

Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council

Dundrum Living Streets

Landscape Report November 2026

Comhairle Contae County Council

CONSULTING ENGINEERS

urbanism + landscape

Revision	Date	Description	Approved
-	11.11.2026	First Issue	DM

This document is to be read in conjunction with the following accompanying drawings:

26DR02_DR-0201	Landscape Arrangement - Sheet 01
26DR02_DR-0202	Landscape Arrangement - Sheet 02
26DR02_DR-0203	Landscape Arrangement - Sheet 03
26DR02_DR-0204	Landscape Arrangement - Sheet 04

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01

Introduction

1.1 Existing Site Conditions

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1.1 Existing Site Conditions

The site is located within the established urban environment of Dundrum Village, with the existing public realm strongly influenced by the surrounding Main Street and Sandyford Road network. The site is situated within a predominantly urban and mixed-use setting, with a combination of retail, commercial, residential, transport and pedestrian activity contributing to the character of the area.

Main Street forms the principal pedestrian and commercial frontage to the site, with a range of established town-centre uses and active frontages along the street. To the north, the site is closely associated with Dundrum Village Centre, with a range of established commercial and community uses and Dundrum Town Centre to the South, providing a major retail and commercial destination.

Existing commercial uses in the immediate vicinity include Lidl, AIB, the Bank of Ireland, PTSB and FLYEfit. The street is an established movement route with regular pedestrian activity associated with the surrounding shops, services and public transport facilities. The existing public realm is predominantly hard surfaced, with limited areas of soft landscape and tree planting contributing to the streetscape.

To the south, **Sandyford Road** forms a significant vehicular route within the wider site context and provides an important connection between Dundrum Village and the surrounding road network, e.g Sandyford Road Car Park. Residential development is also present within the immediate context, including Ridgeford Apartments and Ironworks Apartments. These developments establish an existing residential presence around the site and contribute to the urban character of the area.



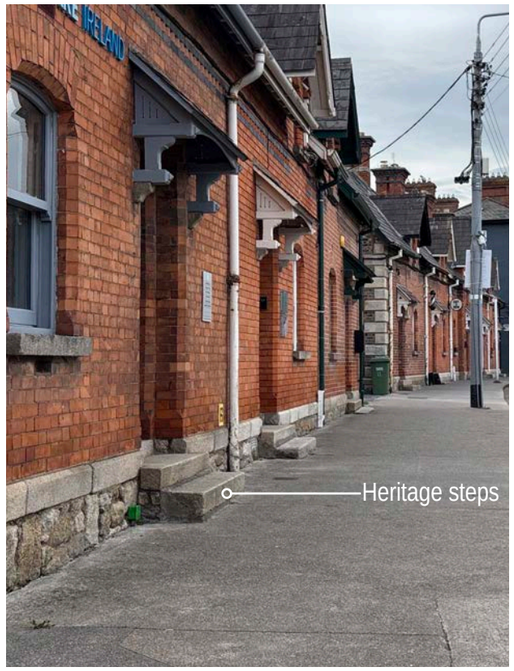
1.1 Existing Site Conditions

Existing vegetation within the site and its immediate surroundings is relatively limited and is primarily associated with existing planting beds and established street trees.

Three existing Ash trees are present to the northern end of the site. Due to the inevitable susceptibility of Ash dieback on these trees, the scheme proposes to remove and replace them as part of the wider planting strategy for the area.

There are some notable heritage features around the scheme, including heritage kerbs and steps. These should be retained where possible, or reinstated where retention will not be possible in situ.

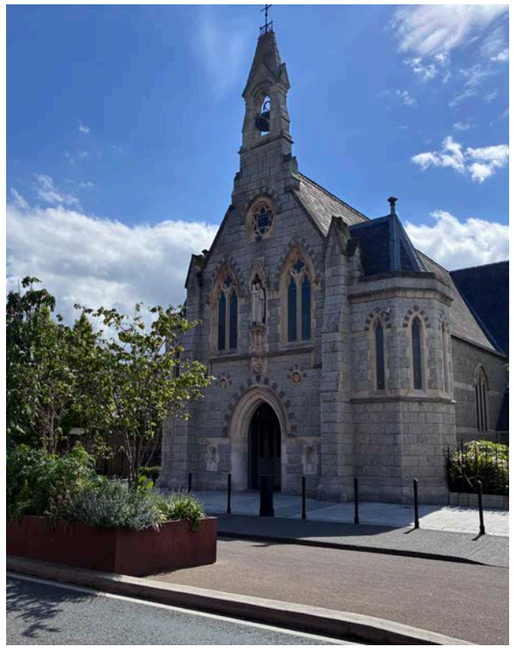
The site is located within an Architectural Conservation Area (ACA), as identified in the Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown County Development Plan. All proposals have been drawn up in relation to a separate heritage impact assessment by Fergal McGirl Architects.



