

## Introduction

A brand new £25 million state-of-the-art NHS diagnostic centre is planned for Slough in 2025, and local people are invited to have their say on the proposals.

The new Slough community diagnostic centre (CDC) will be developed on an unused area of the Upton Hospital site as a new standalone facility.

It follows national investment and is part of a network of facilities across the country to improve access to diagnostic tests and scans.

It will be open seven days a week, for 12 hours each day, and will provide a wide range of diagnostic services including MRI, CT, and ultrasound scans, and testing for lung and heart conditions, as well as blood tests and x-rays.

The CDC will mean that people who need more than one diagnostic procedure can have them on the same day.

This approach will help to diagnose conditions and illnesses, including cancer, more quickly. It will also minimise inconvenience for patients, as well as reduce air pollution caused by travel.

This information is about proposals to build the new CDC. It gives you more detail to help you form an opinion so you can share your views with us.

## The centre aims to:

- improve people's health outcomes – by enabling more people to access diagnostic tests more quickly, more easily and closer to their home, leading to earlier diagnoses of symptoms and better, more timely treatment
- reduce waiting lists by increasing capacity – the Slough community diagnostic centre (CDC) will double the current MRI and CT capacity in Slough and the surrounding areas
- make getting a diagnostic test as easy as possible – test appointments will be available at the CDC seven days a week, 12 hours a day, meaning patients can get the tests they need quickly and conveniently
- be easily accessible by public transport, minimising inconvenience for patients and reducing air pollution caused by travel
- improve the health of the local population and meet the growing demand for diagnostic services, it will also help free up capacity at Wexham Park Hospital
- help to reduce health inequalities – by locating the CDC in central Slough there will be an opportunity for communities who have poorer health outcomes to easily access high quality diagnostic tests
- help people avoid unnecessary hospital visits – increasing diagnostic capacity outside of acute hospitals means that they can focus on delivering urgent and emergency care more quickly for those who need it



Aerial view of Upton Hospital site, the proposed CDC site is outlined in red

## The proposed site of the CDC

For the Frimley health and care system, Slough has been identified as a location in need of additional diagnostics capacity to help address the health inequalities experienced in the area. An options appraisal for a site in Slough was carried out, and Upton Hospital was identified as most suitable for a community diagnostic centre.

