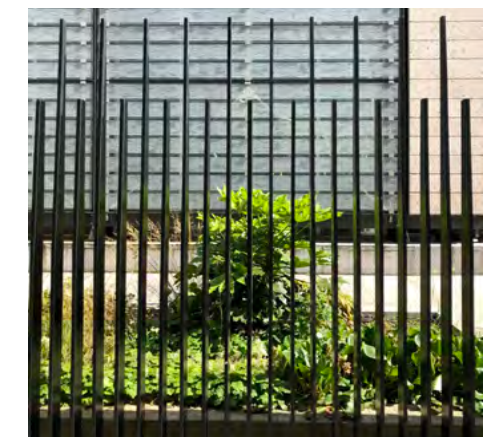
- 1 The proposed raingarden landscape along the Ossulston Street boundary forms a ditch which also acts as a line of security.



- 2 Specially-designed planters will form part of the line of HVM protection along Midland Road, as are installed outside the Francis Crick Institute above.



- 3 Where required, the line of HVM bollards will continue through planted areas to provide security while minimising their visual impact.



- 4 Gates are proposed to the Community Garden and these will be closed at night and will have a similar 'anti-climb' design as the fence.

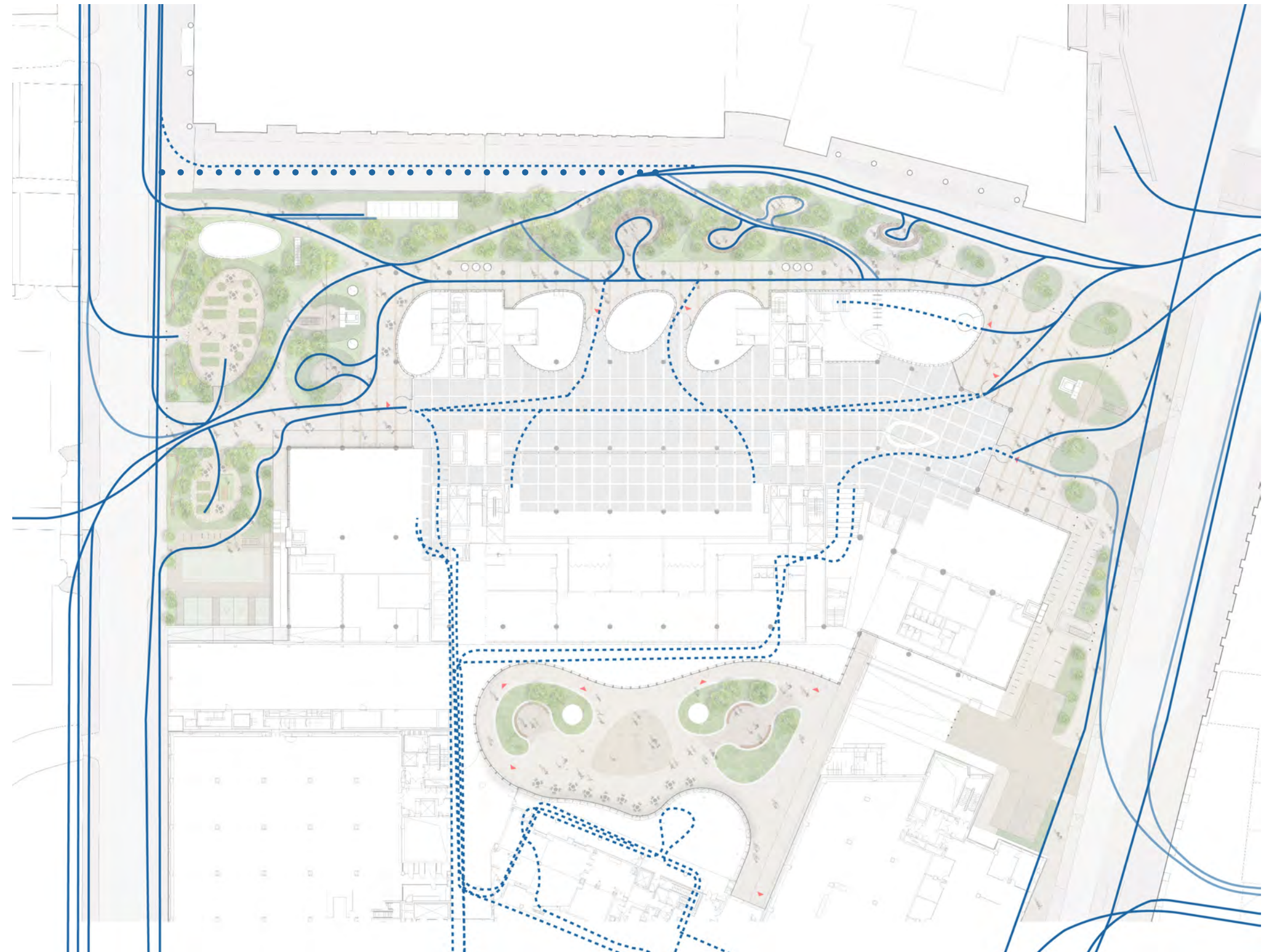
7.1 Transport

Pedestrian Movement

The following diagram illustrates the anticipated pedestrian movement through the site.

Key

- Primary Routes
- Secondary Routes
- ... Access when no deliveries take place to the FCI
- Internal Routes
(Public access during library opening hours)



