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# Welcome to this exhibition which explains the University of Southampton's proposals for a state-of-the-art research building at University Hospital Southampton.

The Institute for Medical Innovation (IMI) is a proposed new medical research building, located on the University Hospital Southampton campus as part of a shared research cluster.

The IMI aims to speed up progress in understanding, diagnosing and treating a range of major diseases by bringing together experts from different fields.

The proposed development is located on the northern edge of University Hospital Southampton. The University of Southampton is leading the project in collaboration with University Hospital Southampton.


## CONTENTS



As part of this public consultation event, we are keen to hear your feedback on the aspirations and emerging design for the Institute for Medical Innovation.

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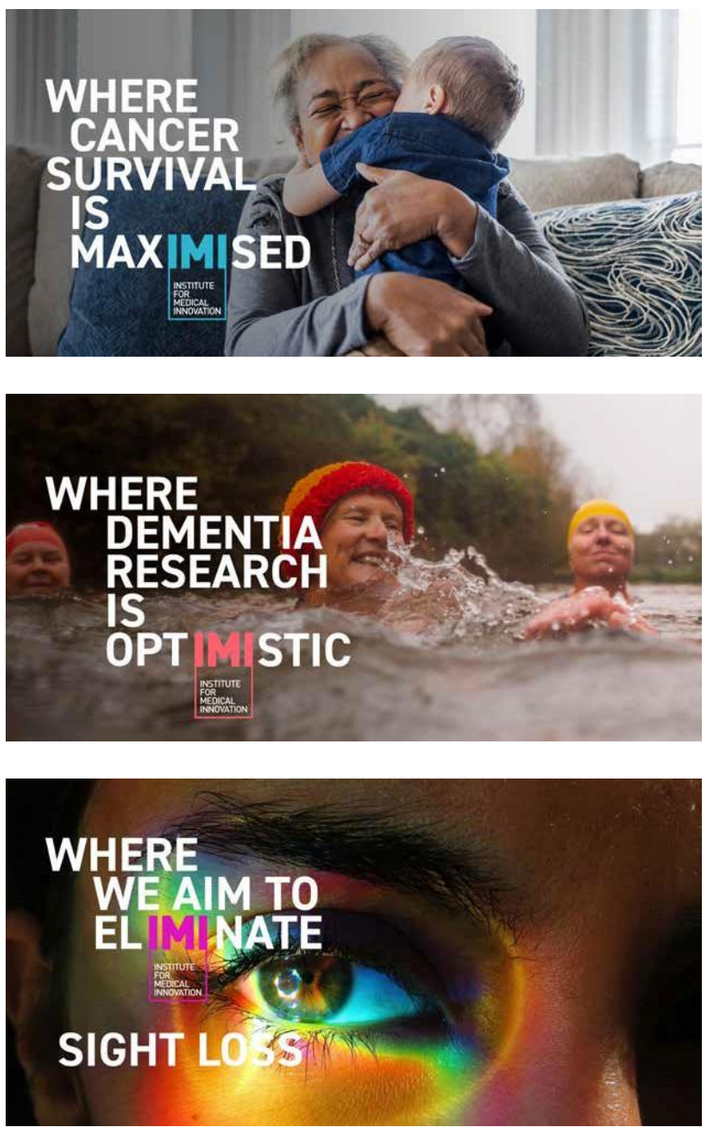
# THE INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAL INNOVATION

## Where the breakthroughs are limitless

The Institute for Medical Innovation (IMI) intends to bring the greatest minds in science, mathematics and engineering together in one brand new building.

The IMI is designed to deliver faster breakthroughs in medicine and develop new and more effective treatments across five core health challenges to improve outcomes for patients locally, nationally and globally.












### DISCOVER

IMI provides modern, specialist research spaces.

### DATA

IMI co-locates data driven research groups at the forefront of research analysis.

### DEVICES

With specific medical technology workshop environments and patient engagement spaces, IMI will accelerate the development of medical devices.

### DISCOVER

Locating the IMI at University Hospital Southampton strengthens relationships between researchers and clinicians, alongside spaces for industry partnership and showcase.

- Sustainable high-quality resources for critical research
- The front door to working with medical data and tissue at UoS, and with industry partners
- Intersection for multi-omics, computer science, AI and bioengineering
- Facilitate real-time collaboration
- **IMI**
- Partner with existing UoS initiatives
- Flexible purpose-built infrastructure
- Streamlined access for industry and healthcare partners

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# SITE CONTEXT

The proposed development site is at the University Hospital Southampton, on the corner of Coxford Road and Tremona Road.

The site's location at the hospital is important because it allows close connection to clinical activity. The proximity between the IMI and the hospital will support fast access to patients, patient samples and clinicians.

The site is part of an existing cluster of research buildings, including:

- Centre for Cancer Immunology (CCI)
- Institute of Developmental Sciences (IDS)
- Somers Cancer Research Building (Somers)

The intention is for the IMI building to add to this area to create a biomedical research campus. Sharing expertise, equipment and facilities will create an exceptional environment for breakthroughs in medical research.