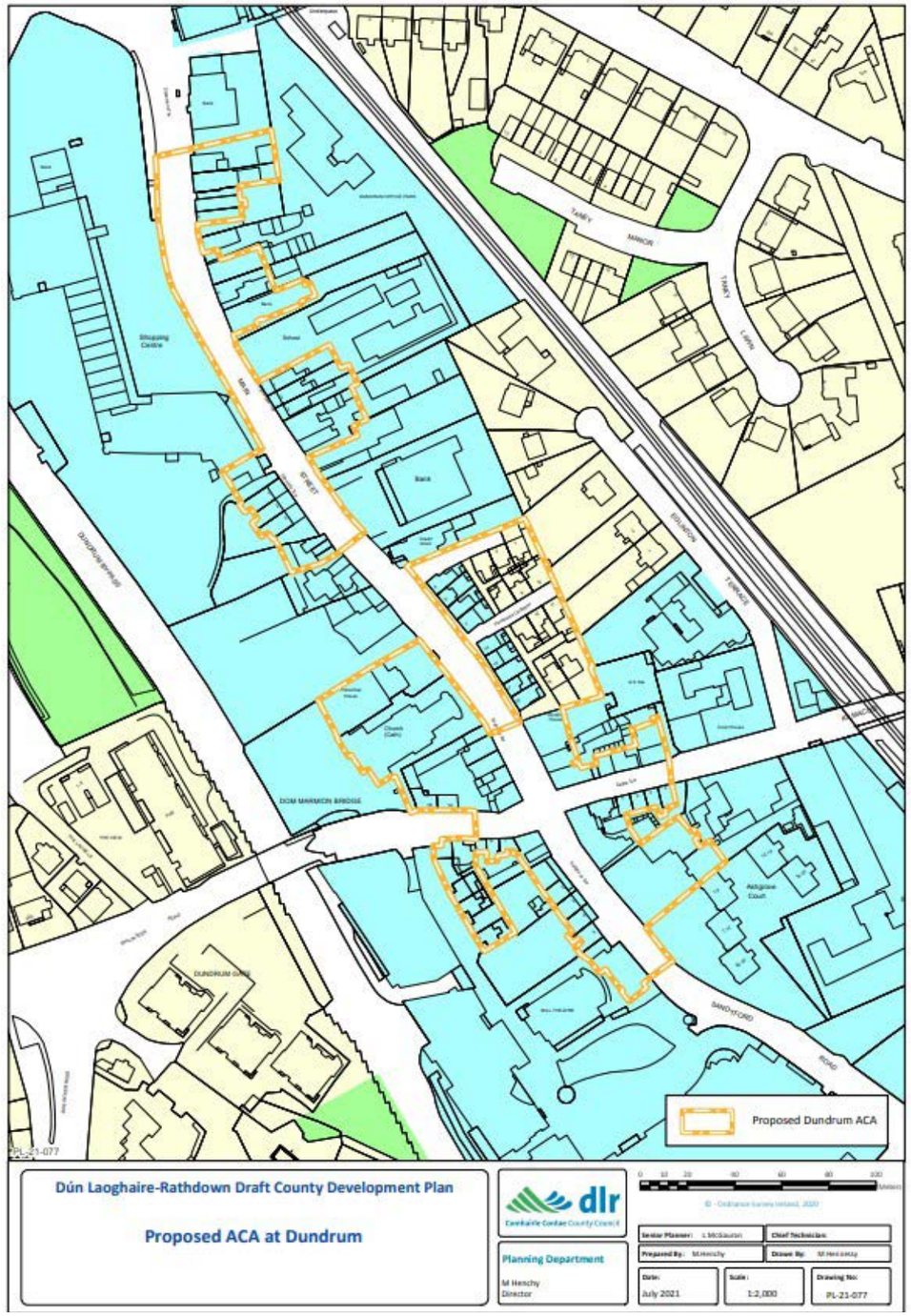
Heritage steps to Pembroke Cottages



Existing Ash tree



Holy Cross Church



Proposed ACA at Dundrum. Source: Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown Co. Council

1.2 Site Photos - Main St North



Looking North - Dundrum Village Centre on the left side



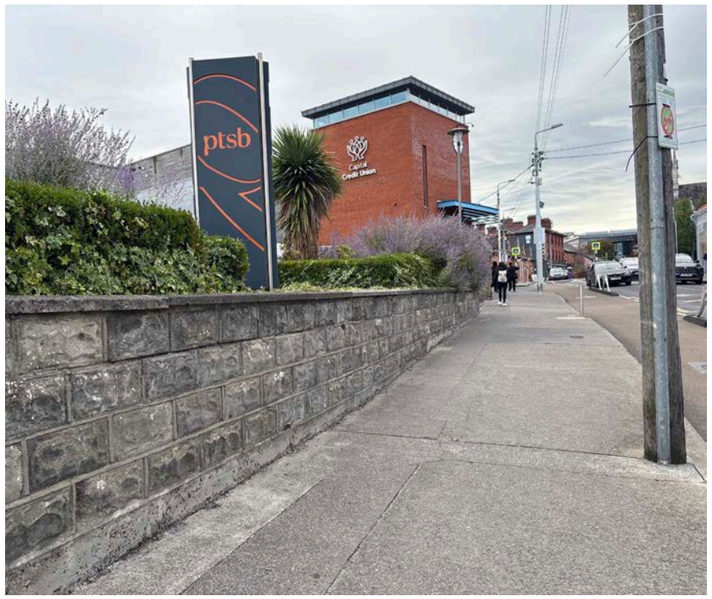
Planting Beds along Village Centre Car Park



