

New Chinatown, Liverpool

Landscape Statement

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Landscape Architecture & Design

landscapeprojects

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1.1 Site | Context

Landscape Architectural Design
This document is the Landscape Statement, which describes the landscape and place-making related aspects of the proposals to redevelop the plot of land known as New China Town. The Landscape Statement supports the planning application documentation, and should be read in conjunction with the Design and Access Statement produced by BLOK Architects.

Site Context
The site lies between the Baltic triangle and Ropewalks. The area is predominantly of light industrial and warehousing bounded by housing to the west. Significant regeneration is being undertaken, with residential and leisure actively encouraged to create a vibrant mixed use area.

The site is bounded between Great George Street to the east, Hardy Street to the north, St James Street to the south. To the western boundary lie a series of residential streets. Significant works to the highway and footway along Jamaica street has been undertaken and has been based on the ‘Public realm implementation framework’.

There is very little public open space in this area. Embankments and verges provide locations for greenery and trees.

The planning application is a hybrid application with full planning permission for Phase 1 being sought along with outline permission for the two blocks to the south of this..

KEY

Strategic Street

City Street

Pedestrian Lane

Gateway



1.2 Site | Phasing

The site has been split into three phases. Phase 1 will be subject to a full planning application, Phases 2 and 3 will be outline.

Phase 1
To the north of the development site this area encompasses part of the proposed Great George Street widening, remodelling of Hardy Street and works to the east side of South Grenville Street. Small areas of public realm are provided to the Great George Street elevation outside the main entrance and to the rear on the corner of South Grenville Street and Hardy Street.

There is a podium garden above the car-park and both private and communal terraces at levels five and six. Townhouses to Hardy Street have private front gardens.

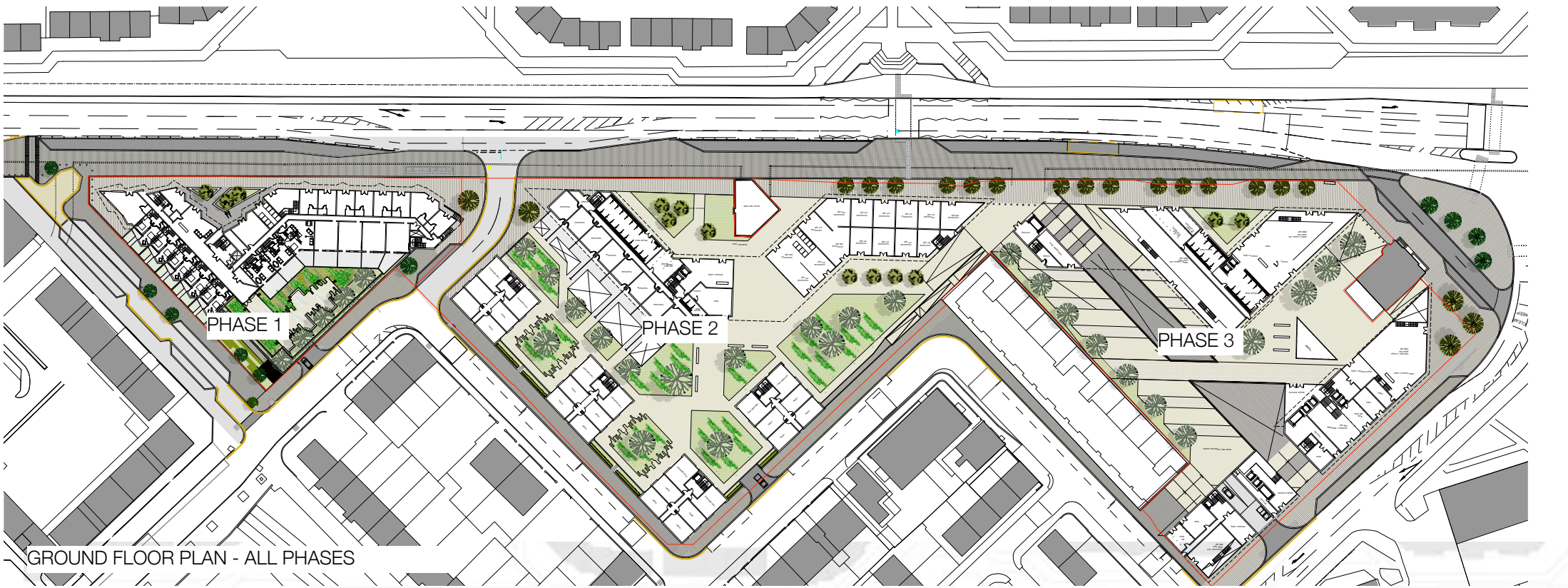
Phase 2
An extension to Grenville Street South onto Great George Street is provided within this Phase along with a continuation of the widening of Great George Street. To the rear of the development works are planned to Cookson Street and Upper Pitt Streets. An area of public realm is found around the vent shaft on Great George Street.

