



ROYAL EDINBURGH HOSPITAL

GREENSPACE MANAGEMENT PLAN



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OBJECTIVES

The Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust (ELGT) has received funding from the Edinburgh and Lothians Health Foundation (ELHF), part of NHS Lothian, to create a Greenspace Management Plan (GMP) for the Royal Edinburgh Hospital (REH) with the hope of gaining a Green Flag Award (GFA). This will be the first GMP created for an NHS site in Edinburgh and the Lothians, and, if the site is successful in gaining a GFA, as far as we know it would be the first NHS site in Scotland to do so.

The Green Flag Award provides a framework for good management of parks and publicly accessible open spaces and offers a criterion to evaluate the opportunities and limitations of a particular site with a view towards valuing greenspace, protecting and enhancing it. Thus, the GFA criteria provides a good framework for this plan and has been adopted as its structure. This will also aid judging for the award.

To create the management plan for the site's greenspace, ELGT has appointed HERE+NOW CIC. HERE+NOW is a team of landscape architects with experience in greenspace management plans, park design and greenspace enhancement strategies. Work on this project has been developed collaboratively between HERE+NOW and ELGT, compiling information which has been collected from key partners at NHS Lothian and borne from face-to-face consultation meetings with stakeholders who are actively using the outdoor space at REH.

The REH is a fantastic site with an interesting history, a variety of greenspace, engaged audiences and active third sector groups. This Plan aims to recognise the site's successes but also identify areas for improvement. It is hoped this project will pave the way for other NHS sites to follow suit based on its successes and learning.



CONTEXT

The Royal Edinburgh Hospital is a 50.45-acre (20.5 hectare) site in Morningside Place, Edinburgh and is managed by NHS Lothian. It is an important asset and resource for the patients and staff. The REH has existed as a psychiatric hospital since 1813 and is an interesting collection of different aged buildings and scattered greenspaces.

The hospital grounds have seen recent development (Phase 1) and there are plans for more (Phase 2 and 3) which may affect some of the site's greenspace. This is part of a masterplanned re-development, which was granted planning permission in 2013. The masterplan aims to redevelop the Royal Edinburgh Hospital into new, high quality, fit-for-purpose health care facilities including the provision of improved access, landscaping and open space, with provision for mental health, learning disability, and integrated rehabilitation accommodation amongst buildings retained on site, all within a landscape setting.

The hospital has numerous third sector organisations working on site. Specifically relating to greenspace, Cyrenians do a lot of work in the community garden and the Conservation Volunteers (TCV) help with practical conservation across the site. Volunteer Edinburgh are involved in projects including tree planting and wildflower meadow creation. Artlink have worked in the Glasshouses since 2011 and, along with the Cyrenians, use the space to support patients and the wider hospital community in creative, artistic and horticultural activities.



The 2013 Masterplan establishes a context to any future enhancement or proposals for change on the site at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital

SITE LOCATION

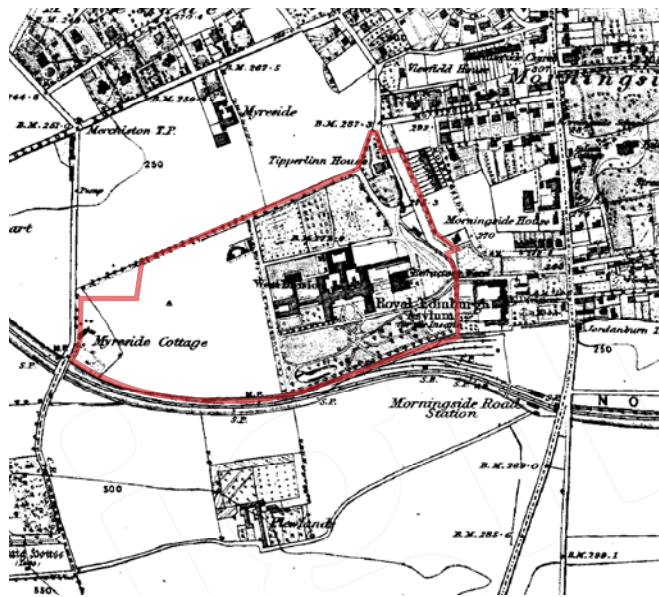


There are three vehicle entrances onto an internal service road: in the east there are access points off Morningside Terrace and Tipperlinn Road, both local residential streets. On the western boundary there is a service road access off Myreside Road, which also provides a footpath / cycleway connection into the hospital grounds.

HISTORIC MAPPING

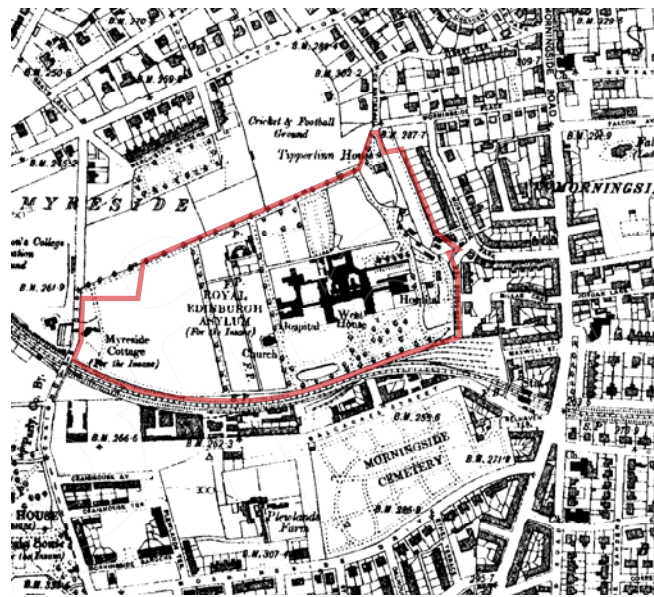
HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE SITE

It is useful to observe how the site has changed over the years, where landscape structure has been retained and allowed to mature and notably, where recreational facilities have been removed. According to records, the hospital had the ethos of providing innovative mental health care, and in this respect, various occupational facilities were present, including gardening, pig farming, poultry keeping, carpentry and tailoring. Sports were also encouraged and a curling pond, the Jordanvale Lake, can be seen at the southern site boundary on the two earliest maps.



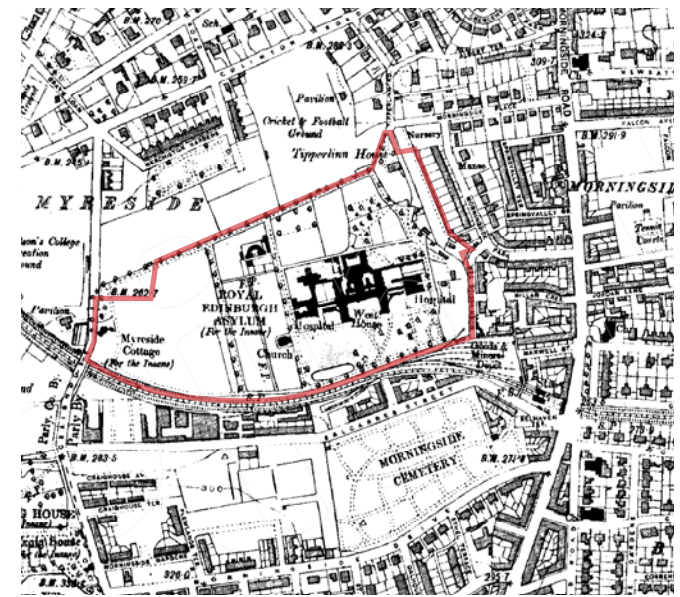
1850's

A self-contained hospital site, with gardens laid out to the north and south of the main hospital building. Tree avenues, productive growing plots laid out to a formal geometry to the north and a parkland setting to the south with specimen trees and a lake.



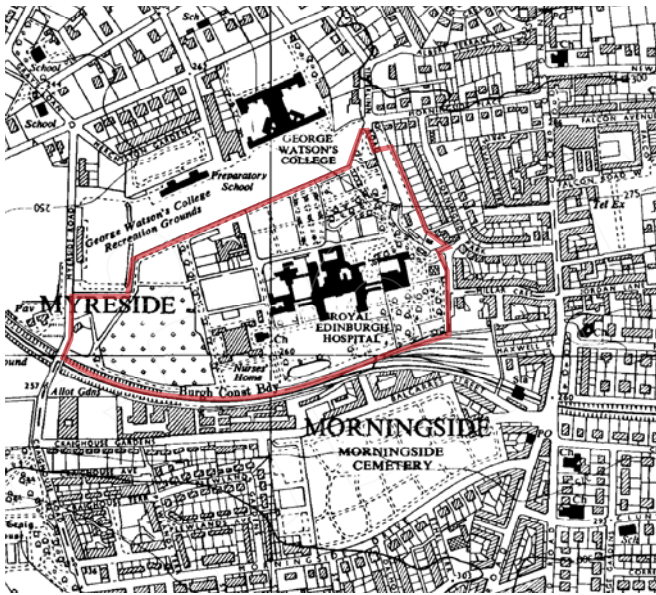
1900's

Expansion of the Royal Edinburgh Asylum to the west. A new tree avenue to define the new extents. Retention of the gardens including an extensive path network within the site. Construction of the church within this expansion development. Considerable housing development around the Morningside area, reducing fields and open space curtilage.



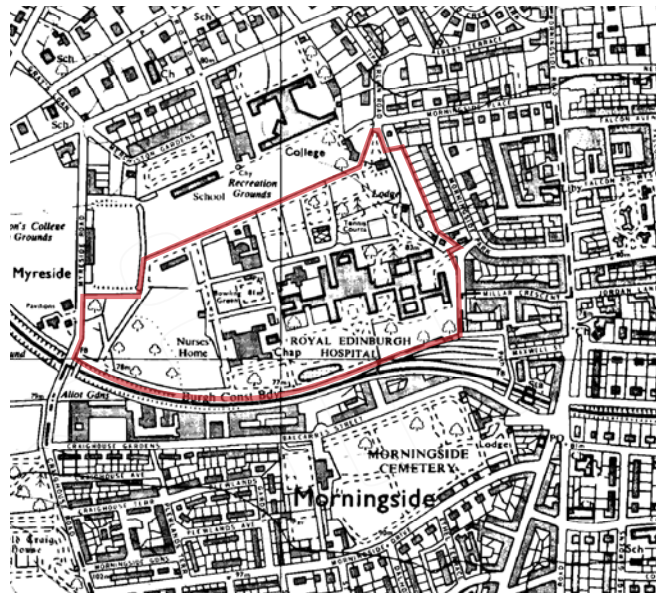
1920's

Tree growth of planted woodlands to the north of the main hospital building, now recorded as woodland on plans.



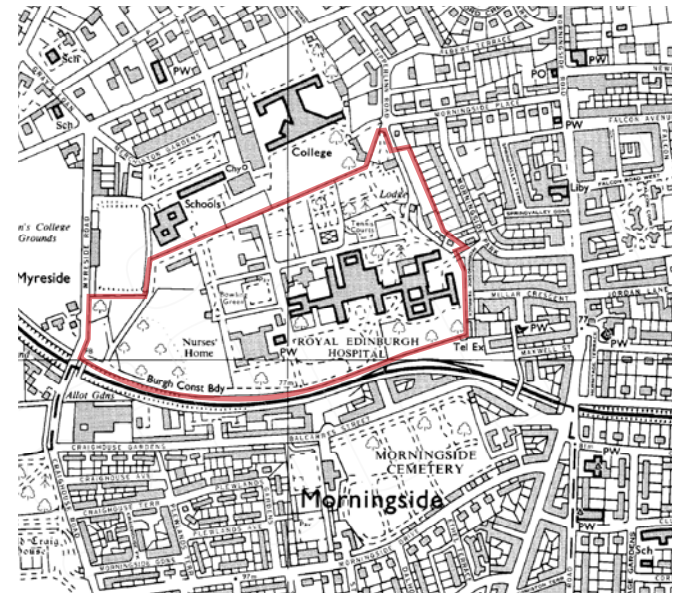
1950's

Orchard planted off Myreside Road, with new paths and roads connecting the hospital from the west. Construction of the nurses' home and further development of the grounds to the west adding roads and paths. Development of George Watson's College to the north of the hospital site.



1970's

Extensive building works within the site, including new building extensions to the main hospital building and support buildings across the site. Note the tennis courts near the entrance lodge and the bowling green to the west of the main hospital complex; and a new glasshouse constructed in the gardens to the north.



1980's

The lake in the parkland area to the south of the site has been removed, filled in but with the path retained.

GREENSPACE TYPOLOGIES MAPPING

EXISTING GREENSPACE / OPEN SPACE

Over one third of the site is identified as Open Space (as mapped in the City of Edinburgh Council's open space audit), and the majority of this is in the western and southern areas of the Site which include the community gardens, the orchard and the trees along the southern edge.

