ROYLE WORKS

LANDSCAPE STRATEGY

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URBAN GREEN

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URBAN GREEN

LANDSCAPE CONTEXT

1.0 SITE LOCATION & LOCAL CONTEXT

The site is located in Rochdale, Manchester approximately 1.2 km south west from Rochdale town centre and 14 km north east from Manchester city centre.

The site has been formerly used for industrial and commercial purposes. The former industrial buildings have been already demolished leaving a large area of hardstanding adjacent to a woodland with a Tree Preservation Order.

2.0 SITE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS

There are 3 distinct character areas that will be created through the proposed landscape scheme as illustrated on the adjacent plan.

1. Public Open Space
2. Play Area
3. Landscape Buffer





3.0 PLAY SPACE STRATEGY

The site specific response to play splits the play into two areas; On the top tier, the plateau created by the retaining wall structure is used for a more formal play area. This is supplemented by a more naturalistic play appropriate to the sloped Public Open Space (POS).

MAIN PLAY AREA

- The Play Area will utilise appropriate natural materials, such as timber, to soften the impact and compliment the nearby woodland
- Play will allow for balancing, rocking, climbing, sliding, jumping, rotating, imaginative play and social play






INFORMAL PLAY ELEMENTS

- Stepping stones throughout the POS extend the area that can be used for informal or imaginative play
- Logs and other natural obstacles can support informal or social play for a wide range of age groups.






CONNECTION TO NATURE

- Bug hotels located throughout the POS promote curiosity and enhance biodiversity
- Log piles, using materials from the thinned woodland, supports further habitats and allows simple interactions between children and wildlife.






PLAY SPACE STRATEGY

PLAY AREA DESIGN

The formal play sits on the top tier created by the retaining wall and is sized at 180m². The size of this play area on this level is determined by the requirement to retain as many trees in the POS as possible, which has shaped the location and form of the retaining wall, and the need to provide 20m offsets from the habitable façades of the surrounding properties. Sensory planting around the play area provides a further buffer from the properties and roads.

The play area equipment chosen allows for a variety of experiences aimed at younger children whilst the central location ensures a high level of surveillance and accessibility and links to the nearby play trail, which extends the play provision into the sloped POS.

KEY

- ❶ Play ground equipment (see overleaf for visual specification)
- 20m Offset From Habitable Facade
- Link to Play Trail



PLAY AREA EQUIPMENT

The play area equipment for the formal play area has been selected to allow a range of opportunities for younger children with the four items provided, including one multi-play item, allowing opportunities for balancing, climbing, sliding, rocking, jumping, imaginative play and social play. The equipment includes (osa - or similar approved):

Ref	Product Name	Manufacturer
1	Gerlingen Slide and Playhouse	Russell Play (osa)
2	Raven's nest Roundabout	Russell Play (osa)
3	Timber Stepping logs	Russell Play (osa)
4	Timber See-saw	Russell Play (osa)
	Other Playground features	
5	Multi-purpose Play Bark	Playbark (osa)
6	Victoria Bench with arm & backrests	Broxap (osa)
7	Slatted bin (timber and lockable)	Broxap (osa)
8	Anti-trap Bow Top fencing (1200mm high, Black)	Jackson Fencing (osa)
9	Anti-trap Bow Top single leaf gate (1200mm high, Black, self closing)	Jackson Fencing (osa)
10	Signage (final wording to be agreed with LPA)	
11	Buffer and sensory planting around play area	























PLAY TRAIL DESIGN

To provide an adequate provision for play, a play trail is created through the woodland POS and extends the opportunities for imaginative and social play, particularly for older children. The trail is circa 250m² taking the site provision to over 400m².

The play trail builds on the natural character of the Public Open Space using Robinia style stilts, alongside more natural interventions to provide a naturalistic and flexible response. Trunks and logs from any felled trees are re-used in the form of balancing obstacles or log piles ensuring the play responds to its natural setting. Boulders offer the chance for play or socialising and are arranged to allow for an informal seating space.









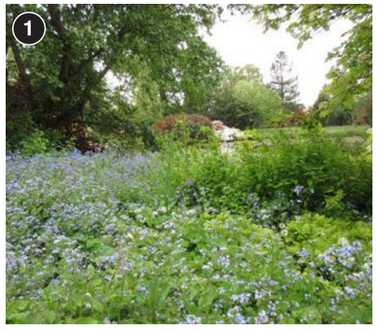


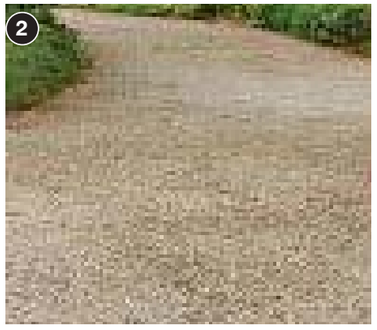


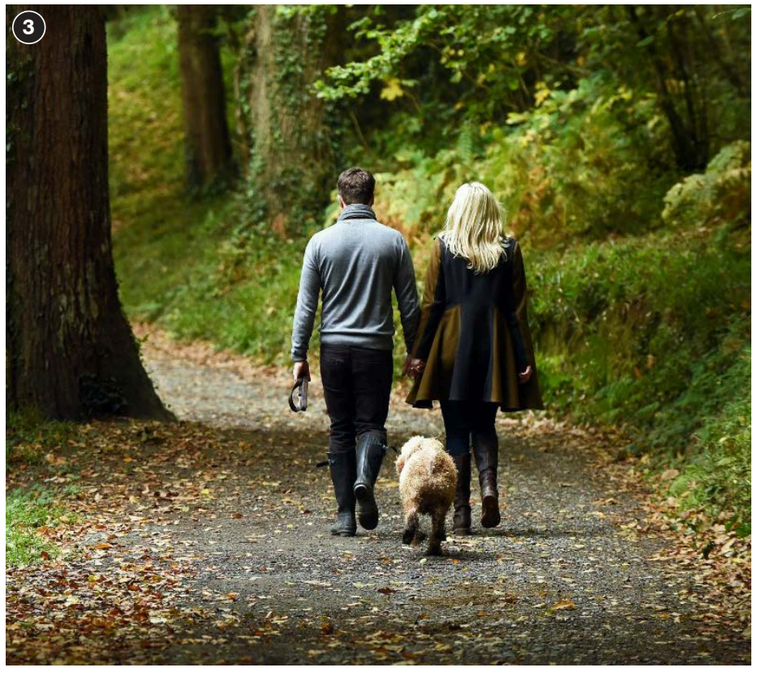
4.0 PUBLIC OPEN SPACE

Alongside the play trail, The Public Open Space will also offer an increased amenity and ecological value with new tree, shrub and meadow planting improve the quality and usability of this space.

The path winding through the POS will link Royle Road with to the centre of the site, providing an attractive connection for pedestrians. Woodland management, including thinning, crown lifting and selective removal will open up the woodland area to create a more welcome and inviting route. Further management of the area of more dense woodland to the south of the trail will aim to diversify the canopy structure and provide informal









5.0 LANDSCAPE BUFFER

The landscape buffer will provide tree and shrub planting to enhance biodiversity value and provide visual screening from Edinburgh Way.