Aerial Photo

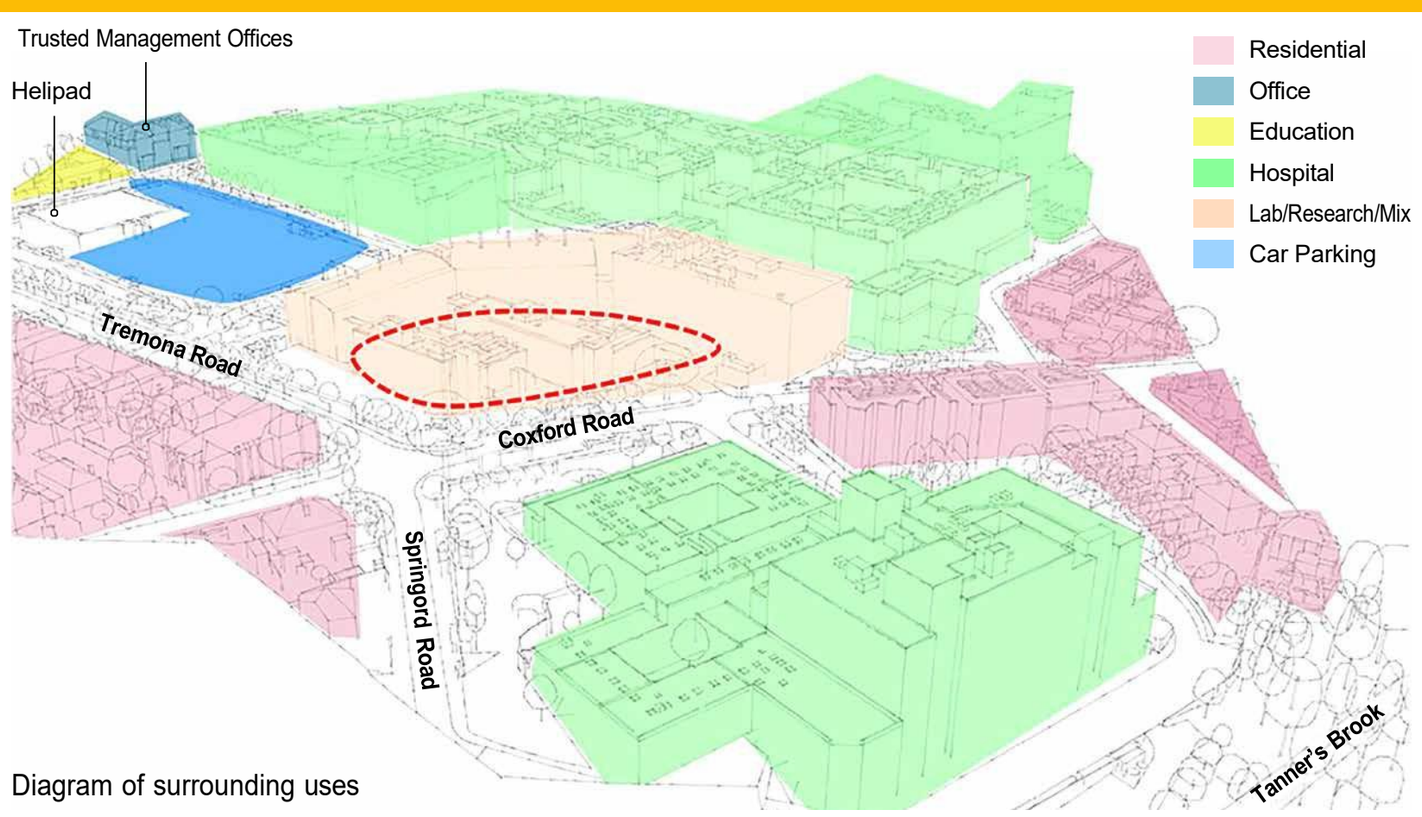


Diagram of surrounding uses

Surrounding Buildings and Materiality

## SITE FEATURES

### Prominent corner location

The site has a visible frontage to both Coxford Road and Tremona Road, offering an opportunity to improve this corner of the site and make the connection between medical research and healthcare more visible.

### Existing neighbours

The site is close to CCI, IDS and Somers, creating the opportunity to form a unique biomedical research campus.

There are also residential neighbours near to the site, who need to be carefully considered in the design of the building and management of the construction process.

### Operational hospital setting

The design must carefully respond to existing hospital servicing, delivery and access requirements.

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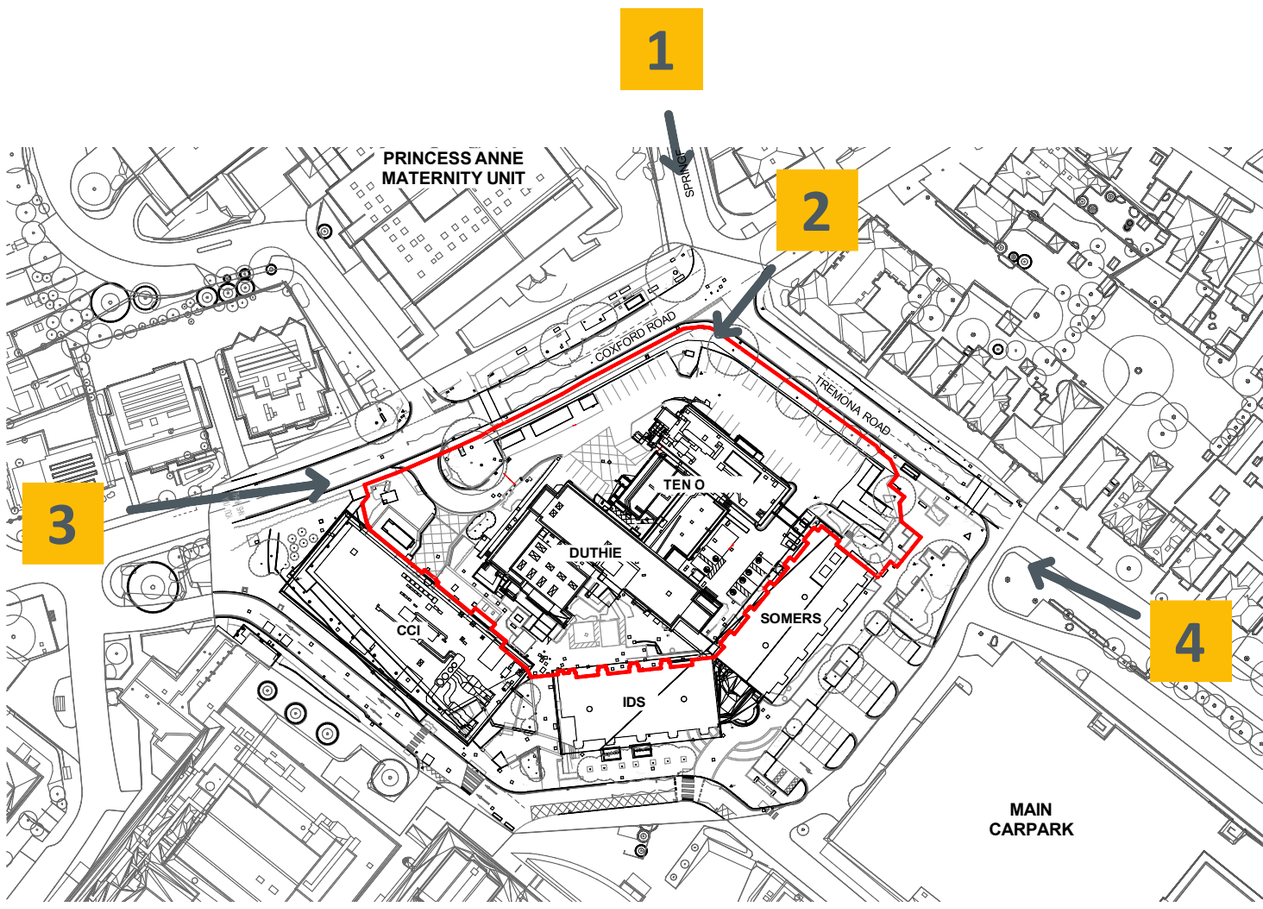
# THE EXISTING SITE

The site is occupied by two buildings, Tenovus and Duthie. These buildings are outdated and do not meet the needs of modern medical research, so will be removed to facilitate the IMI development. A pre-demolition review has been carried out to identify opportunities for recycling and reuse of materials.