There is a wide range of types of greenspace found across the site, ranging in scale and character. Greenspaces of note include a community garden, public gardens near patient's residential accommodation, a very old orchard, the Glasshouse and a large expanse of greenspace on the west side of the site. The estates team is working to improve one of the internal courtyards to improve the raised beds, put in more seating and possibly a shelter for the hospital community. These greenspace improvements are being developed with TCV, and they are also looking at ways to improve the glasshouses and open them up more for the hospital community.

An Art Therapies Garden space is also being developed by NHS, TVC and the hospital community, which will be situated outside the Art Therapies rooms.

The boundaries of the site are framed by wide shelterbelt plantations of mature woodland trees of mixed species. To the southern boundary, adjacent to the railway lines, this has recently been bolstered with supplementary woodland planting of mixed native species. While the site has a campus feel - buildings set within a parkland environment, much of the greenspace is 'incidental', in that it does not offer a clear role or form a connective, coherent green network. The larger areas of open parkland space are underused, perhaps because of the fragmented access routes connecting the southern parkland between the entry points in the east and west.





There are a number of fallow areas adjacent to new building developments, or areas where buildings have been demolished. The masterplan for the Royal Edinburgh Hospital (9th October 2013) should be referred to for context as the site is under continual development and renewal.

The greenspace of the site at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital is important and sensitive, with a range of significant landscape features of value for protection and retention. These include two trees which are 'Scottish Champion Trees', identified on the existing trees mapping on p11. The context and curtilage to these trees is significant to the management and planning of their landscape setting.

There are also a couple of signposted walks around the edge of the site which includes a wooded area and an active travel route which is in the process of being constructed. However, there is a lack of hierarchy to both vehicular & pedestrian routes throughout the site. Although there is a network of footpath routes identified, these are disjointed, incomplete or interrupted.

GREENSPACE TYPOLOGIES MAPPING

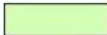


TREES / WOODLAND

-  Woodland - naturalised / boundary plantation
-  Parkland - with specimen trees
-  Orchard
-  Avenue




PRODUCTIVE GREENSPACE

-  Community garden
-  Glasshouses

AMENITY GREENSPACE

-  Mown grassland
-  Internal courtyards (not publicly accessible)
-  Amenity / structure shrub planting

OTHER

-  Bioswale
-  Fallow open ground
-  Sports and recreation (tennis courts)

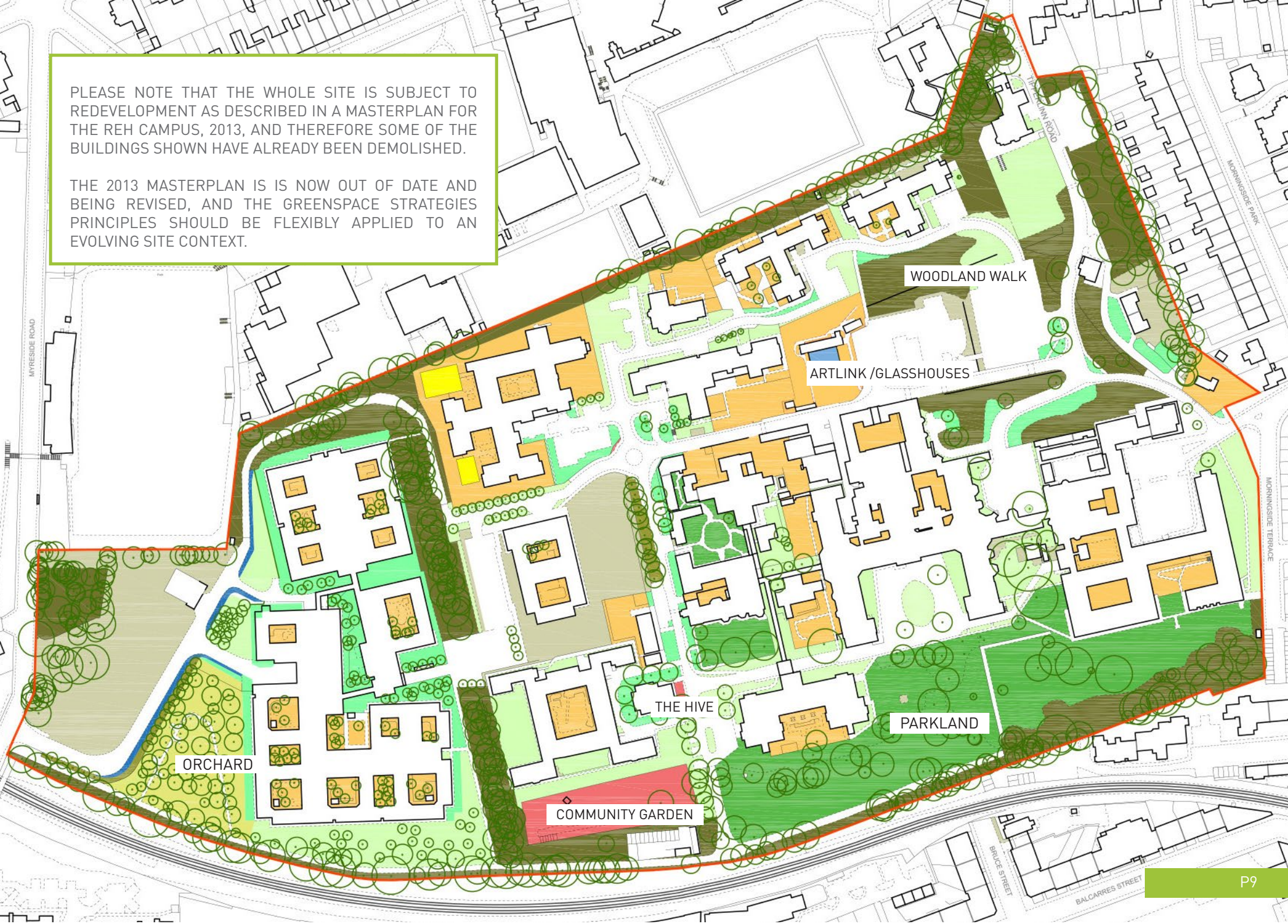
HERE + NOW C.I.C

www.thehereandnow.org.uk
hello@thehereandnow.org.uk



PLEASE NOTE THAT THE WHOLE SITE IS SUBJECT TO REDEVELOPMENT AS DESCRIBED IN A MASTERPLAN FOR THE REH CAMPUS, 2013, AND THEREFORE SOME OF THE BUILDINGS SHOWN HAVE ALREADY BEEN DEMOLISHED.

THE 2013 MASTERPLAN IS NOW OUT OF DATE AND BEING REVISED, AND THE GREENSPACE STRATEGIES PRINCIPLES SHOULD BE FLEXIBLY APPLIED TO AN EVOLVING SITE CONTEXT.



EXISTING TREES

EXISTING TREE FRAMEWORK / STRUCTURE

As the site has been developed over the last 200 years, structure planting has been used to give the site a framework, boundaries, amenity and context. As expansion incrementally unrolled westward, avenues were planted in succession to contain the site and create a series of boundaries. These tree avenues are still evident today, as mature trees forming strong north-south avenues within the overall hospital site.

The southern boundary defined by the railway lines is also reinforced by large mature broadleaf trees, a mixture of Oak, Ash, and Sycamore prevail.

Both the avenues and the boundary planting to the south have been recently underplanted with a mixture of native woodland species - Rowan, Holly, Hawthorn, Elder, and Blackthorn. These are planted densely, as young whips, and they will form thick swathes of native woodland blocks.

There are also a number of parkland areas, notably to the south where a large grassy open area is interspersed with large mature specimen trees of a variety of evergreen and deciduous species including Cedars, Acers and Willows.

To the west, there is an ancient orchard. This is a delightful feature and of real value within the site. It is one of the last remaining urban orchards in Scotland and is of historic and cultural significance. The gnarly old trees have been recently pruned and the whole orchard brought into positive management by formative pruning, inter-planting with new fruiting trees (approx. 25no. trees planted), and a footpath loop has been constructed to bring this feature into the greenspace amenity of the site.

Within the setting of Mackinnon House there are 2 specimens trees, a Hungarian Oak and True Service tree, which are of national significance, and are recognised as Scottish Champion Trees.



Tree avenues



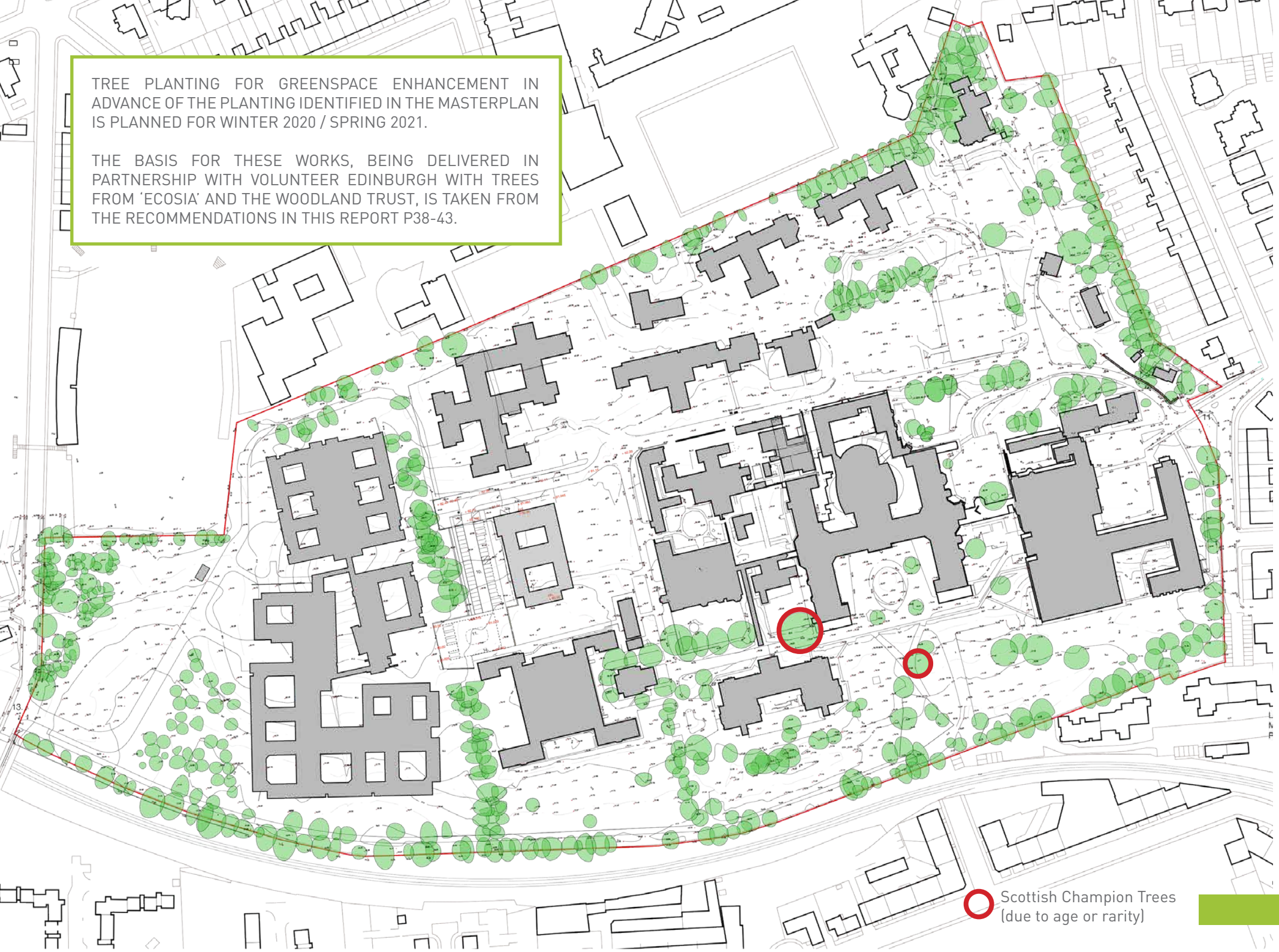
Mature parkland specimen trees



Historic orchard

TREE PLANTING FOR GREENSPACE ENHANCEMENT IN ADVANCE OF THE PLANTING IDENTIFIED IN THE MASTERPLAN IS PLANNED FOR WINTER 2020 / SPRING 2021.

THE BASIS FOR THESE WORKS, BEING DELIVERED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH VOLUNTEER EDINBURGH WITH TREES FROM 'ECOSIA' AND THE WOODLAND TRUST, IS TAKEN FROM THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THIS REPORT P38-43.