Anticipated Pedestrian Movement

NTS

7.0 Technical








7.1 Transport

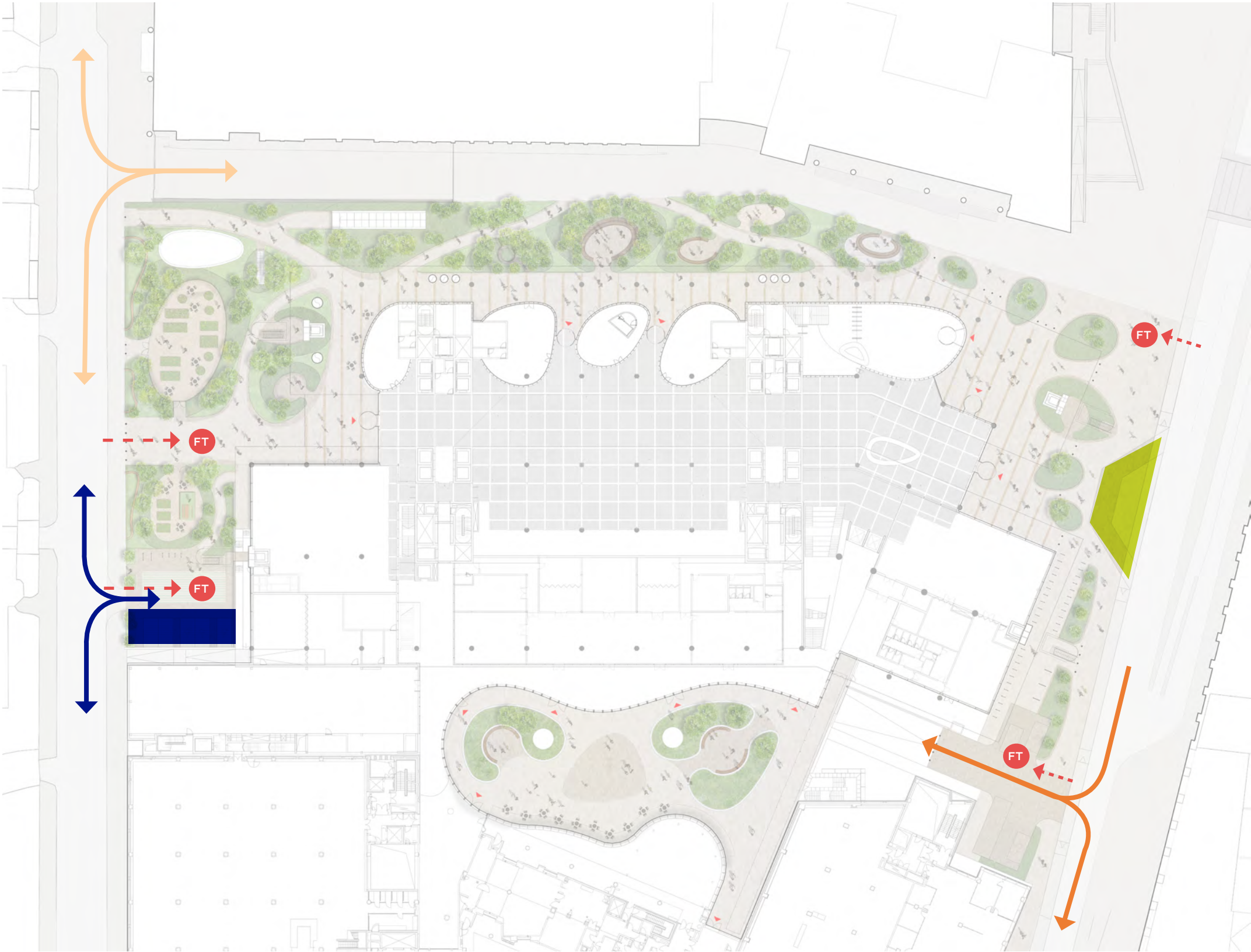
Vehicular Movement and Parking

This diagram illustrates the anticipated vehicular movement through the site. This has been developed to minimise impact on pedestrian and cycle movement through and around the site.

Please refer to Arup’s Transport Statement, submitted as part of this planning application, for further details of these proposals.

Key

-  Fire Truck Parking Location
-  Disabled Staff and Maintenance Spaces