There are currently 55 car parking spaces on the site, and parking for approximately 30 bicycles. Alongside parking, the site provides a service yard and back-of-house storage areas for the existing buildings.

The site is lined by trees along the Coxford Road and Tremona Road edges. Retention of existing trees has been prioritised in the design and there is also significant opportunity for additional planting within the site.

The project provides an opportunity to replace inaccessible and outdated buildings with a modern research facility and enhanced landscape spaces.




Tenovus Building


Duthie Building with IDS beyond

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# IMI: DESIGN PRINCIPLES

The site constraints and early design studies have helped shape the size, position and form of the building. The key design principles include:

## A STRONG CORNER PRESENCE

The building will address the junction of Coxford Road and Tremona Road to establish a welcoming, visible gateway to the research campus.

## AN ANIMATED GROUND FLOOR

The ground floor is being developed to feel open, with engagement spaces and views into internal research activities.

## SCIENCE COURTYARD

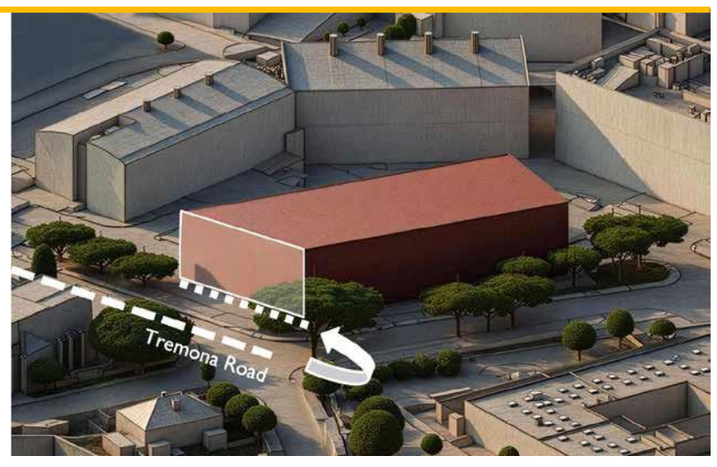
The building positioning will help define a new, central science courtyard, where there is significant opportunity for new landscaping. The building position has also considered the retention of existing trees.

### 1 Establishing the Building Mass

A simple, efficient building volume is established to define the site edge and respond to the junction. The initial mass creates a clear presence within the wider hospital campus.

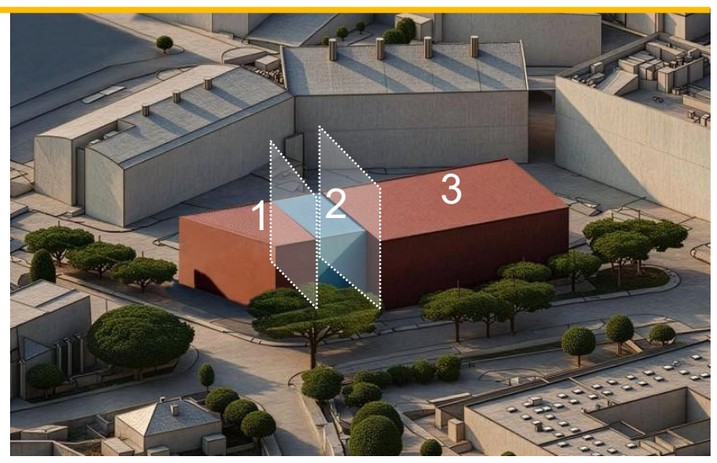
### 2 Responding to the Corner and Street Frontages

The building is positioned to address the corner and provide active frontages to both Coxford Road and Tremona Road. The arrangement helps define the public realm and strengthens the site's relationship with key pedestrian and vehicular routes.




### 3 Breaking Down the Massing

The overall volume is articulated into distinct elements to break down the building form. The lower element addresses the route towards Princess Anne Hospital and provides a transition between surrounding buildings.




## ACCESS AND LOGISTICS

The primary site access will be from Coxford Road, reflecting the existing arrangement.

The servicing requirements of the existing and proposed buildings have been carefully analysed. Servicing will be consolidated into one area of the site to ensure safety and operational efficiency.

Existing cluster logistics plan

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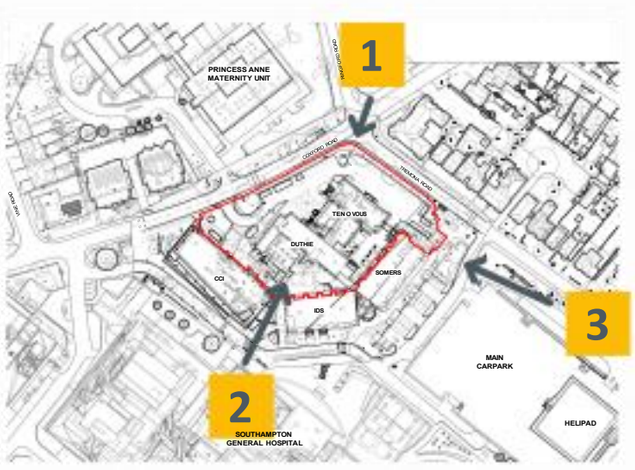
# IMI: KEY VIEWS




**VIEW 1** BMJ 3D External Sketch

**VIEW 2** BMJ 3D External Sketch

**VIEW 3** BMJ 3D External Sketch

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# FAÇADE DEVELOPMENT

## RHYTHM

There is a regular pattern to the building's exterior, based on how the laboratories are arranged inside. This supports flexible research spaces internally while creating a coherent external appearance.

Concept Elevation – Material Option Terracotta, Pink, Coral

BMJ Artist Impression – Façade Study

## MATERIALITY

### A robust base

The lower levels are being developed in textured concrete to feel grounded in the high-quality proposed landscape.