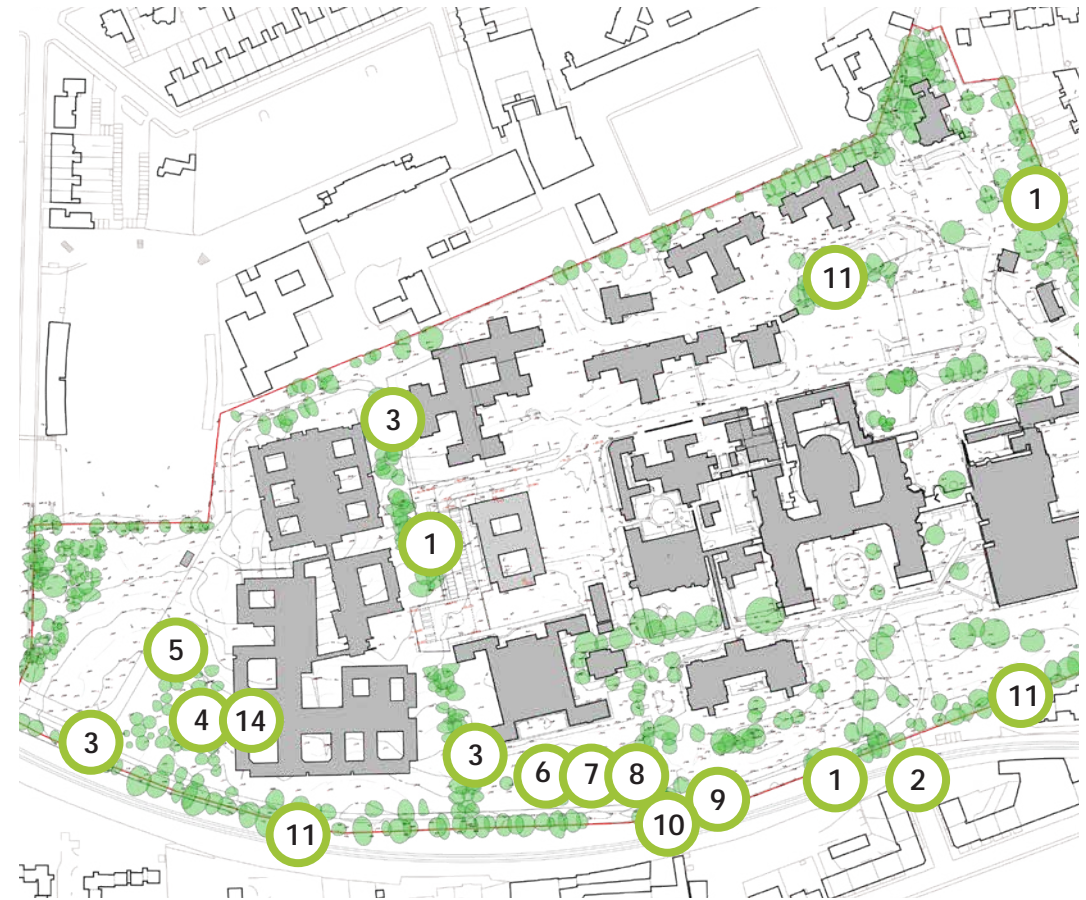


○ Scottish Champion Trees
(due to age or rarity)

ECOLOGY

ECOLOGICAL VALUE

1. The mixed mature woodland belts around the perimeter of the site and bisecting the site from north to south at the historic western extents of the campus. These woodlands hold native species including Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), Oak (*Quercus robur*), Lime (*Tilia cordata*), Elm (*Ulmus glabra*) and Poplar species. The linear nature of these woodlands offers a valuable wildlife corridor around and through the site.
2. Bat foraging and commuting ground is provided by the woodland and parkland areas. Cyrenians (who run the community garden) have made bat boxes and are working with the estates team to determine where best to site them.
3. New linear woodland belts have been planted to strengthen existing over-mature woodland areas as part of a positive woodland management plan. These species are smaller in their eventual size and canopy spread than the species in the existing woodland belts, including Rowan (*Sorbus acuparia*), Blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*), Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*), Yew (*Taxus baccata*),
4. The historic orchard contains a wide variety of heritage cultivars, making the whole orchard more bio- resilient to climate change, pests and diseases while offering valuable habitat, food plants and nesting sites. It is managed to enhance biodiversity value.
5. New swales have been introduced around the New Royal Edinburgh Hospital building, which offer a wetter habitat thereby supporting greater biodiversity.
6. Bee keeping at the community garden, with hives managed by Cyrenians.
7. Planting for Pollinators project, a large area of mixed perennials.
8. Wildlife hedge consisting of 100+ native varieties.
9. New willow plantation.
10. New composting site, working with estates team to compost natural materials from across the site.
11. Bird boxes throughout the site on ward grounds, in the Orchard and throughout the woodland areas.



12. The team is developing a Plan for the orchard's improvement and management, which is a partnership between The Orchard Project and the Estates teams.
13. There is an aspiration to incorporate sensory planting in the community garden.
14. The John Muir award is delivered throughout woodland areas by Cyrenians.

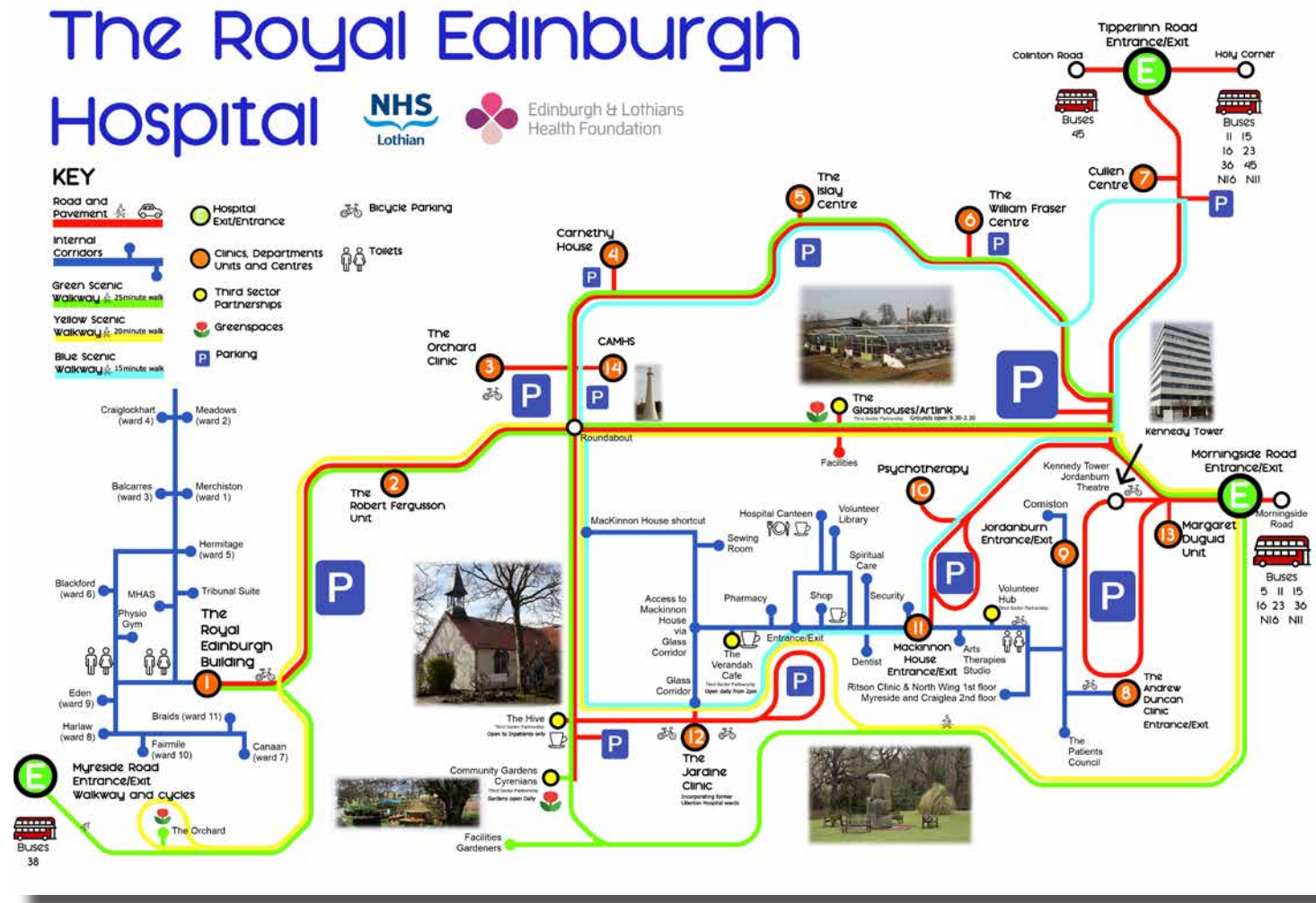
WAYFINDING

FOOTPATHS, WAYFINDING AND SITE INTERPRETATION

The importance of way-finding across the campus is recognised, and there are a number of paths around the campus, marked with colour coded finger posts and bollards. Staff and patients are encouraged to make use of the parkland greenspace for exercise and fresh air.

While the intention is there, the wayfinding network is disorientating and in places incompletely marked out. It is difficult to follow any of the set routes as they weave through the landscape and buildings, navigating the road crossings.

There is a wayfinding strategy currently being developed by a consultant who has been commissioned. The intention is to consolidate the opportunity of footpaths, site interpretation and wayfinding into a cohesive strategy, reconsidering how the way markers, noticeboards and maps work together to make for enjoyable outdoor recreation in the site's greenspace setting.



This map was a community project with Occupational Therapy on site, and will be developed further. It is recognised that its stylised design makes it difficult to correlate with features on the ground, making navigation difficult for new visitors to the site.

GREENSPACE MAPPING

THE WIDER GREENSPACE NETWORK

EXTRACTED FROM THE OS MAPS 'GREENSPACE MAP'
WWW.GREENSPACESCOTLAND.ORG.UK

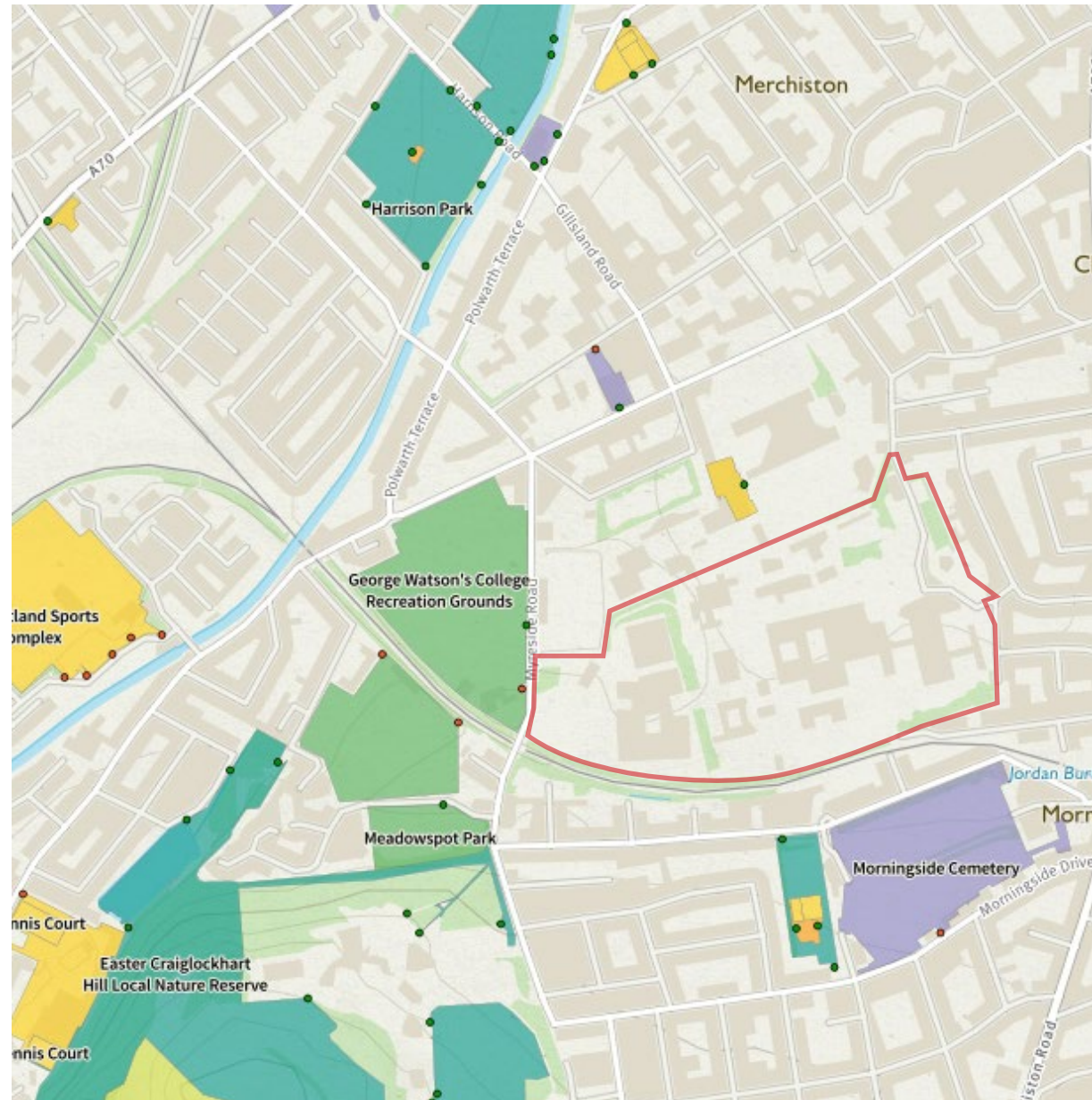
Notably, although the greenspace at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital is publicly accessible, it is not identified as greenspace on the Greenspace Scotland dataset.

