



View of the proposed British Library extension from Midland Road

# INTRODUCTION

The British Library is home to one of the most important collections of books, manuscripts, newspapers, maps, and sound recordings in the world. A transformation is being planned to extend the British Library to open up the site and provide more open public space and public facilities.

We welcome you to our further consultation to present our developed designs, which we believe will offer a range of benefits to the local community, residents, and visitors. This will include expanding the learning and business centre within the new British Library space, a new headquarters for the Alan Turing Institute, and commercial space for businesses.

This information pack presents the developed proposals in detail. It also shows the consultation that has taken place so far since we first launched in October 2020 and how the feedback that we have received has helped inform the emerging design.

This is also an opportunity for you to give us your feedback on the proposals ahead of a planning application being submitted to Camden Council in Summer 2021.

We are monitoring government guidelines on CV-19 and social distancing. If we are able to, we will explore the possibility to hold in-person outdoor events later this year to talk through the plans in more detail.

## THERE ARE THREE MAIN AIMS TO THIS PROJECT

### 1. GROWING THE LIBRARY

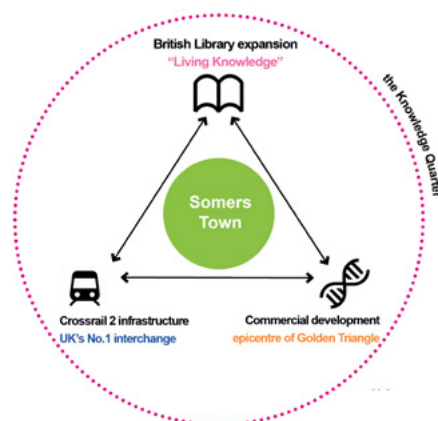
More space will be created for the Library, including exhibition galleries, expanding the learning and business centre, and a new HQ for the Alan Turing Institute. Open spaces will also be created that will be accessible for the public, both internally and externally, as well as a new foyer space.

### 2. MAKING A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE KNOWLEDGE QUARTER

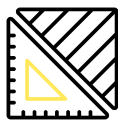
A significant part of the extension will contain commercial space. We hope that these will be leased to businesses and organisations who intend to work in the Knowledge Quarter (which is targeted towards knowledge-based cultural and scientific businesses). This may also include other research-based institutions near the Library such as the Francis Crick Institute.

### 3. UNLOCKING LONDON'S LARGEST TRANSPORT HUB

The site will support the future creation of a new underground station for Crossrail 2 by connecting Euston and St Pancras. This will mean that the area will become the most connected part of London.



## THIS PROJECT WILL DELIVER



**100,000  
SQ FT**

NEW SPACE FOR THE **BRITISH LIBRARY**, INCLUDING SPACE FOR THE BUSINESS AND **LEARNING CENTRE**



**NEW**  
NORTHERN ENTRANCES

TO THE **BRITISH LIBRARY** ON MIDLAND ROAD AND OSSULSTON STREET AND IMPROVED SERVICING



**NEW NORTH-SOUTH AND EAST-WEST ROUTES** THROUGH THE SITE THAT WILL

**CONNECT TO THE EXISTING BRITISH LIBRARY**



A SERIES OF  
**NEW, LARGE PUBLIC AND CIVIC SPACES** FOR ALL TO ENJOY

INCLUDING A COMMUNITY GARDEN ON OSSULSTON STREET AND AN ENHANCED SPACE BETWEEN THE BRITISH LIBRARY AND THE FCL, ADDING TO DANGOOR WALK



**A SUBSTANTIAL  
NEW FOYER**

THAT CAN BE USED TO BRING THE BRITISH LIBRARY, BUSINESSES AND THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER



**A SUSTAINABLE BUILDING**

THAT HAS BEEN DESIGNED TO **REFLECT THE VISION OF THE UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**, INCLUDING SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT OPTIONS



**A NEW  
HEADQUARTERS FOR THE  
ALAN TURING INSTITUTE**



**EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING AND  
APPRENTICESHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

**DURING CONSTRUCTION  
AND ON COMPLETION**



**NEW COMMERCIAL SPACE  
PROVIDING SPACE FOR KNOWLEDGE  
QUARTER BUSINESSES**

**PROVIDING MORE JOB  
OPPORTUNITIES**

## TIMELINE

**JUNE 2021**

Further stage of consultation with feedback considered in May.

**SUMMER 2021**

Target date for submission to Camden Council.

**EARLY 2022**

Planning decision from Camden Council.

**2029**

Expected completion date for the works and opening.

**2026**

Once enabling works on Crossrail 2 are completed, construction on the British Library extension will commence.

**MID 2023**

Construction works to commence, beginning with enabling works for Crossrail 2.

## LET US KNOW YOUR THOUGHTS

You can give your feedback or get in touch to discuss the proposals in a number of ways:



[www.blextension.co.uk](http://www.blextension.co.uk)



0800 307 7968




[blextension@londoncommunications.co.uk](mailto:blextension@londoncommunications.co.uk)

# MEET THE TEAM


**The project to take this vision forward is a partnership between the British Library and SMBL Developments (a joint venture between Stanhope Plc and Mitsui Fudosan UK Ltd). SMBL have assembled a design team led by architects Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners (RSHP) for the site.**

**STANHOPE** Stanhope Plc is based in Camden and creates new urban places, providing workspace, homes, hotel, leisure and retail uses, as well as cultural buildings. The company is known for the quality of its research, for driving excellent design and for innovative responses to occupier requirements. Stanhope has over 35 years' experience working in partnership with communities, landowners, investors and occupiers. Recent projects include White City Place and BBC Television Centre, which have been delivered with Mitsui Fudosan and have created 4m sq. ft contributing to the regeneration of White City. Projects in Camden included Central Saint Giles and 1 Mapledon Place.

 **MITSUI FUDOSAN** Mitsui Fudosan, headquartered in Tokyo and listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange, is Japan's leading property company. The company is renowned as a pioneer of innovative development schemes, and has delivered award-winning office, retail, residential and mixed-use schemes. Mitsui Fudosan established a London office in 1990 and has been developing significant mixed use and commercial projects in partnership with Stanhope since 2006, including most recently White City Place and BBC Television Centre in White City. Mitsui Fudosan UK Ltd is a subsidiary of Mitsui Fudosan.

 **BRITISH LIBRARY** The British Library is the national library of the United Kingdom and one of the world's greatest research libraries. It provides world class information services to the academic, business, research and scientific communities and offers unparalleled access to one of the world's largest and most comprehensive research collections.

The Library's collection has developed over 250 years and exceeds 150 million separate items representing every age of written civilisation and includes books, journals, manuscripts, maps, stamps, music, patents, photographs, newspapers, and sound recordings in all written and spoken languages. Up to 24 million people visit the British Library website every year where they can view up to 4 million digitised collection items and over 40 million pages. Over 1.6 million in-person visits to the British Library every year.

 **Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners** Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners is an international architectural practice based in London. The quality of its designs has been recognised with some of architecture's highest awards, including two RIBA Stirling Prizes, one in 2006 for Terminal 4, Madrid Barajas Airport and the other in 2009 for Maggie's West London Centre. The Musée du Louvre in Lievin was a culture finalist for the prestigious Prix de l'Equerre d'Argent award in France.