### Warm and durable materials

Material choices and tones are being explored to complement the site context, including warm red and yellow brick and the burgundy of CCI.

### Balanced transparency

Window locations and the use of shading fins are being developed to balance daylight, views, privacy, laboratory function and energy performance.

Material Samples

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# INTERNAL SPACES

Inside, the IMI building is designed to provide specialist research, collaboration and support spaces.

## Biomedical imaging facilities

Specialist spaces for advanced imaging and research activity, located to respond to technical and vibration requirements.

## Research laboratories

Flexible laboratory spaces designed to support shared research activity and long-term adaptability.

## Collaboration spaces

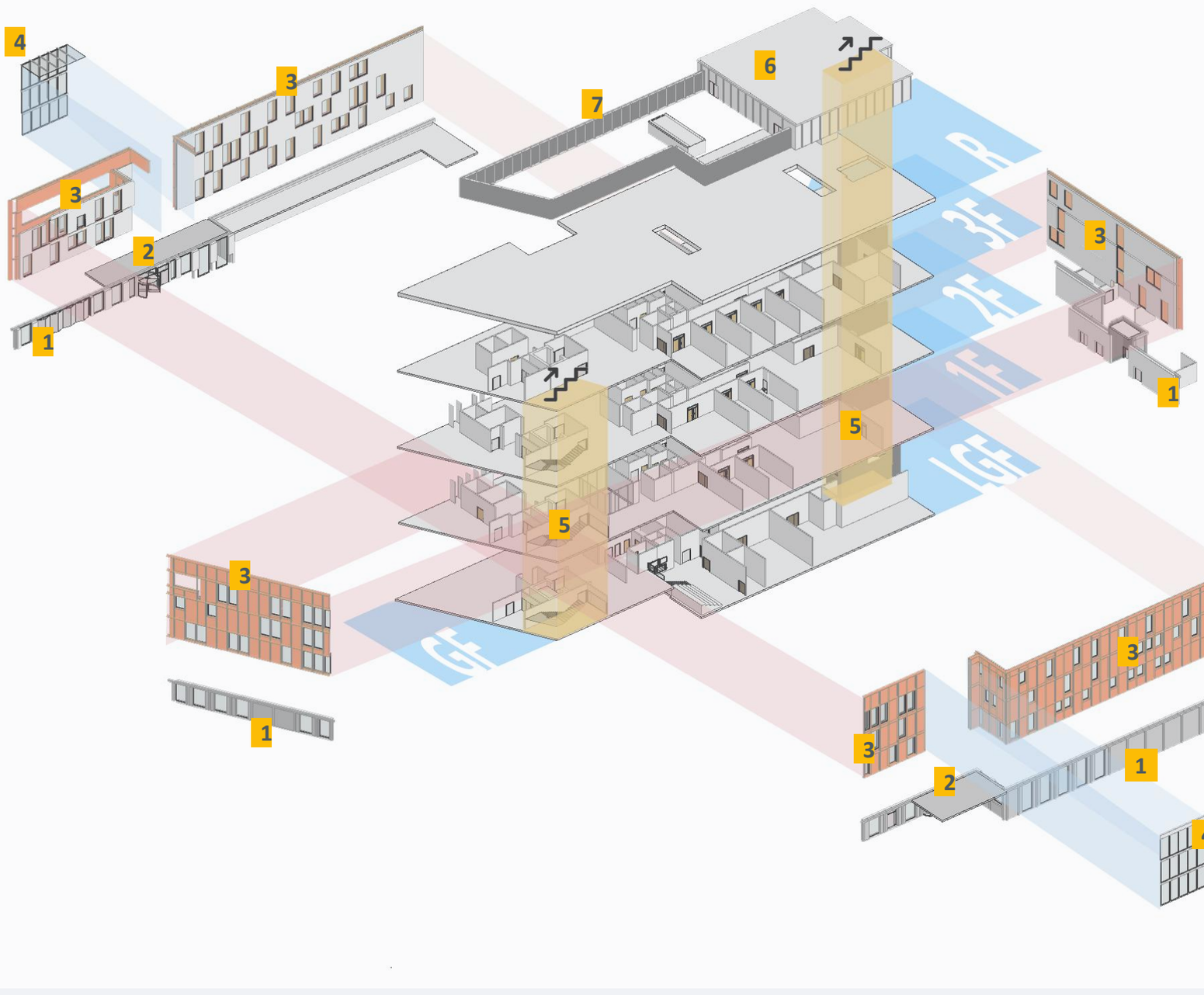
Meeting, write-up and informal spaces to support interaction between researchers, clinicians and other partners.

## Specialist support spaces

Dedicated facilities for technical support, equipment, storage, servicing and safe operation.

## Public-facing ground floor spaces

Shared and collaborative areas are located at ground level, helping to connect the building with the surrounding landscape.




1. Ground Floor Enclosure
2. Entrance Canopy
3. Upper Floors Enclosure
4. Glazed Vertical Division
5. Vertical Circulation Core
6. Solid Roof Plant Enclosure
7. Louvred Roof Plant Enclosure

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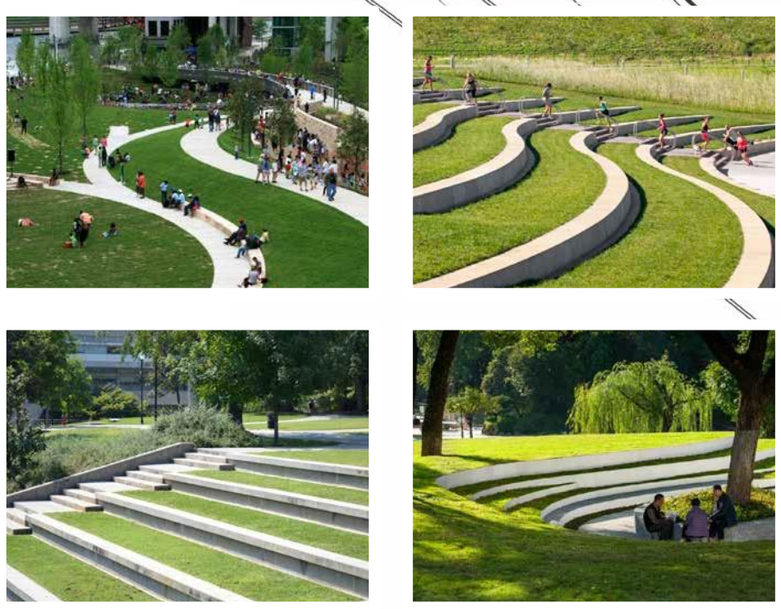
# PUBLIC REALM AND LANDSCAPE STRATEGY