Based on this mapping, people within the Morningside area - both local residents and residents / visitors to the Royal Edinburgh Hospital - would appear to have a very limited greenspace amenity and resource. If the open space which is within the grounds of the REH site is added to this mapping it significantly alters the picture of greenspace resource within this dense urban neighbourhood. It was noted that during the Covid-19 lockdown of 2020, the community garden was busier than ever, according to Cyrenians who manage the garden.

Therefore, there is an opportunity to consider how connections could be made to build on this as part of a greenspace network, using existing routes and corridors, and swathes of open space within the site.

Work has been done by Sustrans and partners to build an active travel connection for walking / cycling along the southern boundary parallel with the railway. This route has been surfaced between the access off Myreside Road and the grounds maintenance yard half way along the southern boundary. The project team has been informed that the southern boundary will be completed along with further stages of the Masterplan delivery, and in the meantime the creation of a temporary pathway to connect in to the Community Garden is underway.

There is an aspiration to enhance the infrastructure to make active travel choices. There is a Staff Health & Wellbeing Group on site, lead by the Head Occupational Therapist. The group is looking at ways to encourage active travel choices e.g. bike hire, bike sheds, bike maintenance on site, and the development of the walking routes.





RECORD

PHOTOGRAPHS

1. Snowdrops in naturalised woodland areas
2. 'Back' of the New Royal Edinburgh building
3. Recent tree planting at the New Royal Edinburgh
4. Historic orchard
5. Bioswale storm water drainage (SuDS)
6. Extensive areas of new native tree planting
7. The Myreside Road entrance
8. Shared foot / cycle path
9. Surfaced extents of foot / cycle path ends
10. Community Garden (Cyrenians)
11. Community growing plots



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11



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14



15



16



17



18



19



20



21

- 12. Chapel building - The Hive
- 13. Garden outside The Hive
- 14. Internal courtyard garden spaces, typically mown grass
- 15. Mature amenity shrub planting around the campus
- 16. Signage to community garden at a roundabout junction
- 17. Finger post signage for path routes
- 18. Footpath markers found across site
- 19. Verge planting near the glasshouses
- 20. 'Just Eat' bike hire outside the Kennedy Tower
- 21. Parking pressure results in informal parking across the grounds

SITE PANORAMAS



AREA UNDER CONSTRUCTION; REAR (SERVICE ONLY) ENTRANCE TO NEW ROYAL EDINBURGH BUILDING



THE GLASSHOUSE - THERAPEUTIC SPACES AND FACILITIES



VACANT GROUND NEAR NEW ROYAL EDINBURGH BUILDING; VIEW TO PENTLAND HILLS IN THE DISTANCE



CONFLUENCE OF ROUTES AT TIPPERLIN ROAD ENTRANCE POINT, DISORIENTATING AND LACKING CLEAR HIERARCHY



CAR PARKING CONSTRAINTS AND REQUIREMENTS - AT THE SITE OF THE FORMER SCOTTISH AMBULANCE CENTRE



OPEN PARKLAND AT THE SOUTH OF THE SITE, WELL USED BY THE LOCAL PUBLIC



ENTRANCE TO THE NEW REH BUILDING; DOMINATED BY CAR DROP OFF AND PARKING

ANALYSIS

OPPORTUNITIES

The extensive grounds at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital, extending over 50 acres, offer an exceptional opportunity to benefit the health and wellbeing of people visiting, living and working at the hospital campus. As an openly accessible urban greenspace, it is also a valuable and significant asset to the local community of Morningside. As is noted in the greenspace mapping analysis (p14), the greenspace at REH is critical to the provision of adequate greenspace in this part of Edinburgh.

As such, planning for its holistic and sustainable enhancement through this Greenspace Management Plan is an unmissable opportunity. Hospital greenspace can provide the following:

- Accelerated patient recovery
- Facilitate stress reduction which helps the body reach a more balanced state
- Help a patient summon up their own inner healing resources
- Help a patient come to terms with an incurable medical condition
- Provide a setting where staff can conduct physical therapy, horticultural therapy, with patients
- Provide staff with a needed retreat from the stress of work
- Enhance mood, self-esteem, lower blood pressure
- Provide a relaxed setting for patient/visitor interaction away from the hospital interior
- Improve air quality, reduce surface temperature and risk of flooding

The Estates Department in partnership with a range of on-site community groups, trusts and organisations (full list reported in Section 8) have sought to enhance the landscape setting at the hospital. This is evidenced through the wide range of art and greenspace project works across the campus, as described in Section 6 on p48.

Together, NHS Lothian and their partners have already implemented projects in community growing, therapeutic activities, biodiversity enhancement and artistic interventions, while embracing sustainable management approaches. This collaborative way of working is protected by a commitment to ongoing monthly partnership meetings to review and coordinate these activities.

The group is aware of the Royal Bournemouth and Christchurch Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust being the first NHS Trust within the United Kingdom to gain the Green Flag Award in 2016. With the awareness of the greenspace asset already on the site, and inspired by the BCH Trust as a forerunner, there is an aspiration to reflect on existing hard work and greenspace opportunities and take these forward with the guide of a day to day greenspace management plan which will help to ensure that the Royal Edinburgh Hospital campus continues to provide a quality greenspace that provides staff, patients and visitors a sanctuary for rest and recuperation.

CONSTRAINTS

Due to the complex nature of the site and its functionality, there are a number of constraints which should be noted and considered in the preparation of the greenspace management plan. The nature of these constraints varies -

- Statutory designations to protect the valuable features and assets of the site;
- Operational limitations which have an implication on how the site is used especially in the context of providing a safe setting for vulnerable users;
- Ecological constraints due to the valuable nature of the mature natural habitats and the rare / unique greenspaces, notably the historic orchard and the mature historic boundary woodland structure;
- Technical issues relating to the feasibility of building re-development and masterplanning considerations, from building functionality to drainage and infrastructure planning;
- Legal limitations may also exist relating to conditions imposed upon the site from the planning.

CONSTRAINT	DESCRIPTION	ISSUE
Statutory	Cycle routes	At present, the pedestrian / cycle route through the site is incomplete; it remains unsurfaced between the eastern entrance and the maintenance yard. There is a desire within the Edinburgh Active Travel Action Plan and emerging Local Development Plan to provide a complete pedestrian/cycle route running east/west through the site, which will contribute to an extended network of routes.
Ecological	Habitat	Presence of protected species – bats and badgers have been recorded on site in habitat surveys completed in support of the 2013 planning application.
	Trees	Whilst no tree protection orders (TPO) exist, numerous high value species are found on the site. A complete tree survey was completed for the 2013 planning application of the proposed site masterplan.
	The orchard	The only remaining urban orchard in Scotland is noted as existing on site. The significance of its existence may constrain development.
Operational	Clinical adjacencies	There is a requirement to maximise access to viable outdoor space for recreation and respite.
	Parking	Existing parking spaces are oversubscribed, and land available for car parking expansion is limited.
	Visitors / residents	There are very different users of the open space at the REH site, from vulnerable people who are resident on the site to dog walkers living in the wider community. Different needs and expectations.
Technical	Made ground	The historical investigation undertaken for the 2013 planning application shows the soils to be reasonably competent.
	Surface Water	A SUDS strategy is in place and should inform the design of the greenspace management plan.
	Network Rail	The operational railway requires any proposed alterations to be highlighted to Network Rail who may advise restrictions on design to protect railway safety.

GREEN FLAG AWARD CRITERIA SECTIONS

The aims outlined throughout these sections describe the positive and inviting environment the project aims to develop. This report has been produced in order to give a guide to the day to day operational management of the REH estate, and to assist with the judging process for The Green Flag Award.

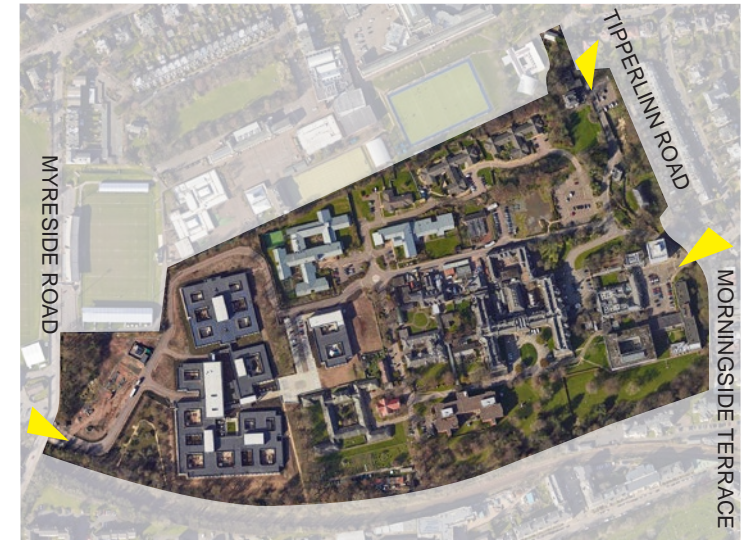
- Provide a positive and inviting environment where patients, visitors and staff can come to relax, recuperate and reflect
- Provide a welcoming and informative greenspace for all patients, visitors and staff
- Provide a healthy, safe and secure greenspace for all users
- Provide a well maintained and clean greenspace
- Continue to manage the site in a sympathetic and sustainable manner
- Encourage biodiversity and wildlife across the Royal Edinburgh Hospital campus
- Actively engage with the community on work carried out within the hospital grounds
- Communicate internally and externally the work being carried out
- Ensure the highest standard of service in terms of grounds and resource management.

1 A WELCOMING PLACE

ENTRANCES

The Royal Edinburgh Hospital campus is accessed at three key locations at its perimeter, where the site meets the surrounding streets at Morningside Terrace, Tipperlin Road and Myreside Road. The eastern entrance off Myreside Road is marked by a widening of the pavement and a gateway space, with signage and attractive paving material changes to mark the entrance. The other two entrances are more subtly signalled with entrance signage, but largely they blend into the adjacent streetscape with little sense of arrival or gateway.

The design of the entrance spaces on the east of the site (i.e. Tipperlin Road and Myreside Road) could be more welcoming with features to invite and draw people in to the greenspace. There is little at these locations to highlight the publicly accessible greenspace within the site, and these entrances lack a sense of invitation to come in to the site.



Myreside Road entrance - marked with a change in paving material, streetscape furniture such as lighting, signage and information panel.



Tipperlin Road entrance - the gatehouse is not in use however does display a noticeboard which provides a route map which is useful to visitors arriving on foot. There is no overall mapping / site plan for drivers arriving on the hospital grounds, so it is difficult to orientate building layout and car parking locations. The pavement is narrow and difficult for wheeled access to navigate.



Morningside Terrace entrance - pedestrian only, opening onto the southern parkland area. There is some limited signage, however it isn't designed very invitingly and does not give a sense of open access to the public to these grounds as a local greenspace amenity.

SIGNAGE

The current signage is largely focused on the buildings and their functionality, offering wayfinding for the car user rather than directing pedestrians around the campus. There are finger posts and a series of colour coded routes marked with timber bollards, however the routes are hard to follow.

There are a number of locations with noticeboards, with a number of different plans (sometimes with conflicting graphics / mapping) showing the buildings, suggested marked out walking routes, and some of the greenspace amenities including community gardens and growing projects. They do not mark out the different types of greenspace as such. These noticeboards are located at the entrance off Myreside Road, the gatehouse building on Tipperlin Road and the road junction near MacKinnon House. There is a notable lack of outside noticeboard provision at the New REH Building.

There is a separate study underway to look at the design and interpretation of the walking routes in the greenspace, and it is proposed to introduce additional signage relating to the paths and routes throughout the REH greenspace.



The noticeboard at the Myreside Road entrance. Limited information provided on a washed out plan.



A different graphic map of the walking routes around the site, located on the Tipperlin Road gatehouse building. This is much easier to navigate than the 'underground' style plan, however the marker signage on the ground doesn't facilitate complete routes to be followed.



Signage for car drivers should be rationalised and streamlined, where it often clutters the streetscape environment across the site.



Timber walking route markers. More needed to 'join the dots', and make the routes easier to follow.

Full recommendations of the forthcoming wayfinding strategy should be referred to.