The practice's previous experience in the cultural sector extends all the way back to the Centre Pompidou in Paris. More recently, the practice has completed the World Conservation and Exhibitions Centre (WCEC) extension to the British Museum, the International Spy Museum in Washington, and a new conservation centre for the Musée du Louvre in Lievin, France. Currently the practice is working on a new library, conference hall, and café for H-farm, an education campus that supports the creation of new business start-ups and entrepreneurship in Italy.

**ARUP** Arup is an award-winning engineering and design practice based in Camden and an active member of the Knowledge Quarter. Arup has been involved in the design of museums, art galleries and cultural hubs for 50 years, spanning back to one of its earliest projects – Sydney Opera House in Australia. Projects undertaken range from the extensive refurbishment of the renowned Royal Opera House London's Grade I Listed facilities, to the new Turner Contemporary which forms a key part of Margate town centre's regeneration strategy in Kent. Arup has collaborated with RSHP on many occasions, including the WCEC extension to the British Museum.



# DSDHA

DSDHA are an architecture, urban design and spatial research studio, established by Deborah Saunt and David Hills.

More than bricks and mortar, their projects are about people. They bring projects to life and design them to evolve after completion. They see beyond boundaries to seek opportunities. Their work spans from writing briefs, to crafting new buildings and landscapes – from infrastructure to intimacy – to foster positive change.

They have been awarded 19 RIBA Awards, have twice been nominated for the European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture – Mies van der Rohe Award, and have also been shortlisted for the RIBA Stirling Prize.

Known for their high-profile urban strategies, often in complex historic environments, their recent work includes the landscape-led masterplan for Camden's Central Somers Town, the public realm framework for the Theyst End and Tottenham Court Road, the redesign of the public realm around the Royal Albert Hall, and a new park for the City of London.

## THE WIDER TEAM

**LONDON COMMUNICATIONS AGENCY**

PR, communications and consultation specialists

**GERALDEVE**

LLP, planning consultants

**Tavernor**

Architectural design and heritage consultancy

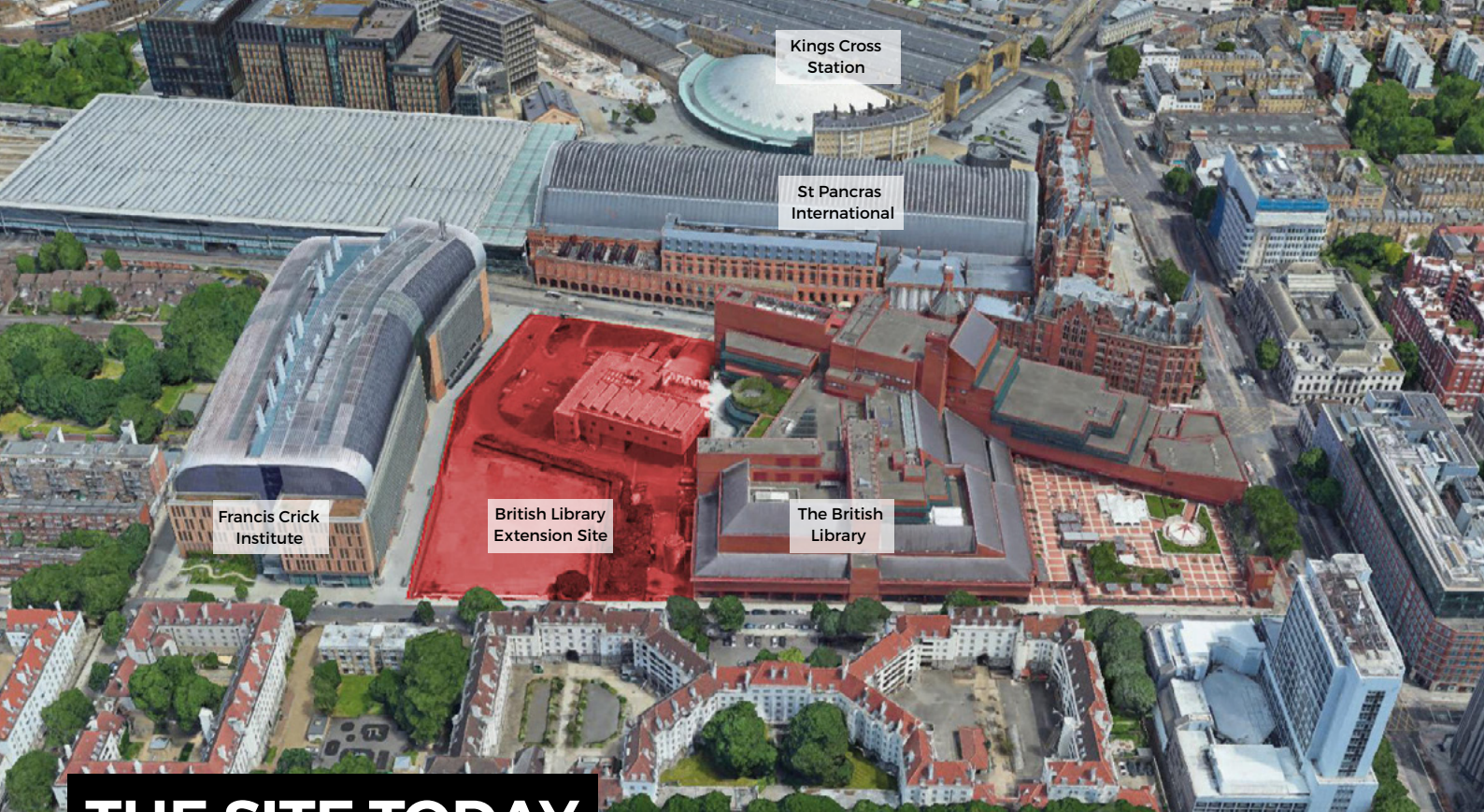
**CORDULA ZEIDLER**

Heritage consultant



Cutaway of the proposed lower ground floor of the British Library extension





## THE SITE TODAY

The site for the proposals is largely undeveloped, but has historically been earmarked for an extension. This is because the original designs of the British Library included three phases of development extending over the extension site. However, only the first substantial phase was delivered, which is the British Library as we know it today.

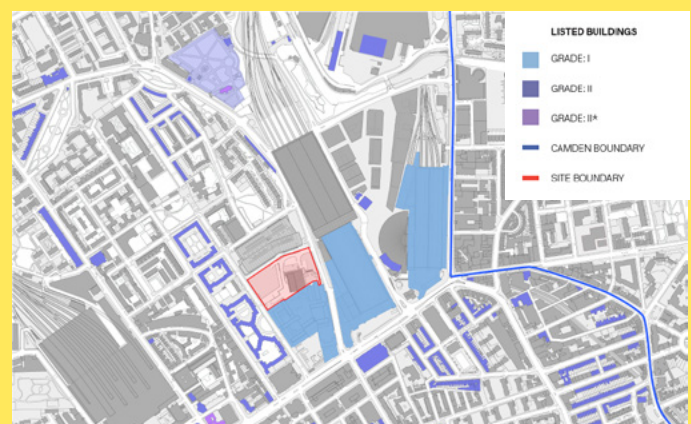
Today, the site is 2.8 acres in size and borders the existing British Library. It houses the British Library Centre for Conservation (which was built later and is not listed), as well as the Library's loading bay, some staff parking and access roads. Also located on the site is the Story Garden, which is a temporary urban food growing garden built for and by the local community, which is run by Global Generation.



Conservation areas near the British Library extension site as highlighted in yellow

Neither the British Library and extension site fall within a designated conservation area but are close to the King's Cross Conservation Area, as well as the Regent's Canal and Bloomsbury Conservation Areas.