Looking South West



Dundrum Village Centre



Looking South - PTSB



Looking North - PTSB on right

1.2 Site Photos - Main St Centre



Looking South East - Holy Cross Church



Looking North East



Dundrum House on the right side



Looking South



Looking South - Dundrum Shopping Centre



Bus Stop beside Dundrum Shopping Centre Playground

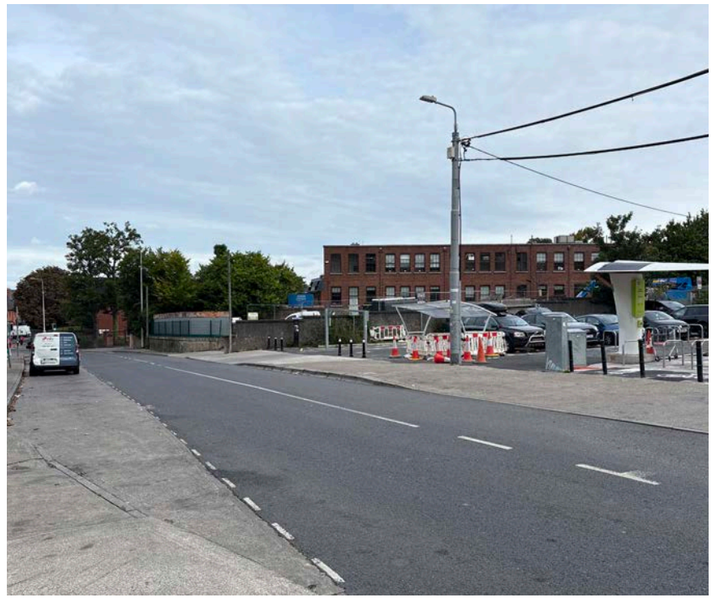
1.2 Site Photos - Sandyford Rd



Dundrum Shopping Centre East Entrance



Looking South East - Car Park on left side



Looking North West - Car Park on right side



Newly built seating area at Ironworks Apartments



Looking North - Ridgeford Apartments on left side



Looking South - Ironworks Apartments on the right side

02

Landscape Strategy

2.1 The Proposal

2.2 Landscape Strategy

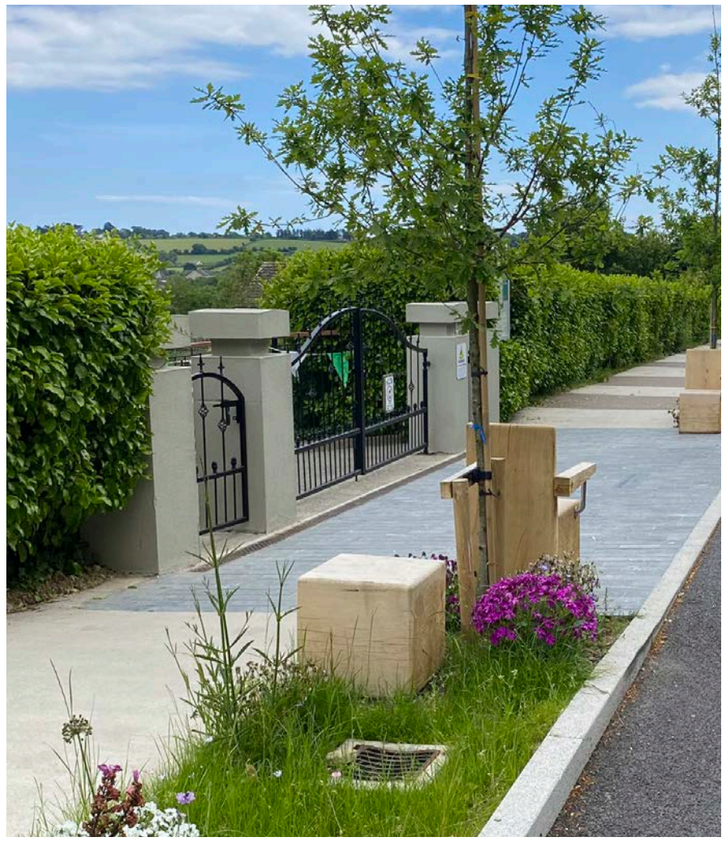
2.3 Landscape Arrangement

2.1 The Proposal

The key principles of the Living Streets proposal aim to build upon the existing temporary scheme for the street, and create a permanent, high quality Public Realm that prioritises pedestrian movement and comfort. Spanning from Taney Cross to the Sandyford Road, the scheme comrpises a central plaza within Main Street, opposite Holy Cross Church, with several opportunites to rest and dwell to promote an age-friendly and accessible streetscape. These rest areas are connected through a series of green links comprising of a combination of rain gardens, pollinator planting and street trees, to encourage nature based solutions and promote biodiversity.



2.2 Landscape Strategy



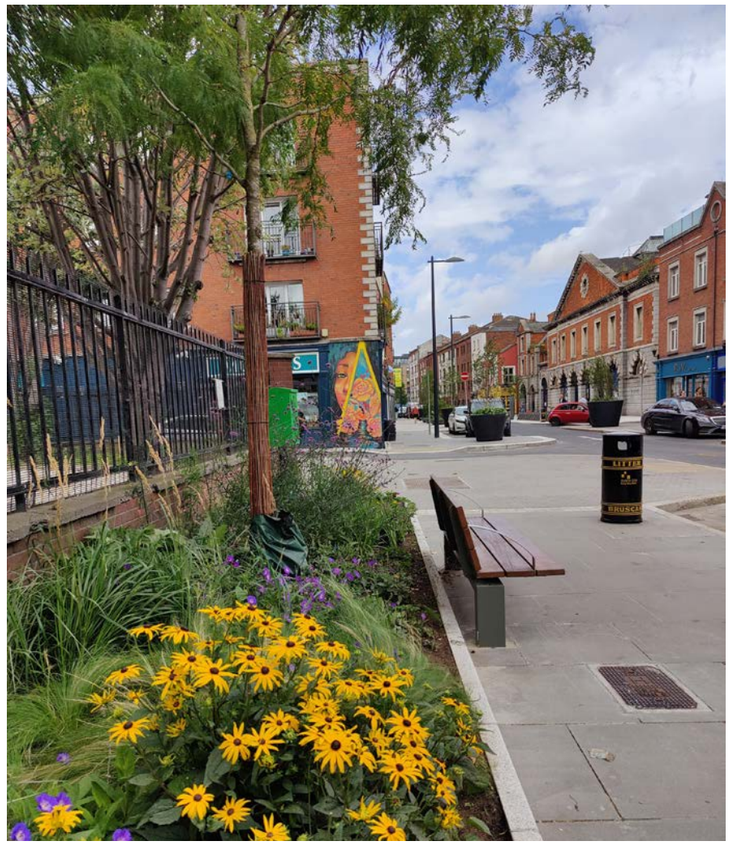
Rain Gardens

Rain gardens are proposed as an integral part of the landscape scheme, providing an attractive planted feature while assisting with the management of surface water within the public realm, suitable for occasional waterlogging. The proposed Rain Garden Planting Mix will comprise species suited to periodically wet conditions, while also being capable of tolerating periods of drier weather. The planting will provide seasonal interest and contribute to the overall biodiversity and visual amenity of the Dundrum Living Streets scheme.