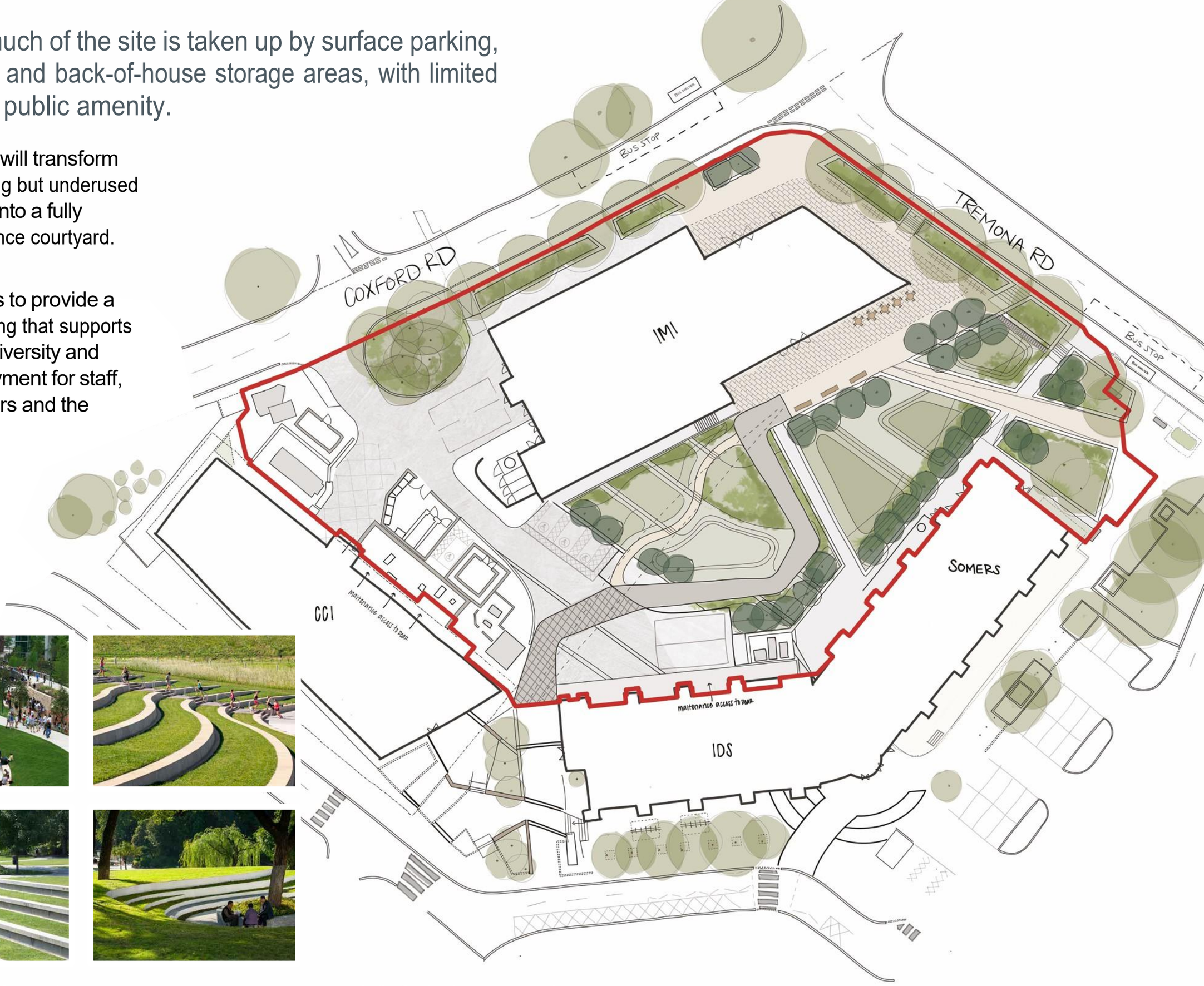
## Currently, much of the site is taken up by surface parking, service yard and back-of-house storage areas, with limited greenery or public amenity.

The proposals will transform this hard-working but underused service space into a fully accessible science courtyard.

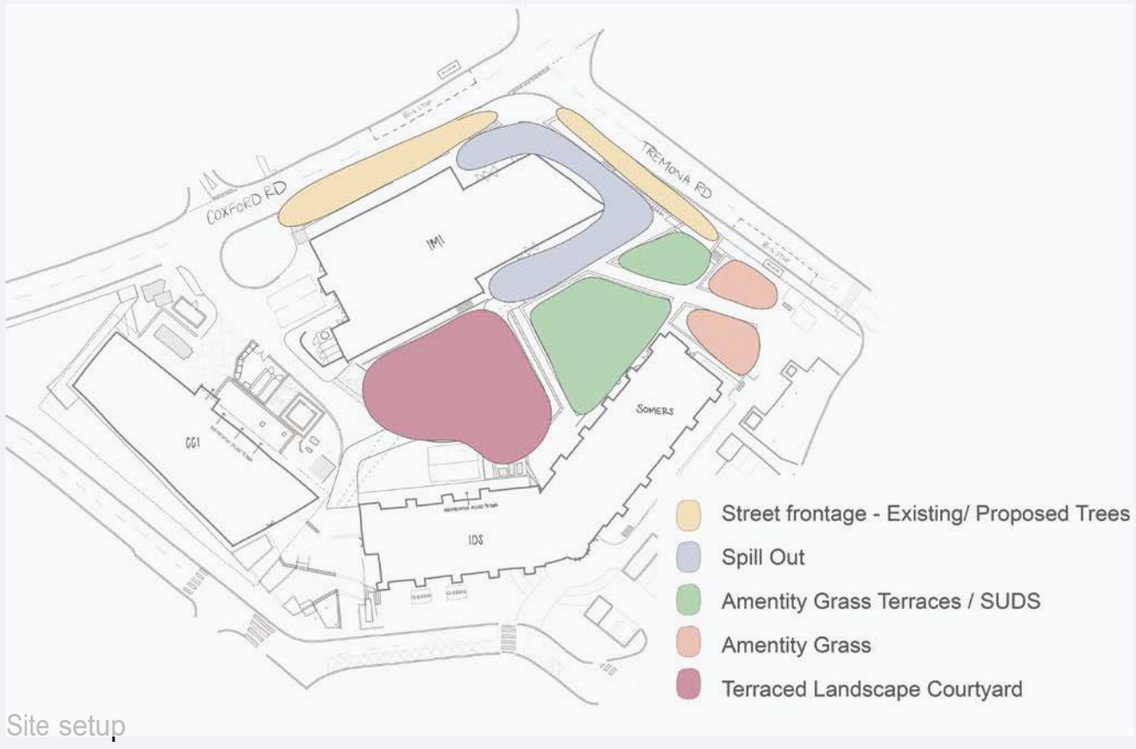
The intention is to provide a new green setting that supports wellbeing, biodiversity and everyday enjoyment for staff, students, visitors and the community.