The site is also close to a number of important listed buildings such as the original British Library Building (Grade I Listed), King's Cross Station (Grade I Listed), the roof of St. Pancras Station and St. Pancras Chambers (both Grade I Listed) and the Ossulston Estate (Grade II Listed).



Listed buildings near the British Library extension site as highlighted

# FEEDBACK FROM THE INITIAL CONSULTATION AND DESIGN OBJECTIVES

We have held an extensive listening and learning exercise with local people to understand their aspirations and concerns dating back to 2015, as well as meetings with Historic England, the GLA, the Somers Town Neighbourhood and other local organisations. It is as a result of these meetings that we first presented the design concepts for the extension in October 2020.

We have continued to hold sessions on the aspirations for the project with representatives of the local community on our aspirations for the British Library extension project, as well as meetings with Camden Council. RSHP have now developed the design of the extension to take into account the feedback that has been received.



## 5X WEBINARS

HELD WITH LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS AND COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2020



## CONSULTATION WEBSITE ONLINE

AND UPDATED REGULARLY, INCLUDING WITH DETAILS OF WEBINARS AND TWO CAMDEN DMF'S



## 63 PIECES OF ONLINE FEEDBACK RECEIVED ON PROPOSALS



## 13,000 PEOPLE

IN LOCAL AREA RECEIVING TWO COMMUNITY NEWSLETTERS AND LETTER INFORMING OF CAMDEN DMF



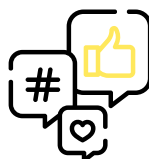
## REGULAR INFORMATION UPDATES TO 90 STAKEHOLDERS AND ADDITIONAL MEETINGS HELD



## ENGAGED LOCAL GROUPS TO REACH HARD TO REACH PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY



## APPEARANCE IN CAMDEN NEW JOURNAL NEWSPAPER



## SOCIAL MEDIA ADVERTISING REACHING OVER 80,000 PEOPLE



## 2X DESIGN REVIEW PANELS WITH CAMDEN COUNCIL ON 23 OCTOBER 2020 AND 21 MAY 2021



## 2 X DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT FORUMS (DMF) WITH CAMDEN COUNCIL



## OVER A DOZEN MEETINGS WITH CAMDEN COUNCIL OFFICERS TO DISCUSS THE EMERGING DESIGNS



## MEETINGS HELD WITH LOCAL ORGANISATIONS INCLUDING CAMDEN YOUNG CITIZENS SCIENTISTS



## FINDINGS FROM THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

As part of its commitment to hear from all members of the community, including hard-to-reach groups, the British Library has been working closely with local organisations to understand how they can better engage local people. The British Library, in partnership with SMBL, undertook an exercise to commission local groups to reach some of these people from February-April 2021.

Working with groups including the West Euston Partnership, KCBNA, Somali Youth Development Centre, Somers Town Space CIC, and Age UK Camden, some of the key findings made were:

**Work in partnership with the community**, involving them in planning decisions and the planning of activities.

**Showcasing local heritage and cultures**, to enable all audiences to feel welcome at the Library and included in what goes on.

**Supporting local young entrepreneurs and local businesses** and providing greater clarity on the services and support offered by the British Library.

**Greater collaboration on the full range of job opportunities**, including events and other opportunities for networking to build confidence.

**Adult learning and study opportunities to support learning for people of all ages**, from schoolchildren to adult learning and beyond.

The British Library is dedicated to working closely with the local community beyond the life of the development. We are planning a series of initiatives and projects based on this research and we thank those residents who helped us gain such a valuable insight.

If you want to hear more about this work or ways to get involved, please contact the team on [communityengagement@bl.uk](mailto:communityengagement@bl.uk)



Community projects facilitated by Global Generation

## AREAS RAISED THROUGH FIRST CONSULTATION

As the designs for the British Library extension have developed, we have taken into account key areas of feedback raised from residents and stakeholders.

**We would like to see as much outdoor/green space as possible in the proposals**

Providing as much outdoor/green space as possible has become a key objective of our project, and DSDHA have continued to improve the level of green space as the proposals have been developed. More detail on this can be found on the Public and Open Spaces board. As a result of moving the building east, and ongoing consultation, we are also introducing a new community garden to be co-designed with local people.

**Concerns over heights overshadowing residential properties**

As a direct result of consultation and comments received, RSHP have pulled back the proposed extension from the western edge of the site. This will reduce the impact to the residents of Somers Town, Ossulston Street and Levita House and creates more open space. The building has also moved closer to Midland Road to be more considerate to local communities.

The upper levels of the extension have also been set back to reduce the impact of overshadowing on local homes.

**Would like to see accessibility included for all, including visually impaired**

We have made sure that accessibility is a key priority in the designs, and this has been reflected in the full plans.

**Want to ensure it is a sustainable development that uses renewable energy and has good insulation.**

The environment has been considered at every stage of the design and delivery of the extension. You can find out more on the Environmental Sustainability board.

**We would like to be involved in the running of events in the extension**

The Foyer space will be managed by a dedicated team. Working with the local community and commercial occupiers, it will host events and exhibitions that are relevant and valued by the local community.

**We like that you are considering shops/retail, and would like independent stores rather than a 'shopping mall' type thoroughfare**

The retail proposed comprises three units along the colonnade to the north, adjacent to the space on Dangoor walk, along the enhanced space between the extension and the FCI. We may give preference to independent retailers, such as cafés or book stores, and don't intend to compete with the type and amount of retail in the St Pancras/King's Cross area.

**We would like to know if the BLCC is going to be moved elsewhere on the site?**

Yes, as part of the development the British Library Centre for Conservation will be relocated into a new purpose built facility, providing like for like accommodation. The location will bring the public exhibition space for Conservation into the heart of the Library and we hope this more visible location will mean that many more people can come and visit the space.



# OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT



Aerial view of the site before the Story Garden was created (left) and an image to show what the proposed British Library extension could look like on completion (right)

The proposed British Library extension is located to the north of the existing Library building on a site originally envisaged for future growth and expansion. It will link to the library and deliver a new northern entrance to the building, providing new and enhanced facilities, including exhibition, learning and events spaces as well as a major foyer space.

The new library extension has been designed to be sensitive to local buildings in terms of its height and massing. On the northern side of the site, closest to Dangoor walk, the extension is 11 storeys high, and on the southern end, closest to the existing British Library, the extension is 12 storeys high.

As a result of feedback from meetings with Camden Council, and after hearing concerns from local people when we presented the design concepts, the massing of the building has been pulled back from Ossulston Street. This will create a large new open space that will include community gardens, trees and other spaces that local people can enjoy.