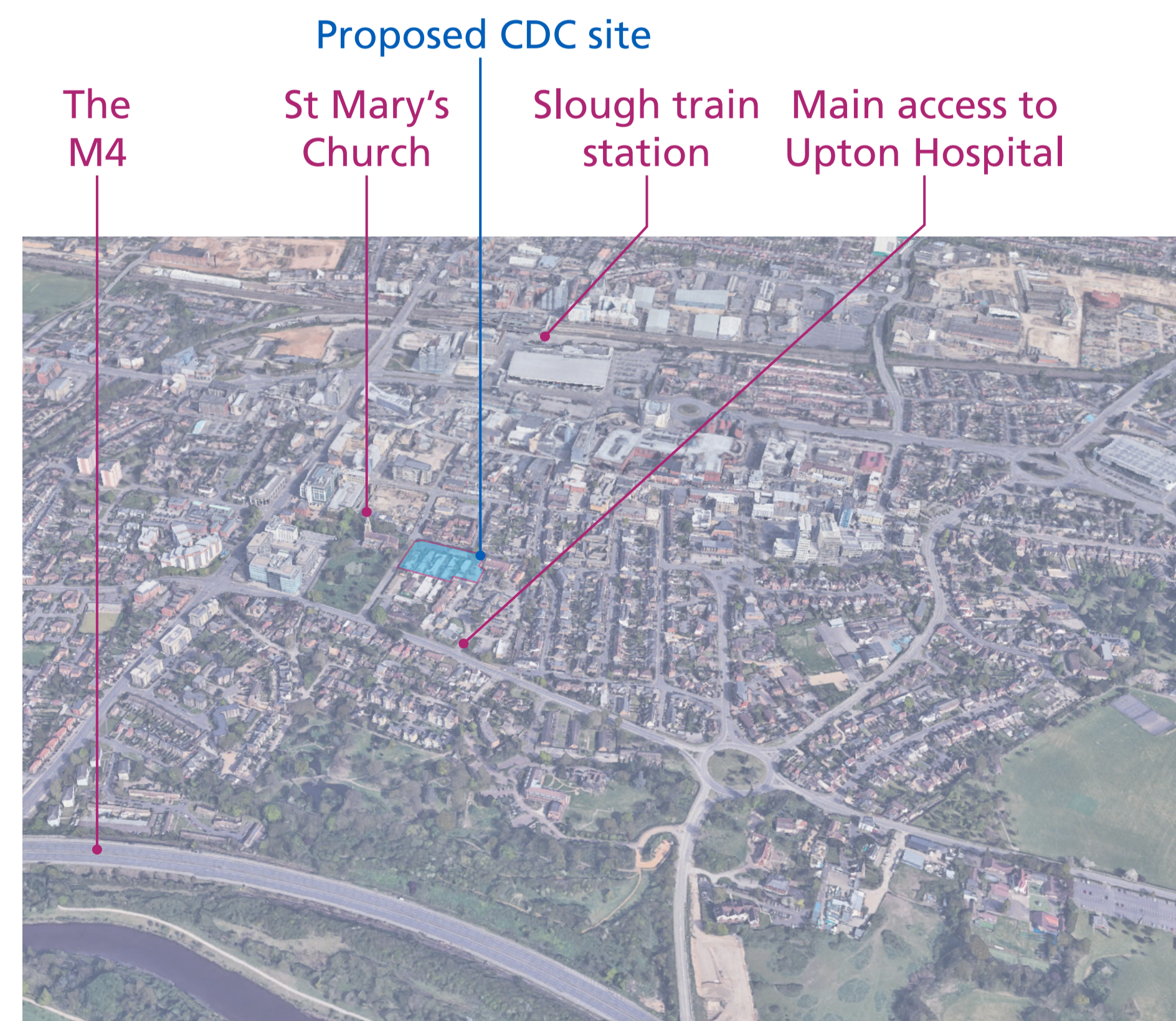
The new CDC will contribute towards retaining and enhancing healthcare services on the Upton Hospital site to meet the needs of Slough's future population.

## Site location



Bird's-eye view of the site from the west

- ① Proposed CDC site
- ② The rest of the Upton Hospital site



Site location in relation to Slough landmarks

## Existing building demolitions

To allow for the new CDC to be built, it is proposed to demolish the five single storey blocks within the site boundary. These blocks are currently vacant and in a poor state of repair.

These existing buildings are not suitable for contemporary healthcare, as they do not meet the space or environmental standards for the proposed uses. Also their layout does not allow for current requirements to be met for accessibility or servicing and maintenance.

A separate planning application just for the demolition has been submitted and it was approved by Slough Borough Council in July 2023.



The area in red shows the current buildings to be demolished

## The existing site as it looks now



One of the vacant blocks to be demolished



Another block which is to be demolished



Existing block next door which will be kept



Existing car park at the Osborne Street side

## Nearby neighbouring buildings



St Mary's Church



New block of flats on Church Street



Residential buildings on Osborne Street

## Planning submission

As part of the planning application, the design team will work with and submit detailed information to Slough Borough Council to demonstrate how different aspects of the project have been considered.