SUDs Tree Pits

Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) are incorporated into the landscape proposals as part of an integrated approach to surface water management. The proposed rain gardens will provide opportunities for the attenuation, filtration and infiltration of surface water runoff, reducing the rate at which runoff is conveyed to the existing drainage network. By integrating SuDS features within areas of soft landscape, the drainage infrastructure can also contribute positively to the character and biodiversity of the public realm. The proposed approach combines functional drainage infrastructure with high-quality planting, creating landscape features that provide both environmental and amenity benefits.

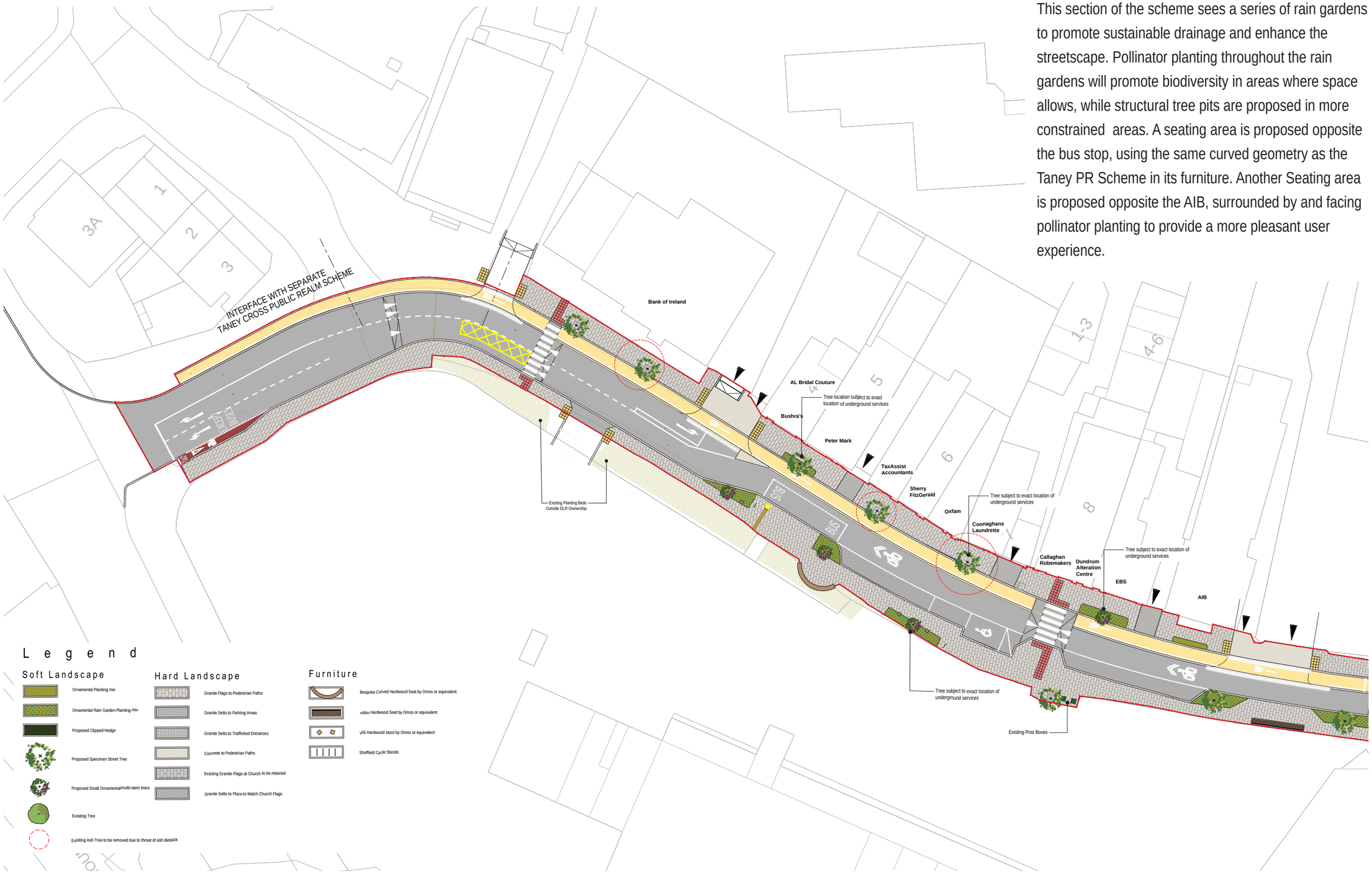


Biodiversity Friendly Planting

The planting design for Living Streets will consist of a diverse range of species throughout the soft landscaped areas. Pollinator-friendly flowering species will be incorporated to provide a succession of seasonal interest and floral resources for bees, butterflies and other pollinating insects. The proposed rain gardens will incorporate species suitable for areas subject to periodic wetting, while ornamental planting and soft landscape areas will provide additional opportunities for flowering and habitat creation. The proposed street trees will further contribute to the green infrastructure of the scheme, providing additional structure, seasonal interest and habitat within the urban environment. The use of a varied planting palette across the site will enhance the ecological value of the streetscape while creating an attractive, resilient and visually engaging public realm.