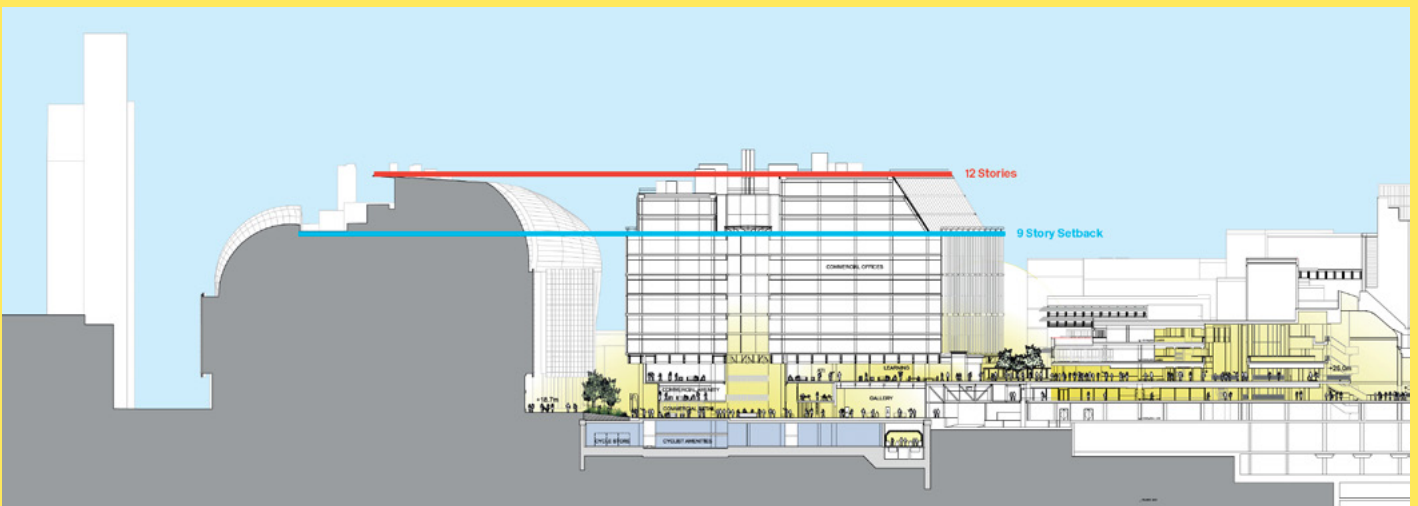
The extension comprises of two blocks, both running from east-to-west. These are connected by an internal foyer space.

The **first three floors** of the proposed extension will consist predominantly of the new British Library space, as well as retail and the entrances to the commercial space. The British Library space will include a new foyer, gallery and event space, and expand the learning and business centre.

The foyer space will run through the middle of the two blocks and will be **8 storeys** high, and there will be bridges linking the two blocks together. At the ground floor, this space will be a significant piece of internal public realm and will be programmed with Library, business and community events.

Above the British Library space will be commercial space enabled for laboratory use for businesses and organisations who are attracted to the Knowledge Quarter, as well as affordable workspace.

At the set-back upper floors, there will be two floors of office accommodation on the northern block, and three floors on the southern block.



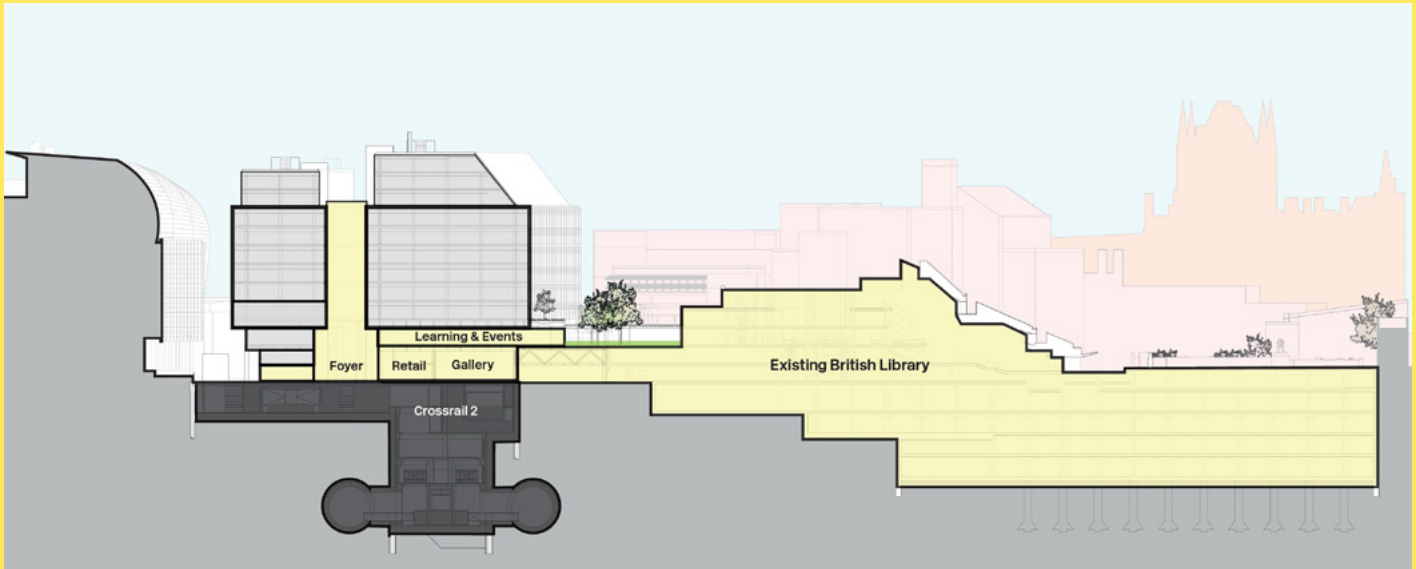
Cross section showing heights of the extension and internal foyer area

## CROSSRAIL 2

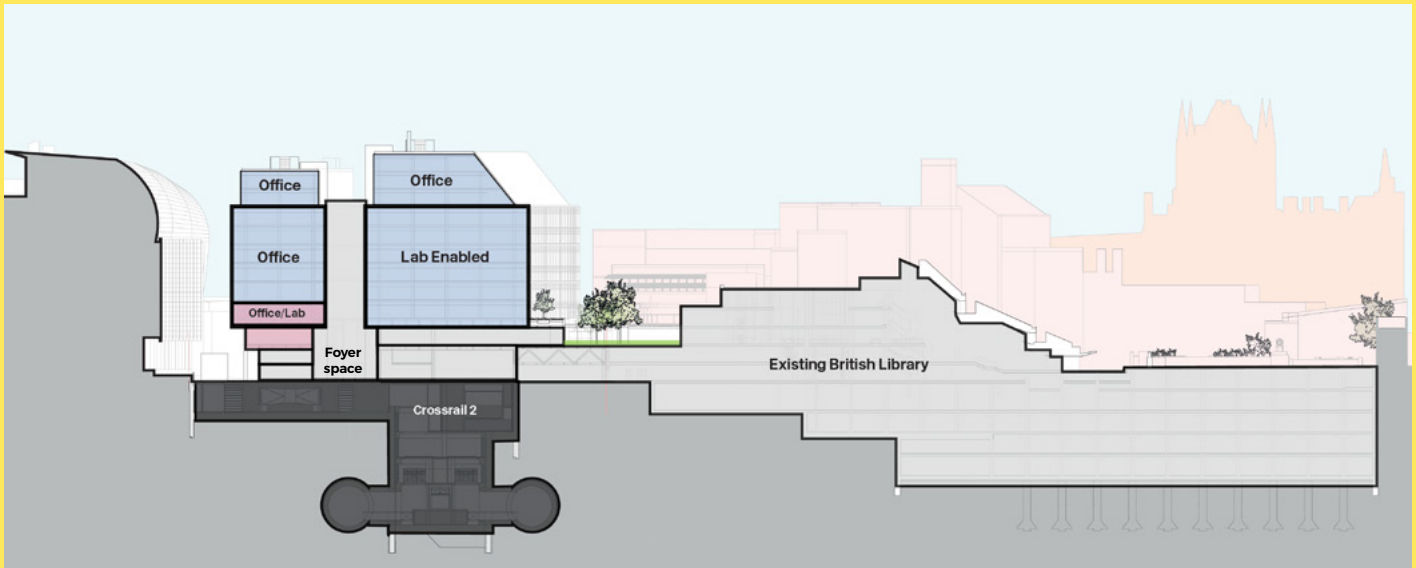
The British Library and SMBL have signed agreements with Transport for London (TfL) to design and deliver future Crossrail 2 infrastructure at this site.