This will include:

- looking at the highways impact of the proposed traffic and parking
- access for pedestrians, cyclists, and people using public transport
- external materials and design so that the building fits in the surrounding context
- landscaping including details of paved surfaces and planting
- ecological considerations and improving biodiversity
- accessibility for people with disabilities using the centre
- wayfinding and signage for ease of finding your way around the site and inside the building
- noise assessments of the new mechanical and electrical equipment to ensure it isn't too loud
- security including external lighting, CCTV, and fencing
- how waste collections and deliveries will be made
- a Construction Management Plan to show how construction traffic will be managed to minimise disruption

## Sustainable design

Designing a sustainable building is a key aim for this scheme. The CDC project has a target of an 'Excellent' rating for BREEAM (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method) to certify its environmental sustainability.

The project team will work together so that the CDC building:

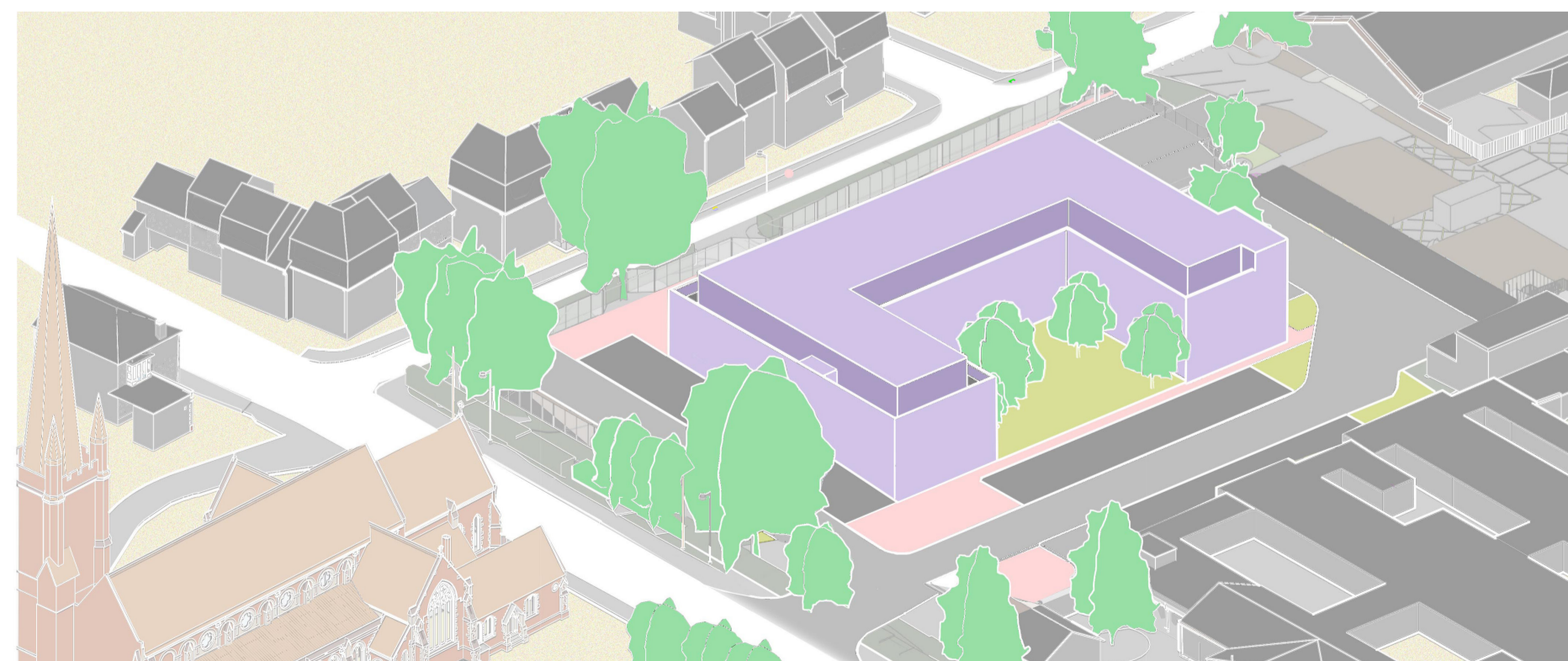
- integrates with the local neighbourhood and improves the local environment
- supports sustainable transport options for all building users
- provides a welcoming environment for existing and new colleagues, with career opportunities for the local community
- uses resources such as energy and water efficiently, and makes the most of natural daylight and ventilation where possible
- is flexible and adaptable so that it can meet future needs
- meets energy efficiency targets for reducing CO2 emissions
- is designed so that it is long-lasting and robust
- provides a welcoming internal environment to support the health and wellbeing of everyone visiting the building
- uses materials which reduce negative environmental impacts and are from renewable sources, where possible
- minimises pollution and waste during its construction and while the centre is in use