A large podium landscape links Great George Street. South Grenville Street via a pedestrian slope back down onto Upper Pitt Street. Again at upper levels there is a combination of private and communal roof terraces. The duplexes within Phase 2 have private gardens at podium level.

Phase 3
The widening of Great George Street continues down to the junction of St James Street with the creation of an area of public realm outside the wedding shop providing parking and servicing space and an area outside the main entrance into the development off Great George Street.

The podium landscaping continues with ramps down onto both St James Street and Great George Place.

Roof terraces are proposed at upper levels.



2.1 Landscape | **Proposed and Existing Streets**

Hardy Street

Hardy Street will become a pedestrian friendly space, with low kerb upstands. Greenery will be introduced to the street with street trees, which hold a sculptural and columnar form, combined with front gardens of the townhouses and an amenity space of hedging and groundcover planting at the junction of Hardy Street and Grenville Street South Street.

Grenville Street South Cookson Street Upper Pitt Street Duncan Street

Adjacent to the proposed development these streets will see the footways widened and repaved with new kerblines giving greater carriageway widths.

Great George Street

A robust frontage will be created along this heavily trafficked street. Adopted highways will be paved to match the streets to the rear of the development. Street tree planting will act as focal points at street corners in Phase 1. Groups of trees will be set within the courtyard spaces to the building frontages.

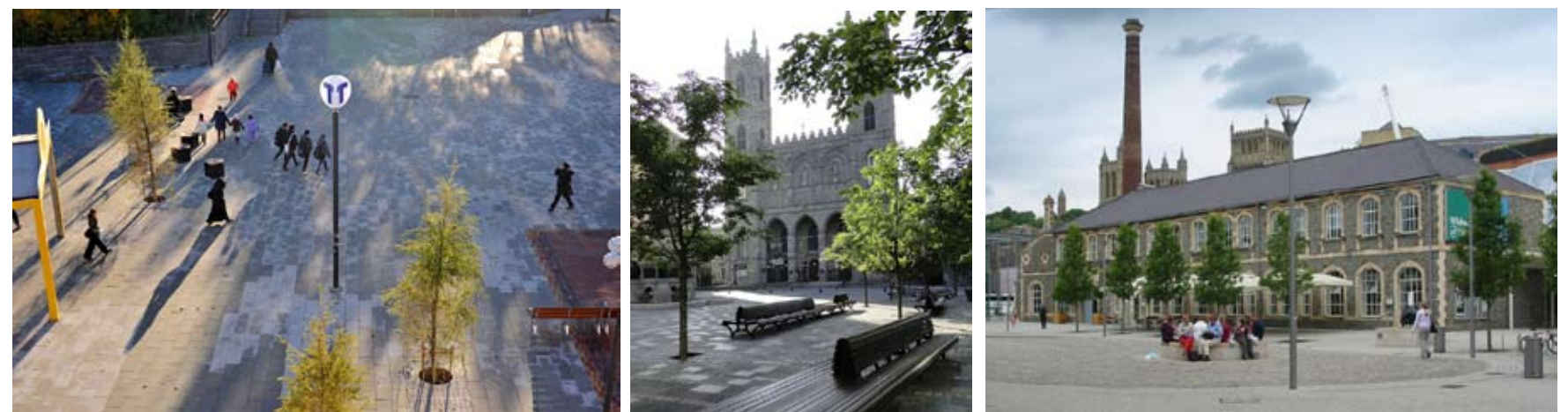
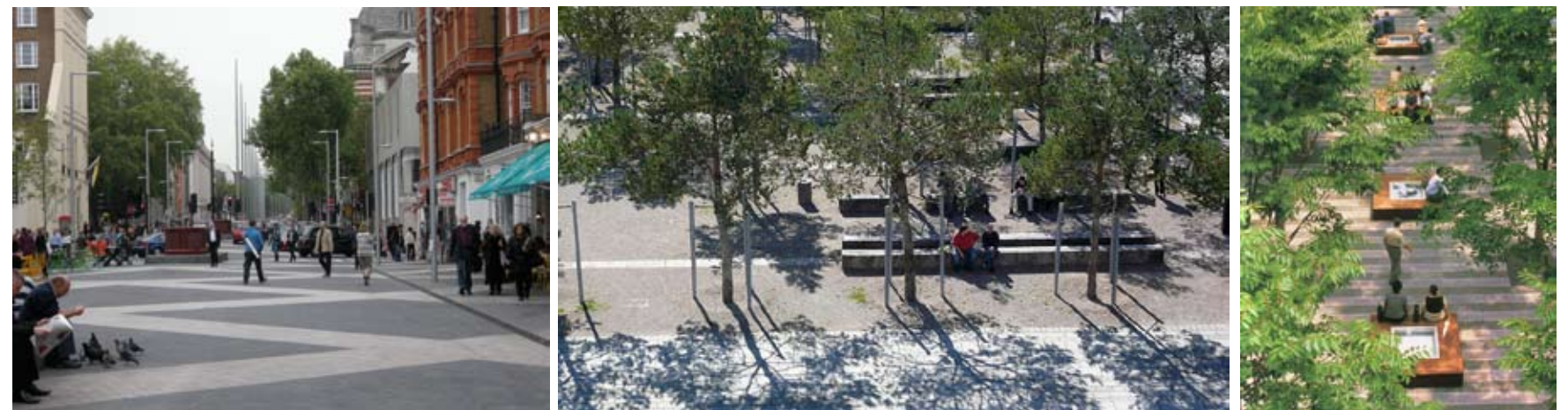
Great George Place