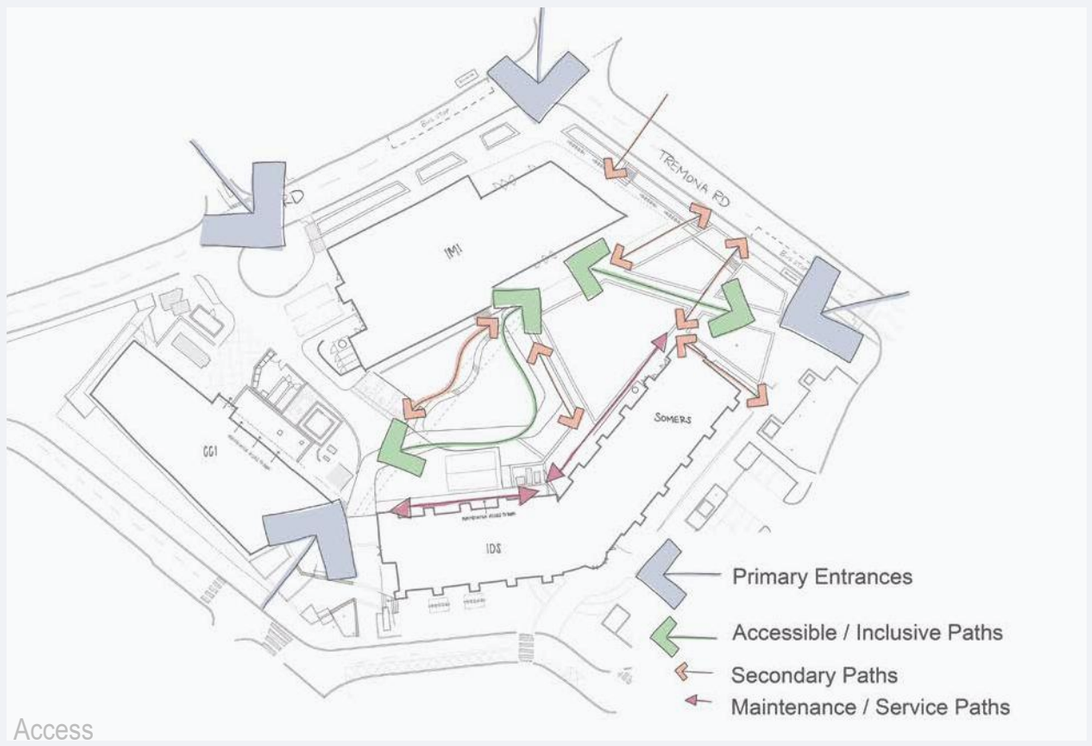
Courtyard terrace reference images




Indicative landscape proposals




Site setup




Access

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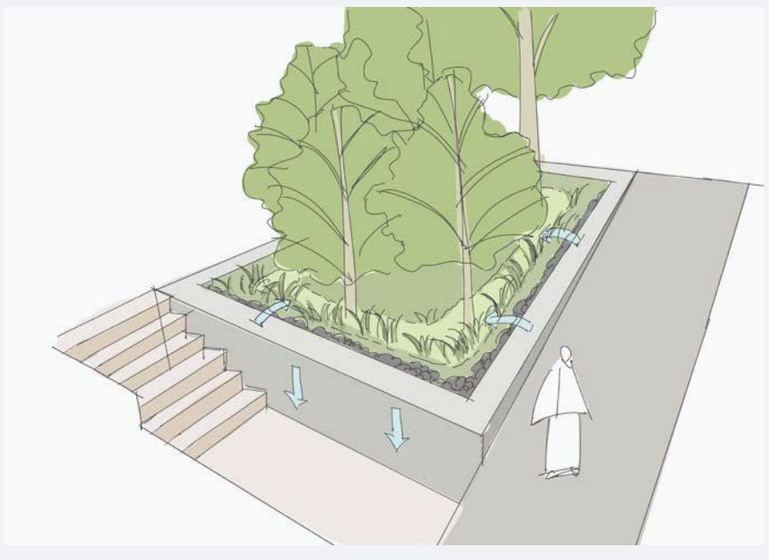
# PLANTING, BIODIVERSITY & SUSTAINABLE DRAINAGE STRATEGY

The proposed planting strategy will create a distinctive, biodiverse landscape that draws on the character of the University's Highfield Campus and the therapeutic qualities of the Maggie's Centre garden at Southampton General Hospital.

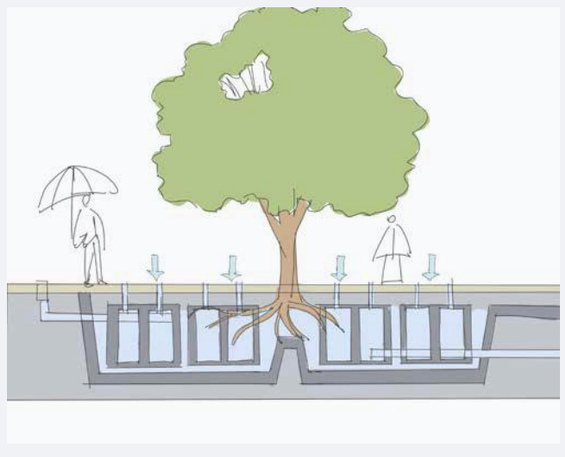
The landscape will be designed as more than a setting for the new building. It will provide a welcoming, accessible, and restorative green space that supports wellbeing and encourages informal meeting.

The proposals aim to incorporate water attenuation requirements into the Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SUDS) with a series of richly planted rain gardens and detention basins.



