

Hayle Town Masterplan Projects: King George V Memorial Walk & Hayle Recreation Ground

5TH MARCH 2026

REV_01

Introduction: Developing the Masterplan

A Vision for Hayle

- Hayle Community consultation ran between August - October 2022
- A Vision for Hayle - Consultation Report And Results was delivered in November 2022.
- Hayle Community Action Group (HCAG) Established in 2022 (formerly the TownTeam) is a group of local residents who are interested in improving Hayle and its surrounding area.- to take forward the themes of the consultation and identify potential projects that the Town Council and Community can champion. The group meets regularly, Mei Loci have been in attendance and taking on board the discussions when drawing up the masterplan proposals.
- Hayle Business Network (HBN)- established in February 2023 with Hayle Business Week with the aim of building a strong network that will lead to greater collaboration and the delivery of exciting opportunities in the future for all businesses in Hayle.

Hayle Masterplan

Strategic plans based on the themes identified within the Vision:

Movement And Travel,
Place And Space,
Natural Environment,
Community,
Leisure And Recreation,
Economy And Work

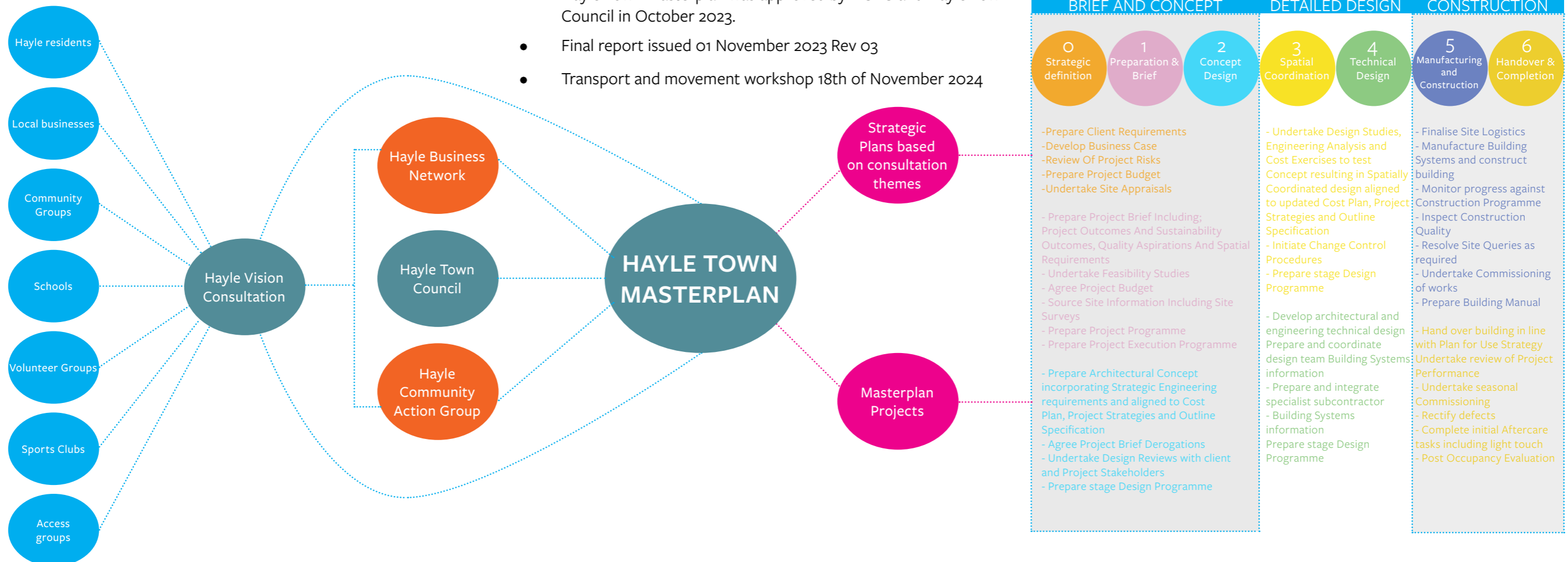
Hayle Town Masterplan projects :

King George V Memorial Walk
Hayle Recreation Ground
Copperhouse Public Realm
Foundry Public Realm
Hayle Railway Station

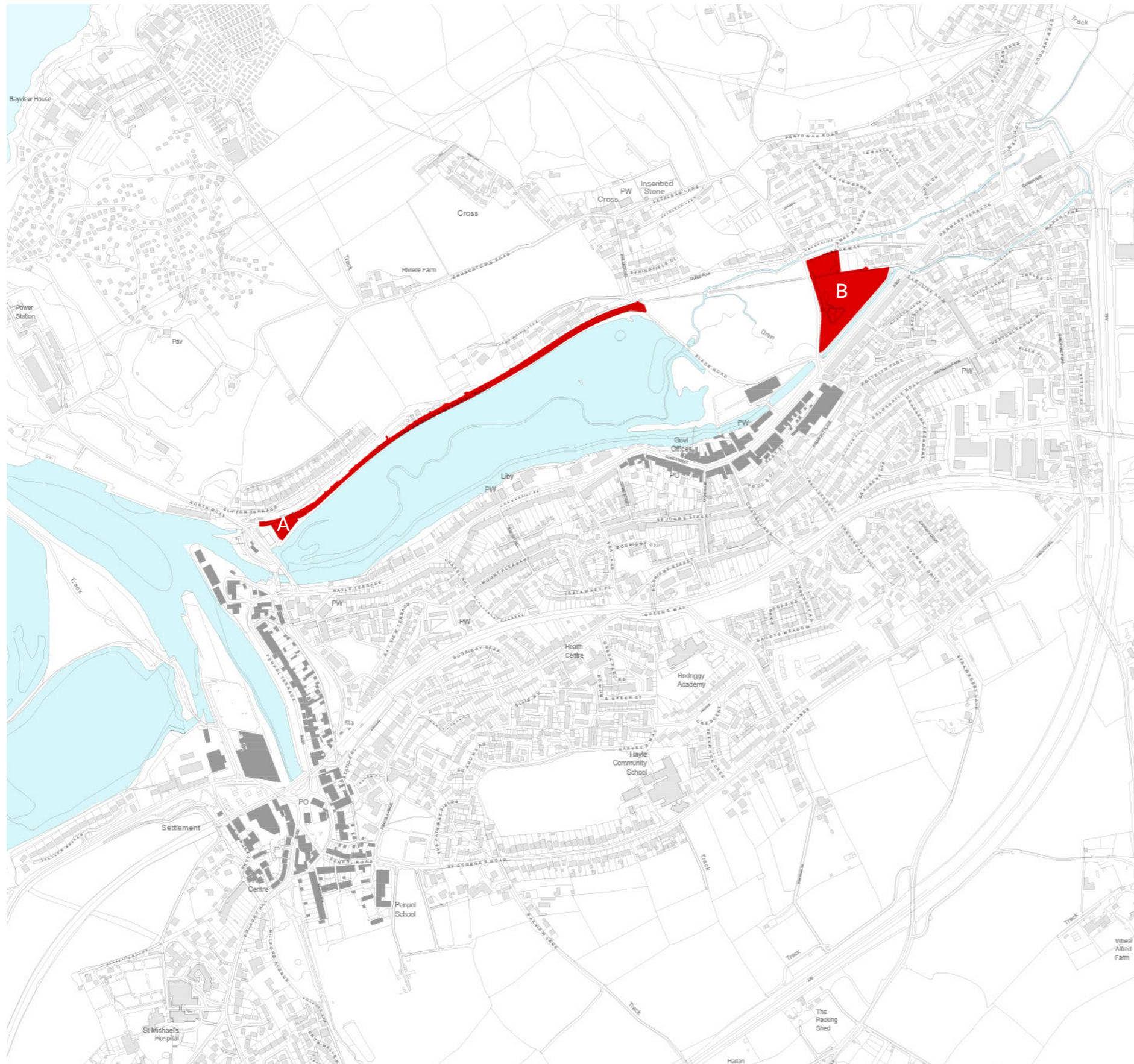
- Masterplan proposals were shared at the Hayle Health and Wellbeing Festival September 2023
- Hayle Town Masterplan was approved by HCAG and Hayle Town Council in October 2023.
- Final report issued 01 November 2023 Rev 03
- Transport and movement workshop 18th of November 2024

Next steps

- Pin down priority projects
- Define project briefs, budgets and programme
- Apply for funding and
- Define time line for projects
- Identify Project partners
- Identify Consultant team
- Define project programme
- Design Development
- Planning Permission
- Consult with statutory consultees, stakeholders and the local community Tender
- Delivery



King George V Memorial Walk



LEGEND

EXISTING



Site Boundary

A. King George V Memorial Walk

B. Hayle Recreation Ground

King George V Memorial Walk - Overview



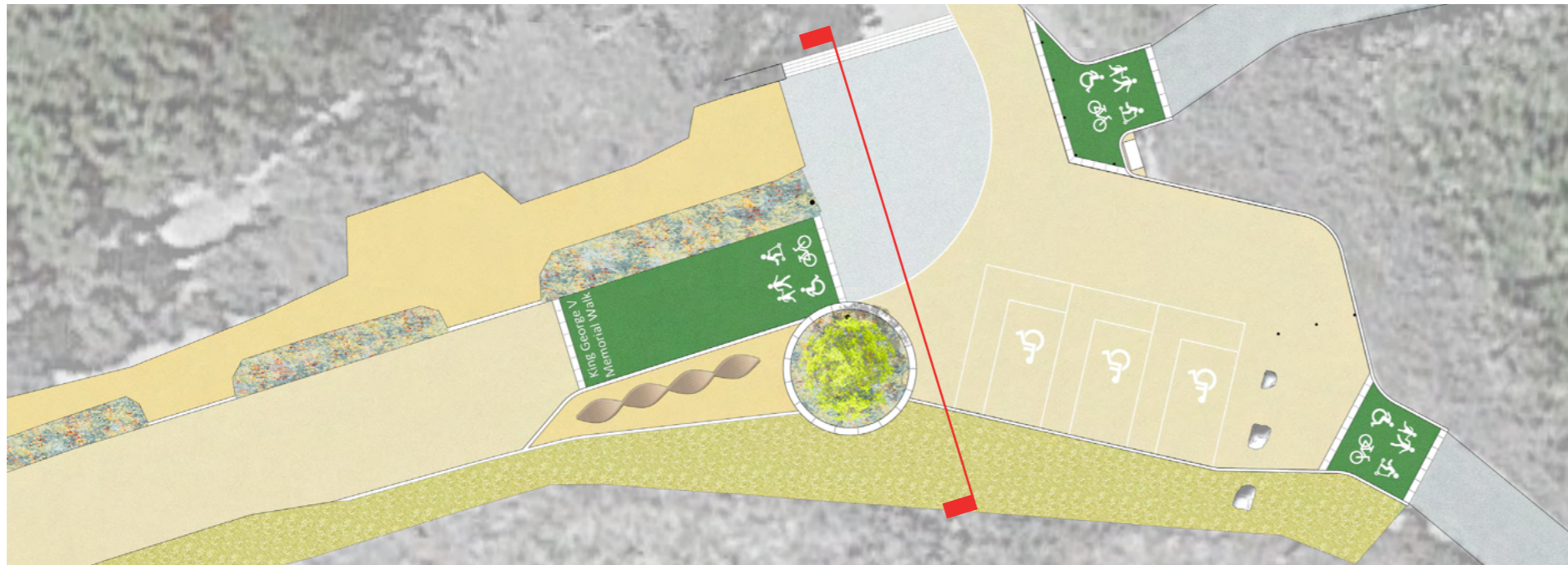
King George V Memorial Walk - East Gateway

Legend

1. Proposed gateway.
2. Disabled parking spaces accessible 24 hours a day.
3. Create a clear connection to the path leading to the Rec Ground.
4. Create a clear connection to the path leading to Black Bridge an wider cycle network.
5. Enhanced nature strip.
6. Proposed shared surface.
7. Proposed new surface to the Walk's footpath.
8. Revitalised planting beds where required.



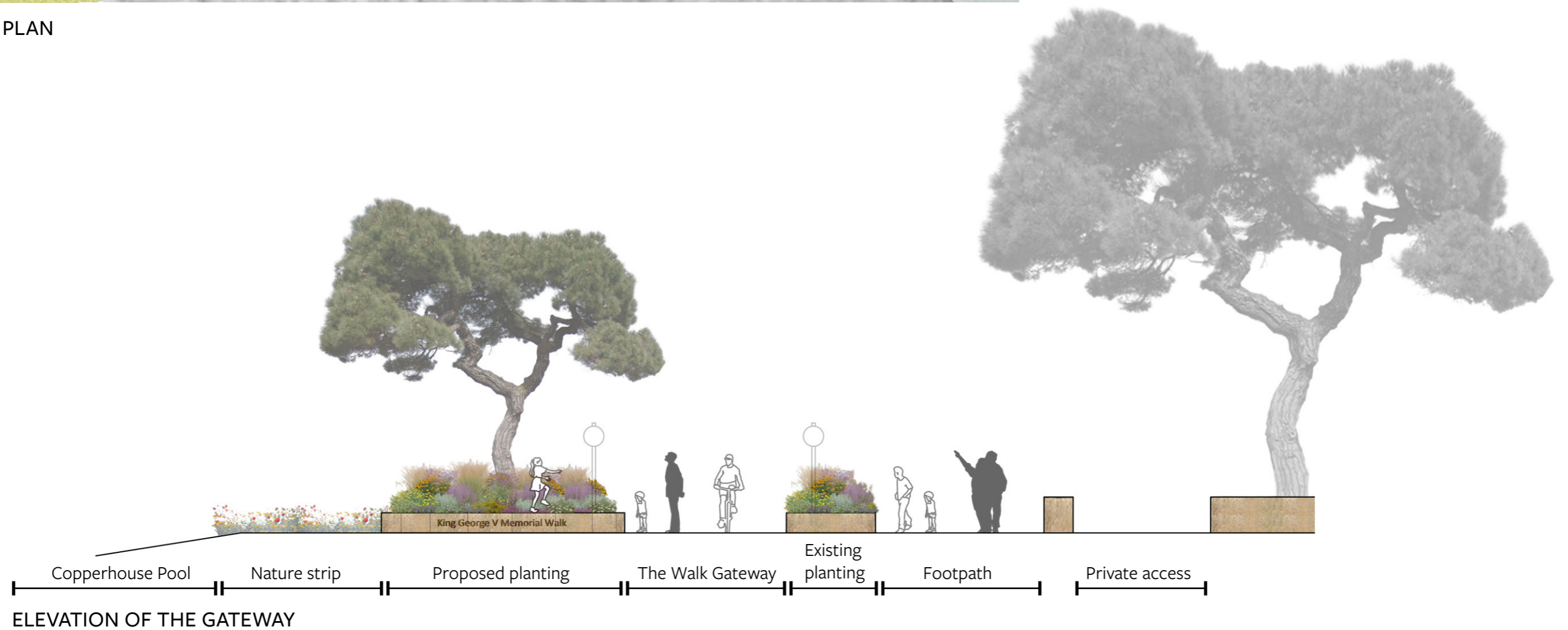
King George V Memorial Walk - East Gateway