A through route is created along Great George Place to allowing servicing of the existing business whilst to the front the existing lawn is replaced by a tree planted paved square.

St James Street

Re-alignment of the kerbline allows for servicing of the proposed development with re-surfacing of the footway carried out to tie in with the rest of the development.

All the proposed Highway works are subject to a S278 agreement with LCC.



2.2 Landscape | Facade greening

The opportunity to green the facades of the development varies within each Phase.

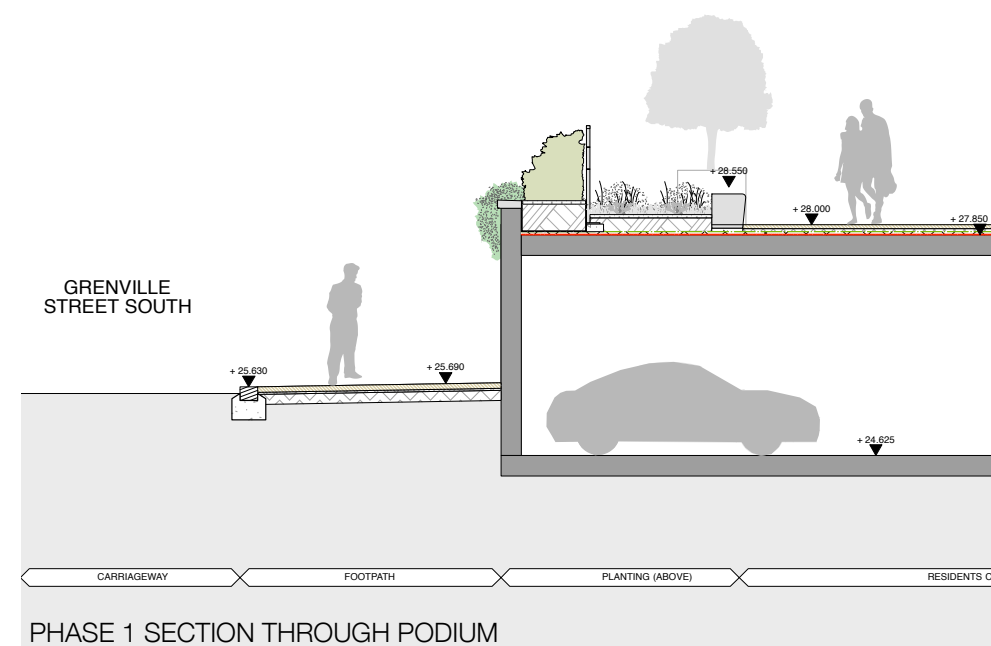
Phase 1: The walls of the lower ground floor carpark will be softened by the perimeter podium planting at the upper level. Shrubby species such as Ceanothus and Hebe will be planted within linear planters at the podium level to flow over the podium edge, greening the street frontage. The walls will also be articulated with grilles to the architect's design, with the use of lighting to be investigated as part of the public art strategy for the development.