Sketch showing proposed sustainable drainage locations

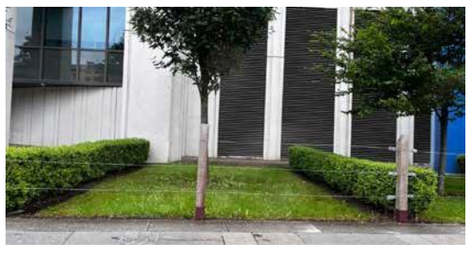
The IMI development will manage surface water through a combination of planted landscape, permeable surfaces, rain gardens and on-site storage. These features will help slow the flow of water during heavy rainfall, reduce flood risk, and support a greener, more biodiverse courtyard environment.



The strategy responds carefully to the site's constraints. Where infiltration into the ground is not appropriate, rainwater will be held safely within the site and slowly released into the existing surface water network. This creates a practical and sustainable drainage solution that supports both the building and the wider campus landscape.

Rain garden with integrated boulders

Path through naturalistic SUDs planting



Angled hedges


Raised planting bed

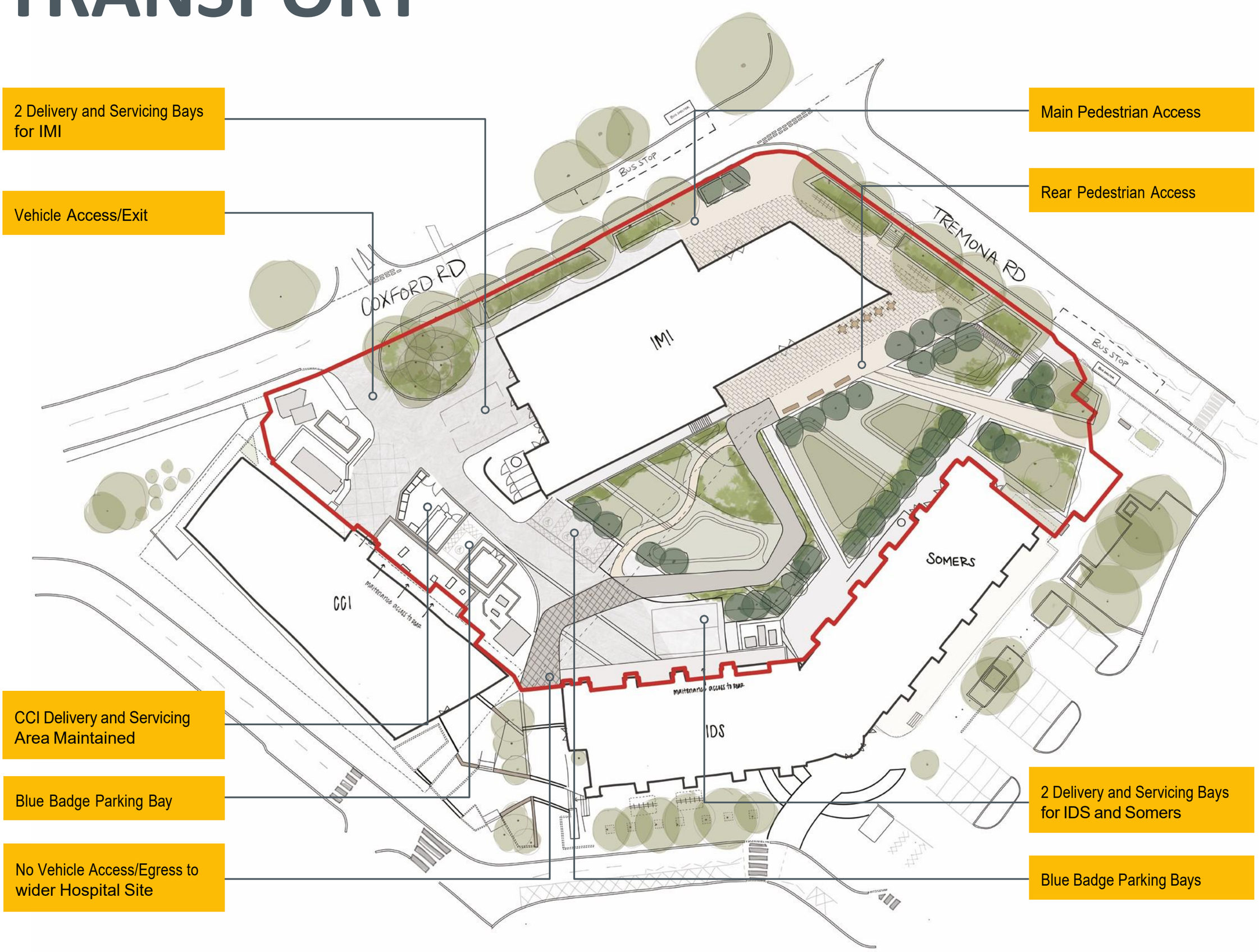
Birch screening trees

Raised planting bed with seating edge

Rain garden planting

Path through naturalistic SUDs planting

# TRANSPORT




## SITE ACCESS

Vehicular access to the site will be retained in its current form, located on Coxford Road. No additional vehicle access points are proposed.

The aspiration for the development is to create a site that is permeable for pedestrians, and to open the site frontage along Coxford Road and Tremona Road. The main pedestrian access to the building is anticipated to be directly from Coxford Road. Pedestrian routes will also be provided from the rear of the building into a new landscaped area, connecting IMI to the adjacent buildings and the wider hospital site.

## CAR PARKING

As vehicle vibration has a detrimental impact on research equipment, the proposals keep vehicle use to a minimum. The development has been designed as 'car free' in line with sustainable transport policies as well as the University and Hospital Travel Plans. All standard on-site car parking will therefore be removed, with four accessible parking bays provided for Blue Badge holders. These bays will be shared between the CCI, IDS, Somers and IMI buildings.

This approach will reduce the number of vehicle trips into and out of the site and allow the creation of the science courtyard. A significant proportion of staff at the IMI would be relocating from other areas of the hospital, and the University of Southampton and University Hospital Southampton are discussing the use of the hospital's existing Park & Ride facility to mitigate the impact of lost parking spaces.

## CYCLE PARKING

The proposal includes improved and expanded on-site cycle parking. End of trip facilities in the form of showers and lockers would also be provided within the IMI building to encourage this mode of transport.