GATEWAY PLAN



EXISTING IMAGE



ELEVATION OF THE GATEWAY

King George V Memorial Walk - Western Gateway



CAR PARK PLAN

King George V Memorial Walk - Western Gateway

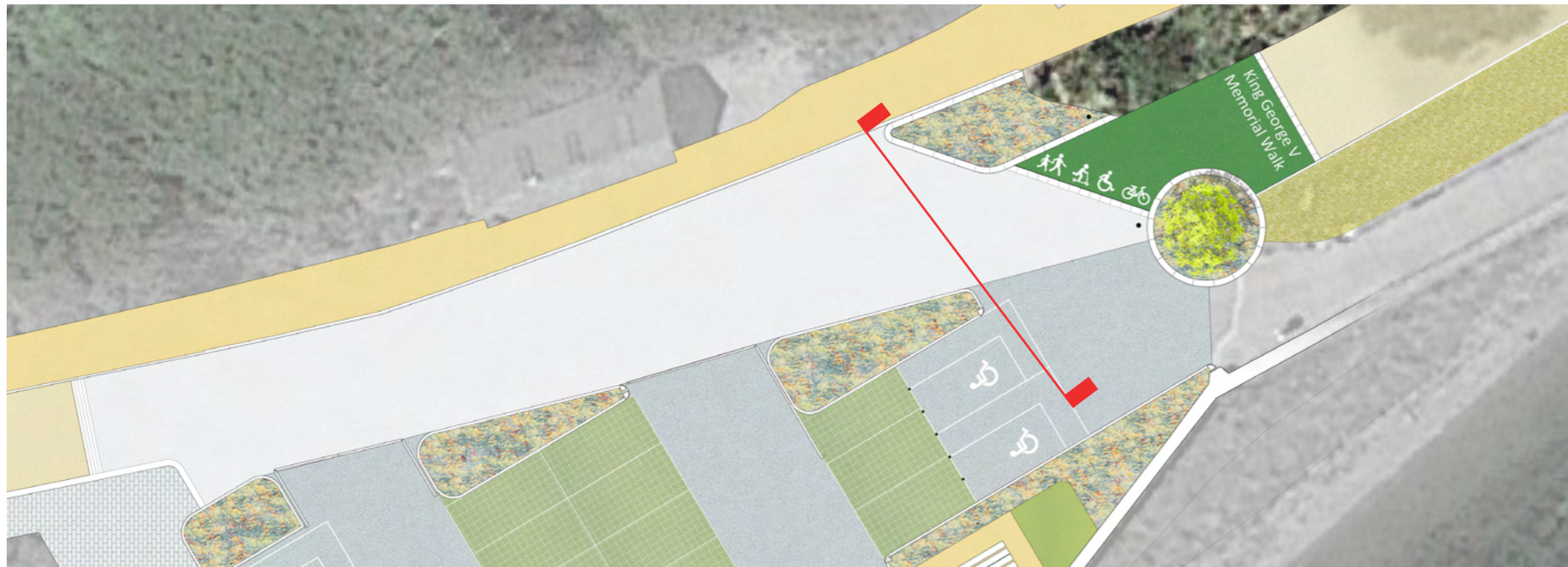
Legend

1. Proposed gateway.
2. Disabled parking spaces accessible 24 hours a day.
3. Disabled parking spaces within the car park.
4. Grass grid parking spaces to allow for surface water drainage.
5. Upgrade the picnic area.
6. Proposed planting beds and gates to create a secure car park area that can be locked at night.
7. Proposed new footpath link to join up with the existing footpath that stops short before reaching the car park.
8. Proposed raised crossing between the two footpaths.
9. Proposed new surface to the Walk's footpath
10. New entrance space to the Hayle Swimming Pool.
11. Provision for cycle parking. This could also be a location for any future cycle sharing / rental scheme (eg. beryl bikes).
12. EV charging location.



CAR PARK ZOOM IN PLAN

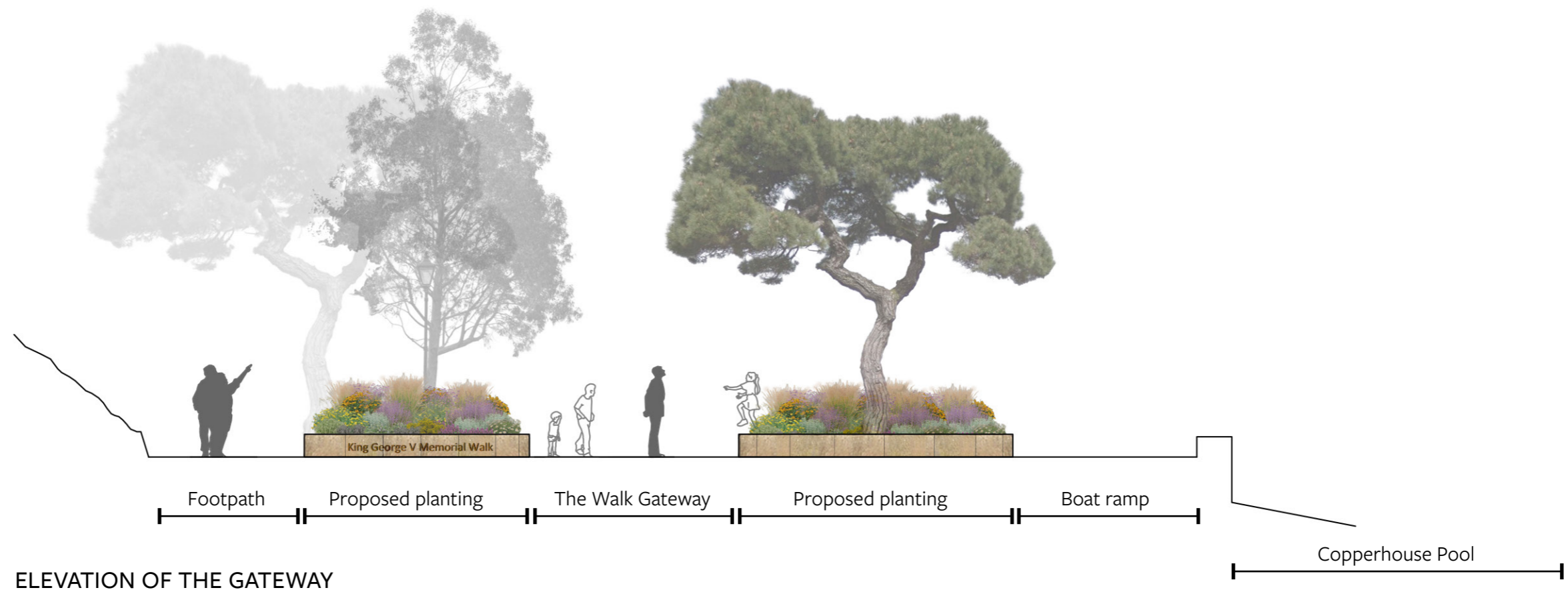
King George V Memorial Walk - West Gateway



GATEWAY PLAN



EXISTING IMAGE



ELEVATION OF THE GATEWAY

The Walk

The Walk

The Walk has been closed to all vehicles except maintenance, residential access and emergency services to make a car free space for walking, running, cycling and wheeling. The intention is to now provide proposals that help reinforce the Walk as a public space for all to enjoy. The length of the space will be broken up with activity points to pause, socialise, play, workout and actively move through town. Car parking should be formalised around the swimming pool and minimised to blue badge users only at the Black Bridge end.

Legend

1. Proposed new surface to the Walk.
2. Proposed new surface to the Walk's footpath.
3. Proposed new pause space to sit, play, relax and socialise.
4. Nature strip.
5. Proposed linear in ground intervention and information panels.



The Walk

Paving surfaces

Updating the paving surface to be more accessible to all the current and future users of the walk.

The current path within the Walk gardens is a loose gravel surface that can be difficult for main users to navigate. The existing requires ongoing maintenance, weeding and general up keep. New paving surfaces are being proposed for both the garden path and the Walk itself.

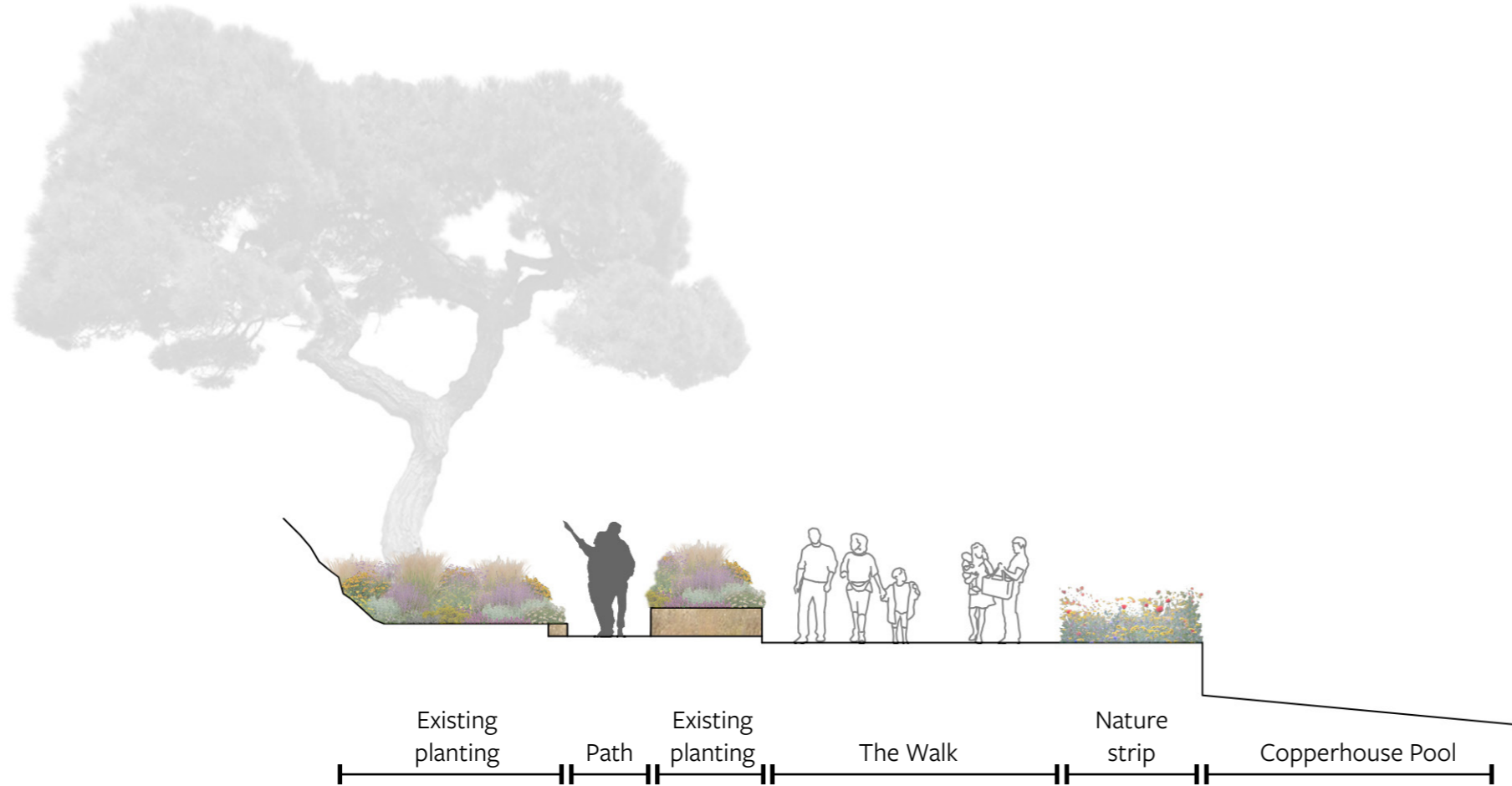
In order to project this space as a pedestrian zone a buff coloured asphalt is proposed for the Walk.

Planting beds

Revitalise the existing planting beds as required. This is to be led by the Hayle Town Council team with the aid of all the volunteers. As part of this work a detailed planting palette has been developed. This is based on the existing planting scheme and will provide a framework for new planting in the future.

Nature strip

Creation of a *Nature Strip* between the Walk and the Cooperhouse pool. The current grass verge is to be reseeded with colourful and vibrant species that will benefit nature and the general appearance of the walk. It could also help to provide a buffer between the bird reserve and all the users of the Walk.