## Modular construction

As part of NHS funding requirements, a contractor will be appointed who can construct the building using standardisation and modern methods of construction (MMC).

This means much of the building is built in a factory elsewhere, then the 'modules' are brought to site and assembled.

This approach has a range of benefits including sustainability (less wastage of materials), improved health and safety for the workers, faster construction, less disruption to neighbours, and more control over the cost and quality of the finished product.



Sketch bird's-eye view of the CDC building



Example of a healthcare building designed with sustainability in mind



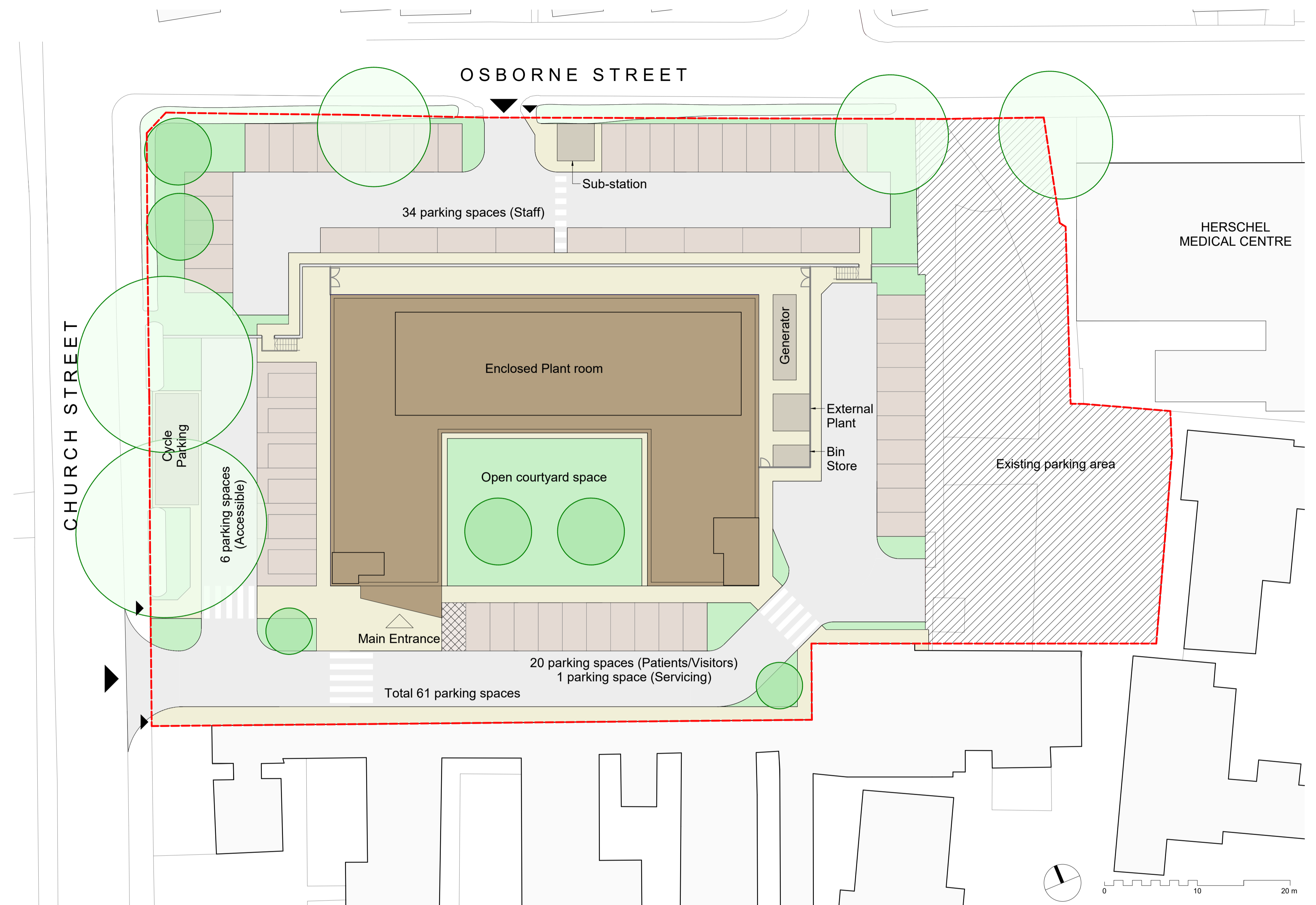
Examples of modular construction in the factory and on site

