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The Rooftop Project at 26 Lever Street

Operating Schedule



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1 .0 Background

The Rooftop ‘Garden’ Project

The Rooftop ‘Garden’ Project began in October 2014. What began as an idea to transform disused urban spaces into places with purpose and value for the city, soon turned into a living project that sparked curiosity, conversation and active collaboration amongst local residents right from the off.

Through the hard work and generosity of everyone collaborating on the Rooftop Project, the rooftop garden has blossomed into a fruitful social space for the tenants at 24 Lever Street and a place that is inviting an increasing involvement from local communities. Already it is growing conversations with Ladies Room/National Trust, UpRising, Open Cinema, Manchester School of Art and many more.

As a currently running programme, occasional events have been held on the current rooftop terrace without compliant or issue since October 2014.

The proposal should build on the great success of the current Rooftop ‘Garden’ Project that has brought this previously underused space to life with a varied programme of events, engaging a cross section of people. The expansion should give the community access to amenities such as an outdoor screen, power lighting, water supply, as well as shelter in inclement weather. It should also allow for more inclusive access through provision of level access to any upper stories. The provision of these amenities will allow for improved management of the space and any events held there as well as providing secure access to the Rooftop space and facilities. This will be vital for the continuation of this much-loved and unique community asset.

2 .0 Purpose of the Rooftop ‘Garden’ Project

The purpose of the Rooftop ‘Garden’ Project as demonstrated through its current and past uses is to provide a cultural or community function for the tenants of the building and their select guests or collaborators, such as the Manchester School of Art. The Rooftop ‘Garden’ Project will not be used for commercial gain, or as a bar / ‘party’ space.

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3 .0 Opening Hours

The Rooftop ‘Garden’ Project will be open to use by tenants of the building as an extension of current arrangement, for individual use. Occasional cultural or community events will be held in the space after office hours and at weekends till 11pm (30 minutes to provide varied dispersal times).

4 .0 Management of the Space

The Rooftop ‘Garden’ Project terrace would only be used for private functions and not open to general members of the public, as such any event is not generally publicised online or via a social network to limit numbers on the rooftop. Events are selected for their **cultural and community value**. Non-tenants who wish to provide an event on the rooftop must have sponsorship from a member of the Rooftop Project Tenants Committee (who are predominately made up of tenants of 24 and 26 Lever Street) to use the space. The sponsor of any event is required to take full responsibility for said event and all attendees. The overall management of the space and curation of events and guests is performed by a ‘Rooftop Conductor’ in collaboration with Shelia Bird Group.

The Rooftop ‘Garden’ Project is **not** run to provide any commercial profit, as such the Rooftop Project Tenants Committee can afford to be discerning as to which selected guests or collaborators are invited and which events are allowed to use the rooftop space. Events are carefully curated to provide a cultural or community benefit to the Northern Quarter. The use of the rooftop space for non cultural / community use is strictly not permitted.

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5 .0 Prevention of Crime and Disorder

The site (24 and 26 Lever Street), is located on the south-western side of Stevenson Square, within a multiple-use, four storey, redbrick building. The extension to commercial floorspace will be located on the rooftop of 26 Lever Street. All floors above ground in 24 and 26 Lever Street are accessed through one entrance point/ door on 24 Lever Street ground floor leading to a shared/common core.

The proposal will sit on the rooftop of a building with existing office use, as such security measures are already in place (including an extensive CCTV system covering both the interior and exterior of the building, individual security systems that cover each tenant and a secured entrance to the building), and therefore insulate the proposal from the majority of security risk.

Non-tenants who wish to provide an event on the rooftop must have sponsorship from a members of the Tenants Committee of the building to use the space and attendees are carefully recorded and monitored to ensure safety in use by members of the Tenants Committee and a 'Rooftop Conductor'. The proposal is carefully managed to limit numbers on the rooftop to help prevent the risk of disorder.

Events and their select attendees are currently and will continue to be monitored to attract a clientele that is conducive to the cultural/ community aspirations of the project. As such the committee will aim to negate the possibility of crime and disorder through careful curation at the inception of any event.

As a currently running programme, occasional events have been held on the current rooftop terrace without occasion of crime or disorder since October 2014.

6 .0 Sale of Alcohol

The Rooftop 'Garden' Project terrace will not be used as a party venue, and as such the sale of alcohol on the Rooftop 'Garden' Project terrace has never been and will not be permitted.

