

Temple Bar Square Area Improvement Scheme



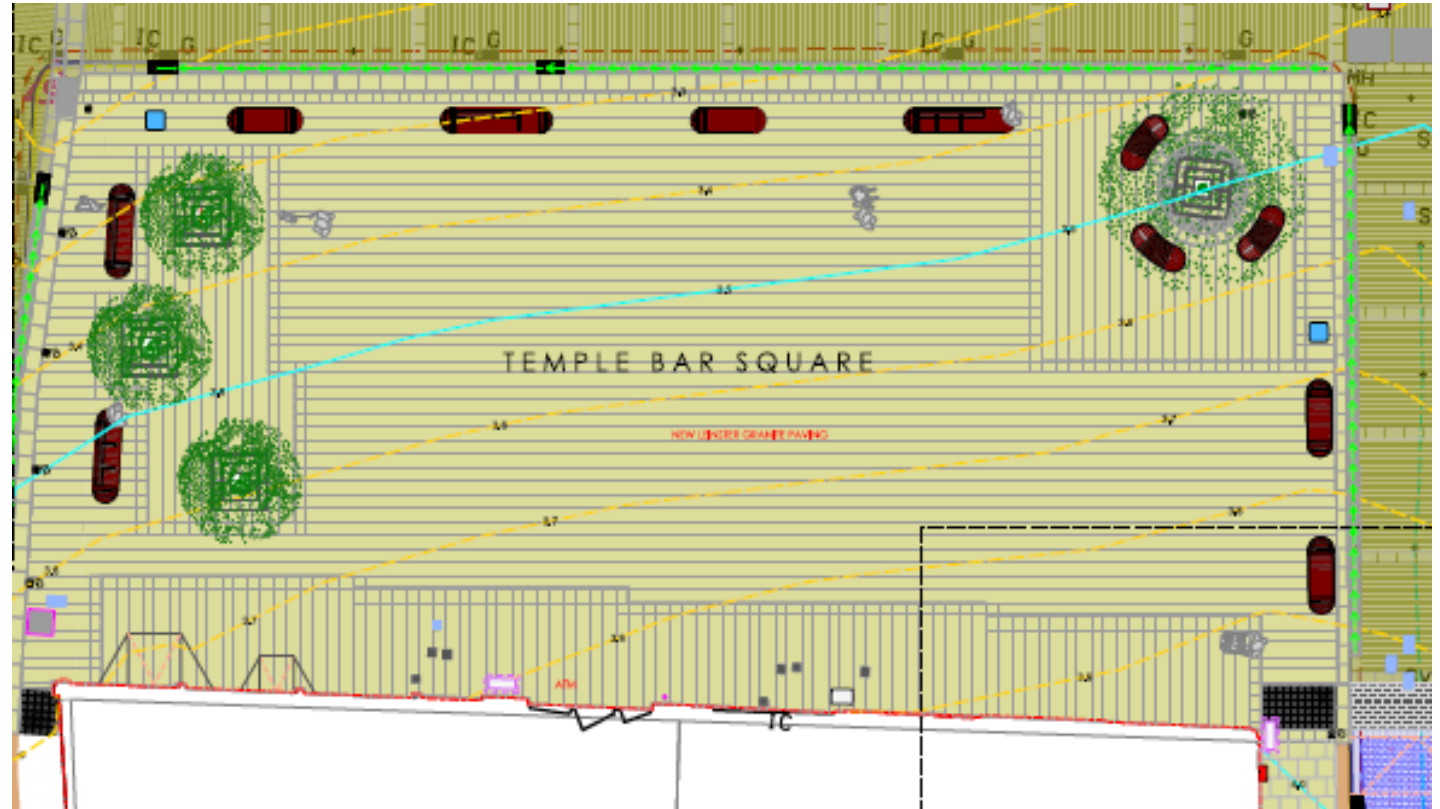
Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

**Road Design & Construction Division,
Environment & Transportation
Department**



Tree Planting

- The proposal is for one stand alone tree in the north east corner of the Square and a group of three smaller trees along the western side are proposed
- The design of the subsurface elements for the trees has been completed by our consultant Landscape Architect
- Given space constraints and the intensity of usage, open planted areas are not proposed
- A shortlist of tree species has been prepared and it is proposed to invite the local Councillors to take part in the tree selection process along with the design team and Landscape Architect in the coming weeks