The delivery of Crossrail 2 requires a vent shaft and escape stair to be located along the western boundary of the site. Typically, this would be found in a 4-5 storey box above ground level (such as Bond Street CR1). This would be visually very prominent and would prevent opportunities for connections through the site and creation of public space for the local community.

RSHP have therefore developed an innovative design that placed the majority of this equipment underground, including placing the vent shaft horizontally beneath the extension. This will minimise the impact on the local community and create more public realm and open space for the community to enjoy.



Cutaway of the proposed site and the Crossrail 2 works that will take place underneath



Cutaway of the proposed site showing the spaces that will be dedicated to office and lab-enabled in relation to the existing British Library space



# PUBLIC AND OPEN SPACES

Since the library was first constructed, proposed development site has been largely inaccessible to the general public and there was no east west access until Dangoor Walk was opened in 2018. The project will open up the site from Midland Road to Ossulston Street by enhancing Dangoor walk and providing open high quality public spaces.

The proposal is for most of the footprint of the site to be accessible both externally and internally to the public. Connections to the existing building will allow people to pass through the library from the existing entrance on Euston Road to the south, connecting to the foyer and new library facilities to the north. East and west entrances to the foyer will encourage more people into the building. The design will also seek to make the new spaces visible to passers-by to attract them to enter.

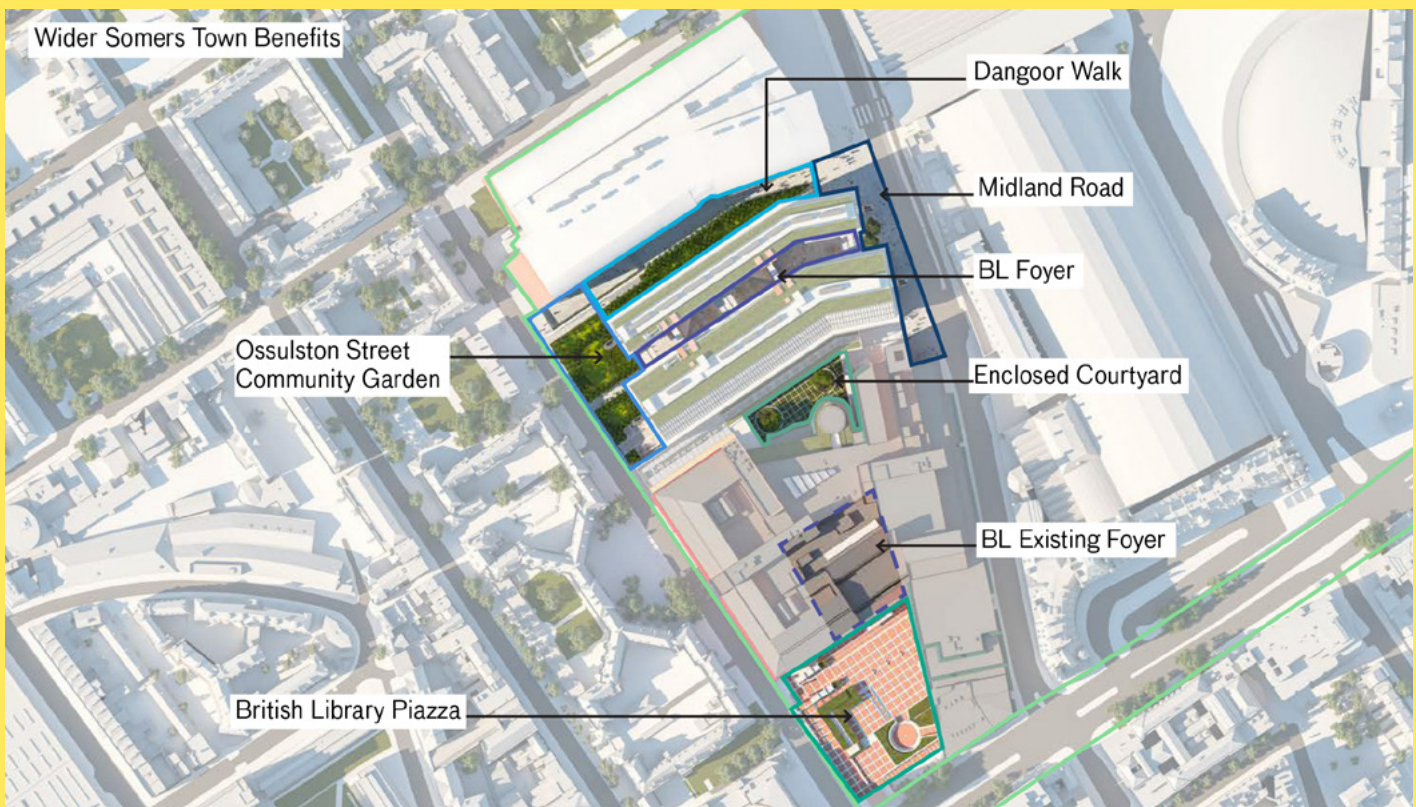
The outside spaces will be designed with a range of different uses and events in mind, reflecting the potential events and activities of Somers Town and the Knowledge Quarter.

## PUBLIC REALM IMPROVEMENTS

This extension will provide a huge range of improvements to the public realm in the area including on Midland Road, Dangoor Walk and Ossulston Street.

The new public realm for the British Library extension builds on existing connections through and around the library. The landscape-led proposal defines a series of distinct 'character areas' in the public realm both existing and proposed that will respond to environmental and social requirements throughout the various phases of the development. The character areas include:

- The British Library Foyer
- Dangoor Walk
- Midland Road
- Ossulston Street
- British Library courtyard



However, the proposals will not be limited to just the site itself. In acknowledgement of the impact that the extension will have on those who live, work and learn locally, the public realm proposals include an initiative to add greening around Somers Town, in collaboration with local organisations such as Global Generation, which will add to and enhance existing accessible amenity space.

It will also enhance existing routes and create new connections between the British Library, King's Cross, St. Pancras and Euston stations, as well as the neighbouring context of Somers Town. The public realm plans will promote active travel, healthier journeys, and greater permeability. Safety, security, accessibility, and the environment are key considerations in the development of the design.

## CREATING A LEGACY FOR THE STORY GARDEN

### COMMUNITY GARDEN

The British Library and SMBL have helped establish a temporary home for Global Generation's Story Garden on the extension site. This has become a successful and well-used amenity for the local community, and this project will ensure the legacy of the Story Garden for future generations.

Following the first stage consultation, and in discussions with Camden, the desire for creating public open space was emphasised. We have responded by shifting the proposed building towards the east, making the buildings from a closer relationship to Midland Road. In doing so we have released a large area at the western end of the site on Ossulston Street, which is facing Somers Town and benefits from a westerly aspect.