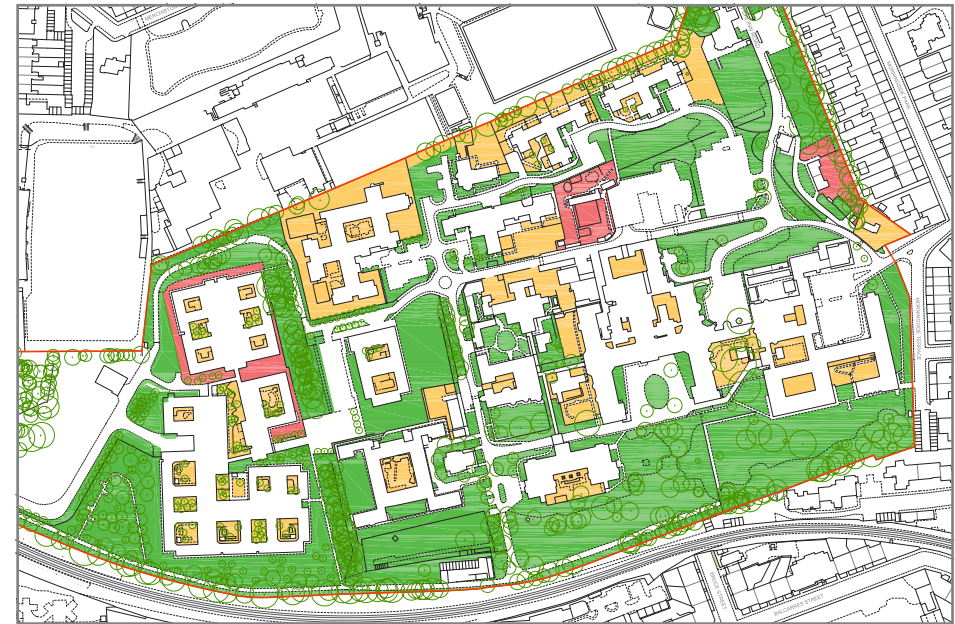
ACCESSIBILITY - GENERAL

The majority of the acreage of greenspace across the campus is open and accessible, un-gated and with accessible pathway routes throughout and linking spaces together. However, there is also a high number of much smaller internal courtyard spaces which are private, or limited in access to protect vulnerable users who benefit from a sense of enclosure and privacy. These are therapeutic greenspaces and in particular the New REH Building was designed to incorporate a considerable number of these spaces (18 private internal courtyards are a key feature of the building design).

The residential buildings along the northern boundary also incorporate a range of private and semi-private courtyard greenspaces, and these are very important to protect and respect to the benefit of vulnerable people who are resident at the REH. Design and management of site accessibility should be mindful of the residential aspect of the services on site.

In other buildings around the campus, there is direct access from wards into greenspaces of different types. It is well recorded and acknowledged that a green view from a ward environment can influence recovery and has a positive effect.

The open parkland area in the south is accessible via a range of different path types, from fully accessible wide and well surfaced routes to paths over mown grass through the trees near the southern boundary wall.



The publicly accessible greenspace, which is welcoming and connected into the wider townscape setting is part of the site's intrinsic value, however it must be managed in balance with private and semi-private open green space for the patients and visitors of the hospital.

- Publicly accessible greenspace (refer to typologies mapping p9)
- Semi-public / limited access greenspace areas
- Private greenspaces not accessible to the public



Access to the Glasshouses is limited; protecting therapeutic space for patients.



The Community Garden is open to all and uses signage and a plant shop to invite people in.



Private internal courtyards.

ACCESSIBILITY - FOOT PATHS




There is a wide range of path type and condition around the site, ranging from well designed routes for inclusive access to very informal connections between buildings and greenspace areas. There is little visual cohesion or overall design rationale for the surfaces used or a palette of materiality; the quality, condition and accessibility of the greenspace directly impacts people’s experience of these open spaces.

There is an opportunity to improve the accessibility of certain pedestrian connections across the site, where surfaces are improved for the fullest range of user group, including those in wheelchairs, infirm or partially sighted / blind users, or pushing prams or other walking aids. Surfaces should be smooth, with gradients not changing suddenly and with alternative routes where steps are required to link areas. A number of these missing connections, or areas where accessibility is hindered are identified below and on the map opposite.

1. Sustrans walking / cycle route forming a complete east - west link along the parkland edge of the southern boundary.
2. Connections could be formed across and through the parkland. Currently, users who are mobility restricted are limited to the upper paths (surfaced), while local dog walkers tend to favour walking desire line routes over the mown grass. Due to the topography, these desire lines are often through wet ground, causing damage to the grass and limiting use.
3. Access to the parkland greenspace off Morningside Terrace is down a steep ramp, which restrict accessibility to some users.
4. There are a couple of woodland seating spots located along this very informal route, which is also only accessible via steps (on the west) or a steep unsurfaced slope (on the east). Access to this ‘hidden woodland garden’ could be enhanced, while not detracting from the quiet solitude this greenspace offers.
5. Narrow pinch point on Tipperlin Road at one of the main entrances.
6. Some connections between footways, buildings and car parks are missing and result in desire lines across incidental greenspaces.



Pedestrian movement priority routes are an important concept for enhanced accessibility. The 2013 masterplan identifies a more legible organisation, which could inform a design for route hierarchy and network design. Active travel connections through the site are part of integrating this site into its wider neighbourhood setting.

-  Walking / Cycle Route (Sustrans partnership)
-  Internal pedestrian routes
-  Missing link / potential for path enhancement



Recently surfaced routes at the New REH Building; wide, smooth, permeable surfacing which is inclusive and attractive within its woodland setting.



PARKING MANAGEMENT

Parking areas are distributed throughout the Royal Edinburgh campus, located adjacent to the buildings and facilities they serve. As such, parking zones need careful management to ensure they are the correct scale and capacity for the buildings they relate to. This dispersed nature of provision means that parking is carefully managed duration of stay to ensure availability of spaces at appropriate times and locations.

Parking spaces for those who are mobility impaired need to be located close to building entrances, and due to this there is a feeling of cars being dotted throughout the whole site. The relatively close proximity of the Royal Edinburgh campus in relation to Morningside Road has seen parking activity on site which is not related to the services on site. This is likely to be associated with people who work, shop or visit the area and perceive parking at Royal Edinburgh to be a convenient alternative to other managed or restricted parking provision in the area. Parking in the area surrounding the site is controlled, restricting the nature of parking activity which can take place. To improve access for all who are visiting the REH, car parking will require better regulation. This will ensure that parking is not over provided, to the detriment of the greenspace quality and cohesion.

The masterplanning exercise of 2013 confirmed that parking provision on campus will be limited to around 450 surface spaces. The campus currently provides around 360 formal spaces, although a recent parking survey suggests that informal parking activity can increase the total number of vehicles on campus to around 470. This informal activity will be discouraged in the future to improve the safety and quality of the area.

NHS Lothian has confirmed that the provision of 450 spaces on campus is considered to be adequate and that demand will be managed to control access and influence travel mode choice. This is driven by a desire to improve safety and avoid car domination.



Map indicating car parking provision across the campus at REH

- Existing car parking
- Areas of informal car parking observed



Informal car parking between areas of shrub planting

A WELCOMING PLACE: MANAGEMENT PLAN RECOMMENDATION + ACTIONS

The following summarises recommendation for the improved management of the site to achieve a more welcoming and inclusive place. These should be cross referenced with recommendations emerging in other supporting reports such as the forthcoming work on a site-wide wayfinding strategy.

SHORT TERM ACTIONS (2020 / 2021)

- Current development of Hospital entrances including review of their location especially in relation to Kackinnon House so they can be properly signposted, highlighted with suitable wayfinding / signage.
- The site map graphic communication should be less stylised and easier to interpret in relation to features and landmarks on the ground.
- A separate map and way marking signage should be prepared and installed. The plan should identify the different types of greenspace on campus, and interpret their special features of cultural and natural heritage, biodiversity and local interest.
- Interpretive / artistic signage could be installed to inform staff, visitors and patients of the spaces where wildflower is growing and other areas where maintenance practices have been adapted from standard to encourage biodiversity.
- There is opportunity to expand the accessibility of path routes through the publicly accessible greenspace, where surfaces could be improved for the fullest range of user groups, including those in wheelchairs, infirm or partially sighted / blind users, or pushing prams or other walking aids. Surfaces should be smooth, with gradients not changing suddenly and with alternative routes where steps are required to link areas.
- Measures should be taken to discourage informal parking activity on the site, ensuring those who need it have access to parking spaces in close proximity to buildings they are accessing and that land which is providing greenspace amenity or connection is not lost to undue parking provision.
- De-clutter and streamline vehicular signage - speed limit, building names, directions and general site wide information could be communicated as a suite.

LONGER TERM ACTIONS (2022+)

- The entrance spaces at Tipperlin Road and Myreside Road could be enhanced through pavement design and width, street furniture, welcoming signage and wayfinding for car drivers, cyclists and pedestrians.
- Continue to extend the accessible path network around the site, as the phase 2 Masterplan building works are implemented, completing East-West connection.

2

HEALTHY, SAFE & SECURE

FACILITIES AND ACTIVITIES

The publicly accessible parkland around the REH campus remains open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Most members of the public will access the parkland from either the Morningside Terrace entrance for dog walking or from Myreside Road to connect with destinations in the west. The unsurfaced path along the southern boundary is the key route for grounds maintenance, as the yard is located at the point where the active travel route changes from surfaced to unsurfaced. Vehicle operatives adhere to a speed limit on-site of 10MPH. Any other vehicular access in any of the parkland area is restricted. It is noted however that vehicles will park on the more incidental greenspaces which are dotted nearby buildings, reducing their quality and usability.

There are a number of indoor facilities such as the Verandah cafe and the cafe at The Hub, which are publicly accessible and which offer visitors to the hospital a destination and a meeting point. These are not currently signed for, and are therefore difficult to find if not a regular visitor to the hospital grounds.

The various organisations and charities operating on the site hold events and activities in the greenspace, encouraging and supporting health and wellbeing. There are volunteer sessions at the community gardens, community cooking events, and music in the hospitals. These activities are communicated via staff intranet and email via management.

Benches are located along key walking routes and there is good provision of outdoor seating in the parkland area. Attractive crafted seating is located along the walking route in the Orchard, enhancing this key site greenspace asset. Low stone walls are often used as informal seating around the more built up parts of the campus; in the more historic part of the site this isn't by design, however it does offer some attractive seating options especially in courtyard areas. At the New REH Building this is intentional, and provides opportunities to stop and enjoy the outdoor areas.

The Orchard Clinic internal greenspace area, which is fenced off from the wider greenspace network includes sports and active recreation facilities. These are not publicly accessible, and are for the young people resident on the site.



Seating in the Orchard, used for therapeutic greenspace activities for patients.



Low wall seating at the New REH entrance

PERSONAL SECURITY

None of the publicly accessible greenspace areas are fenced in, however the private internal courtyards are all screened from view with high walls or close boarded timber palisade fences min. 2m high. Privacy and a sense of enclosure are very important to the sense of personal safety and security of the patients at the REH.

There are no areas of permanent open water which would require control of access, however the drainage associated with more recent developments on site include Sustainable Drainage Systems of swales and filter trenches. These will periodically contain water, as its discharge into underground storage or piped drainage is controlled. This is not considered a safety hazard due to the shallow profile of swale sides, and the long grass and shrub planting associated with these features which discourages access.

The site is lit to a good level around the site, with all surfaced footpath routes lit with overhead street lamps.

There is a wheelchair accessible public toilet in Mackinnon House, however signposting for public / visitor toilet provision on site could be much better. With just one accessible toilet, it can be a long walk on such a large campus.

DOG WALKING

Dog walking on the site is not discouraged, and it is recognised that this is a valuable means for many people to enjoy outdoor recreation. Dog walkers tend to use the southern parkland area only, and no dog walking was observed in the more built up areas or to the north of the site. As such, the public health risk of dog toileting on site is naturally controlled. It was noted that there is no obvious issue with dog fouling, and the site appeared not to be troubled with inconsiderate dog walkers. No dog mess bins are provided, however there are litter bins in the parkland area which are used by the dog walkers. Additional bins for dog mess could be useful to maintain the good standards.

HEALTHY, SAFE AND SECURE: MANAGEMENT PLAN RECOMMENDATION + ACTIONS

In summary, a series of actions and suggestions for next steps to improve the campuses safety and security are noted below. If these can be implemented, it would enhance the existing provision and facilities on site, extending their contribution to a greater range of greenspace user.

SHORT TERM ACTIONS (2020 / 2021)

- Increase accessibility to woodland seating area located to the east of the Glasshouses garden, to offer more secluded quiet greenspace amenity which is safe and accessible in the north of the site.
- Public toilets and sign posting.
- Provide wheelchair friendly benches in the parkland, in association with the other seating already provided.
- Install dog mess bins in the parkland greenspace to the benefit of local dog walkers.