Phase 2 offers the opportunity to look at the development of green screens between the residential blocks to the rear of the development. Climbing plants can quickly grow to create a lightweight framework of foliage, and will provide a green covering over a supporting structure.

The components of a green screen comprise the following:

- Planters: at podium level with a reservoir for water storage
- Irrigation : drip feed pressurised irrigation system, delivering water and nutrient to the root zone in the planter.
- Structural support: stainless or galvanised steel framework, up which the climbing plant can grow.
- Backing screen : a windbreak backing screen provides some shelter to the planting.
- Climbing Plants : Suitable species which should be hardy enough to survive include :
 - Wisteria sinensis "prolific"
 - Humulus lupulus
 - Clematis spp
 - Lonicera periclymenum
 - Polygonum baldshuanicum
 - Vitis spp

Detailed design of the screens will be covered by reserved matters for the outline application area.



2.3 Landscape | Communal roof terraces

Within each Phase there will be communal terraces available for the use of residents.

On Phase 1 there is a terrace is at level 5 which will have views north towards the city centre of Liverpool.

On Phase 2 there are smaller west facing shared terraces on the four blocks overlooking Upper Pitt and Cookson Streets which will also be at level 5. There will also be a larger communal terrace at level 9 overlooking Great George Street

On Phase 3 there will be a smaller shared terraces at levels 6, 8 and 16 looking north west with some views towards the south. An additional larger communal terrace can be found at levels 12

Planting

Tree and shrub planting will create sheltered seating spaces on these upper terraces with raised planters offering the increased soil depth required for planting on the roofs.

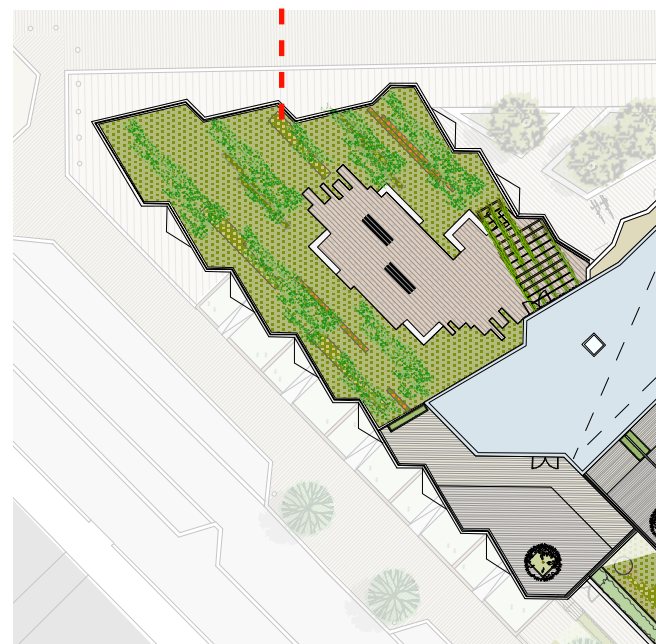
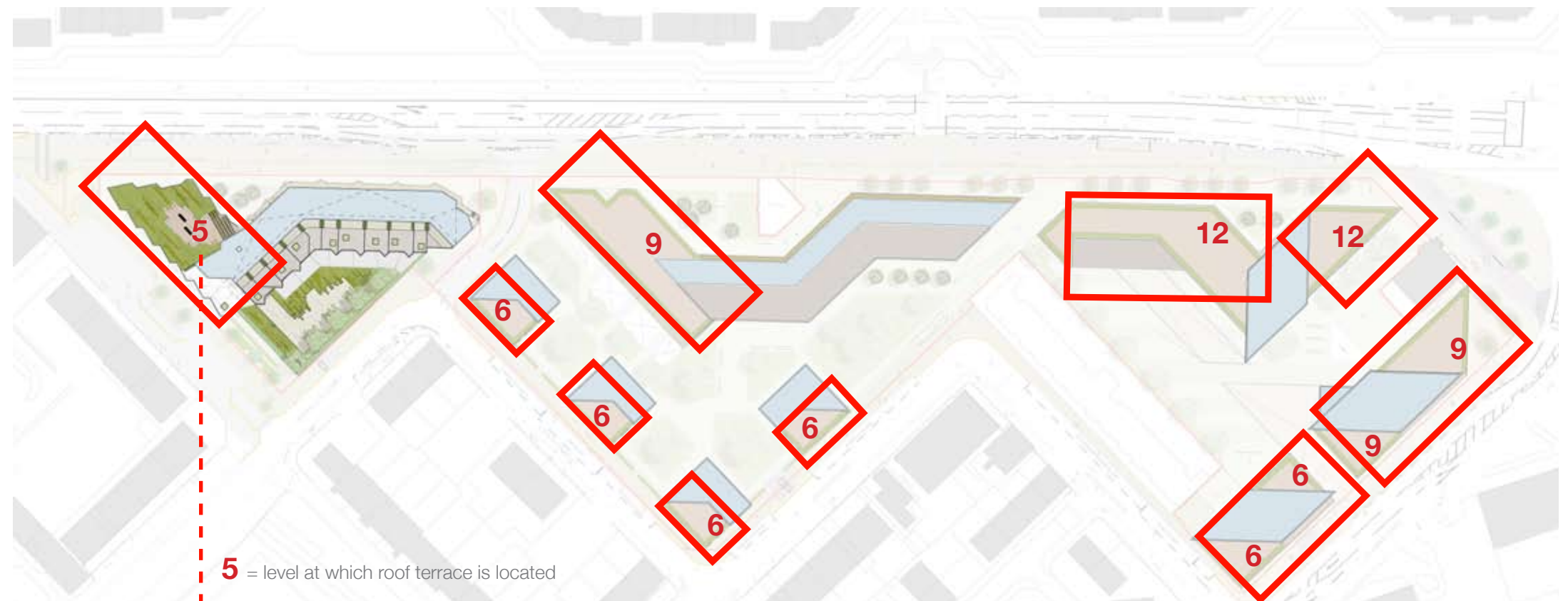
Hard landscaping

