

Creation of a new creative district at the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich

Accommodating a range of users from performing arts to heritage organisations, based within and outside of the Royal Borough, the Creative District will be a destination that attracts national and international audiences.

Adaptive reuse of four Grade II and one Grade II* listed buildings within the Royal Arsenal Conservation Area, will provide over 15,000m² of flexible space that can respond to occupier demands that creates a unique facility for London.

Opportunities for public interaction and involvement, training and education for both local residents and visitors and new jobs.

Celebrating the history of the Arsenal through reuse of its buildings and streets - allowing the historic presence of the Army in Woolwich to do what the Navy did for Greenwich.

Phase I of the development will see the redevelopment of buildings 40, 41 and 19, with 17 and 18 due for completion in Phase 2. During Phase 1, buildings 18 and 19 will be used for a temporary Placemaking show.

The Council purchased the leases on these buildings and they contain a number of restricted covenants which require the buildings to be used for cultural purposes.







B41 Milling space – a new single storey element located between the large performance space and courtyard. This space allows visitors to be accommodated within the building away from the surrounding public streets and serves as a support space for events taking place within the building.







B41 Main Entrance Foyer – a pivotal area designed to deal with the requirements of a variety of visitors to the building. This space will be the first point of call for most people and therefore needs to be a welcoming and flexible space. Our proposals retain most of the existing structure but removes a portion of the first floor construction to create a dramatic double height space. This space will provide a reception area for welcoming visitors, direct access to the milling space and the courtyard, and a stair and lift to take people directly to the studios at first floor level.







B4I Performance Space – this existing space provides an ideal acoustic environment for orchestral music and other performance. It is envisaged that this space will predominately be used for orchestral rehearsal but a number of public performances will be scheduled throughout the year. Our proposals include upgrading the acoustic performance of the roof and glazing to allow events to take place without disturbing local neighbours. The existing timber sarking boards, the cast iron columns and the exposed brickwork will remain unchanged so the space should feel very similar to how it does now.



B41 Studios – the existing spaces lend themselves well to becoming characterful rehearsal studios. It is envisaged that these spaces are used by both professional dance companies and local users alike. Our light touch proposals include providing fully sprung floors and the upgrading of the windows for improved thermal and acoustic performance. Wherever possible we intend to leave the existing brickwork and timber trusses untouched.