LONGER TERM ACTIONS (2022+)

- Installation of a publicly accessible adult changing facility

WELL MAINTAINED & CLEAN

LITTER AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

The team developing the quality of the greenspace at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital know that cleanliness and maintenance are the first impressions of how attractive a site is to visitors and staff, and that a well cared for environment is essential to a healthy and safe place. Litter and other waste management issues are dealt with immediately, in a way which isn't possible in a more 'typical' greenspace where the maintenance staff aren't permanently located on site. Having a grounds maintenance team based on the campus means any issues can be resolved, resources made available, and the greenspace can remain permanently open and safe for use.

There is very little litter evident around the site, and there is sufficient provision of general waste bins. No recycling bins were observed in the grounds of the campus, however recycling is available in bins within each building.

While there is not a policy in place on vandalism, litter and maintenance, these tasks are allocated to personnel and competently undertaken. A policy could be written to ensure this level of quality control is protected into the future; a policy should be regularly reviewed to ensure it is relevant and addressing all current issues and conditions. The content should be based on regular site walkabouts and inspections of the greenspace areas, where any issues arising should be raised through a docket system to rectify problems - there is currently no formal written procedure or record of findings, and this data could be captured to inform / upgrade a Site Facilities Management plan.

The whole of The Royal Edinburgh Hospital site is non-smoking, except for designated smoking shelters located across the site. One of the maintenance team's responsibilities is to empty the cigarette bins located within these shelters. It is noted that not every staff member, patient or visitor adheres to the site policy, and the maintenance team aim to keep on top of sweeping up cigarette butts dropped outwith designated smoking areas.

HORTICULTURAL / ARBORICULTURAL MAINTENANCE

The grounds maintenance is carried out by the estates team, employed by NHS Lothian. The maintenance team is responsible for grass cutting, edging and strimming, hedge cutting and tree management, control of weeds in paths and around buildings, and other gardening day to day maintenance tasks. They also maintain the equipment used to undertake these tasks.

The tree management is carried out by the Head Gardener, who follows up any actions identified either by enlisting the in-house team or contracting external tree surgeon specialists.

Badgers, deer and rabbits have been seen regularly throughout the site, however their impact is not such as to cause concern or additional management / maintenance issues.

BUILDING + INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE

The maintenance team also ensures bins are emptied, and they look after the infrastructure such as making minor repairs to paths, and winter gritting of routes to buildings when required.

There is a maintenance policy in place, which was last reviewed in January 2020, describing purpose, scope and approach. The Estates adopt a two-strand approach to maintenance priorities: reactive maintenance and planned preventative maintenance. Staff and visitors can report issues and complaints by calling the Estates Department.

WELL MAINTAINED AND CLEAN: MANAGEMENT PLAN RECOMMENDATION + ACTIONS

There are limitations in the recorded information and systems in place for quality control to ensure a well maintained and clean greenspace environment. Implementing a policy approach which is regularly reviewed is the key recommendation for this aspect of maintaining a high quality greenspace.

A simple system which invites reporting from all staff and visitors to the REH site would provide many 'eyes on the ground', quickly identifying and lodging reports of any issues around the site. Other recommendations and actions are noted below:

SHORT TERM ACTIONS (2020 / 2021)

- Ensure adequate bin provision along the east-west parkland link which is the predominant route for local dog walkers.
- Install recycling bins in the outdoor environment, and explore opportunities for wider composting provisions.

LONGER TERM ACTIONS (2022+)

- Consult on and develop a policy on vandalism, litter and maintenance, including methods for reporting issues witnessed.
- Develop an online 'Friends of REH' forum for feedback and ideas sharing from staff regarding the greenspaces. There is an aspiration in the NHS Lothian Greenspace & Health Strategy to recruit Green Health Champions to each of the major hospital sites.
- Conduct a review of all paving surfaces across the site, to identify a REH path materials palette. Where paths require maintenance and repair, this should be with materials in keeping with this palette. This will avoid the ad-hoc patch repairs which are observed around the site.
- Refer to the Tree Management Plan, and establish a Biodiversity Management Plan to inform future horticulture and arboricultural management practices.

4 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

MANAGING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The aspirations for the site at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital is to realise a greenspace environment which is managed to have a positive impact on the environment. This is implemented on the ground both through the current maintenance and management practices, and the planned redevelopment works described in the 2013 site masterplan.

While not documented as a policy report, the maintenance team works with an assumption against the use of peat and limits the use of chemicals to control pests and fertilisers. A sustainable development policy could be prepared which records the actions already in place and implemented, and makes recommendations for environmental management which helps reduce and mitigate future climate change at a local level. The project team at REH recognise the social responsibility to reduce operative environmental impact and the associated carbon emissions. At the heart of this, the project team is committed to ensuring staff, patients, visitors, suppliers and contractors are able to effectively engage with, and support, the carbon reduction and sustainability plans.

WASTE

The Sustainable Development Policy should describe an intention to minimise waste at all levels, from visitors and staff being able to choose low waste options at the on-site cafés, to the way that waste materials are used as resources if managed appropriately e.g. habitat piles left in appropriate areas to provide sources of food, shelter and hibernation sites.

All green waste that is produced on site from maintenance tasks is recycled where possible. In this way, green waste that cannot be re-used on site could be sent for composting at a local anaerobic digestions plant, where it is composted and then re-sold.

ENERGY

The streets and many of the courtyard spaces are lit, and energy efficient lighting should be used for all external lighting throughout the hospital campus. Site generation of electricity could be considered, for example other NHS sites use solar PV installations, or using low pressure hot water produced by the on-site incineration of by-products, to supplement the REH buildings' heating systems.

CHEMICAL USE

Pesticides and herbicide usage is kept to a minimum and green-pest control is used. On other NHS sites this is in the form of a Harris Hawk as a way to use natural predators rather than poisons, and this might be a potential approach in further reducing impact of environmental management.

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION STRATEGIES

Travel and transport has a significant impact on the local environment, in particular on the air and surface water run-off quality. A multi-modal public transport plan is described in the site masterplan of 2013, with a site shuttle bus linking all the main hubs across the site. The active travel route linking the site along the southern boundary from east-west will also offer an alternative, safe and healthy route which reduces car dependency.

WATER

The masterplan for the redevelopment of the hospital site establishes a site-wide commitment to the principles of sustainable drainage systems (SuDS). Typically this is achieved by permeable make-up to car parking areas, however, as there is a relatively low proportion of car parking to building area, the additional storage and treatment volumes are accommodated within the soft landscape areas around the buildings. Under the site's plans, it is envisaged that road runoff would be treated and attenuated using a combination of swales alongside roads, and filter trenches.

At the REH, foul and surface water drainage are separated, and infrastructure is integrated which provides treatment (filtration) and storage (attenuation). A plan of the proposed site-wide sustainable drainage strategy is available as part of the 2013 masterplan reporting (drawing #erz/12/24/MP04).

WELL MAINTAINED AND CLEAN: MANAGEMENT PLAN RECOMMENDATION + ACTIONS

There are limitations in the recorded information and systems in place for quality control to ensure a well maintained and clean greenspace environment. Implementing a policy approach which is regularly reviewed is the key recommendation for this aspect of maintaining a high quality greenspace.

A simple system which invites reporting from all staff and visitors to the REH site would provide many 'eyes on the ground', quickly identifying and lodging reports of any issues around the site. Other recommendations and actions are noted below:

SHORT TERM ACTIONS (2020 / 2021)

- Rain gardens could be retrofitted in some of the leftover spaces adjacent to roadways, collecting and filtering rainwater and potentially discharging to the groundwater table. Design of rain gardens often includes a range of native herbaceous perennials, which would also attract local biodiversity in pockets of greenspace across the site.
- Install more composting bins across the site, for green waste to be reused. Good examples of this can be found in the community garden managed by Cyrenians, and the model could be rolled out across the REH site.
- Replace any inefficient lighting with energy efficient alternatives e.g. LEDs.
- Implement the east-west active travel connection (surface the missing section) as an action to reduce car dependency and offer alternative modes for moving around the campus.
- Explore use of natural predators to avoid use of chemicals in pest control.

LONGER TERM ACTIONS (2022+)

- Explore the potentials for greater on-site energy generation, retrofitting PV installations on building façades and roofs
- Implement the sustainable drainage strategy as outlined in the 2013 masterplan as future redevelopment phases are progressed.
- Addition of interpretation which highlights activities and policies which are in place to protect and enhance the environment.

MANAGEMENT OF BIODIVERSITY, LANDSCAPE & HERITAGE

The landscape across the hospital campus site is key to delivering a range of health and therapeutic benefits. In awareness of this, the site is currently managed to provide a coherent framework of open and greenspaces to deliver a range of benefits to patients, staff and visitors, including providing immediately accessible, high quality therapeutic spaces associated with buildings, and a wider landscape setting of green and open spaces. These greenspaces are of a variety of sizes and scales, from intimate courtyards to wide open parkland and woodland settings.

The project team is aware of the value of the therapeutic and recreational resource the site offers patients, staff and visitors, and therefore is currently undertaking a variety of reporting and strategy development projects to improve the legibility of the vehicular and pedestrian routes that serve the greenspace users.

As part of this Greenspace Management Plan, it is important to take into account the 2013 masterplan for the site which also identifies a number of greenspace enhancement measures. While the masterplan is now out of date and being revised, it describes some core principles and aspirations for the campus - a clear pedestrian axis in the form of a linear landscape along the southern elevation of MacKinnon building, a spine park drawing the campus together, a range of active and passive spaces around the site, as well as a series of hard surfaced and planted 'break out' or social spaces are distributed along this central route.

Because of this future context to the quality and variety of greenspace features and facilities, the masterplan proposals are summarised here, on the opposite page, extracting diagrams which relate to the greenspace design.



The pedestrian axis creates a spine for pedestrian movement and activity across the campus, forming the key east-west walking route. This 'linear park' landscape incorporates a range of active and passive spaces and provides a key recreational and therapeutic resource for staff, patients and visitors.

A series of hard surfaced and planted 'break out' or social spaces are distributed along the route. Existing mature trees are retained and incorporated into the design of spaces alongside new tree planting. Structural tree planting, seating, lighting, shelters and other features will be used to create convivial, human scaled spaces to encourage staff, patients and visitors to spend time out in the landscape.

It is proposed that a range of features and elements to support therapeutic and recreational activity are woven into the pedestrian axis landscape, including: natural play features, green gym facilities, sensory planting, growing beds etc.



The Boulevard acts as the main spine of vehicular movement on site. It forms a coherent and legible vehicular route running east / west through the main body of the site (terminating at the shelter belt) and providing direct access to parking zones and buildings.

The boulevard has a strong associated planted / green structure, with grass verges, swales and avenue tree planting. The boulevard becomes a strong component of the landscape framework alongside its functional purpose, reinforcing the sense of a 'green campus'.

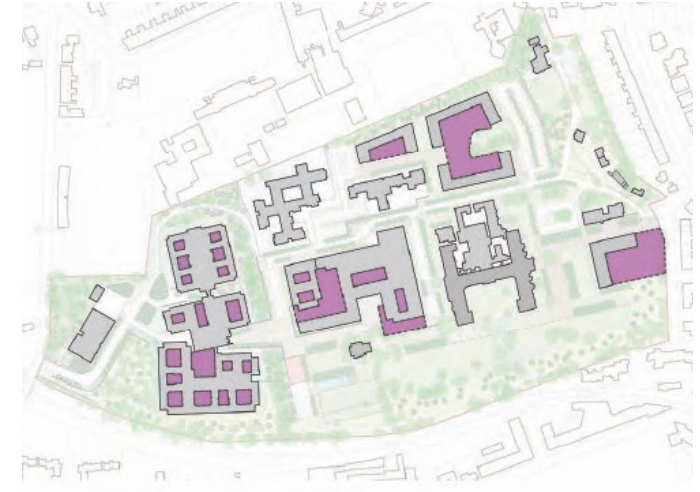
The route for the boulevard follows the east-west band of higher ground across the site. Structural tree planting is proposed that will separate traffic from pedestrian paths. As part of the water management strategy a swale is provided along one side of the road. The swale will further reinforce the green corridor.



The east-west route through the site along the southern boundary provides a clear and legible route for the public connecting from Morningside Terrace to Myreside Road. Entrances into the site at the east and west will be designed appropriately to direct people clearly onto the path.

The path has been routed to ensure that existing mature trees to the site edge are retained and appropriate detailed design and control of works on site will be required to protect the existing trees during construction. The path will be designed to the City of Edinburgh cycle path guidelines, including appropriate signage and lighting. The route should be constructed with permeable surfaces and surcharged on top of existing levels to ensure the existing mature trees are not compromised.