Hard landscape surfaces will consist of a mixture of composite decking and resin bonded gravel with panels of slab paving.

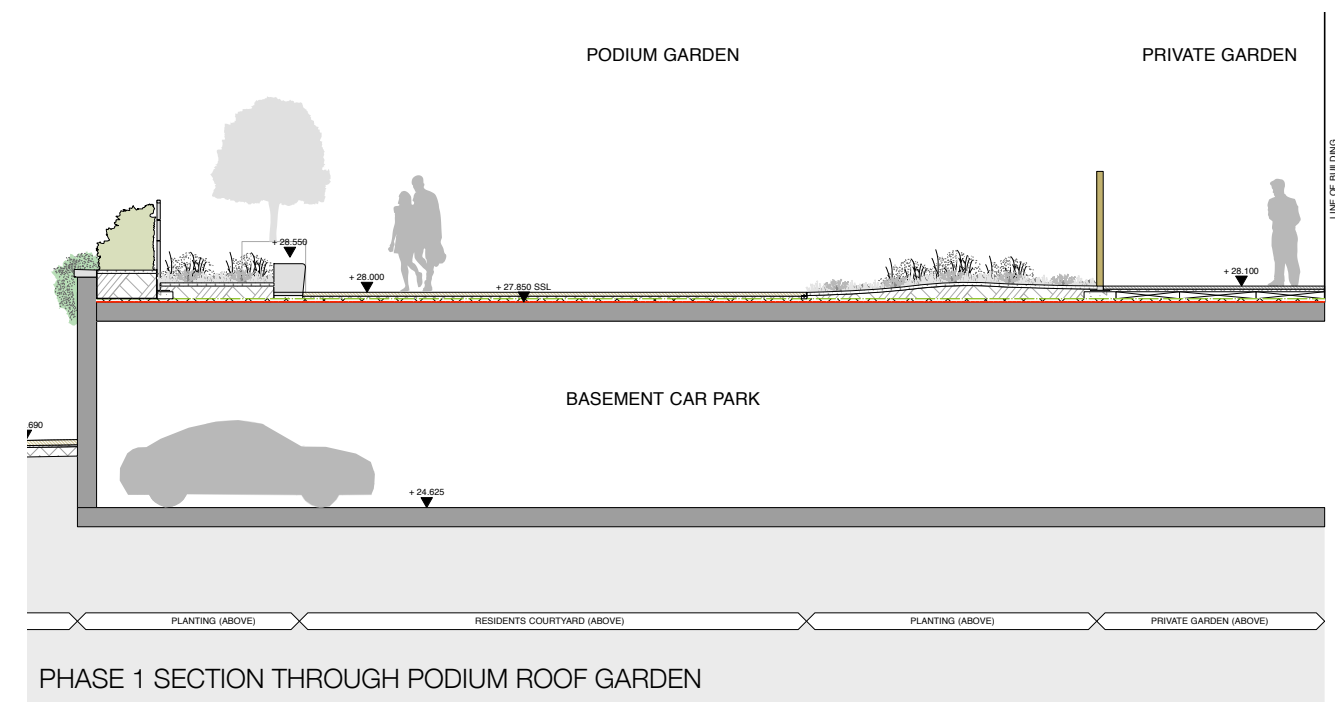
Raised planting beds will be constructed from lightweight concrete units.