2.3 Landscape Arrangement

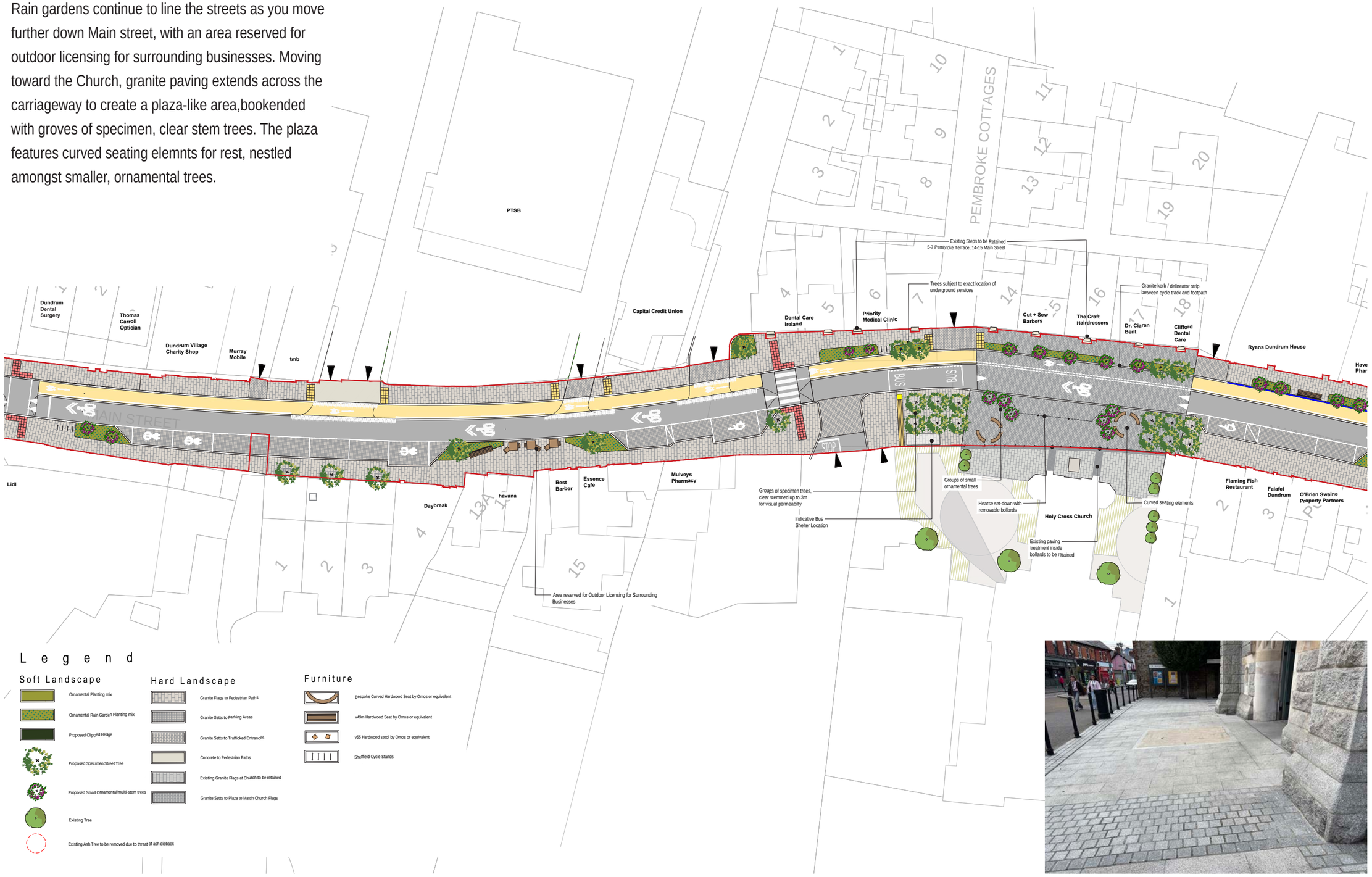
Section 01



This section of the scheme sees a series of rain gardens to promote sustainable drainage and enhance the streetscape. Pollinator planting throughout the rain gardens will promote biodiversity in areas where space allows, while structural tree pits are proposed in more constrained areas. A seating area is proposed opposite the bus stop, using the same curved geometry as the Taney PR Scheme in its furniture. Another Seating area is proposed opposite the AIB, surrounded by and facing pollinator planting to provide a more pleasant user experience.

