Design and Access Statement

for

Hornchurch Court – Garden Extension

Groundwork Manchester, Salford, Stockport, Tameside & Trafford
March 2010

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1.0 Project Background

The project is funded by City South Manchester (CSM) Housing Trust as part of a stock-wide environmental improvement programme. It has been identified by local residents as a priority for environmental improvements to increase the size of the existing garden and landscape an area of remnant hard surfacing thereby improving the appearance of the area.

2.0 Community Involvement

The project and design has evolved through consultation with the local community and the landowner, CSM Housing Trust. Key design principles have been identified by residents themselves, and the process has been fed-back to interested parties at frequent Tenants and Residents Meetings, and through contact with the in-house caretaker.

3.0 Existing Site

The site is a remnant area of hard surfacing owned by City South Manchester Housing Trust that currently looks unsightly and lowers the amenity value of the area.

4.0 Design & Layout

The project will deliver a community space within the grounds of Hornchurch Court tower block, providing both amenity and recreational value. The site will be open to the public and maintained by residents and the in-house caretaker

The main alteration on the site will be the relocation of existing fence panels to enclose the area of remnant hard-surfacing. The new fencing will be recycled from the existing where possible, or fabricated to match so as to retain the existing character of the area.

Proposals will also include the creation of a seating area with 3 new robust metal benches set amidst low-maintenance planting and new hard surfacing treatment. A specimen tree will be planted to provide amenity value in the space.

A pedestrian footway will be maintained alongside the garden extension to link Stonelow Close with Epping Street.

The landscape proposals will conform to current DDA guidelines and provide access for all.

5.0 Supporting Information

The project will seek to re-use existing materials such as the fencing where possible to increase the sustainable value of the garden.