TYPICAL WALK SECTION

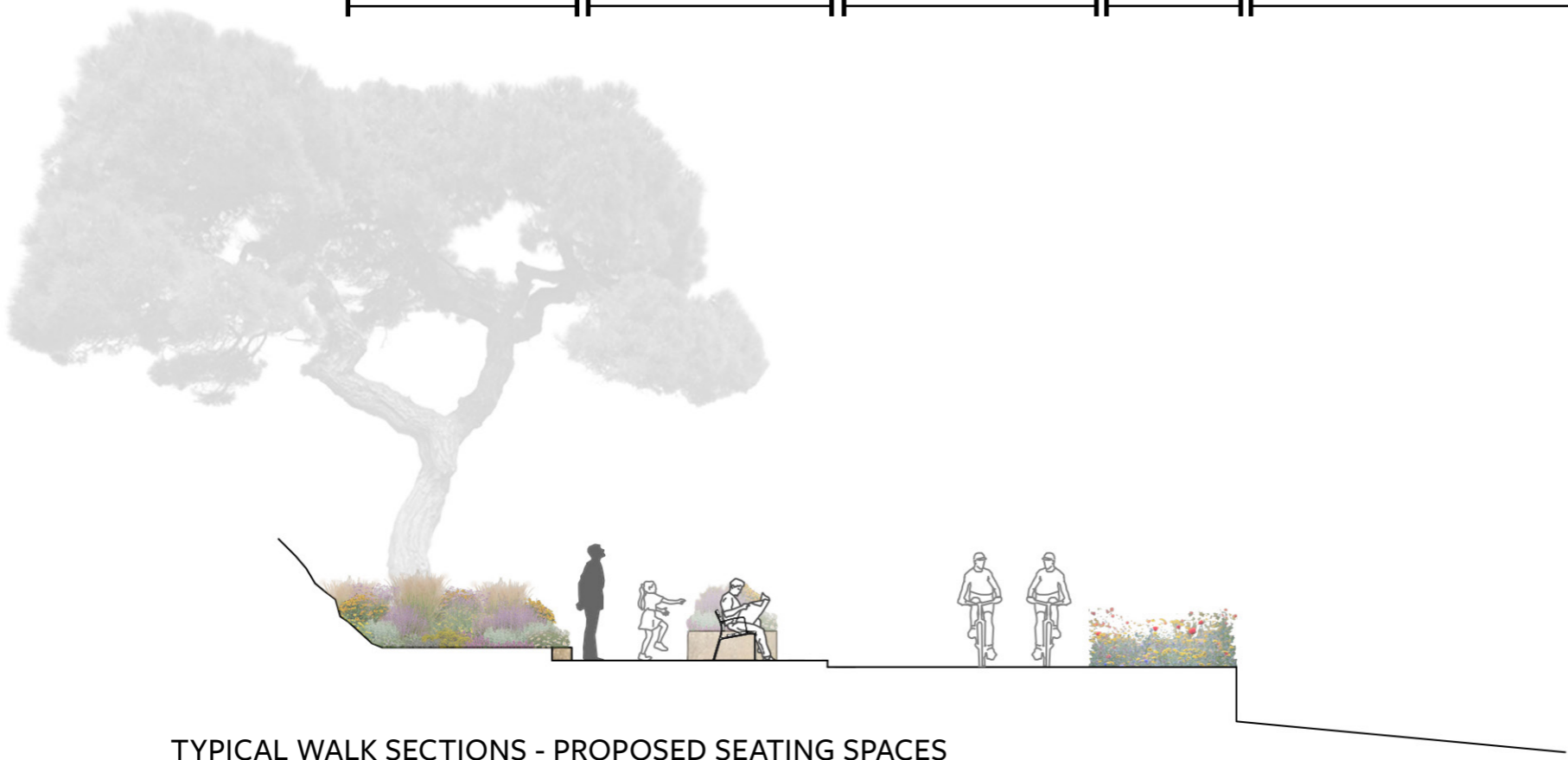
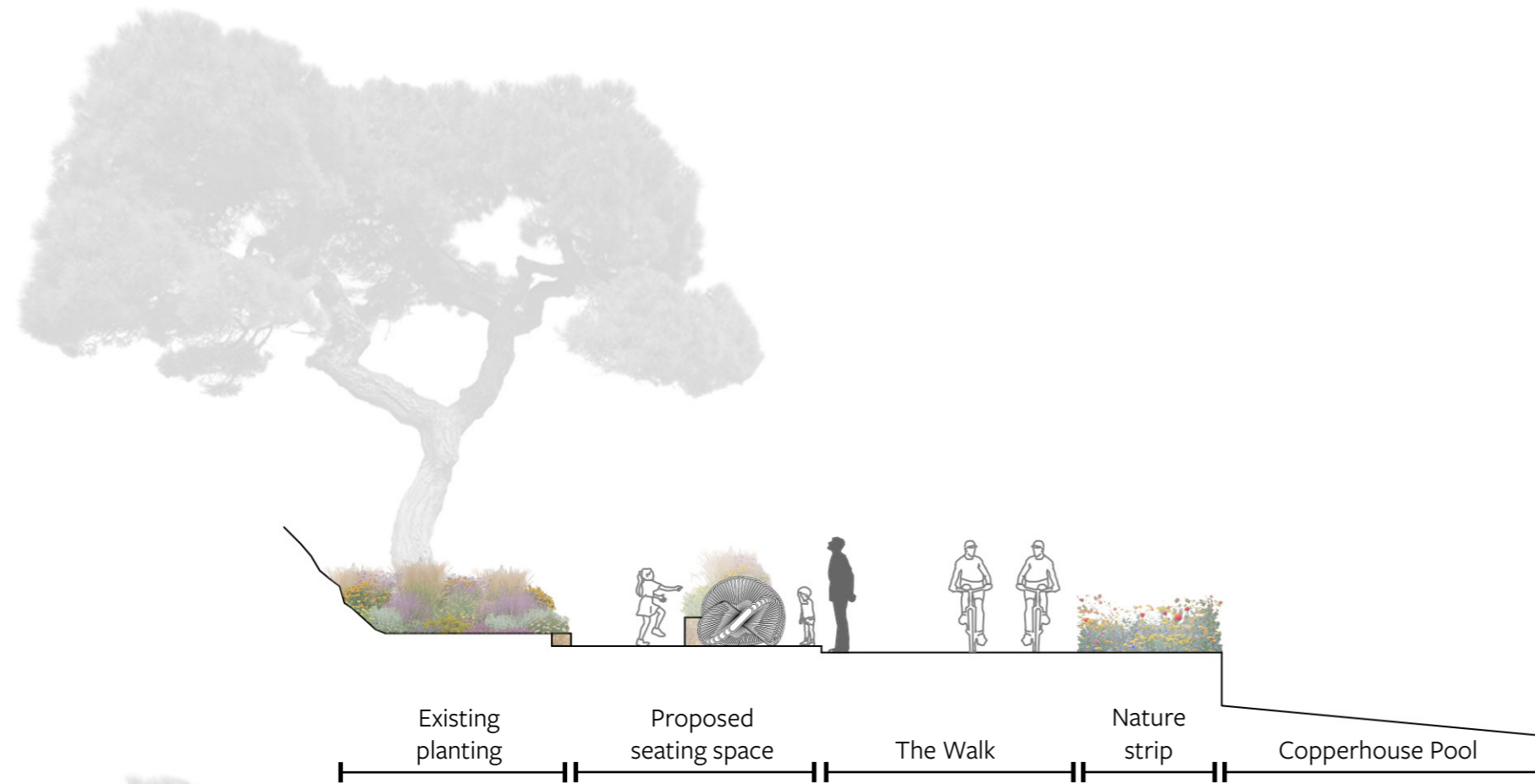


PLAN



EXISTING IMAGE OF THE WALK

The Walk - Proposed space to sit, play, relax and socialise



TYPICAL WALK SECTIONS - PROPOSED SEATING SPACES



PLAN

Proposed spaces

The length of the space will be broken up with activity points to pause, socialise, play, workout and actively move through town. These space will provide a place for people to sit, rest and watch the world go by. The sculptural elements will also provide opportunitites for incidental play and create a series of landmarks as you move through the space.

The proposed benches will also be brought forward and are near to the walk its self. This will allow for better observation of the Cooperhouse Pool and provide the opportunity to sit and talk with passing users of the Walk. The existing seating locations are to be retained.

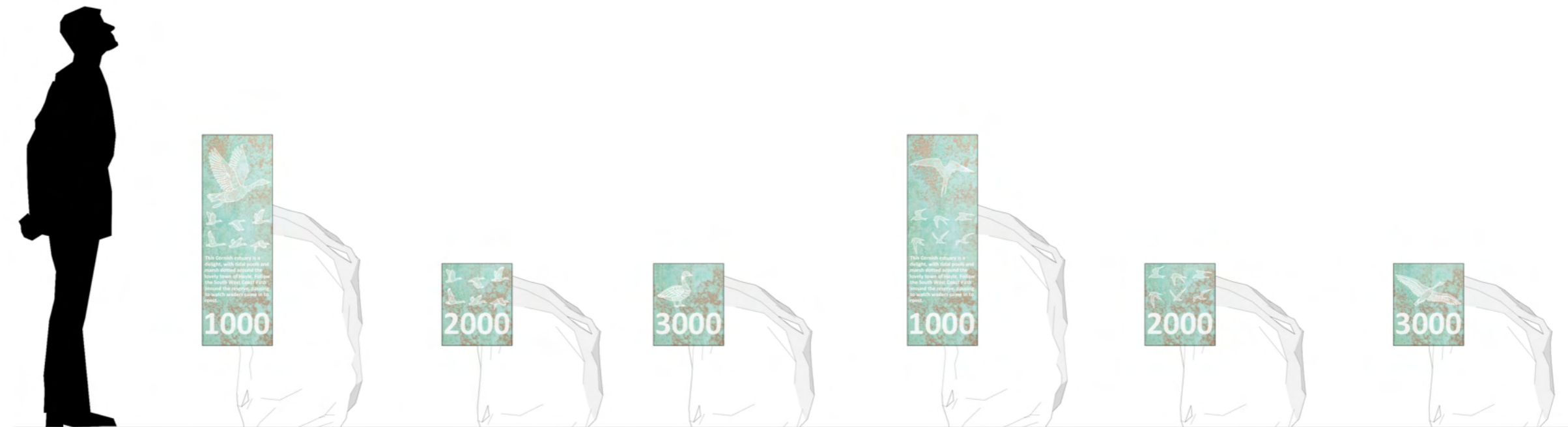
Movement of people and nature

Representing nature

The linear walk lends itself to being a walking, running, cycling route. We wanted to explore ways of encouraging this linear movement through the space while encouraging engagement with the Cooperhouse bird reserve. We have explored ways of representing the epic journeys the visiting wild life take. This could be done with mark making on the paving surface and information monoliths.



FLIGHT PATTERN CONCEPT



SECTION

PLAN

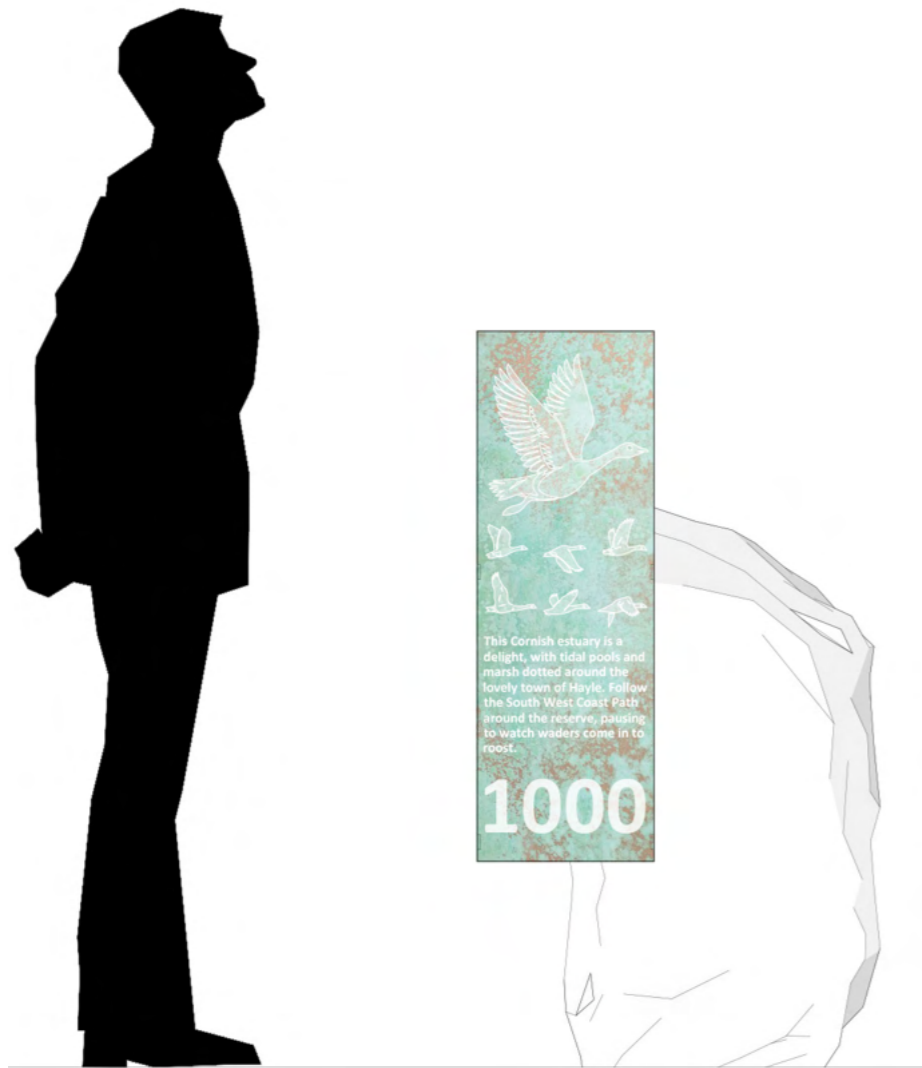


Movement of people and nature

Stone and metal monoliths

These granite monoliths could be located along the Walk at 10m spacings as a way of tracking distance as you have travelled. Copper information panels could be attached to the monoliths to mark the distances and provide information about all the visiting wildlife.

The use of copper would also neatly reference the industrial past of Hayle, the information panels could also contain information about the pools industrial heritage.



SECTION

Pattern making and encouraging movement

The flight patterns of the migrating birds could be recorded onto the paving surface of the Walk. This would be a playful way of encouraging many of the younger visitor of the walk to journey along its length. These could be achieved by using suitable road surface paints.



PLAN

Movement patterns of the migrating wildlife

Natures patterns

These images capture the movement patterns of the migrating bird species that visit Hayle Estuary. We have been exploring different ways we can represent and capture the unique character of the Cooperhouse pool. Few places in the UK have international important nature reserves in the heart of their towns and we wanted to find ways to celebrate this.

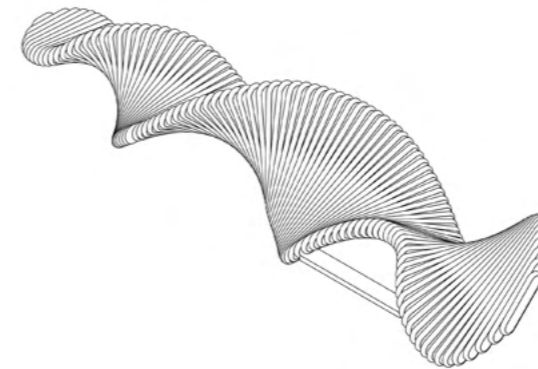
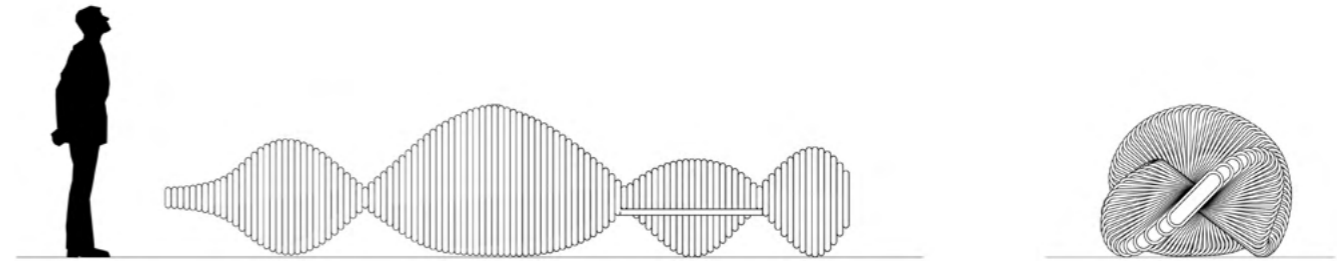
We have identified locations along the Walk that could have small spaces to gather, play, exercise, move and socialise. The following sculptural, seating, play element could help to facilitate this.



Sitting, lying, balancing, climbing, sliding and swinging

Respectful

A whole spectrum of practical functions is met: sitting, lying, balancing, climbing, sliding and swinging. These make our sculptures not only objects of art but also invite us to explore the need for movement.



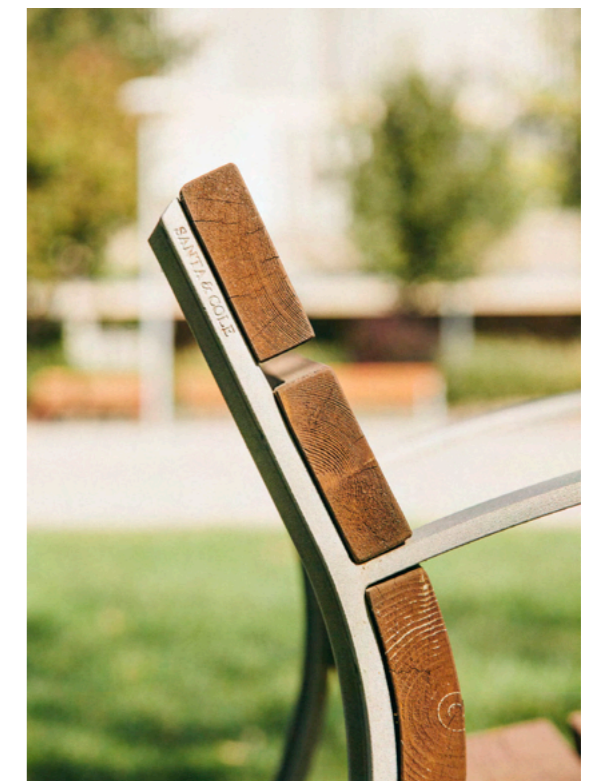
King George V Memorial Walk - Seating elements



Seating elements
The proposed picnic benches help to depict the industrial heritage of Hayle. These oversized timber benches are robust and are maintenance free. They have also been drawn to allow for wheelchair access so more people can have access to these facilities.