## Proposed site layout

The site has been laid out to function as a standalone site, but would be able to connect to and be managed as part of the wider Upton Hospital estate.

The site plan on the left shows how these considerations and elements have been included:

- a new vehicular and pedestrian access from Church Street, which is wider than Osborne Street
- the building is positioned centrally in the site so that the majority of mature trees and hedges around the site perimeter can be kept
- new paved paths and planting will give separated pedestrian routes from the roadway, ensuring safe access across the site
- the building's main entrance will be easy to find, at the south-west corner closest to the Church Street access point
- the number of parking bays has been designed to be sufficient for the expected numbers of patients, visitors, and staff
- both the external and internal designs have been mindful of potential security issues
- the landscaping includes an open green 'courtyard' space between the wings of the building
- some trees will be removed to make space for the new CDC building and access. One would be a turkey oak tree where the new access from Church Street will be.



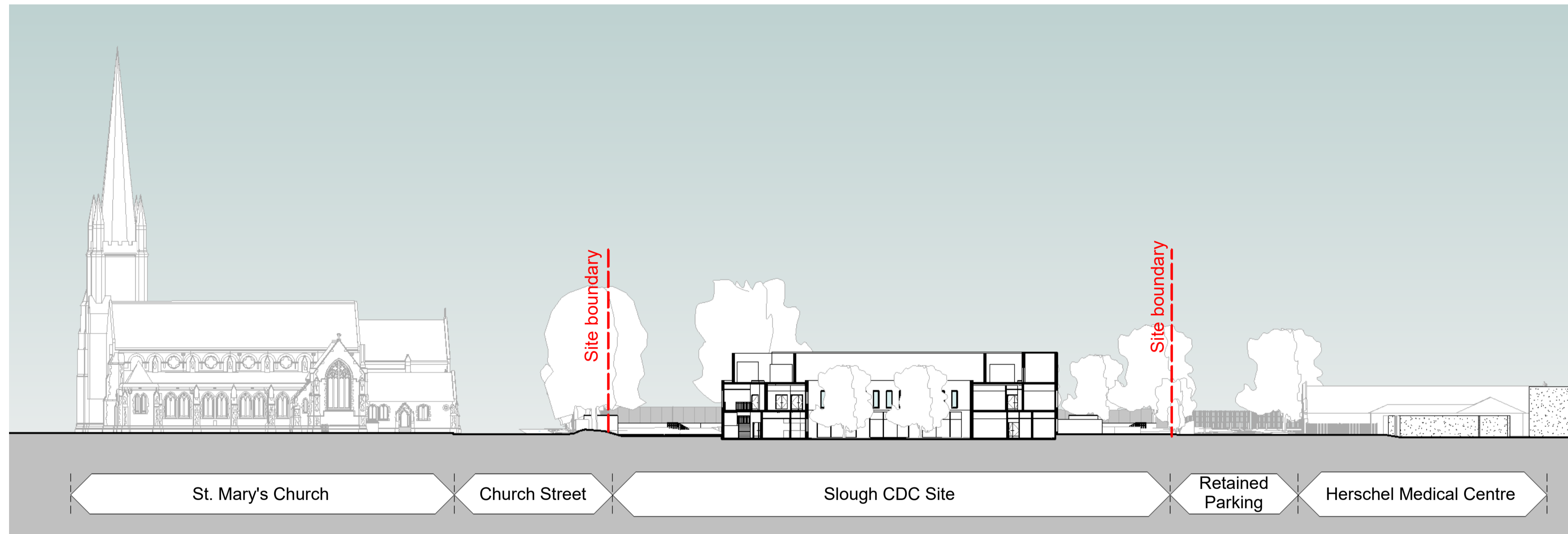
### Site key

Site boundary	Proposed tree	Existing car park
Entrance arrow	Pedestrian path	Neighbouring building
New CDC building	Car parking bay	
Existing tree	Car park roadway	

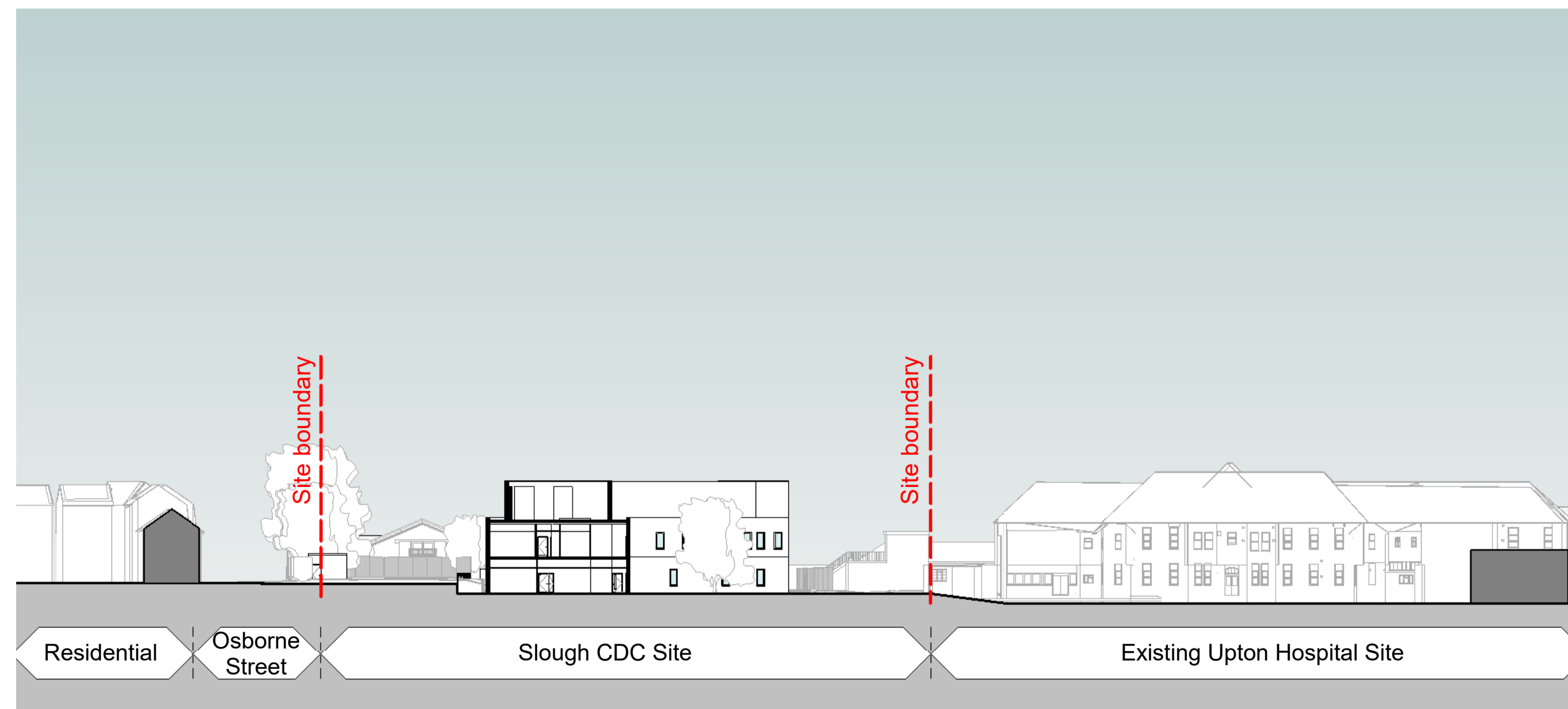
The rest to be removed are in the middle of the site, a group of four smaller sycamore trees and one larger sycamore tree. None of the trees on the site have a Tree Protection Order (TPO). At least the same number of new trees would be proposed around the site.

