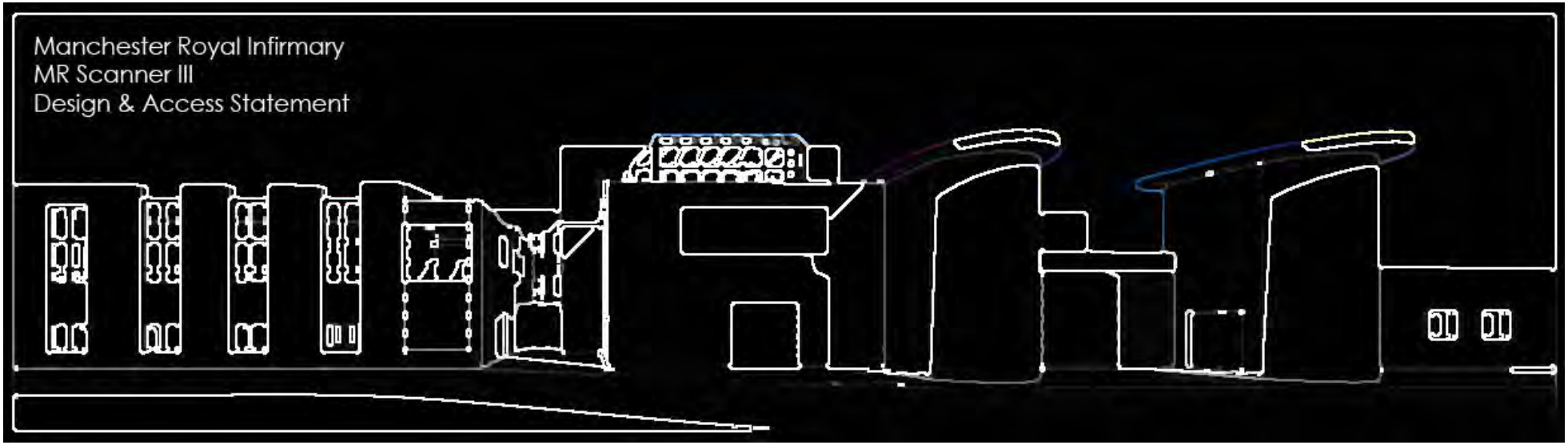

Central Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

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Project Definition

This design and access statement has been prepared by AFL Architects on behalf of Central Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust in support of a full planning application being made to Manchester City Planning Department for an extension to the existing hospital facilities.

The purpose of this document is to provide supportive information for a new MR Scanner facility which in an extension to the existing diagnostics facility adjacent to the proposed site.

The proposal provides the Central Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust with additional MR capabilities to further support the existing facilities on the hospital site. Located on an existing medical gas bottle store and generator compound, the proposals also include for the demolition of these ancillary structures and the relocation of air conditioning units within the locality of the proposed extension.

It is intended that the following document will support the rationale, design principles and access strategy for this planning application and has been prepared in accordance with CABE's 'Design and Access Statements: How to Write, Read and Use them' (2006). It is to be read in conjunction with all other information supplied with this application.

Brief

Central Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation identified the need for additional MR diagnostic facilities to meet the growing demand for this essential service going forwards.

The brief is summarised below:

Provide 1 no. new MR Scanner room utilising the existing control room facility which was designed to serve two scanner rooms along with associated equipment and plant rooms associated with the nature of this type of facility.

Rationalise the existing waiting areas and ancillary rooms in order to cater for ICU/ CCU, in/out patients, providing privacy and dignity to all people visiting this department.

The new accommodation is to be provided in a building environment that meets at least minimum standards and guidelines in terms of overall health & safety and welfare to staff and visitors, whilst reflecting the future vision of the hospital site.

Site Analysis

The hospital site is located 3Km south of the City centre and has been subject to substantial redevelopment over recent years. The net result is a fully accessible site which is split into clearly definable zones.

Phase 1 & 2 (MR Building) was constructed during the 1980's as a 3 storey purpose built medical facility providing A&E, Wards, Theatres, ICU and radiology facilities. The development addressed in this application sits with a utilitarian / buffer zone on the Upper Brook Street (A34) Boundary.



Site Appraisal

A feasability report was comissioned by the Trust to determine the best location for the new scanner, a number of options were reveiwed by Nircona Healthcare, both within the existing Phase II estate and the new PFI hosptal development. The proposed site was shortlisted amongst other sites deemed to be appropriate in terms of their departmental relationships, the final decision was based upon structural and M&E services requirements, existing infrastructure and minimising disruption to clinical services. The chosen location works as a 'bolt-on' to an existing MR facility; the existing Control Room was designed with future expansion in mind, such that it can serve two scanner units. Due to the strong magnetic field generated by MR Scanners they have to be located in a 'controlled area' so there are logistical advantages in situating one adjacent to another.





Existing Buildings

Typical of the nature of hospital developments, there have been numerous additions and alterations to the main existing building, most notably of late, the new two storey Icon building shown on the left hand side of the North Elevation.



NE Elevation



SW Elevation

Materials of existing adjacent hospital buildings:

Black ceramic rain screen cladding panels

Grey/Silver polyester powder coated rain screen cladding panels (exg. single storey scanner building)

Red/brown Brick (Icon building)

Pebble dash finish pre-cast concrete panels (Main hospital building)

Dark grey aluminium window frames, doors to (Icon Building)

Dark brown aluminium windows to (Main hospital building)

White insulated render system.