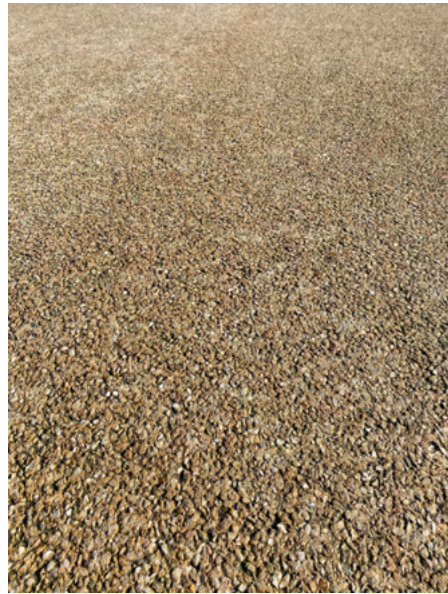
The benches come in various formats and can be used in many different ways. The 6m long benches are great for gatherings of family and friends or can accommodate multiple separate groups comfortably. The individual seats can be arranged in social clusters. These seats are great to allow access for more people, the armrest aid in allow people to sit up and down.

PROPOSED PICNIC BENCHES

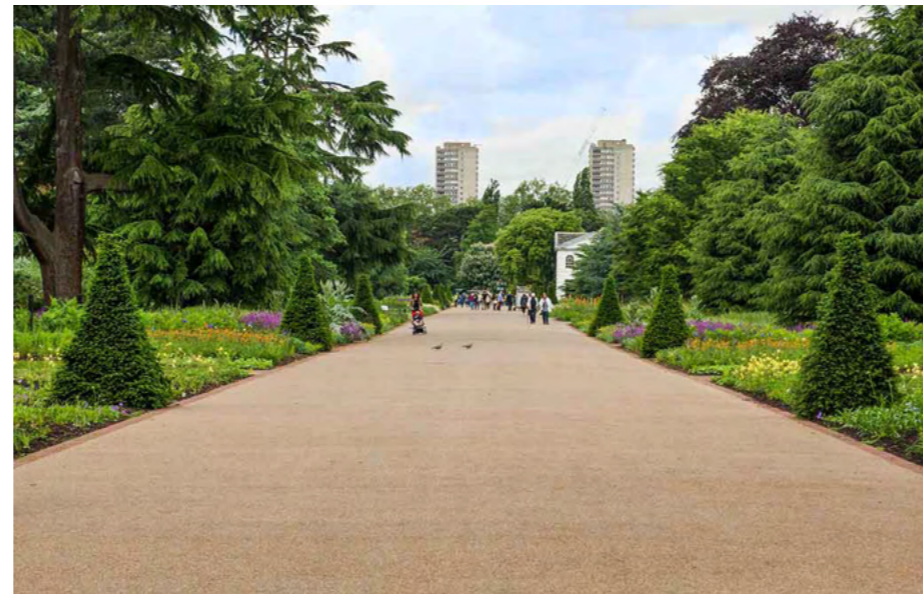
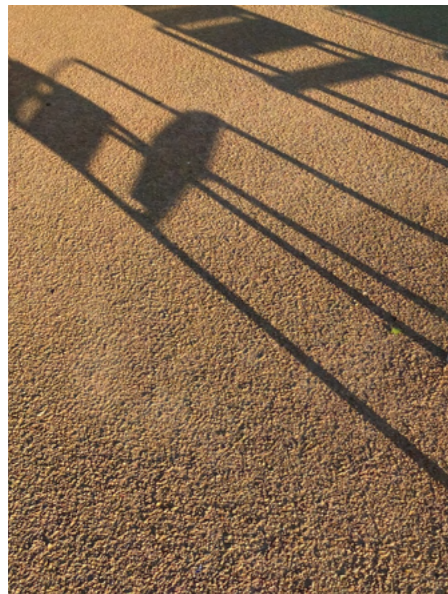


PROPOSED BENCHES

King George V Memorial Walk - Paving surfaces



PROPOSED PAVING SURFACES







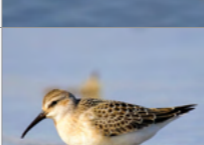







POTENTIAL ALTERNATIVE PAVING SURFACES

King George V Memorial Walk: Planting Regeneration Strategy

The following points will form the basis of the regenerative strategy for the planting on the King George V Memorial Walk:

- Regeneration will focus on the raised granite planting beds which form the division between the existing roadway and pedestrian path.
- Planting regeneration will not attempt to effect the whole space at once but will be gradual, focusing on Key Nodes where hard landscaping interventions, such as new seating or signage, are happening.
- Regenerative focus will be on preserving the planting of specimen shrubs where possible, though canopy lifting or careful pruning and the removal of self seeded shrubs such as *Cotoneaster*.
- Additional planting will focus on celebrating and enhancing the different zones and atmospheres that exist along the walk.
- New planting choices will respond to the existing planting along the walk and extend the use of species which are clearly thriving in the space and have demonstrated a resilience to the conditions.
- New planting, along with potential signage and interpretation, will draw attention to the parallels between plant provenance and the migratory patterns of the birds that visit the estuary, for example the East Atlantic Flyway is the migratory route of many birds, and plants such as *Euphorbia*, *Aeonium* and *Agapanthus* are native along this route.
- Introducing areas of wildflower into the grass verge will help to diversify this area, increasing its habitat value, but overseeding and scarifying will ensure existing bulbs are not disturbed.

Copperhouse Pool Migratory Birds and Plants

Bird Type	Bird Species	Image	Migratory Routes	Associated Plants	Image
Raptor	Osprey		Uk to West Africa via Mediterranean	Santolina spp. (Western Mediterranean)	
Wildfowl	Common teals		Baltic - UK- Western Europe - Mediterranean	Euphorbia characias subsp. wulfenii (Mediterranean)	
Waders	Curlew Sandpipers		Siberia - Europe - Mediterranean - South Africa	Euryops Pectinatus (South Africa)	
	Whimbrel		Iceland - UK - Spain - North west Africa	Aeonium arboreum (West Africa)	
Gulls and Terns	Sandwich Tern		Coastal Europe - West Africa - south africa	Agapanthus (South Africa)	
	Icelandic Gull		Winters in Britain from Arctic breeding grounds	Icelandic Poppy (Iceland)	



East Atlantic Flyway (C. Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative)

King George V Memorial Walk: Planting Zones and Key Nodes



King George V Memorial Walk: Planting Palette SLO1: Coastal



Using the habitat of the Hayle Towans as inspiration, this palette uses the muted grey and blue tones of *Festuca* grasses, Stonecrops and Sea Holly to reflect the Marram grasses and native perennials which occur within the dunes.

Evergreen groundcovers help to reduce maintenance and reduce water loss whilst reflecting the thriving plants that exist already on the walk, such as *Erigeron glaucus*.

Sensory appeal comes from the evening scent of Evening Primrose and visually from daisy-form flowers such as *Osetospermum* and from Icelandic Poppies which reflect the origin of migratory birds such as the Whimbrel which use the estuary in their migration.

This is the only completely new palette included along the walk, but repetition of some species which already exist in the walk, such as *Ostespermum* and *Hylotelephium* will help to unify it as part of the whole.

Planting Palette

1. *Armeria maritima* (Thrift)
2. *Chamaemelum nobile* (Chamomile)
3. *Crambe maritima* (Sea Kale)
4. *Erigeron glaucus* (Fleabane)
5. *Eryngium giganteum* (Sea Holly)
6. *Festuca amethystina* (Tufted Fescue)
7. *Hylotelephium spectabile* (Showy Stonecrop)
8. *Oenothera biennis* (Evening Primrose)
9. *Oreomecon nudicaulis* (Icelandic Poppy)
10. *Osteospermum* 'Sennen Sunrise' (Cape Daisy)
11. *Sedum acre* (Biting Stonecrop)

King George V Memorial Walk: Planting Palette SLO2: Sub-Tropical



Building on the sub-tropical atmosphere of the central section of the walk, this planting palette utilises rich, lush greens, glossy leaves and intensely coloured flowers to bring vibrancy to contrast the darker and damper spaces that occur to the back of the walk.

Striking forms and vibrant leaves of *Astelia* are complemented by lush leaves of the *Acanthus* and spiked form of the *Aloiampelos*.

Existing specimen shrubs of *Callistemon* spp. and *Grevillea* spp. will be retained alongside *Fascicularia bicolor*, to retain the unique atmosphere and style of the walk. Careful pruning and crown lifting would ensure these specimens continue to thrive and fit the space effectively.

Additional groundcover planting will be incorporated into the scheme to reduce the maintainenece, but using hardy plants such as *Bergenia*, with its glossy leaves and *Geranium* 'Tiny Monster' for its vibrant colour.



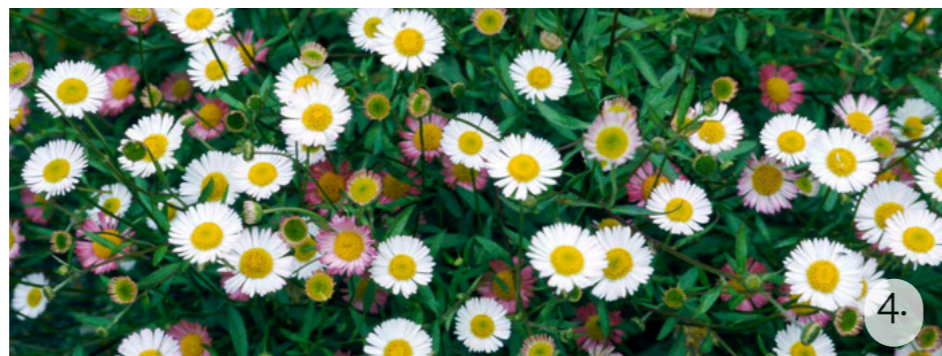
In addition, the inclusion of *Aeonium* species, such as the intensely coloured Schwartzkopf will reference the West African migration destination of some of the estuary's most distinct birds, such as the Osprey.

Planting Palette

1. *Acanthus mollis* 'Rue Ledan' (Bear's Breeches)
2. *Aeonium schwanckopf* (Houseleek Tree)
3. *Aloiampelos striatula* (Striped-stemmed Aloe)
4. *Astelia nervosa* 'Westland' (Bush Flax)
5. *Bergenia* 'Rotblum' (Elephants Ears)
6. *Callistemon* spp. (Bottlebrush)
7. *Euryops chrysanthemoides* (Golden Daisy Bush)
8. *Fascicularia bicolor* (Crimson Bromeliad)
9. *Geranium* 'Tiny Monster' (Cranesbill)
10. *Grevillea* spp. (Spider Flower)
11. *Hedychium* spp. (Ginger Lily)



King George V Memorial Walk: Planting Palette SLO3: Limes and Whites



Responding to the species which are currently thriving along the King George V Memorial Walk, this planting palette creates a unified but vibrant palette of limes and white, with accents of purple. To the east of the walk, which gets the weaker morning light, these colours will stand out under the canopy of the existing trees overhead.

Existing *Euphorbia wulfenii* will be complemented by additional *Libertia*, *Agapanthus* and *Anemone* which already flourish along the walk and will contrast in form and colour. These will be complemented by evergreen *Santolina* and *Osteospermum* which alongside *Erigeron* will provide ground cover and reduce maintenance.

The choice of planting ranging from the Mediterranean, to West Africa and down to South Africa will again reflect the migratory pattern of the birds that visit the estuary.

Planting Palette

1. Aeonium 'Cupcake' (Houseleek)
2. Agapanthus 'Blackjack' (Blue Nile Lily)
3. Anemone x hybrida 'Honorine Jobert' (Japanese Anemone)
4. Erigeron karvinskianus (Mexican Fleabane)
5. Euphorbia wulfenii (Mediterranean Spurge)
6. Libertia grandiflora (New Zealand Satin Flower)
7. Osteospermum 'Akila White' (Cape Daisy)
8. Santolina rosmarinifolia 'Lemon Fizz' (Cotton Lavender)

King George V Memorial Walk: Planting Palette SLO4: Silvers and Yellows



Once again responding to the species which are currently thriving along the King George V Memorial Walk, this planting palette creates a unified but more gentle palette of silvers and yellows, with accents of lavender. To the west of the walk, which is more open, these colours will complement the existing trees, such as the *Eucalyptus* spp.

Combining more unusual varieties of plants which thrive along the walk such as the *Euphorbia myrsinites* and *Agapanthus* 'Twister', this planting will stay true to the essence of the King George V Memorial Walk, but help to modernise it as well.

Evergreen shrubs such as the *Euryops*, *Teucrium* and *Santolina* will provide year round structure without getting too big, while the Rue and Geranium will provide the much needed ground cover to reduce maintenance.

Repetition of plant species, such as the *Aloiampelos* and *Euryops* across different planting palettes with some variation in variety will allow for the creation of distinct zones, yet a unified whole.

The choice of planting ranging from the Mediterranean, to West Africa and down to South Africa will again reflect the migratory pattern of the birds that visit the estuary.

Planting Palette

1. Aeonium 'Ballerina' (Houseleek)
2. Agapanthus 'Twister' (Blue Nile Lily)
3. Aloiampelos striatula (Striped-stemmed Aloe)
4. Erigeron glaucus (Fleabane)
5. Euphorbia myrsinites (Broad-leaved Glaucus Spurge)
6. Euryops pectinatus (Daisy Bush)
7. Geranium Rozanne (Dusky Cranesbill)
8. Phlomis fruticosa (Jerusalem Sage)
9. Ruta graveolens (Rue)
10. Santolina chamaecyparissus (Cotton Lavender)
11. Teucrium fruticans (Tree Germander)

King George V Memorial Walk: Planting Palette L01: Coastal Wildflower Mix



The varied forms, coastal tolerance and long flowering season of the wildflowers provide the main focus of interest of this mixture, which can be interplanted with existing grasses. Wild flowers like knapweeds and vetches can cope with competition from taller vegetation and yellow rattle will reduce the vigour of the grass. This mixture has been devised to create areas of coastal tolerant meadow that, once established, require little maintenance. This meadow type can form a good habitat for insects, small mammals, birds, amphibians and reptiles, providing food during summer and autumn, and shelter during winter.

The species included in this mixture are a combination of hardy perennials and annuals which create an visually appealing and pollinator friendly display from early to late summer and will tolerate the saline conditions of the estuary edge.

By scarifying 50% of the existing grass, it will be possible to interplant this meadow seed mix without damaging the existing bulbs.

Wildflower Mix

- 4% *Achillea millefolium* – Yarrow
- 8% *Anthyllis vulneraria* - Kidney Vetch
- 10% *Centaurea nigra* – Common Knapweed
- 6% *Centaurea scabiosa* – Greater Knapweed
- 3% *Chrysanthemum segetum* - Corn Marigold
- 6% *Daucus carota* – Wild Carrot
- 3% *Echium vulgare* - Viper’s Bugloss
- 6% *Galium verum* – Lady’s Bedstraw
- 4% *Hypericum perforatum* - Common St John’s Wort
- 2% *Hypochaeris radicata* - Common Cat’s Ear
- 10% *Leucanthemum vulgare* – Oxeye Daisy
- 4% *Linaria vulgaris* - Common Toadflax
- 6% *Lotus corniculatus* - Bird’s-Foot Trefoil
- 6% *Oenothera biennis* - Evening Primrose
- 3% *Papaver rhoeas* - Common Poppy
- 5% *Rhinanthus minor* - Yellow Rattle
- 4% *Silene vulgaris* – Bladder Campion
- 5% *Tragopogon pratensis* - Goat’s Beard
- 5% *Trifolium arvense* - Haresfoot Clover

The Recreation Ground



Legend

1. Play space
2. Performance space and sensory garden
3. Hayle Bowl, Street skate and pumptrack
4. Formal sports and fitness
5. The Rec cafe

The Recreation Ground - Play space



The Recreation Ground - Play Space



Timberplay Hayle Meiloci Play Space Concept



The Recreation Ground - Play Space

About Us

Hayle Meiloci

Established in 2000, Timberplay started its journey with Richter Spielgeräte with one of the most high profile play spaces in the world, Princess Diana Memorial Gardens in Kensington, London.