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7 .0 Acoustics

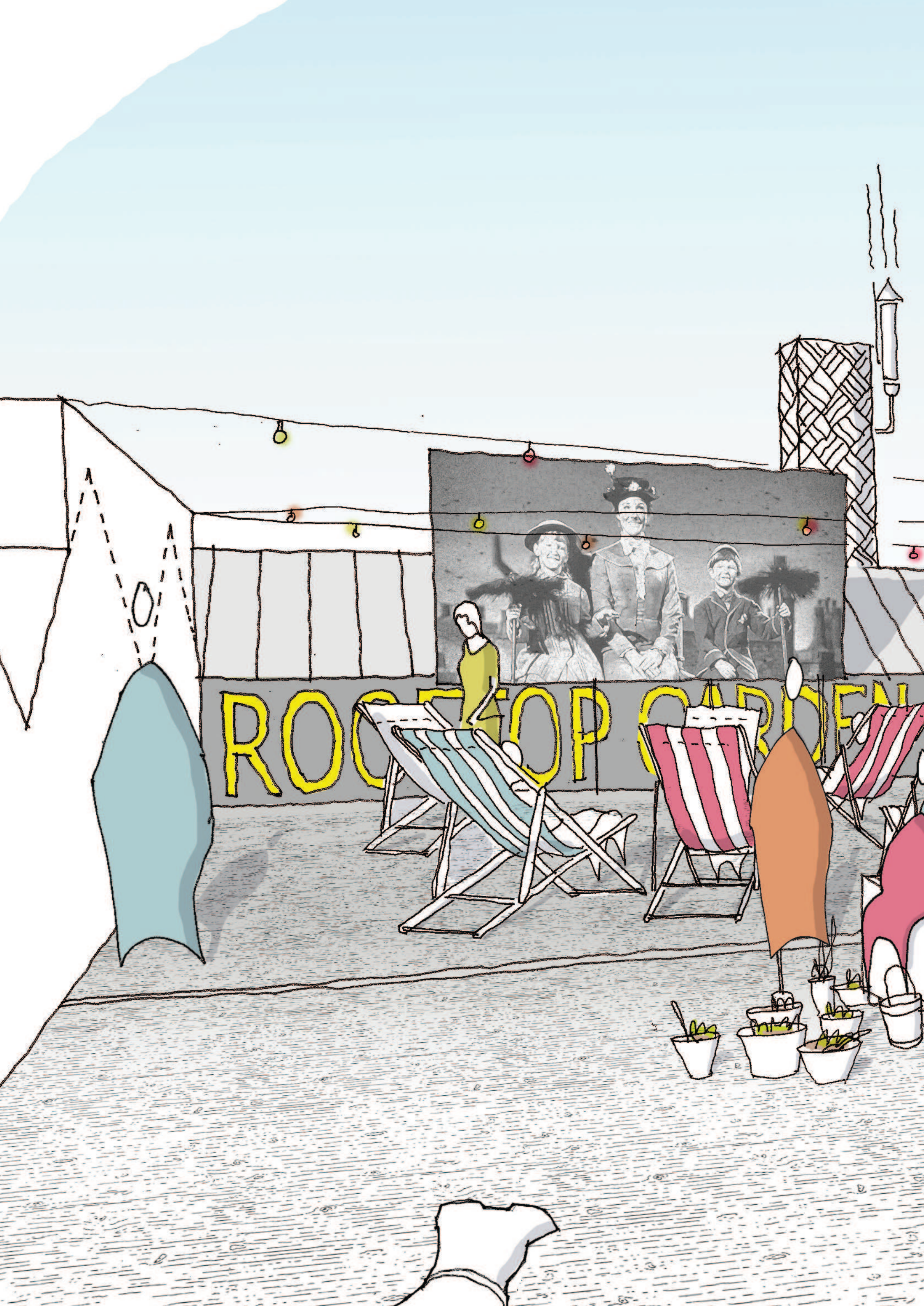
The Rooftop ‘Garden’ Project terrace will not be used as a ’gig’ space, as such **no loud music** will be played. Some events may incorporate some sound as part of an exhibition, or poetry reading for example, used at a low level. The majority of events will not incorporate any element of sound, such as yoga, and rooftop sketching.

As a currently running programme, occasional events incorporating sound have been held on the current rooftop terrace without compliant or issue from tenants / neighbours of the building and the general public since October 2014.

Please note less than ten events in the last year have incorporated sound as part of an event.

8 .0 Food Preparation

There is no cooking associated with the proposed use of the Rooftop ‘Garden’ Project Terrace.


ROOFTOP GARDEN