Seating opportunities will consist of seating walls around the planter bases and groups of freestanding seating to encourage communal use of the terraces.

Detail layouts for the roof gardens on Phases 2 and 3 will be subject to the Reserved Matters applications but in principle will follow the design of Phase 1 - decked terraces to private apartments with privacy screen planting where required, paved and planted communal terraces a mixtures of low growing planting, shrubs and small trees on the communal terraces.



Level 5 Phase 1 roof garden - Full Planning Application



PHASE 1 SECTION THROUGH PODIUM ROOF GARDEN

2.3 Landscape | Communal roof terraces



Communal roof garden precedents



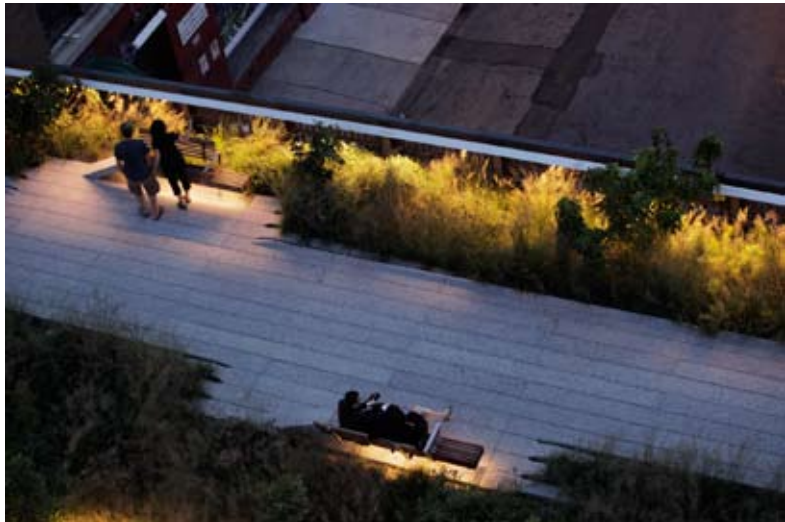
2.4 Landscape | **Lighting**

The scheme proposals incorporate an extensive external lighting scheme, including low-level and decorative lighting. This will create an attractive night-time ambience, which will promote evening use of the public and communal spaces, as well as contributing to a feeling of safety and security.

Street lighting will be replaced to the streets to the rear of the development with existing lighting being retained or relocated along Great George Street. Replacement columns and fittings will be the same as used within the Ropewalks area of the city, subject to agreement with LCC.

Low level bollards and under bench lighting will illuminate the upper communal terraces.

There is the opportunity for a feature lighting scheme to be developed for the external basement car-park walls on Phase 1 as part of the public art provision.



The High Line, New York. Effective lighting design gives spaces distinct character and functionality at night.



Social and community functions considered within landscape design.



2.5 Landscape | **Comfort and microclimate**

The scheme design has been assessed in relation to sun-path, view orientation and prevailing wind, to ensure that sheltered, sunny locations are provided at each landscape level and terrace.

Both the resident's communal garden on the upper level of Phase 1 and the adjacent private gardens will benefit from its south facing orientation where users will enjoy an elevated position catching the afternoon and evening sun as will the upper level private terraces on Phases 2 and 3.

Communal terraces on Phases 2 and 3 will enjoy the dual aspect facing both east and west only slightly shaded at midday by the adjacent upper floors

The courtyards will see spaces designed to capture as much light as possible as the sun path moves round throughout the day. Lighting will be designed thoughtfully so not to obstruct views over the cityscape; in enclosed areas soft, warm light will create a comfortable and intimate atmosphere.

The trees within the podium courtyard on Phases 2 and 3 will help to mitigate any wind movement within these areas creating sheltered spaces for both residents and visitors to enjoy.