Since then Timberplay have installed projects across the UK and more recently expanded into the Middle Eastern and Indian market.

We continue to lead the way with innovative, child friendly playground equipment that has been used in many world-leading playgrounds.

Why Choose Timberplay?

- Champions of Natural Play
- Durable and long-lasting product
- Market-leading knowledge and experience of play
- Own installation teams
- In-house Landscape Architects
- Ability to work with unusual topography
- Bespoke designs
- Nationwide maintenance cover
- In house visitor experience design and development consultant



The Recreation Ground - Play Space

Our Approach

Hayle Meiloci

The Importance of Play

- An elemental factor in the way children and young people come to understand and express themselves.
- Play introduces a greater understanding of our natural environment.
- Children's well-being, safety and social development and interaction, as well as their essential enjoyment of childhood, are affected by the extent and the quality of their opportunities to play.
- A vital component of human life for all ages and abilities.
- Opportunities for all manner of movement, feeling, discovery and physical expression.

Play will occur anywhere at anytime. Timberplay believe the best playgrounds are outdoors in a natural environment, whether it be the beach, the stream, the spinney, the caves. We can try and replicate our natural world by introducing elements similar to those encountered in the great outdoors.

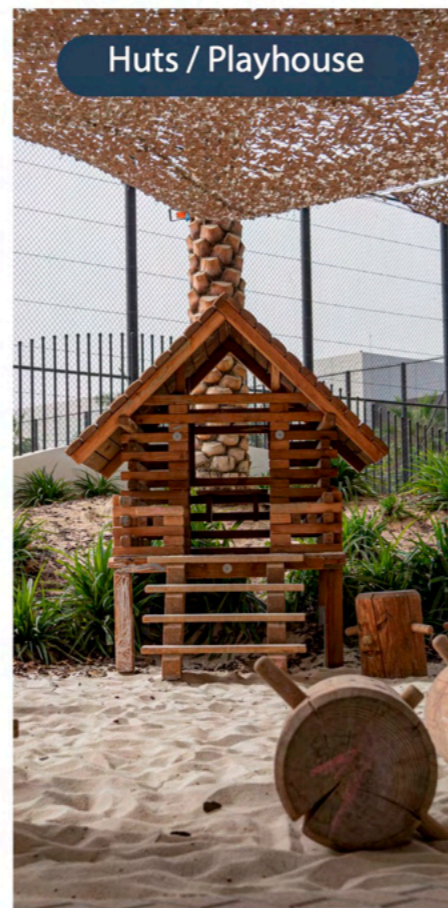


Play Activities & Equipment

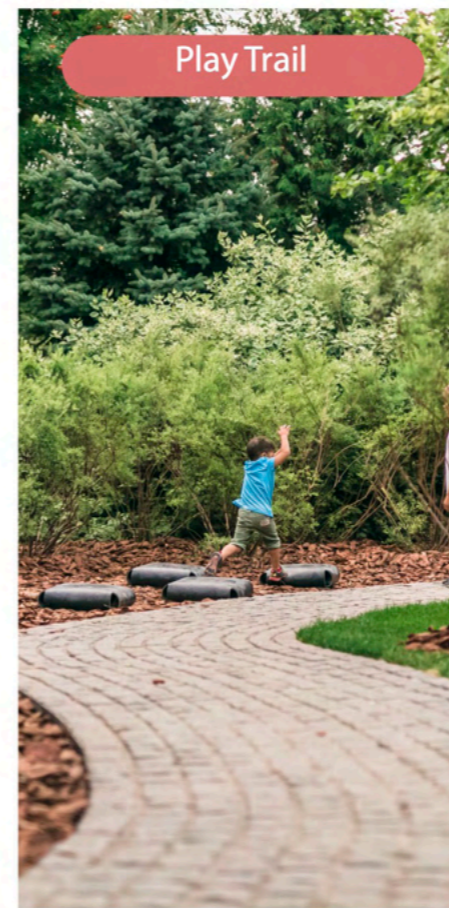
Hayle Meiloci



- Tactile
- Motion
- Challenge
- Competitive



- Tactile
- Imagination
- Quiet space



- Sound / Sensory
- Challenge
- Quiet space



- Visual Stimulus
- Tactile
- Competitive
- Imagination
- Communication

The Recreation Ground - Play Space

Playful Materials

Hayle Meilcoi

Our Stance on Natural Safety Surfacing

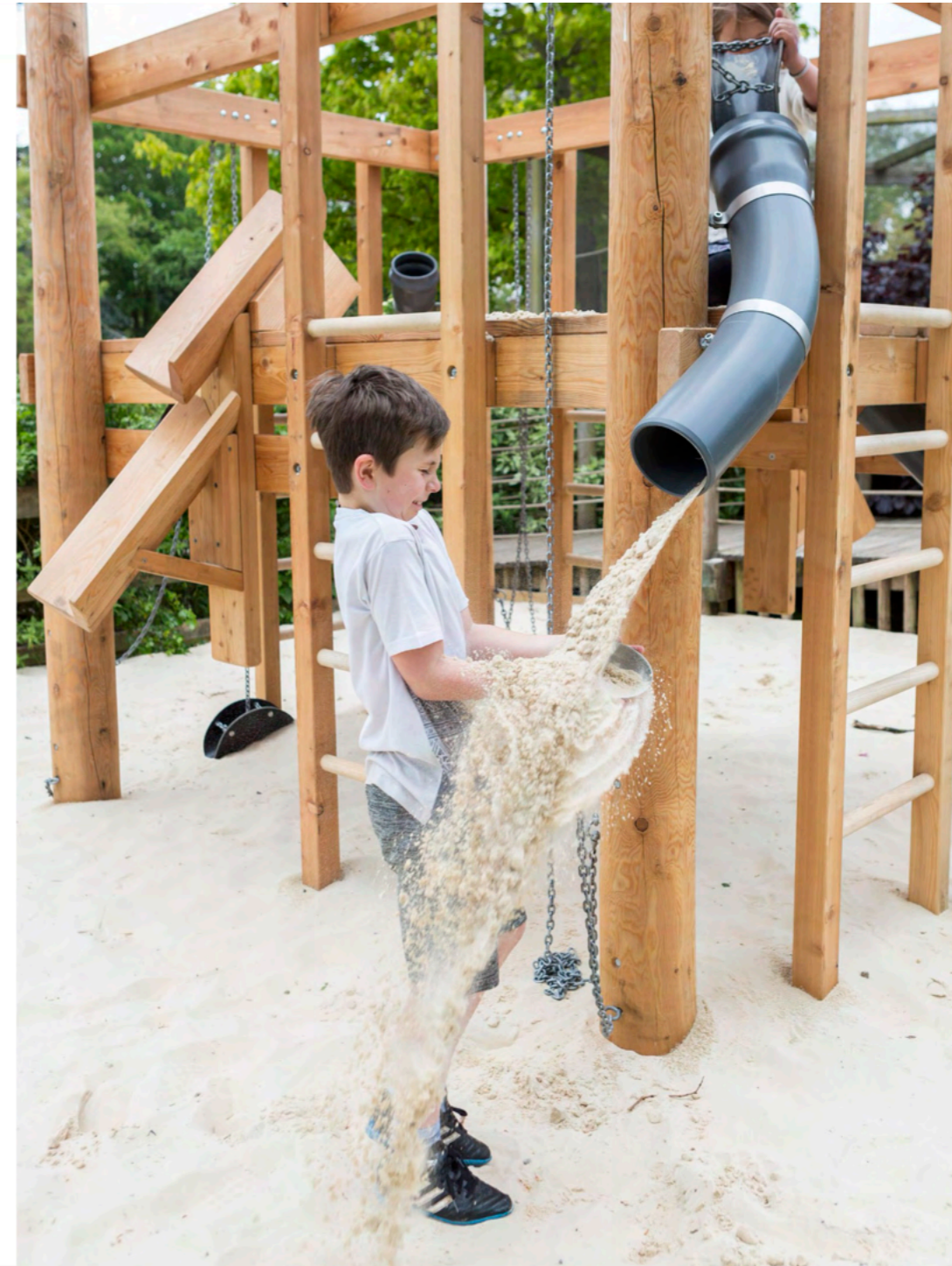
Our use of natural materials is extensive throughout our product range and continues in our choice of safety surfacing. We are advocates of natural, loose fill materials such as sand, gravel and play bark.

Natural safety surfacing, such as wood chip, sand, or pea gravel, provides various advantages for play areas. These materials offer effective impact absorption, reducing the risk of injuries from falls.

They are accessible for children of different abilities, promoting inclusivity. Non-toxic and allergen-free, these surfaces create a healthier play environment, especially suitable for children with sensitivities. The natural aesthetics seamlessly blend with outdoor surroundings, enhancing the visual appeal of the play space.

Sourced from natural materials, these options align with environmental sustainability principles. Their tactile nature adds to the sensory experience, promoting enhanced fine motor skills. Versatile and adaptable, they allow for creative landscaping and diverse play experiences.

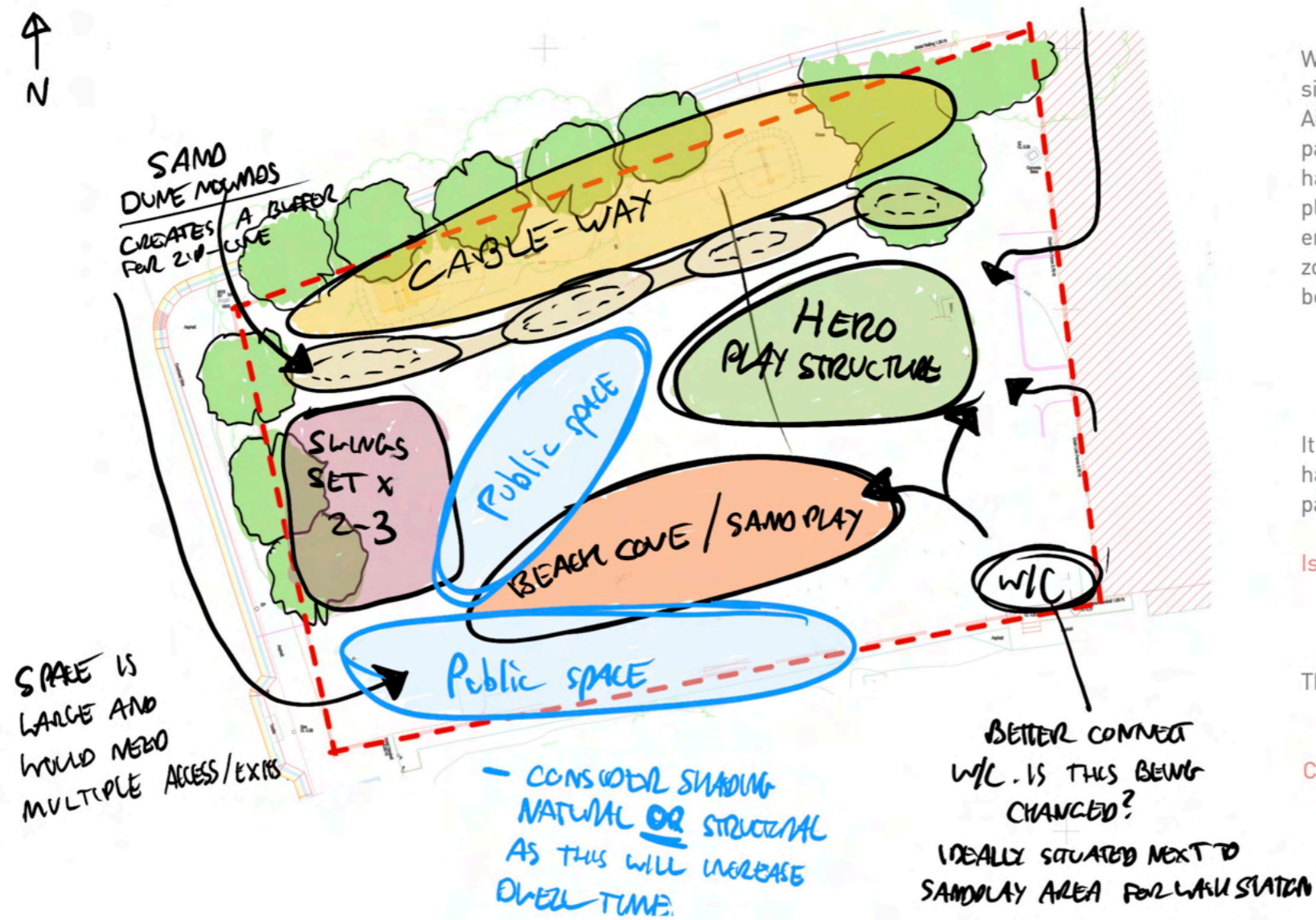
Cost-effective and low-maintenance, these materials offer efficient safety measures without compromising quality. Their biodegradability and encouragement of imaginative play further contribute to a sustainable and engaging playground environment.



The Recreation Ground - Play Space

Sketch Ideas - Layout

Hayle Meiloci



Initial Thoughts

We could consider opening the SW corner of the site leading people into and through the play area. Aim is to create a welcoming space for children, parents and visitors to feel comfortable spending half a day at the space. Position the focal "hero" play structure furthest from the entrance to encourage exploration through the different zones. Shading should be considered, this could be natural using trees or with shading structures strategically positioned

Few questions:

Are there wider works involving the w/c block?
It would be good to understand if this block has capacity for a changing room, ideally x2 as parents often seek changing rooms once children have been in sand pits.
Is there scope within the budget to provide shading?

How will the space be maintained?
This is important as it can influence how we choose surfacing types

Could we explore proposing waterplay features?