In further discussions it was clear that the community would like to create a community garden in this location and furthermore would like to be involved in both the detailed design and management of the garden. For the purposes of a planning application DSDHA have prepared indicative designs, taking a high level brief from Global Generation based on their knowledge of running community and educational gardens. However we are working on setting out the process, following permission, as to how we can achieve community involvement. Global Generation's role going forward would be as Education Partner in the community garden, whereby they continue their presence and role locally assisting people in learning about growing.

### OTHER GREENING PROJECTS IN SOMERS TOWN

We are keen that Global Generation continue to work in Somers Town, and we have funded a "Community Gardener", appointed by Global Generation from the local community, who is working with local residents to create their own gardens.

We propose that the community gardener and Global Generation will work with the community to identify other similar initiatives within Somers Town, with DSDHA undertaking design concepts and planning investigations to assist with delivery.

These greening projects would be facilitated by Global Generation, working with the community and with the support of SMBL team to roll out projects during the construction period. This would ensure that Global Generation maintain a presence in Somers Town when the Story Garden is relocated as a result of construction commencing.

It is hoped that a "hub and spoke" approach can be developed that will include the on-site community garden, with a number of "spoke" community greening projects that will be spread throughout Somers Town. Some of these projects could include:

- Improvements to the courtyards at Levita House to mitigate the impact of noise and to provide additional greening.
- A scheme to improve greening and seating on the British Library Piazza, plus increased access to this space.



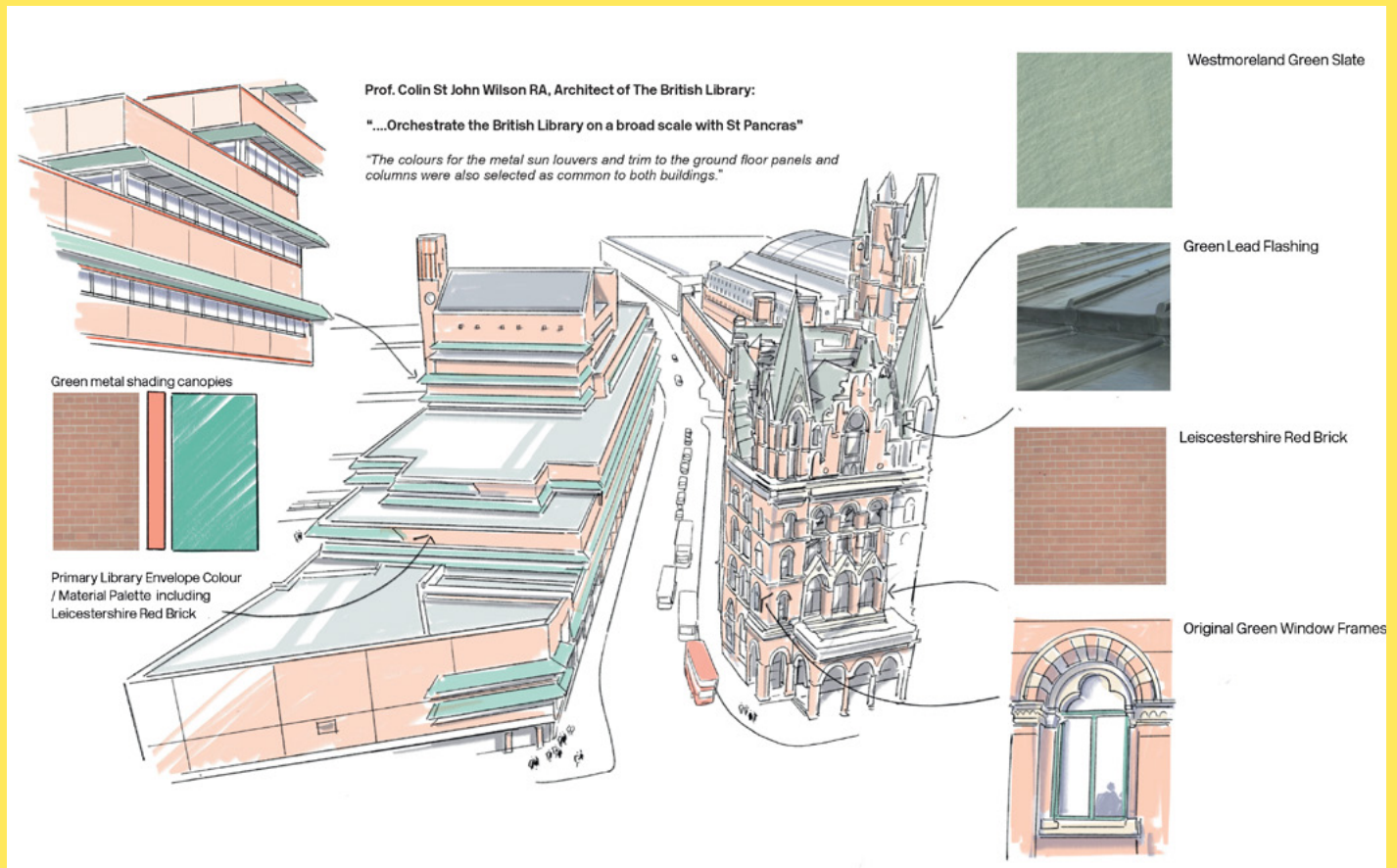
Ossulston Street view coming from Phoenix Road, with the community garden on the right



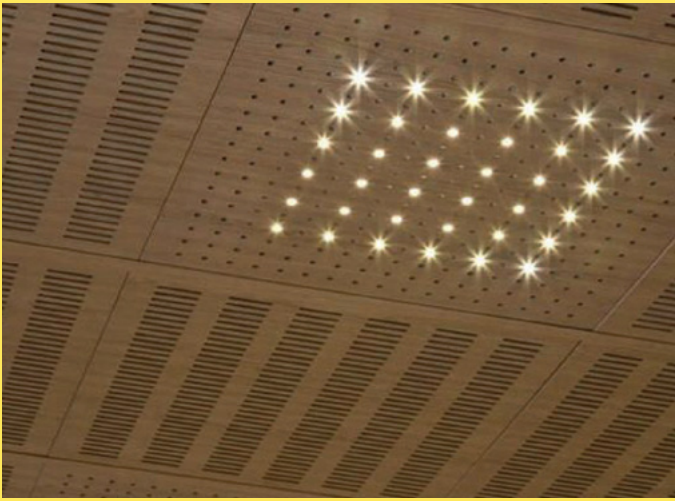
# MATERIALS USED IN THE EXTENSION, AND HERITAGE

The extension has been designed to be sympathetic to nearby listed buildings including the existing British Library and St Pancras station.

The following sketches, which have been discussed with Camden Council, show how materials and colours for the extension have been considered. The current British Library has two primary colours, red and green, which is directly derived from St Pancras station. This will be emulated in the design of the new extension to be sympathetic to the setting.



Initial illustration of colour palette materials being used in the extension.



Examples of materials being used in the proposed extension including use of timber, glass and lighting.

### A NEW BRITISH LIBRARY CENTRE FOR CONSERVATION

As part of the development the British Library Centre for Conservation will be relocated into a new purpose built facility, providing like for like accommodation on Ossulston Street. The location will bring the Conservation Studio into the heart of the Library, and hopefully encourage lots more people to use the space.



Image of the proposed new BLCC space on Ossulston Street



# KEY VIEWS



View of the proposed extension as seen at the junction of Ossulston Street with Euston Road looking North. The top of the proposed extension can be seen in the middle.



View of the proposed extension as seen from Midland Road opposite the junction with Brill Place looking south, with the Francis Crick Institute in the foreground.

# ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

## CARBON EMISSIONS AND CARBON

We will deliver a building which will achieve BREEAM 'Excellent' as a minimum and we are targeting 'Outstanding'.

### We will reduce carbon emission through:

- Air source heat pumps.
- Designing the building to be all electric in normal operation.
- On site renewable energy generation.

## RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND WASTE REDUCTION

- Construction waste will be diverted from landfill to reuse materials wherever possible.
- Rainwater harvesting and grey water recycling will be introduced.
- Sanitaryware and mechanical equipment will be designed to use water efficiently, minimising the demand for potable mains water.
- We will minimise single use plastic packaging.

## CLIMATE CONSIDERATE OCCUPIERS

- We will develop a set of social value requirements for occupiers on the building for tenants to sign up to.
- As part of our BREEAM strategy a sustainable procurement plan will be written and incorporated in the Main contractor's Employer's Requirements.

## GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC REALM

- There will be an improved quality and increased amount of accessible public realm as a result of CR2 shaft being below ground.
- Improvements to the public realm along the frontage of Ossulston Street, Midland Road and a greener east-west route along Dangoor Walk.
- There will be a new community co-designed Learning Garden on site on Ossulston Street, including a hub for community led satellite greening and growing projects in Somers Town.
- Community greening projects throughout the construction.

## INCREASED BIODIVERSITY POST-CONSTRUCTION

- We will create biodiverse roof areas to provide habitat for birds and invertebrates within the site.
- We will plant flower and plant species which are London Priority species and/or of local importance.



Images of trees and use of timber in the proposed extension building



# TRANSPORT, ACCESS AND SERVICING

## SERVICING

The British Library needs to be kept operational at all times throughout construction, including the conservation centre and operational loading bay.

To achieve this, all site delivery and servicing trips will be managed through an internal service yard containing five loading bays. The service yard will be accessed via a new two-way roadway and ramp from Midland Road. Vehicles will access the service yard in forward gear, turn within the service yard and will exit onto Midland Road in forward gear.

In addition, two bays will be provided within the internal service yard and two will be provided within the Ossulston Street car park, providing a total of four maintenance bays.

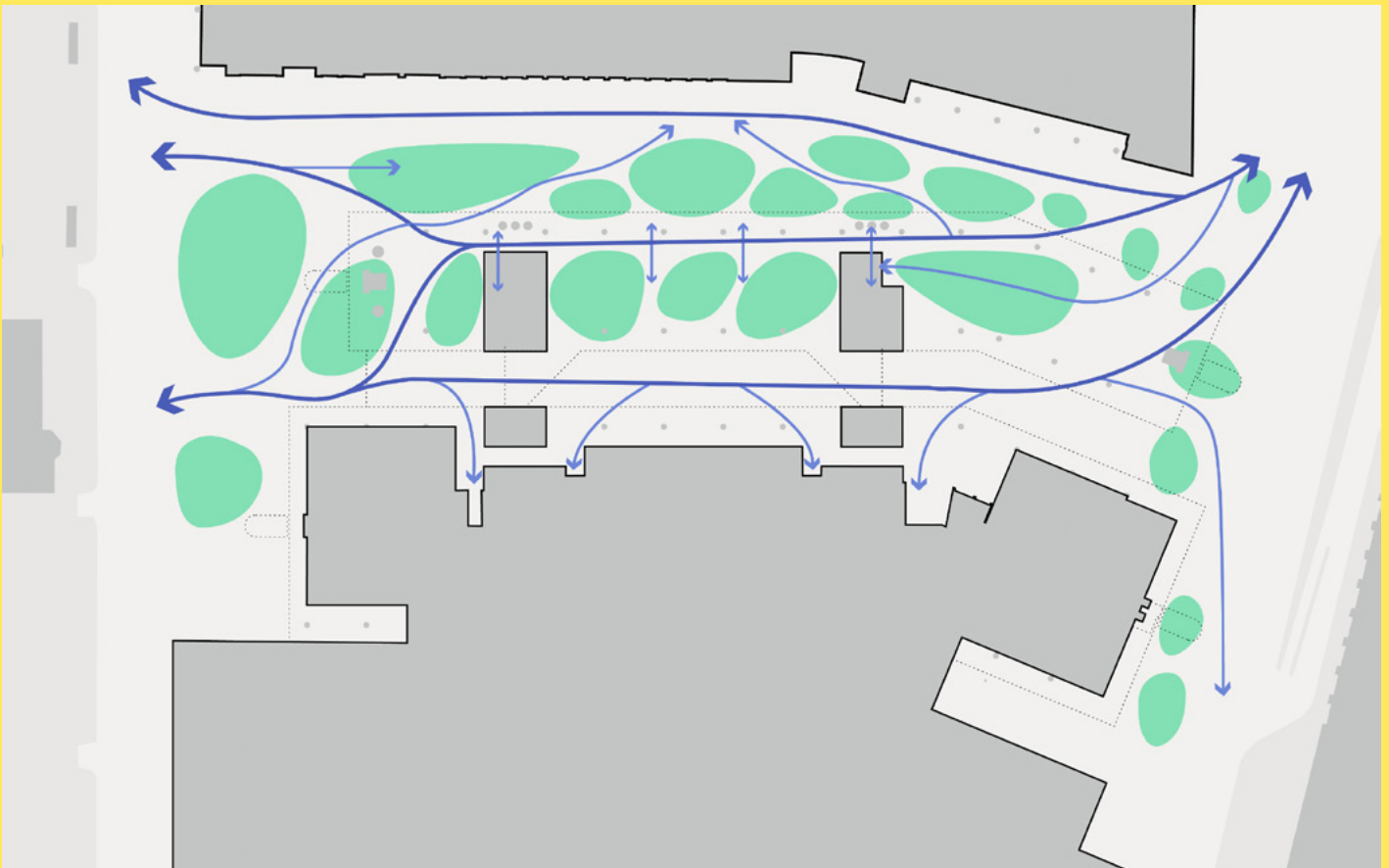
## TRANSPORT

The transport strategy will prioritise pedestrians and cyclists. This will be done through the creation of a network of footways and cycle routes through the site that will also connect the development with the surrounding local area.

Over 1,000 long-stay cycle parking spaces will be provided in the basement of the development, and over 80 short-stay cycle parking spaces will be provided within the site. Additional off-site cycle parking spaces are proposed along Midland Road as well as in the existing short-stay facility off the existing British Library piazza.

The site will be car-free with the exception of four wheelchair-accessible car parking spaces for users of the British Library, and one space for the new commercial scheme. This represents a significant reduction in car parking spaces at the site.

There will be access for visitors with disabilities on Midland Road which will be placed close to the building entrance. A minibus parking bay will also be provided next to the accessible car parking space, and will create a direct route to the building entrance on Midland Road.



Lower Ground Floor plan showing access routes to the extension and in the public realm

## ACCESS

Walking access to the buildings on site will be available from multiple access points on Midland Road, Ossulston Street and Dangoor Walk. All the access points will be designed to be easily visible and step free.

Employees cycling to the development will access the site through a dedicated ramp or on one of two cycle lifts within the development, which will facilitate access to the cycle store in the basement.

Servicing vehicles will access the site by Midland Road. There will also be a small car park on the end of the building. It is proposed to remove three residential permit spaces on Ossulston Street to accommodate this.

## CONSTRUCTION AND NOISE

A draft Construction Management Plan (CMP) prepared in line with Camden's guidelines will be submitted with the application. A final CMP will be required for submission and approval prior to the works taking place on the extension.