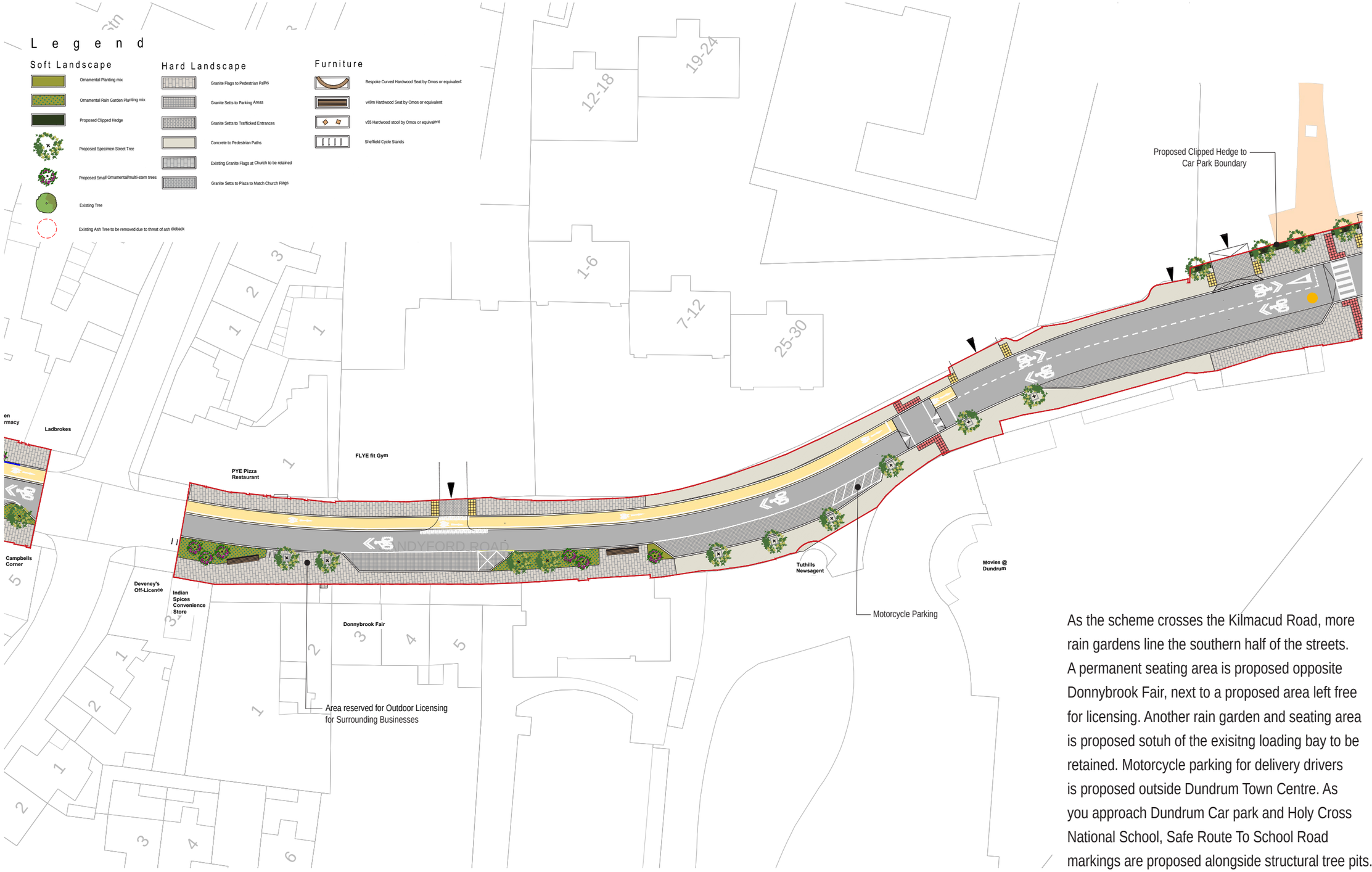
Section 02

Rain gardens continue to line the streets as you move further down Main street, with an area reserved for outdoor licensing for surrounding businesses. Moving toward the Church, granite paving extends across the carriageway to create a plaza-like area,bookended with groves of specimen, clear stem trees. The plaza features curved seating elemnts for rest, nestled amongst smaller, ornamental trees.