## Site sections

These cross-section views show how the proposed CDC building's height and size would relate to the nearby buildings.



Site section 1: west to east



Site section 2: north to south

## 3D views



Bird's-eye visualisation of the CDC building from the south-west

These 3D visualisations are an early indication of how the Slough community diagnostic centre (CDC) could look from a variety of perspectives, as seen from above 'bird's-eye view' and at street level around the site.



Bird's-eye visualisation of the CDC building from the north-east

## Street views



View A: Corner of Osborne Street and Church Street



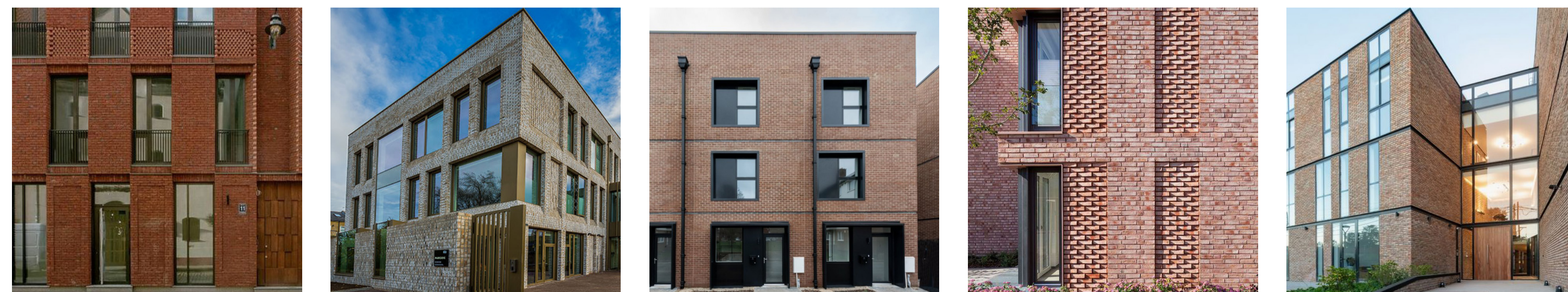
View B: Main entrance from the car park



View C: Approach to the main entrance from the Church Street access

## Façades and materials we would look to use

The images to the right are examples of materials and details which we would propose for the CDC building. The main external wall material is proposed to be brick and the colour and texture will be carefully chosen to suit the surroundings. The external material choices will need to be approved by Slough Borough Council as part of the planning process.



## Floor layouts

The plans for the ground and first floors of the centre are shown below. The main entrance is at the south-west corner of the building, with stairs and lifts next to it leading to the first floor.