## A NEW FOYER SPACE

We will create a large foyer space, easily accessible from both east and west of the site, and programmed with a series of events where local people and businesses can meet and exchange ideas.

The foyer area can host events that bring communities together to listen to talks or work on local projects. This could be working with local schools, or identifying opportunities for work experience, internships or apprenticeships.

We want the British Library extension to be a real asset for local people and want to hear from local businesses and the community on what they would like to see here.



View of the proposed foyer entrance from Dangoor Walk



# THE NEW BRITISH LIBRARY SPACE

The proposals will provide an extension of the British Library of around 100,000 sq. ft of new space, to expand the British Library's services, including an expanded learning centre and an expanded Business & IP Centre (BIPC). In addition, this will provide a large foyer, events and galleries space.

## EXPANDED LEARNING SPACE

This space will include a new, purpose-built learning centre to extend the current learning centre service. This will be flexible in use and will be open and accessible for all. It will face onto the extended terrace at the ground floor level. This space will also provide workshop rooms, lunch spaces, lockers and loos. It could also be used as an informal space for community and family activities or for community groups to book, including in the new Learning Centre.



Proposed view of the internal Foyer area



Impressions of the proposed new learning spaces



## A NEW BUSINESS & IP CENTRE

The new British Library space will include an expanded Business & IP Centre, which could also provide additional opportunities for people, and will help support start-ups and Knowledge Quarter businesses in the local area. These opportunities could include:

- Prototyping and product development services and facilities
- Expanded training and events programme
- Workspaces and incubation spaces for small and early stage businesses
- Facilities for showcasing new products developed by our users
- Support start-ups and KQ occupiers
- Support for local people to reskill in the Maker Space



Impressions of the proposed Business & IP Centre

## NEW SPACES FOR EVENTS AND GALLERIES

The extension will also provide new spaces for galleries and event spaces as well as pop-up exhibitions, displays, events, screenings and a public meeting space open to all. We will work with the community and residents to co-curate locally inspired exhibitions and events that are of interest to the Camden community.



Proposed view of event space



# NEW COMMERCIAL AND OFFICE SPACE

The new commercial space will form the upper storeys of the new British Library extension above the British Library space.

The workspace will consist of offices will be designed to enable laboratory fit out, if required. In this way, the building will provide flexibility to attract and meet the requirements of Knowledge Quarter occupiers.

This commercial space will be leased to businesses and organisations who intend to work in the Knowledge Quarter. This will include a range of businesses, from small start-ups, established businesses, and will offer a range of jobs and opportunities.

One floor is targeted at affordable workspace, either as office space or with the potential for incubator/micro labs depending on the level of demand.

There is very strong demand for accommodation in the Knowledge Quarter, due to the unique range of businesses located there, such as the Alan Turing Institute and Francis Crick Institute. This demand reflects a new and growing market for lab-enabled space, and whilst our research anticipates that demand will continue to grow, we have built in flexibility to create both science laboratories and other laboratory space.



**1. Commercial incl. affordable workspace**

**2. Retail space**

**3. Learning Centre**

**4. Business Centre (BIPC)**

## SOMERS TOWN COMPACT

We want the businesses that will be brought in to also contribute to the local community. To do this, we will establish a Somers Town Compact, with the objective of supporting the educational and employment prospects, health and life chances of the local community. Through the compact, we will ensure that the local community can benefit as much as possible during the construction and afterwards once the extension is occupied. This we hope to achieve through:

- Employing a Compact Liaison Manager and a Young Compact Trainee / Apprentice from Camden to support businesses in the new space to engage with the community.
- Developing a 'Somers Town Programme', which will:
  - Provide a ready-made programme for occupier businesses to engage with on occupation of the building.
  - Build on community engagement and commissioning group findings and be developed in collaboration with Camden Inclusive Economy team.
- Working with the Community Engagement and new Foyer Management Teams in the British Library.
- Continual visible presence in the extension for businesses to engage with, which will be supported by a dedicated website.

# SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY BENEFITS

## IMPROVING OUR CONNECTION TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

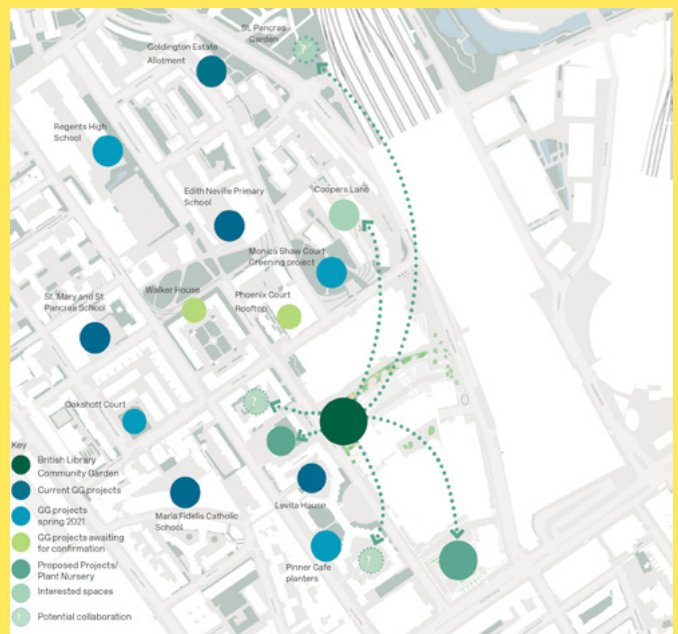
Throughout the stages of the project, including the pre-development phase, construction, and occupation, and through the compact, we will be liaising with the local community to provide job and training opportunities for local people not only with the British Library space but also in the retail and commercial space. We also want to provide a central point for people to find out more about local opportunities in the community. This we hope to do through a number of ways:

## RAISING AWARENESS LOCALLY

- Advertising opportunities through Jobs Hub, Good Work Camden and/or KXCSC and ahead of wider promotion for entry level roles.
- Construction apprentice recruitment through KXCSC.
- Regular meetings with the Jobs Hub and Good Work Camden to plan for future training and job opportunities, particularly for entry level roles.
- Compact and British Library Community Engagement teams actively promoting opportunities into the community.
- Collaborating with KQ organisations.

## REDUCING BARRIERS TO EMPLOYMENT

- Offering 150 2-week construction work experience placements, focusing on under 24s or disadvantaged residents.
- Annual recruitment of Local Community Ambassador volunteers from Somers Town to build local employability skills and confidence.
- Offering subsidised Adult Learning Programmes at the British Library, including Digital Literacy courses.
- Running workshops and training sessions to support local people with interview skills, CV writing and job applications, and understanding the work in the British Library or science and technology.
- Developing a local supplier directory to encourage occupiers of the extension to 'buy local'.
- Subsidised incubator space within the library for local creative and socially responsible micro and small businesses.



## SUPPORT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

- Offering over half of student work experience opportunities to local schools and colleges annually.
- Construction apprenticeship opportunities for local young people through KXCSC.
- Offering a mentoring/work experience scheme.
- Providing a new Youth Programme for 16-25 year olds led by the British Library Learning team, including a Young Entrepreneurship Scheme with the BIPC.
- Businesses in the Maker Space encouraged to provide an internship for a local young person.
- Developing a programme of activity with local schools to deliver the Camden STEAM priorities and inspire local young people.
- Homework group supported for local young people who do not have access to suitable study space or technology.