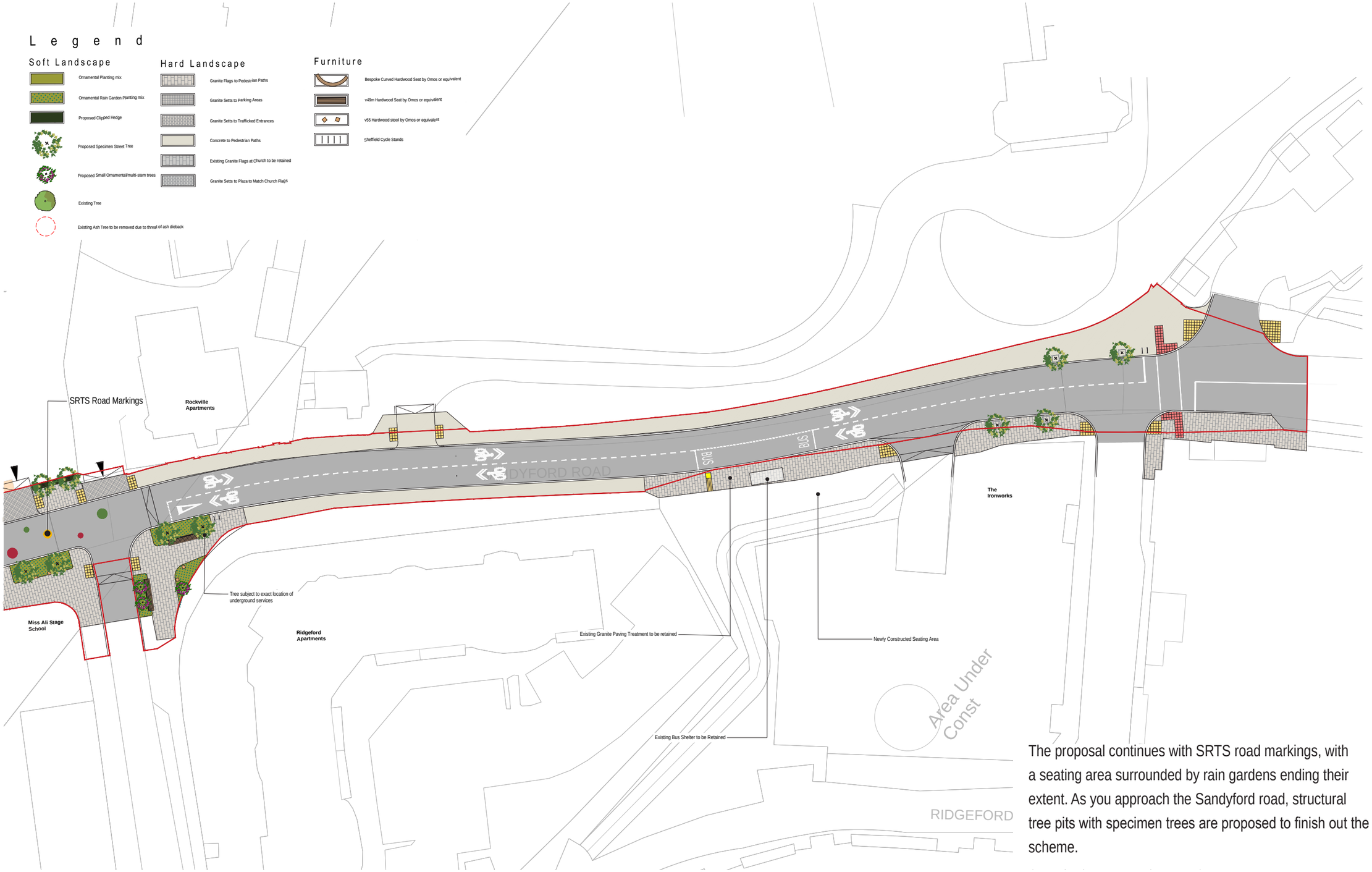
Existing paving at Holy Cross Church

Section 03



As the scheme crosses the Kilmacud Road, more rain gardens line the southern half of the streets. A permanent seating area is proposed opposite Donnybrook Fair, next to a proposed area left free for licensing. Another rain garden and seating area is proposed sotuh of the exisitng loading bay to be retained. Motorcycle parking for delivery drivers is proposed outside Dundrum Town Centre. As you approach Dundrum Car park and Holy Cross National School, Safe Route To School Road markings are proposed alongside structural tree pits.

Section 04



The proposal continues with SRTS road markings, with a seating area surrounded by rain gardens ending their extent. As you approach the Sandyford road, structural tree pits with specimen trees are proposed to finish out the scheme.