The Recreation Ground - Play Space



Initial Thoughts

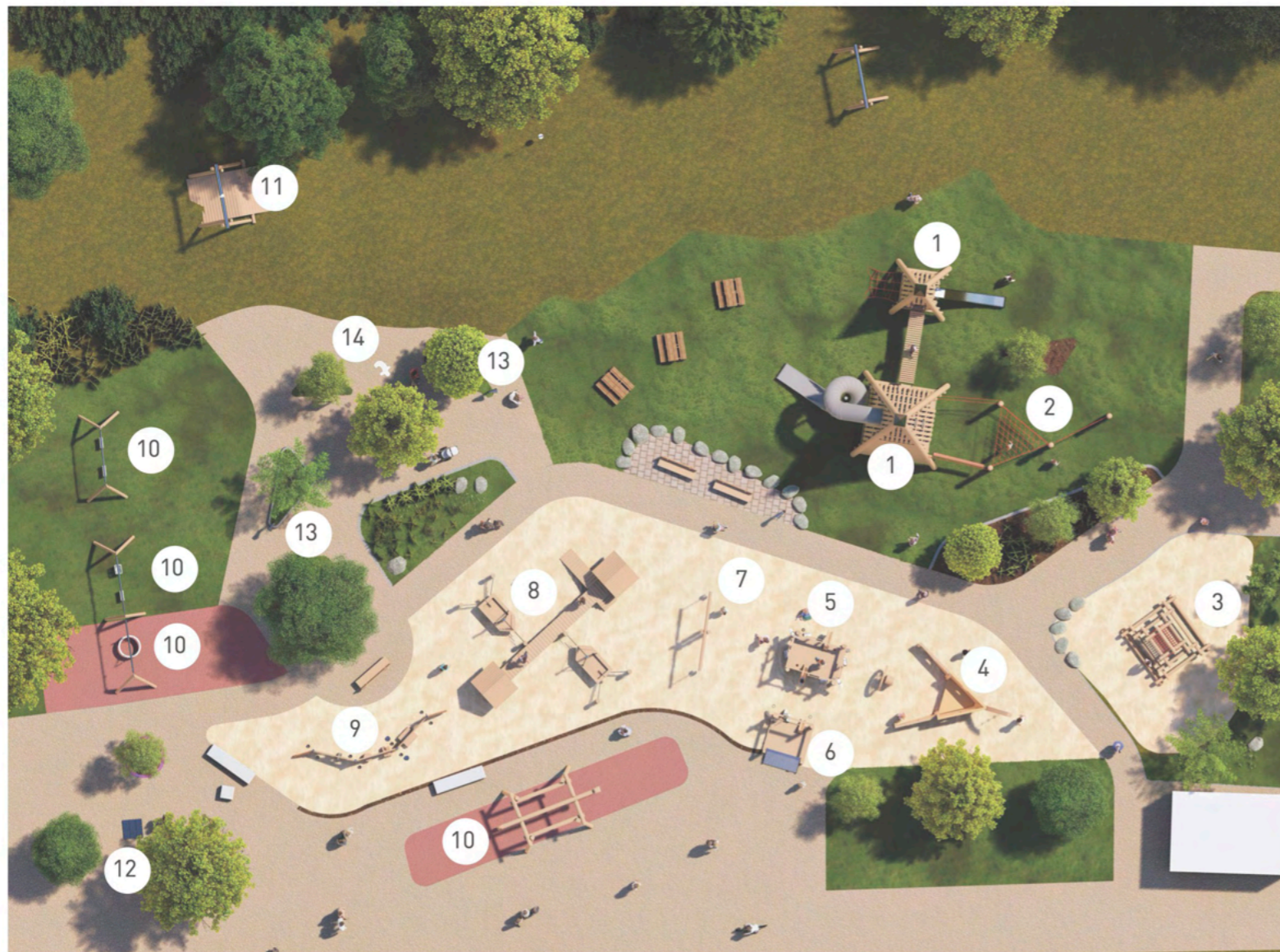
Zip-line to have a natural buffer of mounding to separate between high-energy activity and the remaining space. Centre to function as a gathering area with raised planting, trees, seating.

Brief expressed interest in swings, we should ensure a variety of different swing seat types. Such as, flat seats, cradle baskets for toddlers and nest baskets to adhere to a wide range of users. When considering accessibility we may need to be selective with the use of EPDM for wheelchairs/buggies to access certain pieces of play equipment.

Really exciting part is the idea of creating a dockland themed play sandpit with sailing boats, a jetty, de-constructed play ship with lots of sandplay attachments to increase play value

Play Space Concept Design

Hayle Meiloci

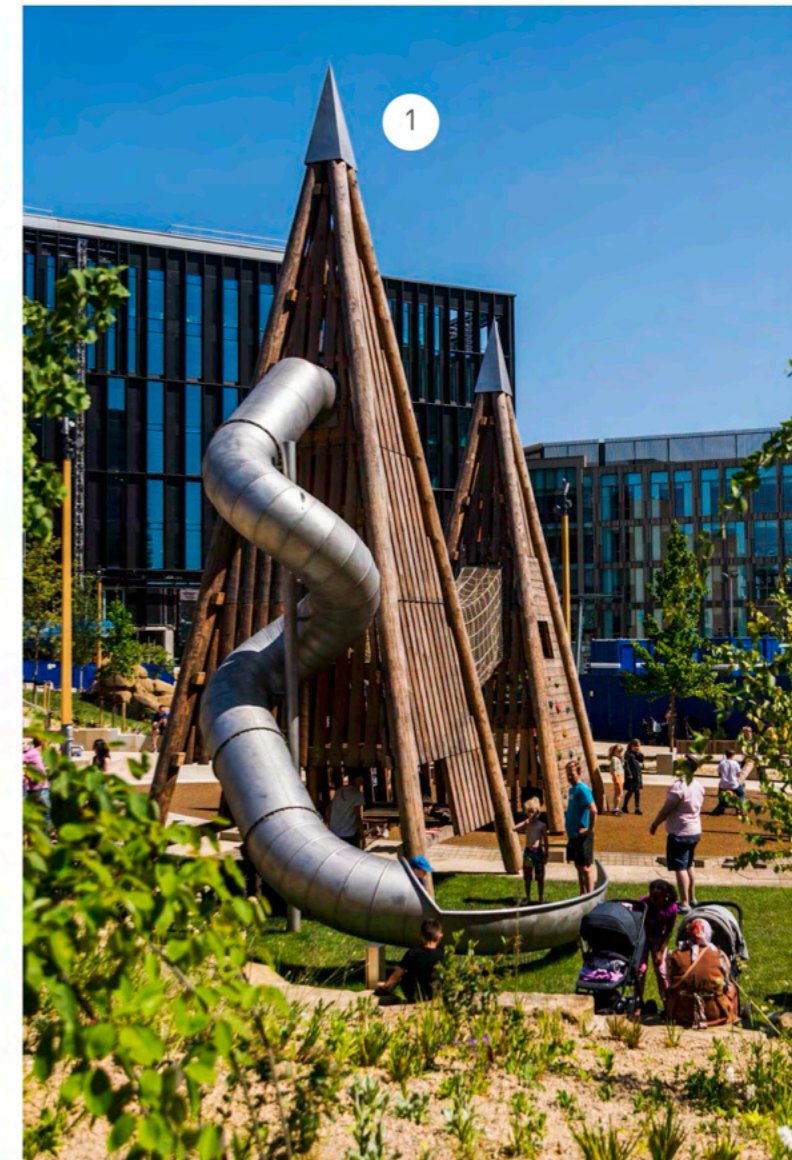


Hayle Meiloci, Playground:

- 1 Pyramid towers (Hero piece). 7.00m and 11.0m tower. Including suspension bridge. Tunnel slide height 5.00m. Smaller slide 1.80m
- 2 Climbing forest posts with rope connections
- 3 Climbing stack
- 4 Bow of ship-wreck incl. ships wheel, climbing rope
- 5 Deck of ship (Building site) featuring various sandplay attachments
- 6 Accessible sandplay platform with sandplay chutes, pullys and sieves.
- 7 Ships rigging (Scales)
- 8 Sailing boat dockyard with jetty and boat houses
- 9 Sea creature
- 10 Swings
- 11 30m cableway
- 12 Dance chimes
- 13 Conference (Talking tubes)
- 14 Stroking stone seal

Play Space Concept Design

Hayle Meiloci



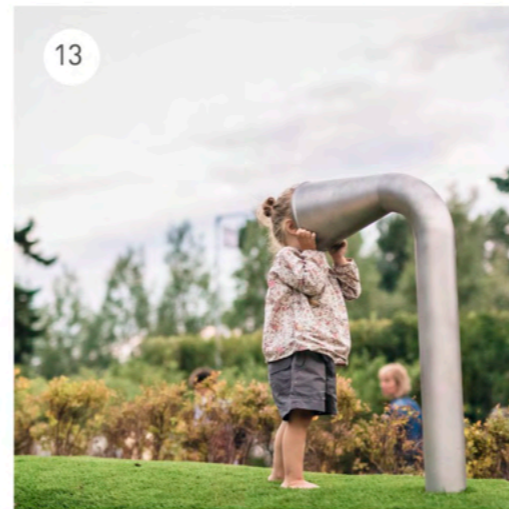
Play Space Concept Design

Hayle Meiloci



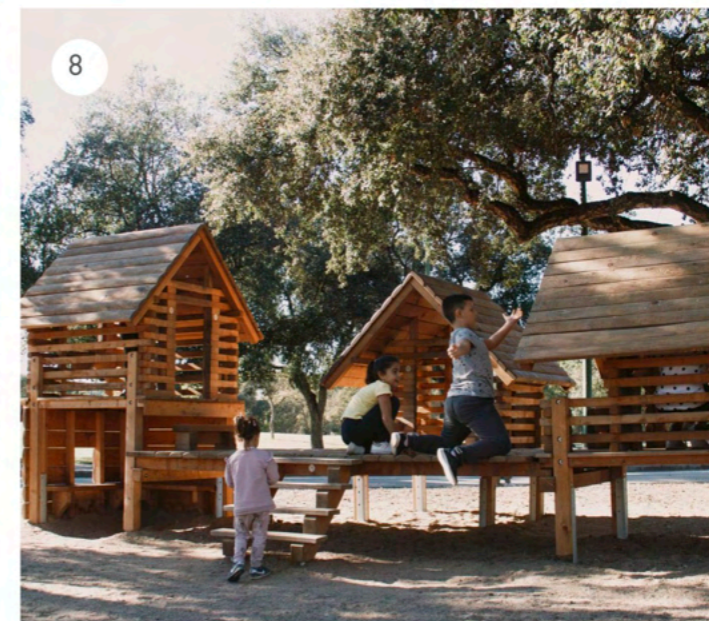
Play Space Concept Design

Hayle Meiloci



Play Space Concept Design

Hayle Meiloci



The Recreation Ground - Play Space

Play Space Concept Design

Hayle Meiloci



The Recreation Ground - Play Space



Timberplay
Hayle Meiloci
Project Example

The Recreation Ground - Play Space

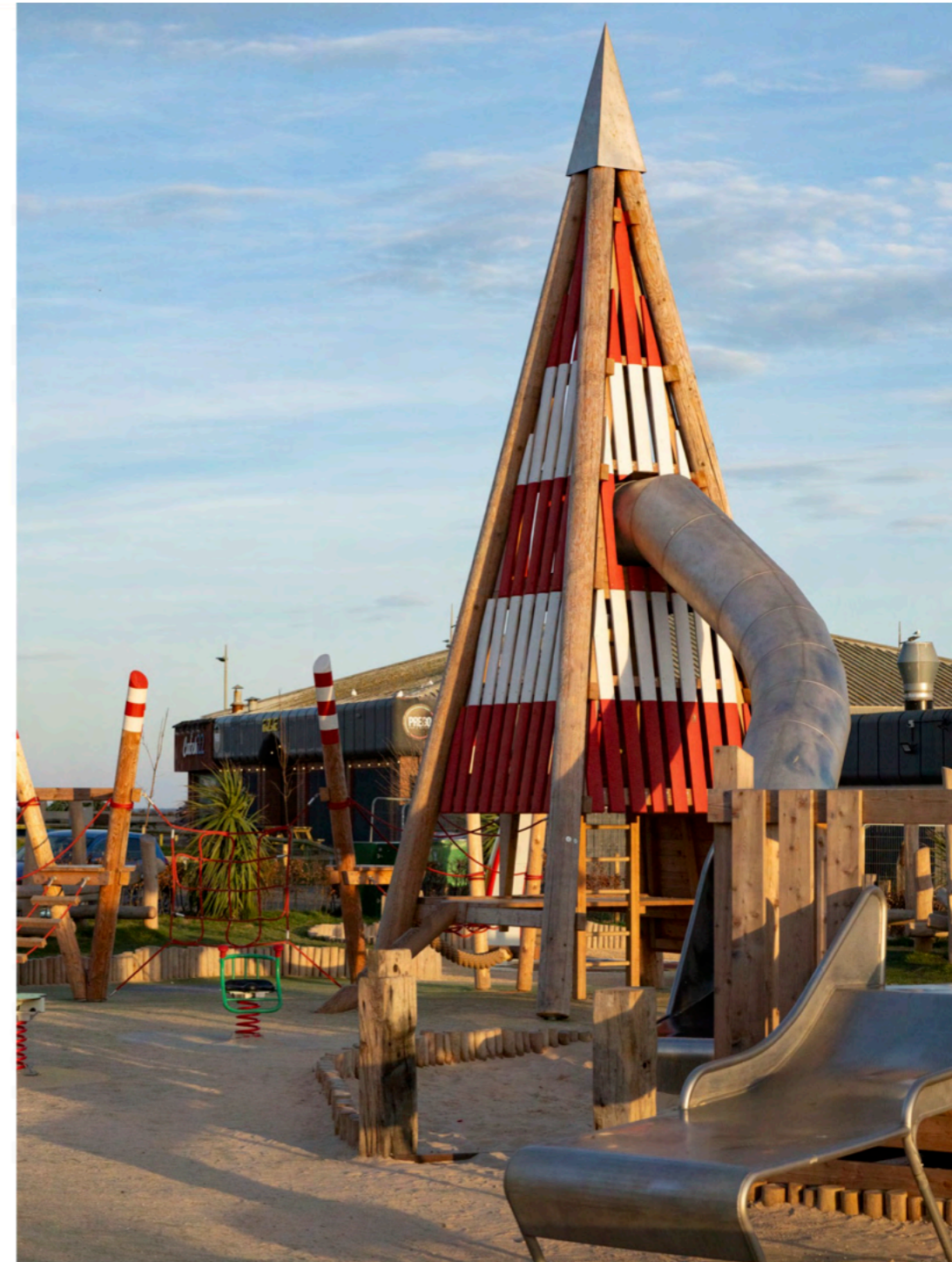
Seaburn Promenade

Example Projects

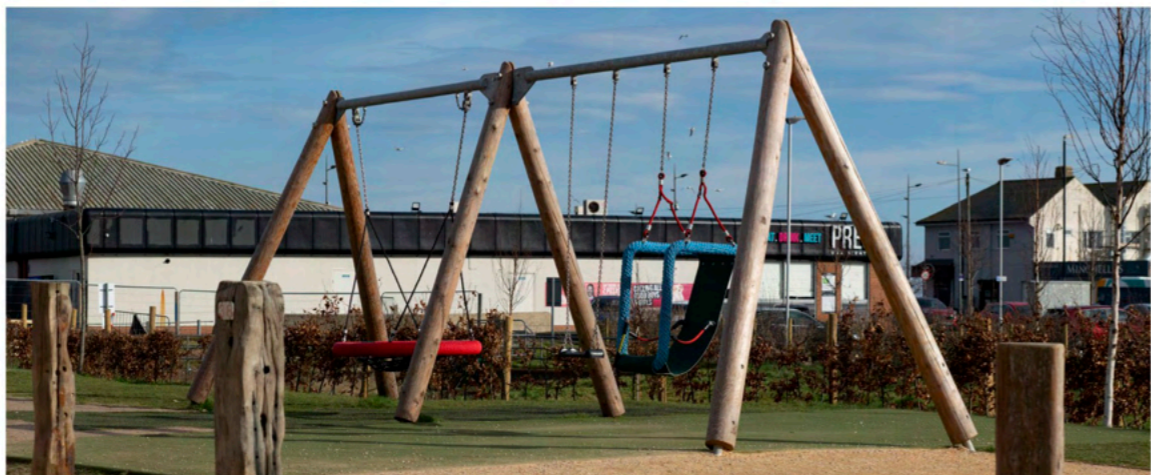
Sunderland Council embarked on an ambitious redevelopment of its promenade and seafront to revitalise the town, making it more attractive to both residents and tourists. A key element of this transformation was the creation of a landmark destination playground, prominently positioned with stunning views of the North Sea.