## DELIVERIES & SERVICING

A designated service area is proposed for the IMI building, incorporating two dedicated loading bays. The intention is to consolidate servicing for the whole research cluster and limit vehicle movements around the site.

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# SUSTAINABILITY

## WHY IT MATTERS

Sustainability has shaped the IMI project from the outset, influencing decisions on materials, energy systems, water use, and how the building will operate day to day. Sustainability has been considered holistically and is not just about environmental impact: it also means lower energy use and running costs, healthier and more comfortable spaces, and a building that remains fit for purpose well into the future, even as our climate changes.

Flexible floor plates for future adaptability

Improved biodiversity

On-site renewable energy generation

Lower carbon materials and assessment of carbon impact

Additional cycle facilities

Fossil fuel free

Energy and water meters for in-use monitoring

Optimised façade design to reduce building energy demand

## SUSTAINABILITY CERTIFICATION

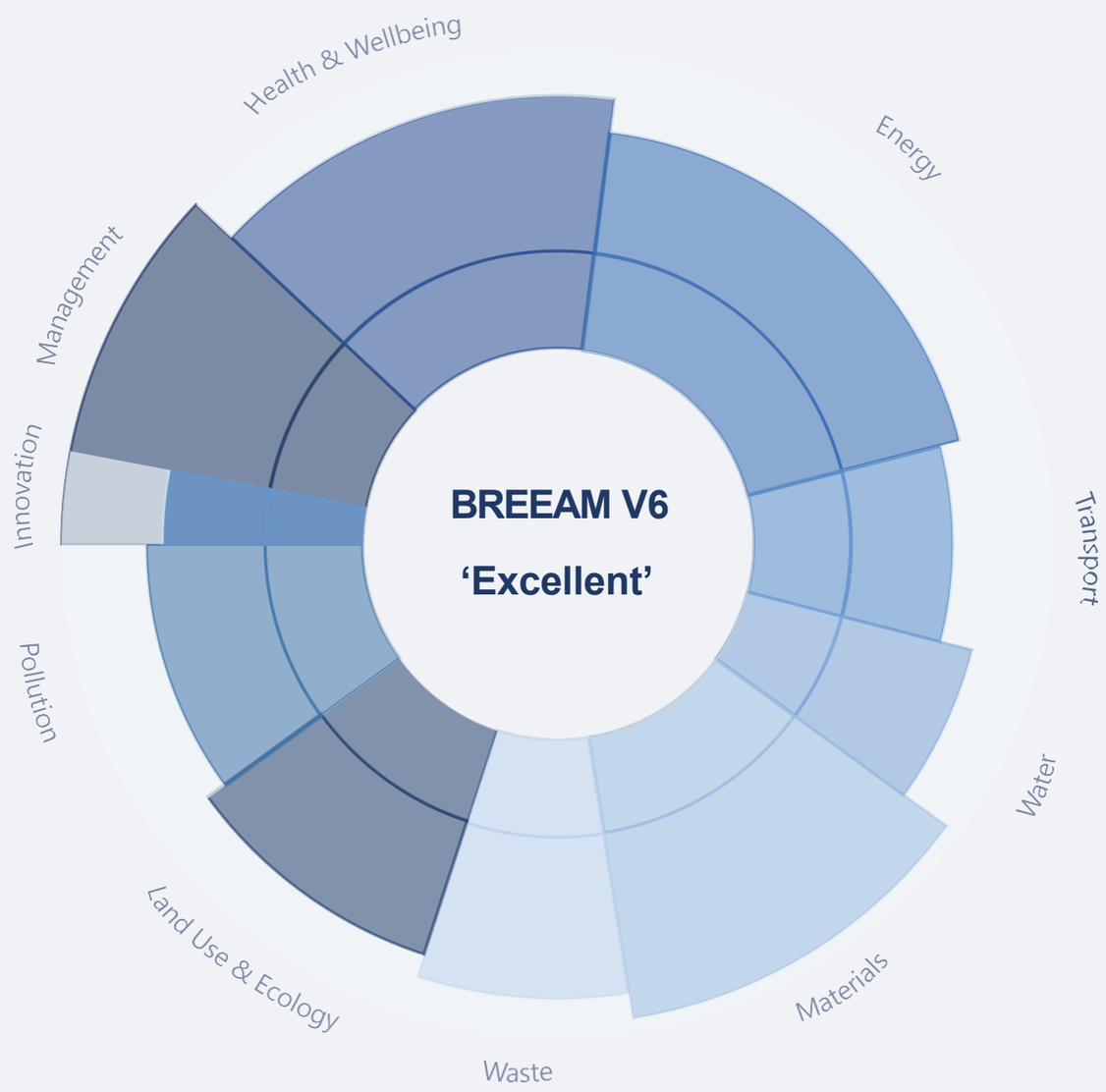
BREEAM (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method) is the world's leading, science-based framework for assessing and certifying sustainability in the built environment.

BREEAM assesses every aspect of a building's sustainability including materials, water, transport, nature, health and wellbeing, waste and pollution, to build a complete picture of its environmental performance.

This project is being designed with the aspiration of achieving a BREEAM 'Excellent' rating, supporting the University's ambition to create a high-performing, future-ready building that could sit among leading buildings of its kind in the UK.

### Our BREEAM Targets

- Water Efficient Fittings & Systems
- Climate Resilience
- Reuse & Recycling of Materials
- Improving Nature & Biodiversity
- Health & Wellbeing
- Safety & Security
- Energy Efficiency & Renewables
- Sustainable Transport



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# NEXT STEPS

**Thank you for attending this exhibition on the University of Southampton's plans for the Institute for Medical Innovation.**

We welcome any feedback you have on the information presented in this exhibition. Please either fill out a form available at this consultation event, or send your comments via email to EstateDevelopment@soton.ac.uk **by 8 July 2026**.

## WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

### Design development and technical coordination

Feedback from this consultation will be reviewed by the project team and considered as the design continues to progress. Further work will be undertaken for the technical coordination of landscape, transport, sustainability, servicing, and building design.

### Further opportunity to comment

In addition to this consultation, we will be sharing more developed and detailed proposals later this year, ahead of making a planning application.

### Planning application

A planning application will be prepared and submitted to Southampton City Council towards the end of 2026. Once the planning application is submitted, Southampton City Council will undertake its statutory consultation process.

| 2026 | 2027/28 | 2029 | 2030 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Finalised designs and planning application | Work on site begins | Construction & equipment installation complete | Teams move in: innovation accelerates |