-  Drop off bay
-  Loading Bay Access
-  Francis Crick Institute Secure Deliveries
-  Fire Truck Access
-  Disabled Staff and Maintenance Access



Vehicular Movement and Parking Plan NTS

7.0 Technical

7.1 Transport

Cycle Movement

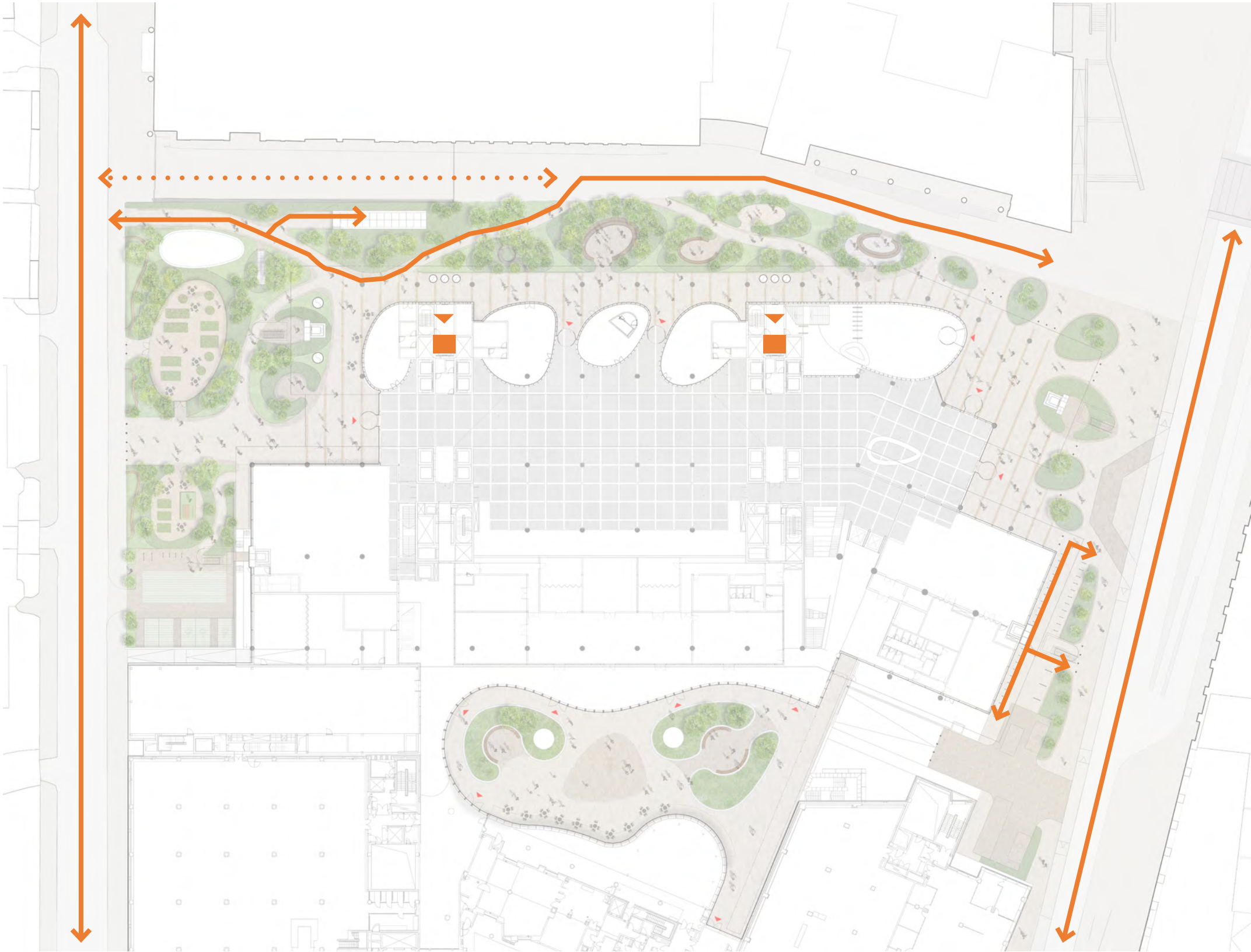
Cycling routes through the site and access to cycle parking areas have been developed to improve permeability and access through the site, while creating clear and safe routes which are legible alongside pedestrian and vehicular movement.