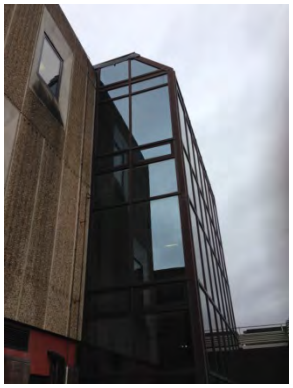
Site Appraisal Photos



1. Existing Medical Gas Compound



2. Exg. Glazed E.Exit Stair Enclosure (Lower)



3. (Upper)



4. Icon Building



5. Exg MR Scanner building



6. Continuation of street scene

Design Principles

Use

The proposed use of the extension to the hospital has been defined by the client requirements, and relates to the existing use of the hospital site. These sit within use class D1 – non residential institutions.

The proposed development links back into the existing hospital via circulation routes to the existing MR suite. The internal uses of the extension compliment those within the immediately adjacent departments,

Amount

The existing MR building occupies a Ground Floor footprint of ~15,000m^2 with the proposed extension to the North occupying 128m^2 at Ground Floor level and 128m^2 provided at First Floor level to accommodate the necessary mechanical plant.

These areas reflect the required areas to provide the upgraded facilities for the client brief. Demolition of the existing Medical Gas Compound is also included within the proposals.

Layout

The proposals have been designed to integrate fully with the existing uses of the hospital diagnostics department and therefore wrap around this area to the East and North. The emergency escape route provided by the existing stairway has been maintained, the MR suite is a controlled area because of the magnetic fields generated by the scanners, and therefore the escape route needs to be segregated from the MR suite, the net result being there are two escape routes adjacent to one another.

Scale

The majority of the hospital site is three storeys high with a flat roof, the buildings in this locality, along the north eastern periphery, are either single or two storeys high.

Adjacent buildings to the North are single storey with plant and equipment situated on the flat roof above, to the south is the immediately adjacent two storey Icon building, in the background is the three storey main hospital building,

Landscaping

The proposed extension is located adjacent to an existing 'blue light' tarmac road, and there is a block paved footpath which shall be reinstated up to the external walls of the proposed extension. The Magnet is particularly heavy, so the proposed removable louver and adjacent hard landscaping provides an access point for delivery and future maintenance.

Appearance

This part of the hospital development has become quite eclectic in its architectural style due to many additions and alterations throughout the years, in fairness this helps to break up the scale of the overall development.

The extension is surrounded by existing buildings and is mainly visible from the blue light perimeter access road. There is screen planting and some ancillary buildings on the perimeter of the site, so the view from A34 Upper Brook Street is somewhat obscured.

Fenestration to the extension reflects the uses within the building. There are no windows which is necessary in order to preserve the privacy of patients under examination, and maintain a radio frequency shield also integral to this type of medical facility.

There are a range of materials used in the vicinity, insulated render was chosen so that the extension matches other recent additions to this elevation, which form part of the diagnostics & radiotherapy department. It will be white in order to remain neutral and yet contrasting with the immediately adjacent materials.

Access to & within the development site

Sustainable Access

The hospital development being so close to the city centre benefits from a full range of public transport links. Onsite parking, cycle provisions, DDA compliant accessibility have all been catered for and future proofed via the recent major developments within the wider hospital estate (PFI).

Vehicular Access

The hospital site is accessed off Grafton Street and Hathersedge Road, with multi-storey car park facilities at the North West and South Eastern extremities of the site providing extensive parking for both staff and visitors around the site, allowing for easy access to all the departments. From the car parks pedestrian access is allowed via dedicated routes and the internal street.

The proposed footprint of an extension results in the loss of 0 parking spaces. There is no intention to increase staff or patient number spaces in respect to this additional facility.

External Access – Pedestrian

The proposed extension will be accessed via the existing diagnostics department, which offers level access to all parts of the existing and proposed development. The finished ground floor level of the proposed extension is as per the existing. All escape routes will offer level or ramped access compliant to the relevant guidelines to a safe refuge area. These will be provided through doors with the necessary escape ironmongery.

Internal Horizontal Access

All public and staff areas of the proposed extension are at levels to match the existing. Circulation corridors within the existing building vary in width, proposed corridors shall be approximately 2.1m wide with 1800mm wide cross corridor doors with the required vision panels (compliant to BS8300) Disabled users will therefore have clear unobstructed routes throughout the building.

Lighting to corridors will comply with BS 8300 with lighting evenly diffused without glare, reflections or shadow.

Internal Vertical Access

The proposed first floor plant room will be accessed via the existing. This is obtained via the Emergency Exit Staircase of the Treatment Centre. Escape is gained via this staircase and the corridor at ground floor level.

There is no public or general staff access to the first floor plant room.

Access Surfaces

Floor wall and ceiling surfaces shall be designed to comply with B.S 8300 9.12, 9.13 and 9.14, creating visually contrasting and tactile surfaces. Ceiling wall and floor materials shall contribute to an acoustic environment in accordance with B.S 8233.

At detail design and construction stages the latest legislation and good practice guidance on accessibility available will be referred to. These will include, for example BS8300:2001 (Design of buildings and their approaches to meet the needs of disabled people), the Building Regulations Approved Document Part B (fire safety), Part M (Access to and use of buildings), Part K (Protection from falling, collision and impact)