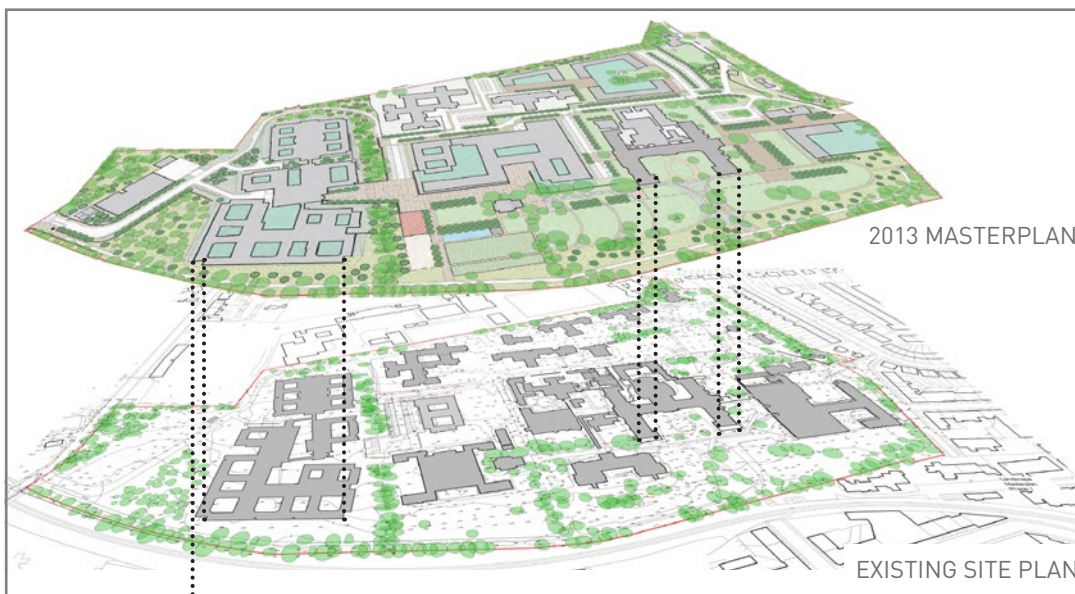
The parkland in the south is the historic parkland setting to MacKinnon House. The masterplan extends and clarifies the southern parkland, with the removal of existing buildings from this part of the site. The parkland will create a coherent landscape connecting along the southern site edge.



The Therapeutic Courtyard Gardens are typically internal courtyards, dotted across the campus but especially integrated in connection with the new REH building and the residential units along the northern boundary. Here the Trust has created a peaceful setting with seating, climbing plants and canopies so patients can enjoy the garden throughout the year.

Sensory gardens at the Glasshouses, and Community Garden are managed by Cyrenians. Project support workers offer therapies in growing, arts and crafts.

These spaces give those who have more time to pass, as well as those who would like some gentle exercise, the opportunity to take in the sights, smells and sounds of a traditional sensory garden.



TREE PLANTING - PROPOSED LOCATIONS

Zones for new tree planting have been identified by overlaying the proposed 2013 site masterplan (which is subject to revision, however suggests a useful landscape framework to make proposals) with the existing building footprint and greenspace locations. The intention is to avoid planting trees in locations where the new masterplan has identified new buildings to be sited. The resulting diagram below shows zones which are suitable for immediate tree planting and arboricultural enhancement.

1. Slope where soil erosion is evident: potential to interplant with smaller native trees to help stabilise this slope.
2. Sloping open space, left fallow.
3. Greenspace around the Hive, retained in masterplan.
4. Leftover greenspaces around building to be demolished, could become verges of 'miniature forests'.
5. Specimen trees in open space in front of MacKinnon House; a protected landscape setting.
6. Parkland landscape; the area identified as a potential tree planting zone is well established parkland and not impacted by building proposals. This could be enhanced through a programme of tree planting, both of mixed native woodland species in 'miniature forests' or of plantings of individual specimen trees.
7. Tree planting / boundary landscape protected within masterplan.
8. Area identified in masterplan as Perimeter Woodland / Tree Belt; assumed protected as greenspace amenity and landscape setting. Recommendations for ongoing woodland / tree management, to include a programme of arboricultural work to existing trees, tree removal and replanting as required. Specific recommendations for interplanting with deciduous native trees and understorey species to form native scrub understorey including food source species.

STRATEGIC AND IMMEDIATE OPPORTUNITIES

TREE PLANTING - PROPOSED TYPOLOGIES



Extracted from the 2013 masterplan, the diagram above shows the tree planting proposed as part of this campus-wide redevelopment. The long term tree planting strategy will create a landscape structure which aims to define routes and spaces, mitigate proposed tree removals and expand and improve shelter belt planting.

The tree planting shown in the 2013 masterplan will help to create a coherent green network across the site and improve habitat connectivity. The current proposal includes the planting of 475 trees.

This extract is shown for reference; tree planting proposals described within this Greenspace Management Plan take a cue from the masterplan proposals while adding to this strategic approach more immediate planting opportunities. These are brought together in combination to offer the fullest tree planting opportunity both now and as the masterplan is brought to fruition.



1. MIYAWAKI FORESTS
Tiny urban forests designed to boost biodiversity and mitigate climate change. Dense copses where the trees grow quickly to create ecosystems.



2. EROSION CONTROL
Trees planted on slopes where the soil is thin due to erosion. Dappled screening and a filtered view.



3. PARKLAND SPECIMEN TREES



4. SHELTER BELT INTERPLANTING

TREE PLANTING OPPORTUNITIES



1. COPSE TREE PLANTING ON SLOPE

Sloping ground between the new REH building and the public walkway link. Soil thin and in places completely eroded, and tree planting of small native woodland species would help to hold the ground together and allow soil to build up under the tree canopies. Species selected to create light dappled shade and a filtered view from the windows facing south. Notional quantity: 30 trees, planted in clumps of 5-12.

- *Betula pendula* (Silver Birch) 2yr
- *Betula pubescens* (Downy Birch) 2yr
- *Corylus avellana* (Hazel) 2yr
- *Acer campestre* (Field Maple) 2yr



2. TREE PLANTING ON RIDGELINE, AND SLOPE

Area of open space left fallow, which has become colonised with a biodiverse carpet of wildflower. Trees could be planted along the ridgeline, and in clusters down the slopes. This sloping ground is not impacted by the masterplan proposals. Trees selected should be deciduous mixed woodland species which can be planted densely in groups to offer a light canopy while allowing light to maintain the wildflower understorey. Species selected will attract woodland birds, which will provide an engaging overview from the windows adjacent. Notional quantity: 30 trees.

- *Alnus glutinosa* (Common Alder) 2yr
- *Carpinus betulus* (Hornbeam) 2yr
- *Malus sylvestris* (Crab Apple) 2yr
- *Prunus avium* (Wild Cherry) 2yr
- *Prunus padus* (Bird Cherry) 1yr
- *Pyrus communis* (Wild Pear) 2yr
- *Sambucus nigra* (Common Elder) 1yr



3. PLANTING AT THE HIVE

A belt of tree planting to create a stronger greenspace setting to the Hive (community hub at the chapel). Species selected which will relate to the existing mature Lime, Ash and Sycamore i.e. climax woodland species. Notional quantity: 9 trees.

- *Fraxinus excelsior* (Ash) 2yr
- *Quercus robur* (English Oak) 2yr
- *Tilia cordata* (Small Leaved Lime) 2yr



4. MINIATURE (MIYAWAKI) FORESTS

Tree planting opportunity on these 'leftover' greenspace areas and the roadside verges which are currently laid to mown grass. Planting under the canopy of the existing mature Horse Chestnut and Cherry trees, selecting a variety of native deciduous woodland trees and planting them at very close centres. Each woodland area on a verge area may contain approximately 50+ trees.

- *Acer campestre* (Field Maple)
- *Alnus glutinosa* (Black Alder)
- *Cornus sanguinea* (Common Dogwood)
- *Corylus avellana* (Hazel)
- *Crataegus monogyna* (Hawthorn)
- *Euonymus europaeus* (Spindle)
- *Malus sylvestris* (Crab Apple)
- *Populus tremula* (Aspen)
- *Prunus avium* (Wild Cherry)
- *Prunus padus* (Bird Cherry)
- *Prunus spinosa* (Blackthorn)
- *Rhamnus frangula* (Alder Buckthorn)
- *Sambucus nigra* (Common Elder)
- *Sorbus aucuparia* (Mountain Ash or Rowan)
- *Viburnum lantana* (Wayfaring Tree)

5. SPECIMEN TREES ON 'ISLAND' GREENSPACE

MacKinnon House forms a courtyard space, with building elevations overlooking on three sides. There are three existing Yew trees planted on islands within this space, and the central area is managed as a mixture of mown and longer grassland where wildflowers have been encouraged. There is an opportunity to plant trees on this large central island space, selecting species which can be pruned to have a clear stem, ensuring view lines aren't blocked and the tree canopy isn't overbearing. A copse of 15x trees is suggested, to be thinned to 7 as the trees mature.

- *Betula pendula* (Silver Birch) 2yr



6. PARKLAND SPECIMEN TREES

Open area of mown grassland, well used by locals as a parkland space for walking, often with dogs. There are tree stumps within the grassland indicating where mature trees have been removed but replacement trees haven't been planted. Link up existing line of trees with new tree planting to form a corridor. Select species which will become large, standalone specimens, to replace these parkland trees. Notionally 7x trees planted across the parkland.

- *Quercus robur* (English Oak) 2yr
- *Tilia cordata* (Small Leaved Lime) 2yr
- *Ulmus glabra* (Wych Elm) 2yr
- *Pinus sylvestris* (Scots Pine) 3yr



7. TREE BELT INTERPLANTING

The northern boundary is defined by a linear belt of mature trees, however with very little understorey or younger trees coming through. There are also areas of mown grass, which could be enhanced by tree planting in this area. Understorey species are recommended, in addition to planting small copses of trees where space and access allows. Notional quantity: 30 trees, planted in groups of 5-12.

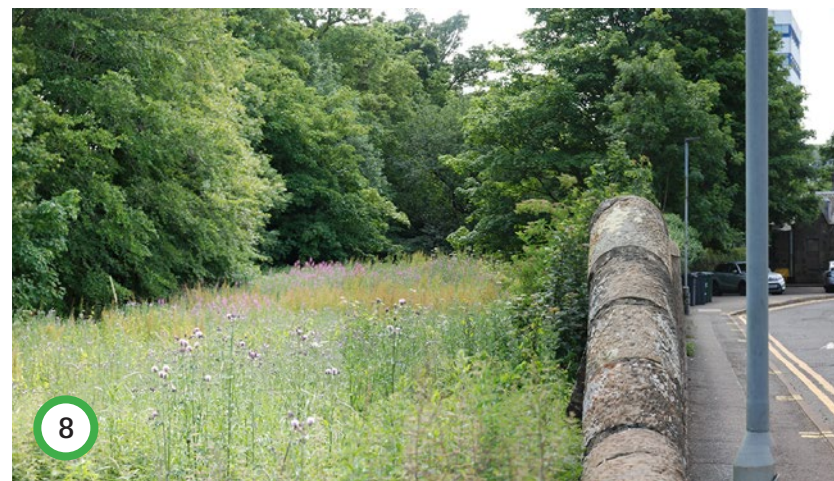
- *Betula pendula* (Silver Birch) 2yr
- *Betula pubescens* (Downy Birch) 2yr
- *Corylus avellana* (Hazel) 2yr
- *Acer campestre* (Field Maple) 2yr
- *Cornus sanguinea* (Common Dogwood)
- *Euonymus europaeus* (Spindle)
- *Ligustrum vulgare* (Common/Wild Privet)
- *Prunus spinosa* (Blackthorn)
- *Salix caprea* (Goat Willow)
- *Salix fragilis* (Crack Willow)
- *Viburnum lantana* (Wayfaring Tree)



8. PERIMETER WOODLAND INTERPLANTING

An area of open wildflower grassland, dominated by thistles and Rosebay Willow Herb but with biodiversity value and potential to be enhanced. Interplant with field trees to diversify light levels. Notional quantity: 40 trees, planted in clumps of 3-7.

- *Crataegus monogyna* (Hawthorn) 2yr
- *Acer campestre* (Field Maple) 2yr
- *Salix caprea* (Goat Willow) 2yr
- *Salix fragilis* (Crack Willow) 1yr



HORTICULTURAL ENHANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

As part of the management of the greenspace at the REH, recommendations for greenspace enhancement have been identified. These relate to the planting of existing areas of greenspace, to diversify species present, alter maintenance regimes, and enhance horticultural interest.

1. Planting of winter and spring flowering bulbs on 'leftover' mown grass islands and verges.
2. Relax mowing regime along woodland boundary, to create conservation grassland swaths linking habitats.
3. Plug plant wildflower species
4. Hedging to screen maintenance yard
5. Hedging to replace chain-and-bollard edging
6. Herbaceous perennials and evergreen shrub species on island to create a more welcoming entrance setting
7. Rain gardens and swales at roadside verges, islands and leftover open space, as part of the wider sustainable drainage strategy; remove redundant areas of impermeable surfacing.