This plan diagram identifies the proposed principal cycle movement routes through the site and their relationship to existing routes along Ossulston Street, Dangoor Walk and Midland Road.

Please refer to Arup’s Transport Statement, submitted as part of this planning application, for further details of these proposals.

Key

- Access to Long Stay Cycle Parking
- Cycle Routes
- ... Access when no deliveries take place to the FCI



Cycle Routes Plan NTS

7.0 Technical

7.1 Transport

Please refer to Arup's Transport Statement, submitted as part of this planning application, for further detailed information on cycle parking provision.

Short Stay Cycle Parking:

In accordance with the London Plan (2021), the area schedule indicates that 172 short-stay cycle parking spaces should be provided. The proposals indicate a provision of 122 short-stay cycle parking spaces for short term visitors/public on-site.

The remaining 50 additional off-site cycle parking spaces are proposed to be provided in the local area, such as along the island on Midland Road, with a financial contribution agreed as part of the S106 agreement.



There are several spaces on the local public highway, including 11 Sheffield stands (22 short-stay cycle parking spaces) on the footway on Midland Road, which will need to be relocated on the public highway. These spaces are not part of the on-site policy requirement.

Long Stay Cycle Parking

The existing long stay cycle parking currently located at ground level will be relocated in the basement of the proposed Library Extension. No long stay cycle parking is proposed within the public realm. Please note that the long stay car park is for staff only and will have restricted access.

Further details of the access to this Long Stay Cycle Parking at B1 is given in the detailed section on proposals for the gardens to the south of Dangoor Walk in this report.

Key

-  Existing short-stay cycle parking spaces
-  Proposed short-stay cycle parking spaces



Existing Short Stay Cycle Parking

NTS



Proposed Short Stay Cycle Parking

NTS

8.0 Community Garden & Co-Design

8.1 Introduction

Existing Story Garden

The Story Garden, a temporary community garden space, is currently located on the site for the proposed British Library Extension. It is run by Global Generation, an educational charity, which works together with local children and young people, businesses, residents and families in Camden, Islington and Southwark to create healthy, integrated and environmentally responsible communities.

The landscape and public realm proposals for this site include a new Community Garden adjoining Ossulston Street.

We have worked with Global Generation to research and analyse the site context with regard to local initiatives and community projects. These places are located on the map on the right.

Key

- Greenspace
- Meanwhile Use
- 1 Plot 10 Community Play Project
- 2 Somers Town Community Association
- 3 Greening Phoenix Road
- 4 Global Generation Story Garden
- 5 New Horizon Youth Centre
- 6 Levita House raised beds
- 7 Edith Neville Primary
- 8 Regent High School
- 9 Children's Centre Euston
- 10 Maria Fidelis Catholic School



8.0 Community Garden & Co-Design

8.1 Introduction





‘Hub and Spoke’