Designed and delivered in collaboration with Sunderland Council's in-house design team, the new playground spans an impressive 3,500m² and was completed in 2024. The council engaged BCE Northern Limited early in the project to manage delivery while working with Timberplay from the outset to develop innovative ideas for the play area. Timberplay played a pivotal role in shaping the vision, transforming what was previously a flat space into a dynamic, multi-level play environment. By incorporating mounds and slopes, the design significantly enhanced play value, encouraging a more engaging and adventurous experience for children of all ages.

To make the most of the site's new topography, every play product was carefully selected to maximise multi-level play opportunities. Inclusivity was a key focus throughout the design process, with bonded pathways ensuring accessibility for wheelchair users. Specific equipment, such as an inclusive swing set and a wheelchair-friendly platform within the sand play area, was integrated to support better interaction among all children. Within the platform are a series of winches, pulleys and chutes to manipulate and transport the sand, and an oversized wooden playhouse has been designed to accommodate a wheelchair user. A wheelchair-accessible slide provides further opportunities for inclusive play, ensuring the entire site is barrier-free.



The Recreation Ground - Play Space



The Recreation Ground - Play Space

Seaburn Promenade

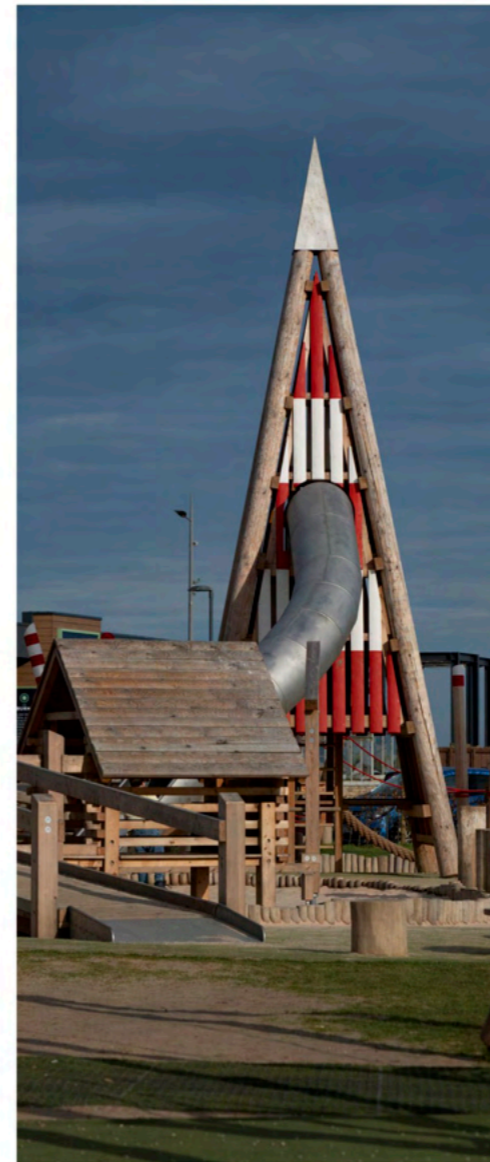
Example Projects

A striking highlight of the playground is a seven-metre pyramid tower, linked by challenging rope bridges and crossings to a series of triangular platforms. This dramatic structure not only provides an exciting climbing challenge but also serves as a visual landmark on the promenade. A thrilling tunnel slide offers a high-energy descent, while the towers' bold red and white colour scheme pays tribute to Sunderland's football heritage, celebrating the community's passion for the sport.

What truly sets this play space apart is the council's bold investment in reshaping the landform. By prioritising terrain variation and play value, Sunderland Council has created an inclusive, visually striking, and engaging playground that appeals to children of all abilities and ages—making the city's seafront a must-visit destination for families. Officially opened in 2024, the playground is already transforming the promenade into a vibrant hub of activity and social interaction.



The Recreation Ground - Play Space



The Recreation Ground - Performance space and sensory garden



Legend

1. Performance space
2. Buff asphalt paths
3. Awning for shade- this can be specified as permanent or seasonal structure.
4. Woody picnic benches
5. Woody Linear benches to line the performance space
6. Sensory garden
7. Herbaceous perennial and pollinator planting
8. Beech hedging
9. Buff brick paths
10. Native fruit trees

Performance space

The masterplan identifies this space as a key connection point linking the play area, skatepark and café. At present, the café can feel remote from the play space during the busiest sunny days. By creating a dedicated gathering area with café seating, the design provides a comfortable place to watch park activities while remaining close enough for parents and carers to supervise children using both the play space and the skatepark. The performance space will be finished with buff asphalt and clay brick pavers, creating a durable and flexible public area suitable for community events including carnivals, Christmas lantern parades, performances, market stalls, and food or arts festivals.

A family of slatted timber benches has been selected to meet a range of needs and support gatherings of various sizes, reflecting how the community uses the space. The 'Woody' bench is available as a monolithic bench or stool and can include backrests and armrests. Scaled down versions provide matching seating for children, and the Woody picnic table is designed to offer unobstructed access for wheeled users.

Sensory Garden

The sensory garden will create a welcoming space where touch, scent, sound and colour are brought together at a smaller, more intimate scale. It will offer visitors the chance to enjoy planting and nature within the wider park, but at a calmer and slower pace than the main play areas.

Plants will be chosen to provide year round sensory interest – colourful bulbs, striking stems and evergreens, hardy herbs for scent and touch, rattling seed heads, and leaves with soft or glossy textures that invite exploration. Pollinator friendly species will attract insects, birds and other wildlife, enriching the experience of the garden throughout the seasons. We imagine this as a space where families with babies and toddlers can picnic and socialise while still keeping an eye on older children playing elsewhere in the park. The garden will support intergenerational interaction, offering a place where both the oldest and youngest visitors feel welcome. People can sit among the planting, enjoy the sunshine, and be part of the park atmosphere without needing to take part in the more structured sports or play activities.

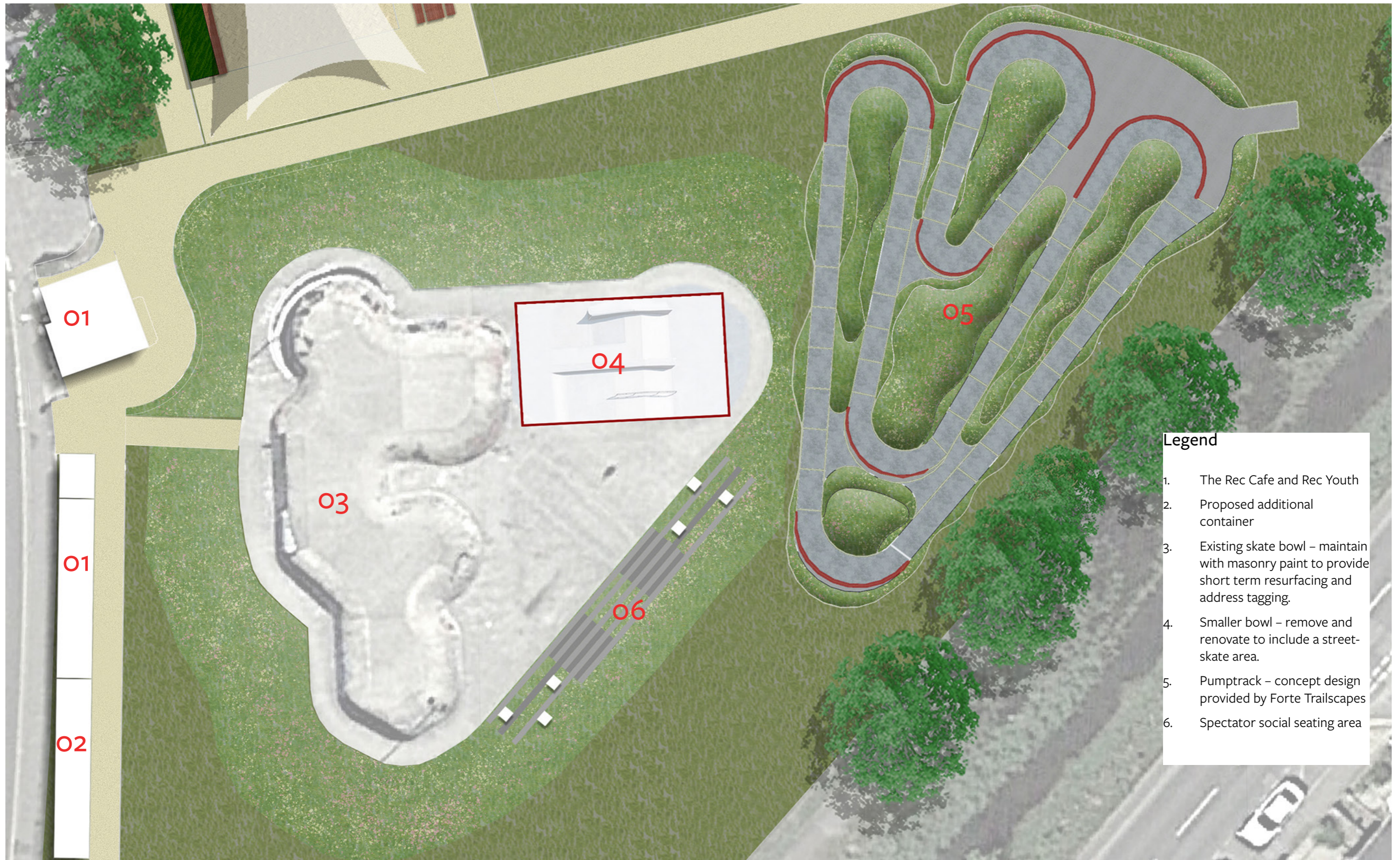
The Recreation Ground - Performance space



The Recreation Ground - Sensory garden



The Recreation Ground - Hayle Bowl, Street skate and pumptrack

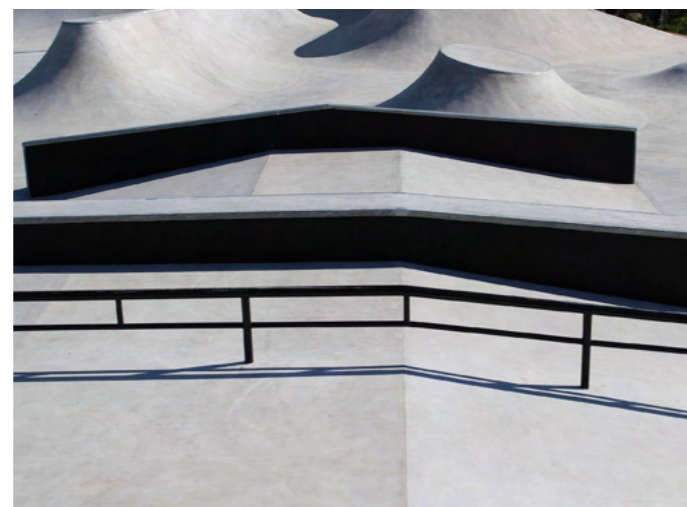


- Legend**
1. The Rec Cafe and Rec Youth
 2. Proposed additional container
 3. Existing skate bowl - maintain with masonry paint to provide short term resurfacing and address tagging.
 4. Smaller bowl - remove and renovate to include a street-skate area.
 5. Pumptrack - concept design provided by Forte Trailscapes
 6. Spectator social seating area

The Recreation Ground - Street skate

Skate park options:

1. The deep existing skate bowl could be transformed into a street skate area.
2. Alternatively a new more accesible skate bowl could be installed with a seperate skate area.



REDRUTH SKATE PARK

The Recreation Ground - Pumptrack



EXAMPLE PUMP TRACKS

Tracks can be used by:

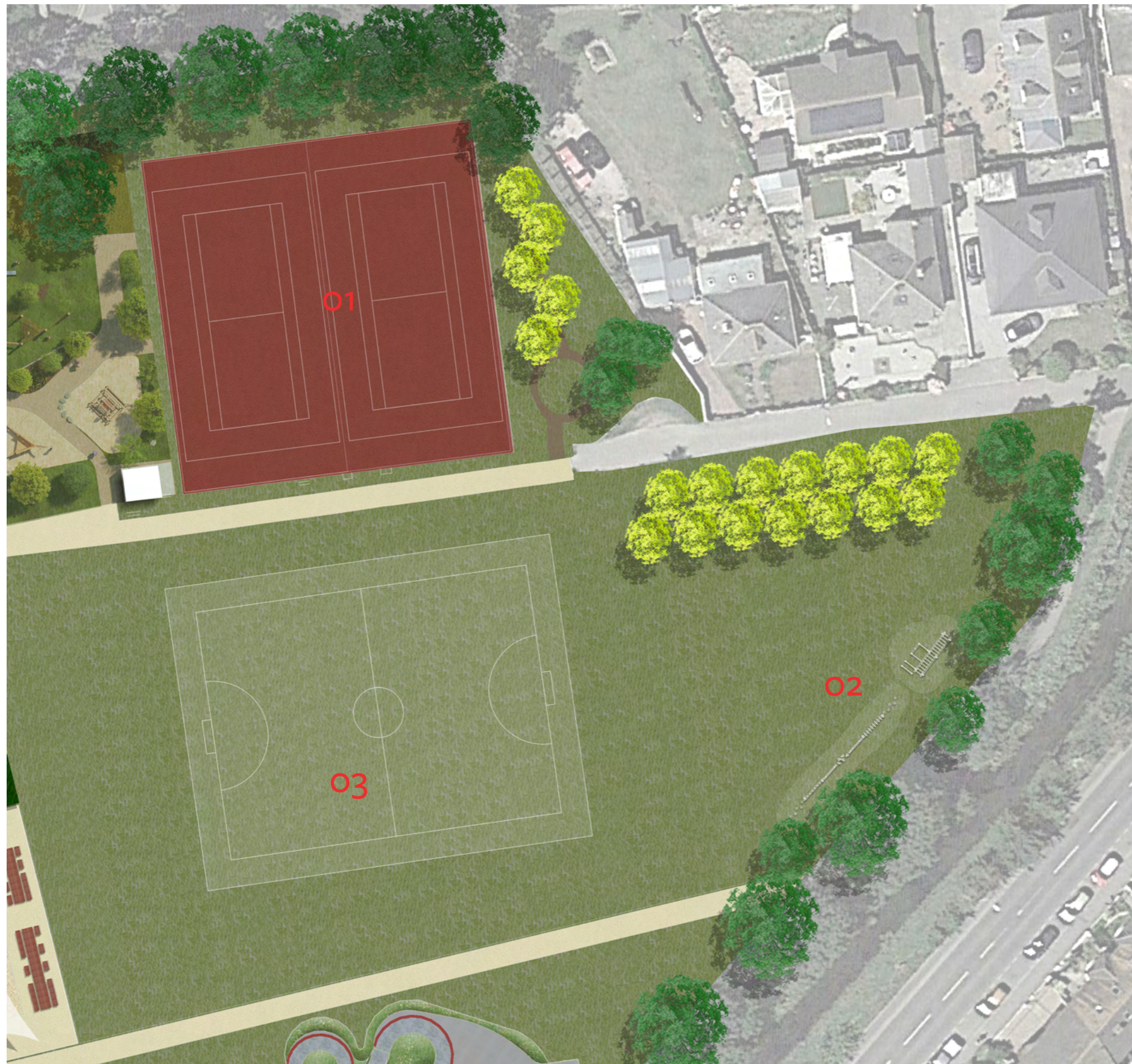
1. Balance bikes
2. BMX bikes
3. Mountain bikes
4. Scooters
5. Skate boards
6. Roller skates

The track could include a **beginners loop** and a **separate progression track** in the same location with a joint start / stop / rest area.