HORTICULTURAL ENHANCEMENT - REFERENCE IMAGES OF PROPOSED TYPOLOGIES



1. BULB PLANTING



2. RELAX MOWING REGIME



3. WILDFLOWER PLUG PLANTING



4/5 HEDGING (SCREENING / EDGES)



6. HERBACEOUS PERENNIALS



7. RAIN GARDENS

MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL FEATURES, WILDLIFE AND FAUNA

The diversity of the greenspace typologies, as mapped on p9 of this report, is intrinsic to the site's greenspace value. Woodlands, avenues and shelter belts were planted throughout the development of the hospital grounds, resulting in a matrix of habitats of different ages and typologies. In places these trees have become over mature, and there are recommendations in a Tree Survey for some trees to be removed and replaced; detailed proposals should be developed which look beyond the tree planting recommendations identified in the preceding pages to ensure a holistic, long-term, site-wide approach to the management of the trees.

To encourage biodiversity, bird boxes have been erected at suitable locations throughout the hospital site and are monitored annually. The estates team took part annually in the Great Butterfly Count helping to assess the health of our environment.

CONSERVATION OF LANDSCAPE FEATURES

The orchard which is located in the western part of the site is notable as one of the last remaining urban orchards in Scotland. The majority of trees are in good condition with some identified for removal in the tree survey. The masterplan retains the core area of fruit trees as a recreational resource for the campus. Proposals for the orchard include improving the path network, introducing seating areas and potentially small growing areas. Within the orchard there are some benches which have been crafted from waste wood produced on site. New orchard trees have been planted to replace ageing ones and promote the long term sustainability of this important landscape feature.

The Estates Department works to a sympathetic and sustainable approach in their management of the hospital grounds, including log piling to encourage biodiversity and wildlife, limited use of pesticides, and recycling of waste plant material. The team uses the strip of woodland to the south of the hospital site for composting, however this can get unsightly as material builds up, becoming more of an issue as the public are invited to use the route when it is surfaced as part of future access plans.



The old orchard, with new tree planting, paths and benches



The maintenance area, which could be improved by hedge planting for screening and formalising compost areas.



BIODIVERSITY, LANDSCAPE AND HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PLAN RECOMMENDATION + ACTIONS

Recommendations and actions are noted below, for the ongoing enhancement and management of the landscape and biodiversity features across the REH campus. These are informed by the 2013 masterplan vision, which establishes a landscape led approach, to the benefit of the greenspace setting:

SHORT TERM ACTIONS (2020 / 2021)

- Tree planting opportunities as identified across the pages 40-45
- There is a lack of hierarchy to both vehicular & pedestrian routes, and poor legibility & continuity of routes around the site. These will be addressed through the forthcoming wayfinding strategy report.
- Tidy up the maintenance area; plant hedging, formalise compost heaps and log stores, tidy up dumped waste materials.
- Develop a shrub and tree planting project to include nectar and pollen rich year round species, plants which attract insects including moths and butterflies, and species selected for their night scent. Biodiversity can also be enhanced by considering autumn and winter flowering and fruiting species, and planting which provides cover for bird nesting and sheltering.
- Further extension of the wild flower meadow areas, with clear signage to inform visitors of the benefits and features/ species of local interest.
- Ensure after care for newly planted trees, including all woodland, shelterbelts, orchards and specimen parkland trees.

LONGER TERM ACTIONS (2022+)

- Tree planting opportunities as identified across the pages 40-45
- Much of the greenspace within the existing campus is incidental, without a clear role and as such it does not form a coherent 'green network'. The re-development of the site as guided by the masterplan will see the greenspace offer a more positive resource to a greater range of users.
- Set up an online 'Friends of the Royal Edinburgh Hospital's Greenspaces' forum for staff, volunteers, patients and the general public to contribute ideas for future projects.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The health of patients, staff and local communities can be dramatically improved by providing opportunities to take part in outdoor and art activities. They are particularly beneficial in a psychiatric healthcare environment and are recognised for their importance in aiding patient recovery.

At the REH there is a strong Third Sector Partnership who deliver a range of high quality horticultural, conservation, recreational and therapeutic art activities. Their collaboration with the NHS is an effective, powerful and positive asset for the hospital and community. This is a unique and highly valued set up, seen as a model of good practice and admired and emulated by other hospitals.

Here is a list of the Third Sector Partners and what they do at REH (in alphabetical order):

ARTLINK

Almost exclusively funded by Edinburgh & Lothian Health Foundation (ELHF) for on-site hospital programmes, and established in 1984, Artlink are based in the Glasshouses / workshop and hut, which provide a therapeutic non-clinical space, beloved by patients and staff. They also work within the REH grounds and on the wards, running an extensive programme, working with all patient groups and holding 1-2-1- sessions. These include arts, music, crafting and gardening. Having a dedicated art space on site means there are an abundance of activities for the REH Community.

CYRENIANS @ THE COMMUNITY GARDENS

Supporting people excluded from family, work, home and their community, Cyrenians were nominated in 2010 by the NHS Lothian Community Gardens Steering Group to set up and manage the Royal Edinburgh Community Gardens as a pilot project within NHS Lothian Estates. They also work on wards, in one of three Glasshouses, which is dedicated to propagating plants for the next growing season, and throughout the hospital site.

Their work has been very successful with a focus on gardening, food and nature-based activities. They work with patients, NHS staff, outpatients, individuals in the community with additional support needs, their support staff, volunteers, school groups and hospital students.

FRIENDS OF MORNINGSIDE @ THE VERANDAH CAFÉ

The Friends of Morningside Hospital is a self-funded charity who were founded in 1967 and developed the Verandah Tearoom, later established as The Verandah Café. The café is based in a separate building with a conservatory at the end of Mackinnon House Corridor. It provides a safe and comfortable, non-clinical environment, where patient groups, staff and visitors can enjoy light refreshments and shop for recycled clothes.



SAMH @ the Hive



Artlink glasshouses



Cyrenians @ The Community Gardens

PATIENTS' COUNCIL

The Patients' Council was established as an independent collective advocacy organisation for people who have used or are still using the services of the REH. The Council allows patients to have their say about services at the hospital and provides a forum for common issues around mental health treatment and care.

They are based in various offices and meeting rooms across the hospital. As well as offering an advocacy service throughout the hospital and wards, they also organise and distribute information throughout Edinburgh on both the individual and collective patient voice. They have regular meetings, drop-in sessions, social events and workshops, and work with groups helping to reshape services. The primary focus is in the hospital, but they also attend many groups in the community and nationally to advance the collective patients cause.

SAMH @ THE HIVE

SAMH has been present in the Hive since 1990 and is part funded by the NHS. The Hive is an activity centre based in the old church building on REH grounds.

SAMH offer a range of social and recreational activities that aid recovery using a therapeutic approach. They offer a safe, confidential social space for patients to enjoy time out of the busy clinical hospital environment, providing opportunities to learn new skills and assist patients in their recovery. Services are open to in-patients only and include a café, music, clubs, computing and collective group work.

VOLUNTEER HUB

The Volunteer Hub, which is run by the charity Volunteer Edinburgh, are part funded by the ELHF and was established at the hospital in 2008. The Hub is based in the conservatory and office in the Mackinnon House corridor. They also deliver work at the Library (run by patient and public volunteers), wards and Glasshouses.

They give guidance, support and advice to in-patients on volunteering opportunities within the community and hospital, helping them to prepare for life outside the hospital. They also co-ordinate volunteers from the public, which enhances and improves the environment and experience of REH patients (many of whom wish to enter health professions). The activities they run include therapist visits, computing, study and quiz sessions, befriending, reminiscence, social and pampering groups.

ELHF and many of the third sector partners also work in conjunction and facilitate the work of other third sector organisations who work on site with volunteers and the hospital community. These groups include: TCV (The Conservation Volunteers), ELGT (Edinburgh and Lothian Greenspace Trust) and Music in Hospitals.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN RECOMMENDATION + ACTIONS

SHORT TERM ACTIONS (2020 / 2021)

- Ensure that not only hospital patients, staff and students are aware of the great programmes, activities and events taking place on hospital grounds, but that the community surrounding the hospital are too. This will increase local support for the hospital and community engagement.
- More strategic collaboration, such as fundraising, between Third Sectors, NHS & ELHF.
- Better sign posting and visibility for Third Sector Partnership organisations.

LONGER TERM ACTIONS (2022+)

- Ensure the Partnership's future, including providing secure buildings and facilities.
- In general, retain and improve all buildings and greenspaces where Third Sector Partnership organisations are based. If retaining existing sites is not possible, alternative custom-designed locations should be developed elsewhere on site.
- Specifically, The Hive needs modernising and toilets and suitable washing facilities need installing at the Community Gardens.
- More generally, storage, toilets and kitchen facilities need improving for most sites as they are currently haphazard.

MARKETING & COMMUNICATION

The third sectors active on site have their individual communication and marketing plans to promote the work they do and get more people involved. They use digital mediums such as their websites, e-newsletters and social media pages. They also promote their work through the hospital community and wider community via events and other activities.

For example, the Patients Council deliver 5,000 hours of direct and indirect advocacy each year. They hold weekly meetings with volunteers, monthly management committee meetings, bi-monthly public meetings at The Hive, hold development days and special events.

The individual third sector organisations do their own social media, and NHS Comms looks after everything else. ELHF has a new communications officer and a strategy is currently being developed across NHS Lothian which will include a strategy involving REH.

The Cyrenians garden in its previous location at the Myreside Road entrance was featured on BBC Beechgrove Garden about 7 years ago, celebrating the community growing successes and this grassroots project.

MARKETING & COMMUNICATION MANAGEMENT PLAN RECOMMENDATION + ACTIONS

SHORT TERM ACTIONS (2020 / 2021)

- The current development of a strategy for consultation / engagement / communications, led by the new appointment of a communications personnel at ELHF.

LONGER TERM ACTIONS (2022+)

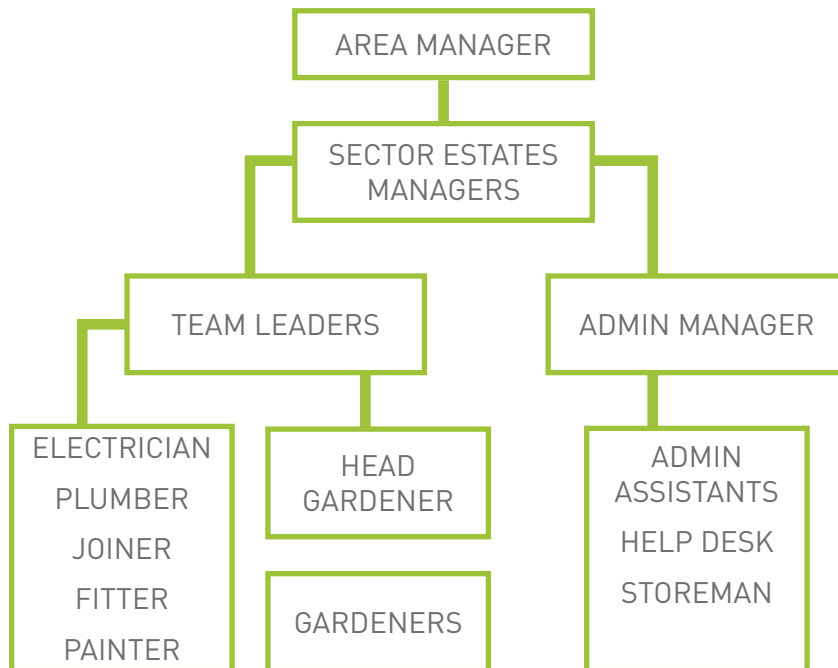
- Celebrate and share excellence in greenspace management and engagement by the hospital community and wider neighbourhood.

MANAGEMENT

The Royal Edinburgh Hospital employs up to 3,000 members of staff who provide a wide range of hospital care. It is part of NHS Lothian's Primary and Community Division, which is responsible for the health of 620,000 people in Edinburgh, East Lothian and Midlothian.

There is a Projects Team at the hospital who manage the site's architectural and greenspace development, including a ELHF funded Greenspace Manager. There is also an Arts & Greenspace Manager who works closely with the Projects Team and Third Sector Partnership to develop the sites greenspace and art activities. Furthermore, the hospital has a Wellbeing Steering Group to give NHS staff a voice on how to improve staff and patient wellbeing on site. There is also an Environment Experience Group to enable NHS staff to contribute to how the hospital's environment is managed.

The grounds, buildings and assets are managed by a team which is organised by the following structure:



To reflect the fluid nature of the buildings and greenspace across the REH campus, in light of ongoing redevelopment of the grounds per the 2013 masterplan, this Greenspace Management Plan will be continually reviewed and updated on an annual basis to reflect any developments and changes in practice.



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Edinburgh and Lothians Health Foundation



Report prepared by
HERE+NOW CIC

HERE
+ NOW

On behalf of
Edinburgh & Lothian Greenspace Trust