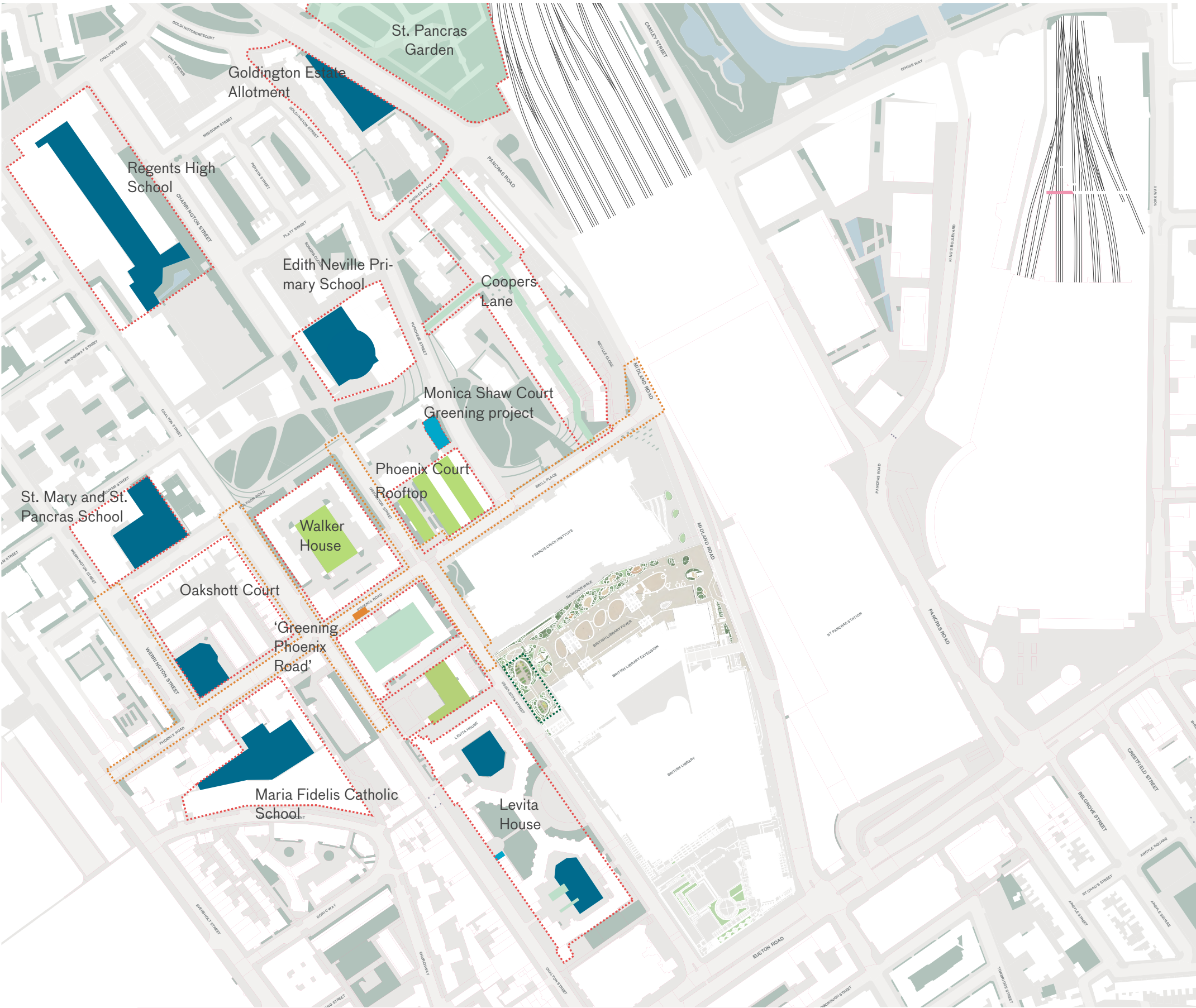
A ‘hub and spoke’ model has been developed which sees the new Community Garden at the British Library Extension site as a ‘hub’ which can support ‘spokes’ (various learning and greening initiatives) across Somers Town.

These ‘spokes’ are particular existing and potential new local initiatives, identified through discussions with Global Generation, that can:

- Improve the educational and employment prospects of local people.
- Enhance the health and well-being of the community.
- Encourage wider community participation and inclusion in local initiatives.
- Support the creation and maintenance of accessible, vibrant and sustainable space.

Key

-  New Community Garden
-  Current Global Generation projects
-  Global Generation proposed projects
-  Potential collaboration



Hub and Spoke Model NTS

8.0 Community Garden & Co-Design

8.2 Co-Design Strategy

Spoke Locations



Regents High School



Levita House



Oakshott Court



Coopers Lane



Maria Fidelis Catholic School



Walker House



Monica Shaw Court



Goldington Estate Allotment



St. Mary and St. Pancras School



Edith Neville Primary School



St. Pancras Garden

8.0 Community Garden & Co-Design

8.2 Co-Design Strategy

Defining Co-Design

We have developed our definition and understanding of Co-Design, and set this out in the text below. We will use this definition to shape the Co-Design process for the Community Garden:

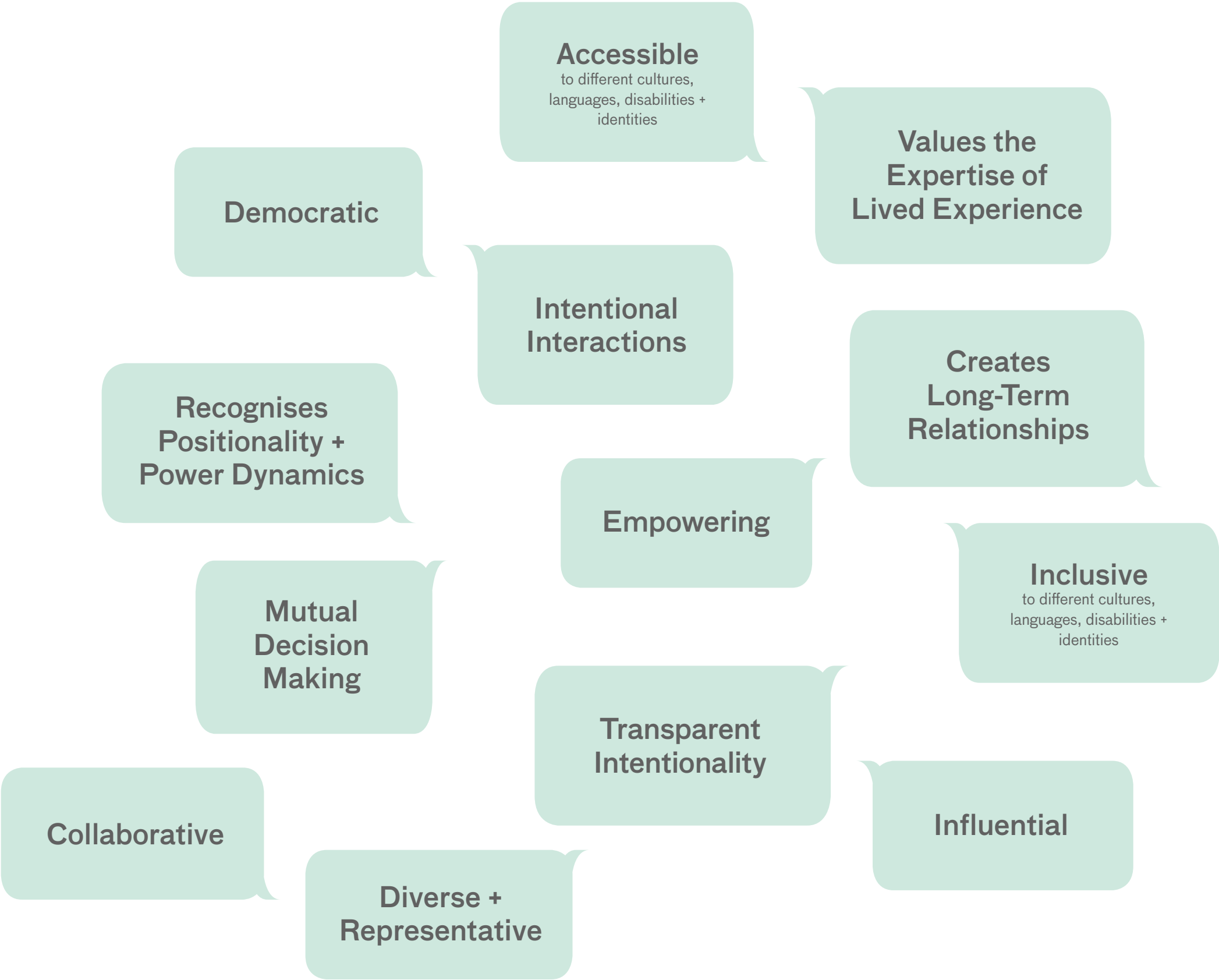
Community engagement is based on the democratic idea that everyone who is affected by an issue that impacts their community should have a say in the decision making around it. It holds the promise that public participation can influence decisions that affect the provision of services, future visions and sustainability of our communities.

We believe community engagement is more than just community participation at a tokenistic level. We believe that community engagement should rightfully advocate for equitable distribution of power to the communities involved, and ensure agency over the project direction.