Ground floor plan



First floor plan

### Departments

- |                  |                                 |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| Public spaces    | Physiological testing           |
| MRI suite        | Staff facilities                |
| CT suite         | Utility and storage             |
| X-ray suite      | Plant and facilities management |
| Ultrasound suite |                                 |

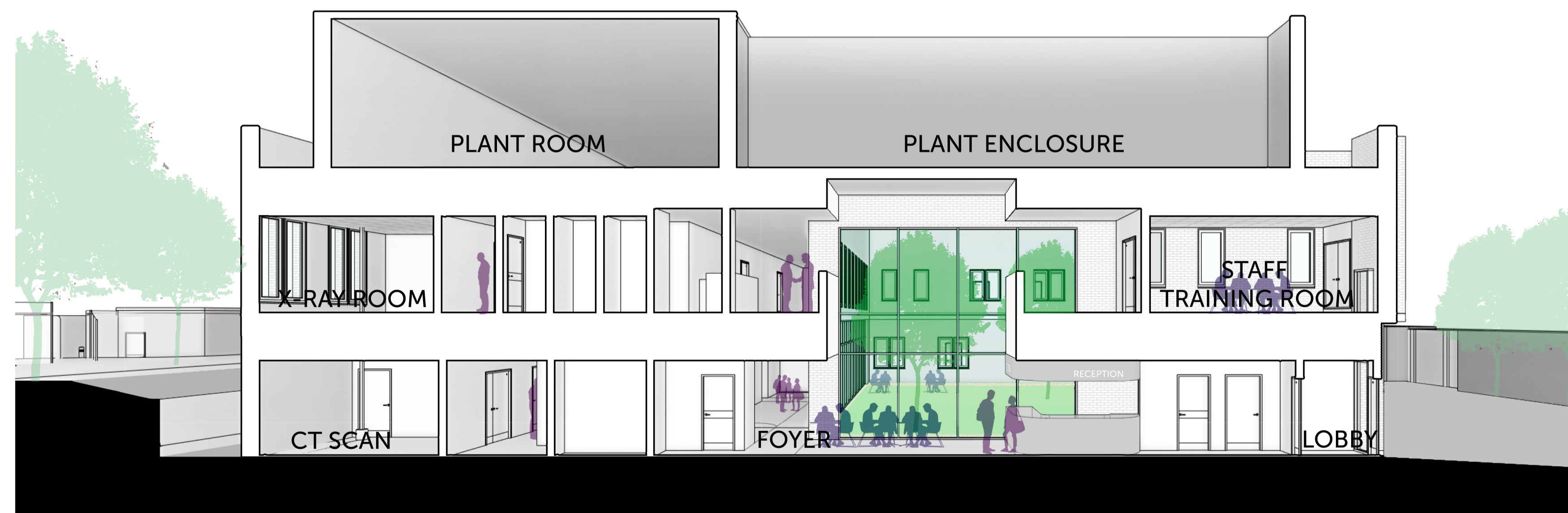


## Building sections

The perspective cross-section views below show some of the internal spaces of the building for patients, visitors, and staff, as well as the views to the outside.



Perspective section 1: Through communal areas, central courtyard and staff areas



Perspective section 2: Through entrance foyer and imaging rooms

## Listening to you and next steps

We want to hear your views on our plans for the new community diagnostic centre. The feedback we receive will be carefully considered by our design and construction team as they develop the plans for the centre.

## How to share your views

- Complete our online questionnaire – just scan the QR code below
- Ask for a paper questionnaire and hand it in to our team
- Email the team at [fhft.sloughcdc@nhs.net](mailto:fhft.sloughcdc@nhs.net)

Our engagement period ends at midnight on Sunday 8 October 2023.



Scan the QR code to access our online questionnaire

## Project milestone dates

- **Autumn 2023:** Planning submission
- **Autumn 2023:** Contractor appointed
- **Winter 2023/24:** Demolition works
- **Spring 2024:** Construction of the new CDC
- **Spring 2025:** CDC opens



Bird's-eye visualisation of the CDC building from the south-east