EXAMPLE PUMP TRACK

The Recreation Ground - Formal sports and fitness



1) Tennis court

The existing tennis courts are well used during the summer months, but the astroturf carpet and chain link fencing have reached the end of their lifespan and now represent a significant maintenance responsibility.

The proposals include resurfacing the two courts with red porous tennis asphalt, a high performance outdoor sports surface designed to provide a smooth, consistent, and free draining playing area. This type of surface is expected to support improved year round use, safety, and accessibility. The installation of new sports fencing will enhance the appearance and functionality of the courts. Improved access between the courts, with at least two entry and exit points for each, will help support safer circulation and more flexible use of the space.

2) Body weigh gym and trim trail

The proposed outdoor gym and trim trail are intended to provide opportunities for physical activity for a wide range of users. The equipment has been designed to support a full body workout and can be used by both young people and adults, offering flexible ways to exercise within the park. The use of solid oak and stainless steel components allows the equipment to sit comfortably within a natural environment. Many of the elements are provided in pairs, enabling users to exercise alongside others, supporting both informal use and organised group sessions.

Heights and dimensions can be tailored to suit different user groups. For example, the monkey bars can be installed at heights ranging from 1.4m for younger children up to 2.2m for adults.

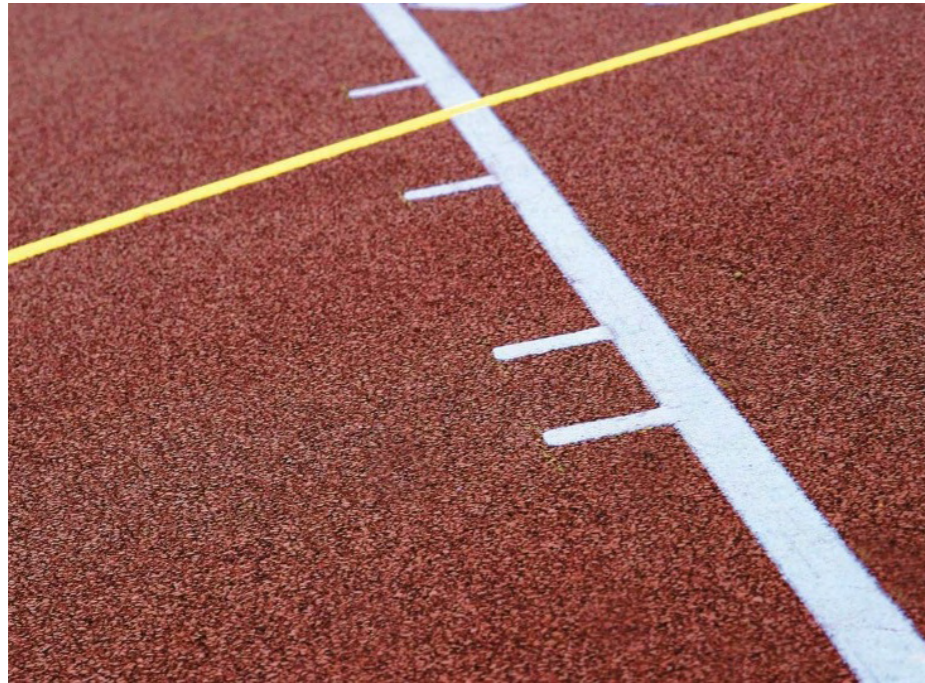
The equipment can either be grouped in a dedicated fitness area or distributed around the park as individual stations that people can incorporate into their daily routines. As the equipment contains no moving parts, it is expected to be durable and relatively low maintenance.

3) 5 a side football area

The existing goals with astroturf surfacing are now in need of replacement. Although the surface provides play space at each end, the perimeter where it meets the grass has become worn and requires ongoing maintenance to re-establish grass and remove trip hazards.

The masterplan proposals include a full 5 a side football area 40 yards long by 30 yards wide (36.5m x 27.5m), which would accommodate informal games with goals and nets. Based on current evidence and maintenance considerations, a grass surface is considered the most appropriate option for this area. During engagement with school children, many expressed a preference for playing on grass, noting that astroturf can create a different pace of play and may be uncomfortable to fall on, particularly for goalkeepers.

The Recreation Ground - Formal sports and fitness



TENNIS COURT SURFACE



5 A SIDE FOOTBALL PITCH



The Recreation Ground - Formal sports and fitness



BODY WEIGHT OUTDOOR GYM



TRIM TRAIL EXERCISE EQUIPMENT



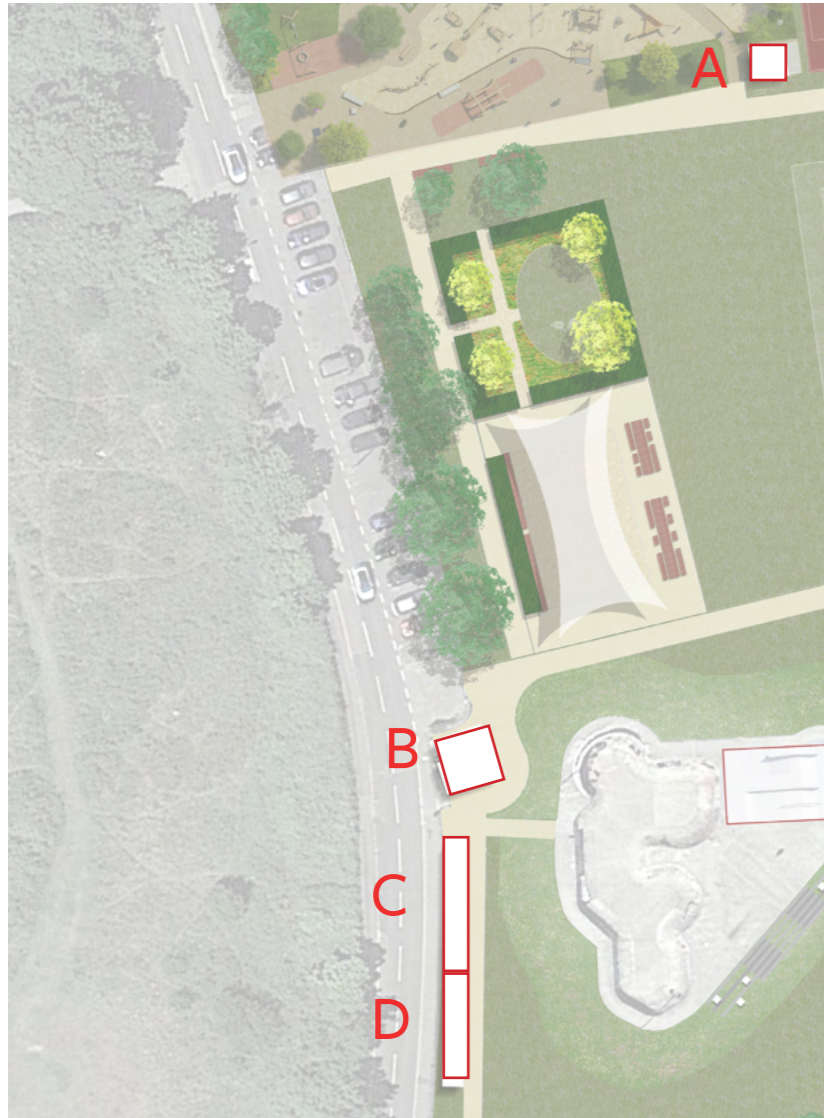
LARGER SCALE BODY WEIGHT OUTDOOR GYM



PARKOUR OUTDOOR GYM

The Recreation Ground - Rec Cafe location options

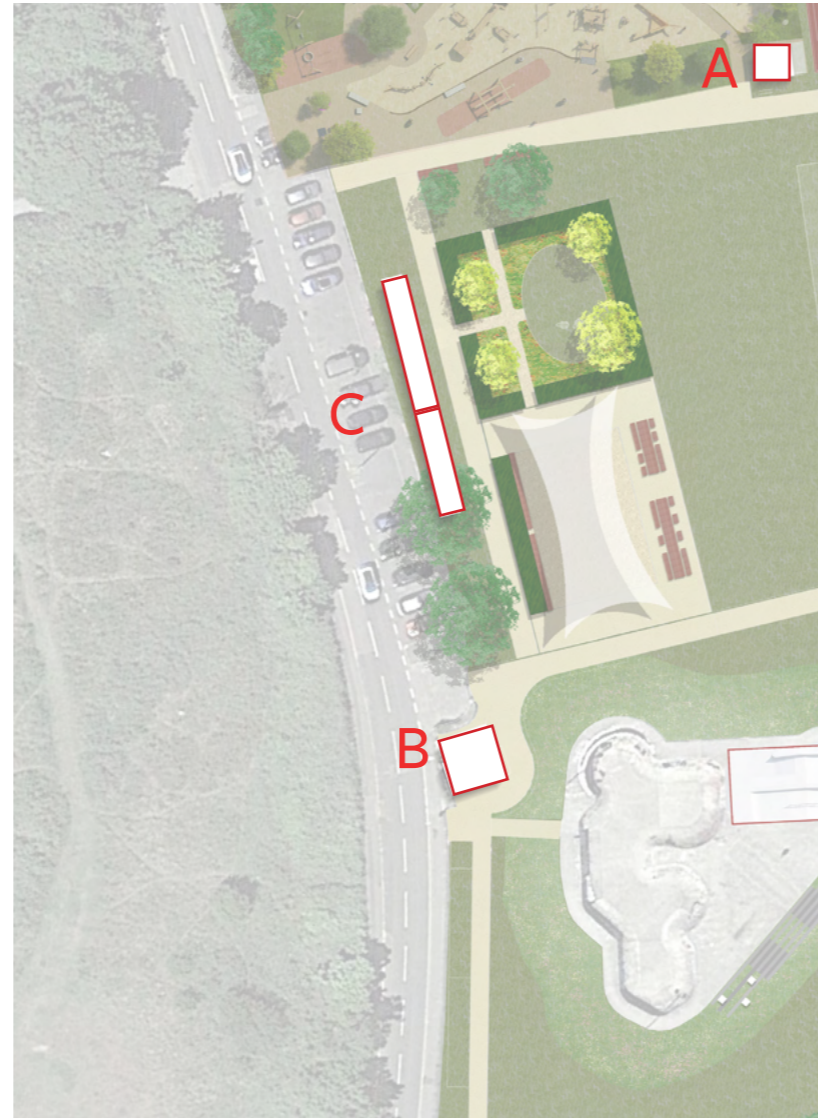
Existing location: cafe and toilet



Legend

- A. Toilets- existing
- B. Rec Cafe kitchen - existing location
- C. Rec cafe containers (1x. 10ft 1x. 40ft.)
- D. Proposed Rec cafe extension (1x 40ft container) - pending planning permission.

Phase 1: cafe containers relocated to central location



Legend

- A. Toilets- existing
- B. Rec Cafe kitchen building
- C. Move Rec cafe containers (1x. 10ft 2x. 40ft.) to central location to serve the play space and the skate park.

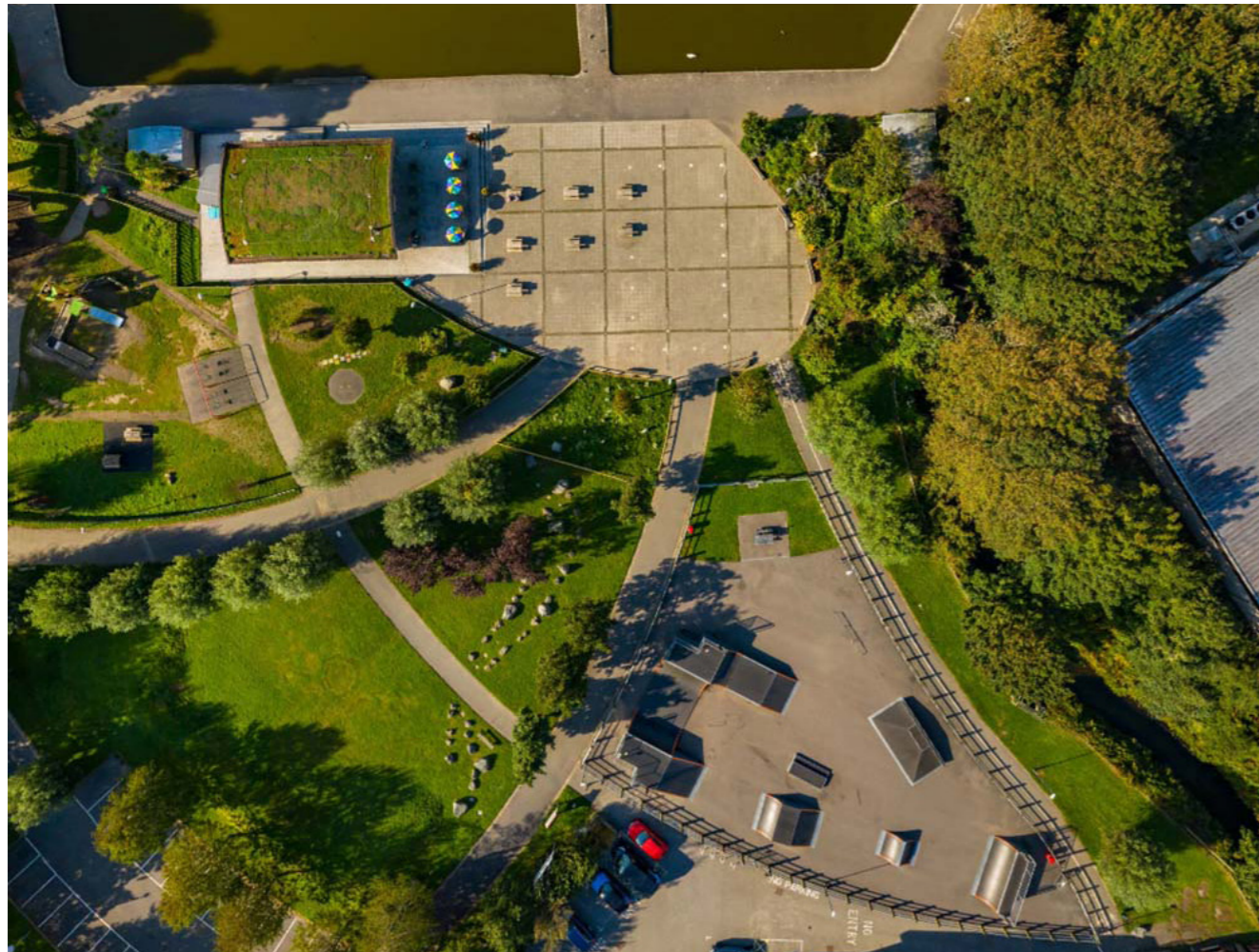
Phase 2: New and consolidated cafe and toilet facilities



Legend

- A. Consolidate all the cafe and welfare facilities into one purpose built building that meets the needs of the town and community who use the recreation ground.

The Recreation Ground - Parkcafe and welfare facilities benchmark



HELSTON CORONATION PARK



The End

Q&A