Community engagement should be intentional in the groups and communities it involves, to ensure an intersectional approach that doesn't become generic. It should go beyond the mainstream blanket approaches. It should value the voices and lived experiences of the community and recognise that these experiences will be extremely diverse.

Co-Design Strategy

Our Co-Design Strategy is both an orientation toward the importance of community members' lived experience to influence interactions between government organisations, designers and communities, and an approach that guides the process of those interactions.



8.0 Community Garden & Co-Design

8.3 Co-Design Approach

Detailed Design of the Community Gardens spaces

It is anticipated that the detailed design and proposed management of the new Community Garden will be subject to a planning condition and/or a Section 106 agreement which will require consultation with the local community.

The applicant will continue to consult and work with local people to ensure that the Community Garden is co-designed throughout its life.

Central Somers Town as a model for Community Engagement

A key reference for community engagement on the new Community Garden is the St Pancras and Somers Town Living Centre, a community centre offering health and wellbeing services to the St Pancras and Somers Town Community. At this community centre, local people help to co-design, deliver and use projects that tackle their own health, wellbeing, economic and social issues.

The Living Centre is a unique and exciting opportunity to help reduce inequalities in the local area, to make the most of local skills, resources and knowledge, and to work with the Francis Crick Institute and its locally based partners to benefit the community:

Somers Town Community Association
Healthwatch Camden
Voluntary Action Camden
Origin Housing
Training Link
Hopscotch Asian Women's Centre
Citizens Advice Camden
Age UK Camden

Co-Design Process

Learning from Somers Town and other Community Engagement projects, an outline process has been developed which sets out how this process can be delivered at the British Library Extension. This is outlined on the following page.

This will be subject to further development and consultation following planning permission.



Images from the Somers Town Community Engagement

8.0 Community Garden & Co-Design

8.4 Early Thoughts for Engagement Methods

A number of early engagement ideas have been identified. These will be subject to further review and development, but are provided to give an understanding of the types of engagement that could take place:

Community Festivals & Saturday Drop-Ins

By partnering with existing initiatives, the co-design process could align with and contribute to existing initiatives and community events across Somers Town, such as Think&Do Camden, Phoenix Road festival and workshops held by Global Generation at the Story Garden.



Think&Do Camden



Tustin Estate coffee cart, Common Grounds



Half Term Activities

A series of half term workshops could be organised which engage young people from across Somers Town through a range of engagement activities targeted at specific age groups, such as; sports games, treasure hunts, drama clubs, history walking tours, art and photography sessions



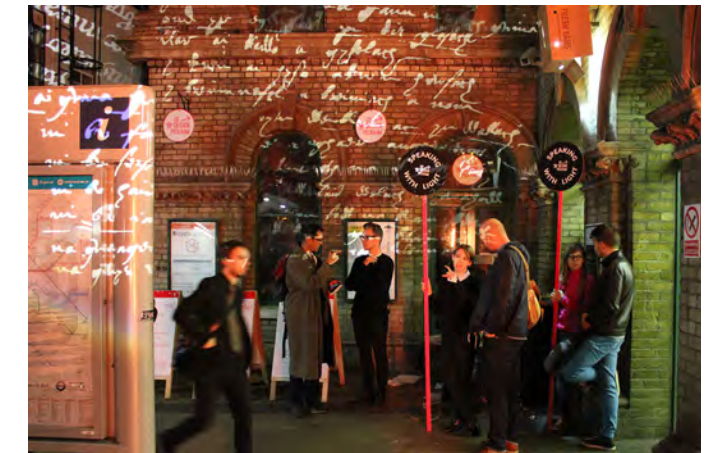
Family workshops, Global Generation, The Story Garden



1:1 drawing with local school children, Somers Town, Reclaim Public Space

Breakfast Clubs & Evening Events

A series of breakfast clubs and evening events could be organised in various 'spoke' locations across Somers Town. These sessions would provide an opportunity for local businesses and organisations working in the community to drop in before/after work.



Peckham Co-design, Ash Sakula

The following images provide examples of successful community engagement.

9.0 Summary of Public Benefits

The text below summarises the design proposals and gives a comprehensive overview of the public benefits that will be derived from the public realm and landscaping scheme for the British Library Extension.

New public green spaces

The new internal and external public and community spaces provided as part of this scheme will support the Library's public programmes and activities for schools and young learners, enabling a fuller and richer engagement and collaboration with the diverse communities of Camden, Somers Town and King's Cross. A large and welcoming Foyer, which is designed to have a strong connection with external public spaces, will be a

place to meet friends and visit with families. New planted public spaces will provide valuable amenity spaces for local residents and visitors in this part of Camden where there is large demand for green spaces.