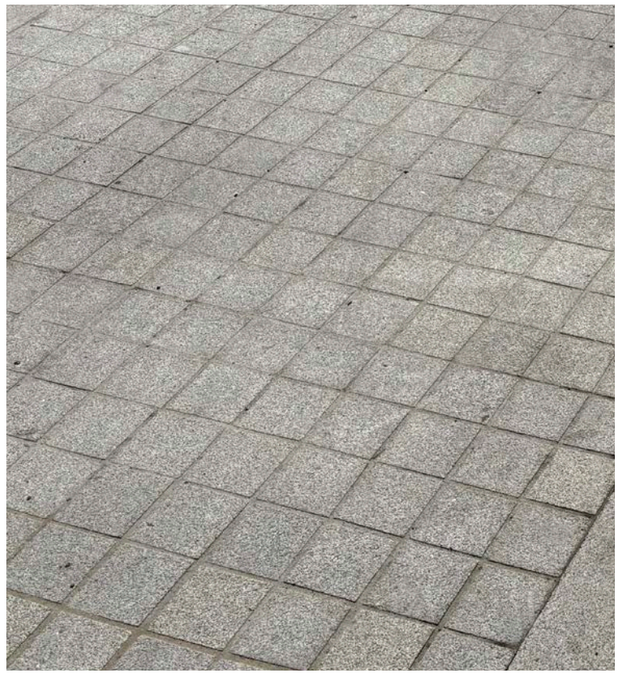
03

Hard Landscape

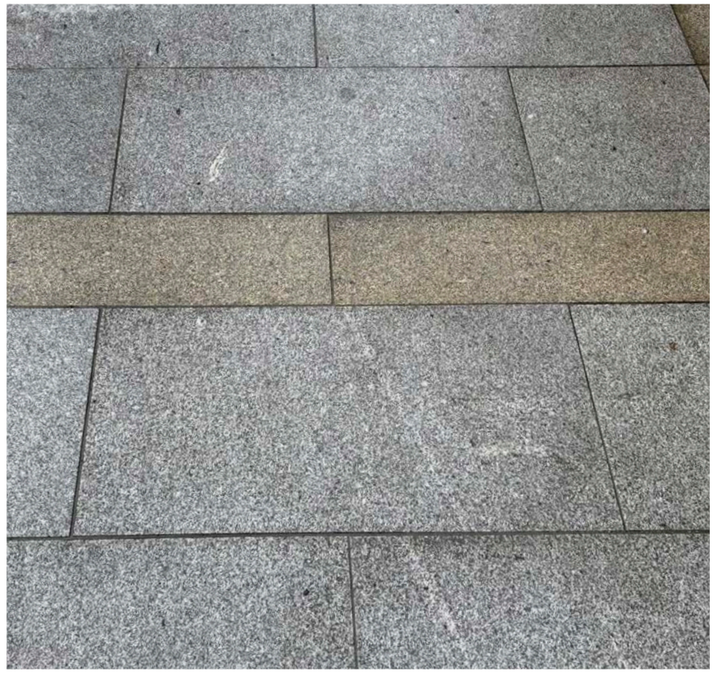
3.1 Surface Materials

3.2 Furniture

3.1 Surface Materials



Square Granite Setts to Parking Areas



Granite Flags to Pedestrian Paths



Existing Granite Paving at Church to be Retained and Extended



Rectangular Granite Setts to Trafficked Areas

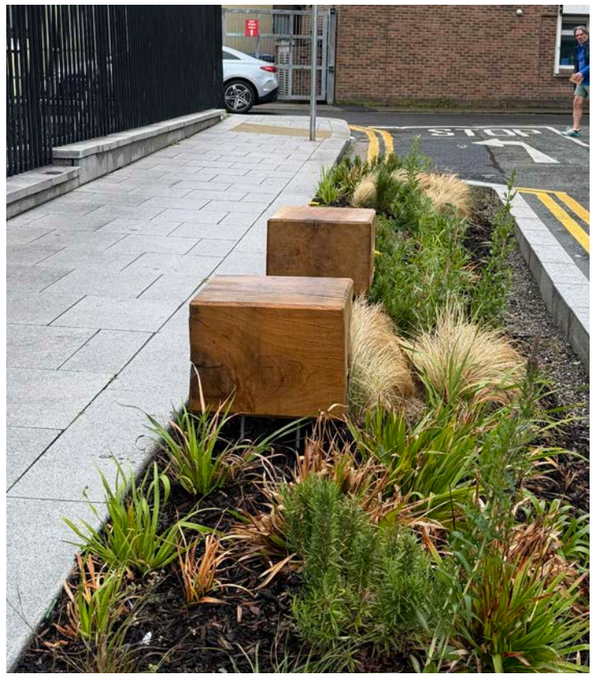


Concrete to Pedestrian Paths

3.2 Furniture



Timber Bench with Back and Arm Rests



Incidental Cube Seating in planters



Litter Bins



Bespoke Curved Seating



Stainless Steel Sheffield Cycle Stands

04

Soft Landscape

4.1 Planting Palette

4.1 Planting Palette


Pollinator friendly


Biodiversity enhancing


Shade tolerant planting


Sunny exposure planting


Native planting


Sensory mix


Street and avenue trees


Specimen trees, park trees and general


Flowering, ornamental and multi-stem trees


Pollinator Friendly Hedging


Shrubs


Pollinator Planting


Rain Garden Planting


Meadow


Grassland

4.1 Planting Palette

Trees

Suitable Street Trees

Alnus spaethii	Spaeth Alder
Carpinus betulus	Hornbeam
Gleditsia triacanthos	Honey Locust
Liquidambar styracifula	Sweetgum

Suitable Ornamental Trees

Amelanchier x lamarckii	Snowy Mespulis
Betula pendula	Silver Birch
Magnoia stellata	Star Magnolia



Gleditsia triacanthos



Alnus spaethii



Liquidambar styracifula



Carpinus betulus



Betula pendula



Amelanchier x lamarckii



Magnolia stellata

4.1 Planting Palette

P Pollinator Planting

PF Full Sun

Majority of the plants listed on All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2015-2020, Pollinator Friendly Planting Code or the RHS Plants for Pollinators.

Perennials:
Centaurea atropurpurea
Cirsium rivulare
Euphorbia characias,
Echinops bannaticus
Erigeron karvinskianus
Erysimum ‘Bredon’
Gerenium ‘Rozanne’
Gerenium ‘Johnson Blue’
Helleborus argutifolius
Knautia macedonica,
Nepeta ‘Kit Kat’
Perovskia atriplicifolia ‘Blue Spire’
Pulmonaria officinalis
Rudbeckia fulgida ‘Goldstrum’
Salvia nemerosa
Stachys byzantina

Ornamental Grasses and Sedges; for mid-Winter interest, max. 30% of any planted area:
Calamagrostis ‘Waldenbuch’
Carex elata (N)
Deschampsia cespitosa
Helictotrichon sempervirens
Molinia Caerulea (N)
Sesleria autumnalis

Bulb Underplanting
Allium c.vars
Narcissus c.vars





Helictotrichon sempervirens



Allium ‘Christophii’



Knautia macedonica



Rubeckia fulgida ‘Goldstrum’

4.1 Planting Palette

PS Shade

Majority of the plants listed on All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2015-2020, Pollinator Friendly Planting Code or the RHS Plants for Pollinators.

Perennials:
Anemone hupehensis
Aenmone x hybrida
Bergenia cordilfolia ‘Rubra’
Brunnera ‘Jack Frost’
Brunnera ‘Looking Glass’
Digitalis purpurea
Geranium macrorrhizum
Helleborus orientale
Helleborus ‘White Lady’
Heuchera ‘Lime Marmalade’
Lysimachia nummularia ‘Aurea’
Persicaria affinis ‘Darjeeling Red’
Pulmonria ‘Blue Ensign’
Rodgersia ‘Dark Pokers’
Vinca minor

Ornamental Ferns; for mid-Winter interest, max. 30% of any planted area:
Blechnum spicant
Dryopteris affinis
Polstichum setiferum

Bulb Underplanting
Anemone nemerosa (N)
Crocus
Galanthus nivalis
Hyacinthoides non-scriptus (N)


Dryopteris affinis


Bergenia cordifolia ‘Rubra’


Brunnera ‘Jack Frost’


Rodgersia ‘Dark Pokers’

4.1 Planting Palette

Rg Rain-gardens plants list

Shrubs species:
Oregon Grape *Mahonia eurybracteata* ‘Soft Caress’
Sweet Box *Sarcocca confusa*
Skimmia *Skimmia japonica* ‘Rubella’

Perennials species (listed on All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2015-2020):
Achillea filipendulina
Amsonia tabernaemontana var salicifolia
Anemone x hybrida ‘Honorine Jobert’
Calamintha ‘Blue Cloud’
Iris pseudoacorus
Iris sibirica
Polemonium caeruleum
Rudbeckia fulgida
Verbena bonariensis ‘Lollipop’
Veronicastrum virginicum ‘Album’
Libertia formosa
Libertia grandiflora
Luzula nivea
Luzula sylvatica
Lythrum salicaria

Ornamental grasses:
Carex elata (native plant)
Deschampsia cespitosa
Helictotrichon sempervirens
Molinia caerulea (native plant)

Shrubs


Mahonia eurybracteata


Sweet Box


Skimmia

Perennials


Verbena


Japanese anemone


Polemonium caeruleum


Luzula nivea


Libertia grandiflora

Grasses


Molinia caerulea


Carex elata


Helictotrichon sempervirens

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Registered Landscape Architect

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