Walking and cycling routes

New safe and comfortable walking and cycling routes will be opened up providing improved connections and a better experience of the public realm for communities in this part of London.

Accessibility

These routes and public spaces are designed to be accessible to all users, and the external movement routes

across the level changes on site have been carefully designed without steps or ramps.

Community Garden

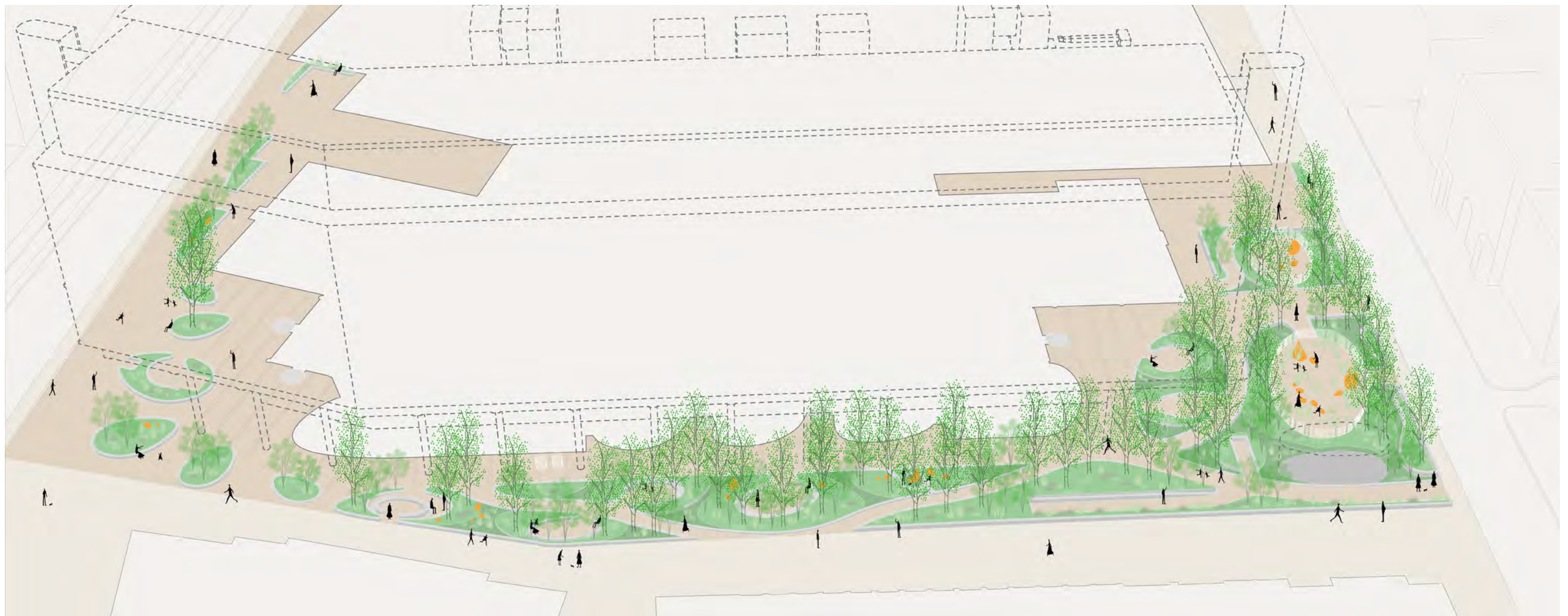
Space is reserved on the site, adjoining Ossulston Street, for a new community garden within the proposed scheme. Having this space defined within the proposals will provide an important social, amenity and learning space and allow for the long term success of community projects on this site.

Sustainability

Sustainability, namely achieving a long-term balance between environmental, social and economic drivers,

is the leading design decision making objective for the project. The design of the public realm will support improved air quality, biodiversity, improved storm water management, and embeds flexibility and adaptability in how spaces are used.

The Library's project brief includes the target of achieving a BREEAM 'Excellent' rating throughout the proposed development. To support this aim, the project team has developed a sustainability framework informed by the UN SDGs. The planting scheme, which includes 175 new trees on site, supports a biodiversity net gain in line with Camden's Biodiversity Action Plan.



Overview of external public spaces from the north