Tree Planting Possible Options



Korean Birch *Betula Costata*



Japanese Magnolia *Magnolia Kobus*

Tree Planting Possible Options



Autumn Blaze *Acer freemanii*



Emerald Queen Maple *Acer Palatanoides*

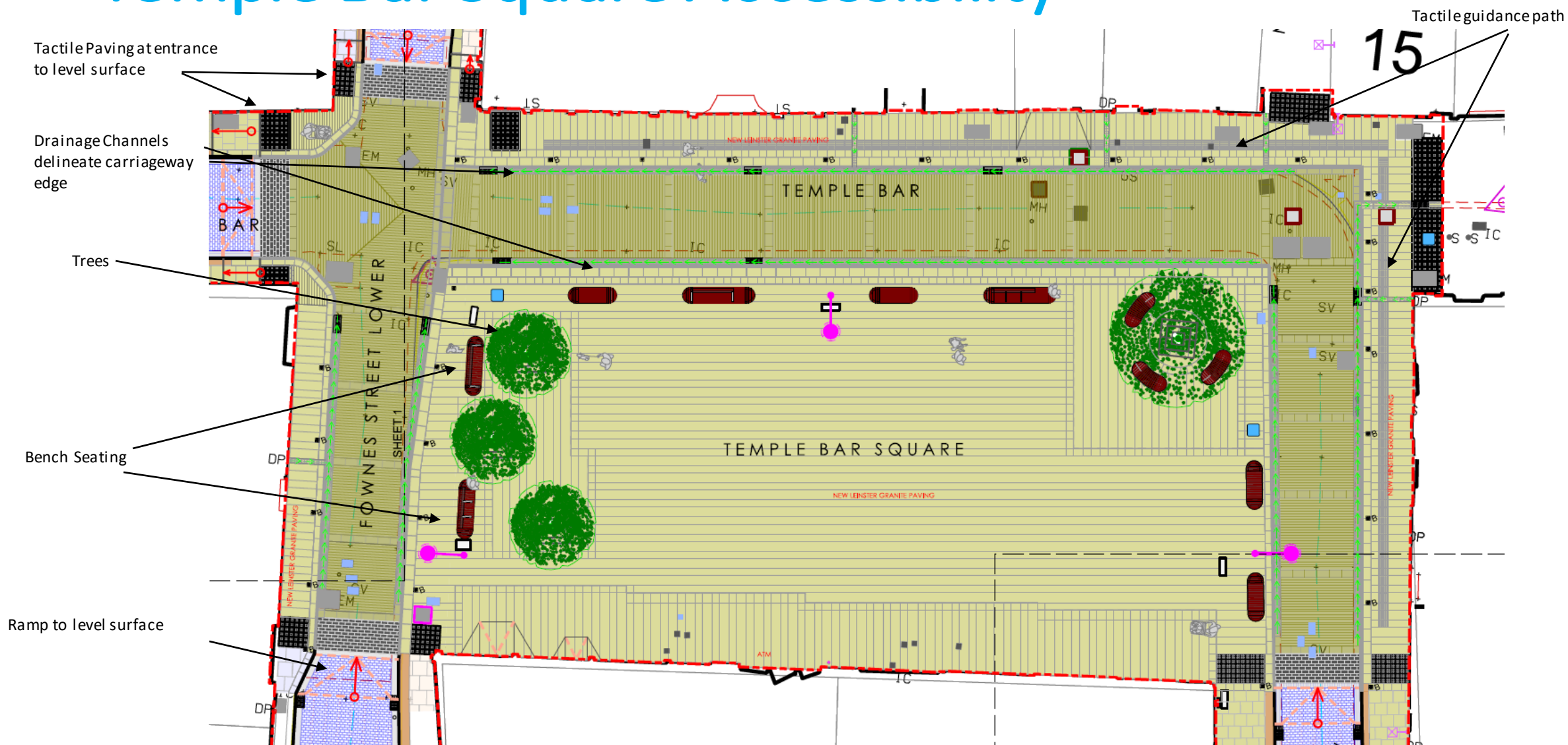
Accessibility

- The creation of a more usable space for people of all abilities is a central feature of this project
- An Accessibility Report has been prepared by our consultant architect who specialises in the field of accessibility in consultation with the National Council for the Blind in Ireland and the Irish Wheelchair Association. The Report has been circulated in advance of this meeting
- The vast majority of the recommendations from the Accessibility Report have been implemented by the Design Team
- At the entrances to the Square, blister paving gives warning that users are entering an area with a level surface
- An accessible route/zone of comfort has been provided across the north and eastern sides of the project area to better facilitate those with mobility and visual impairments

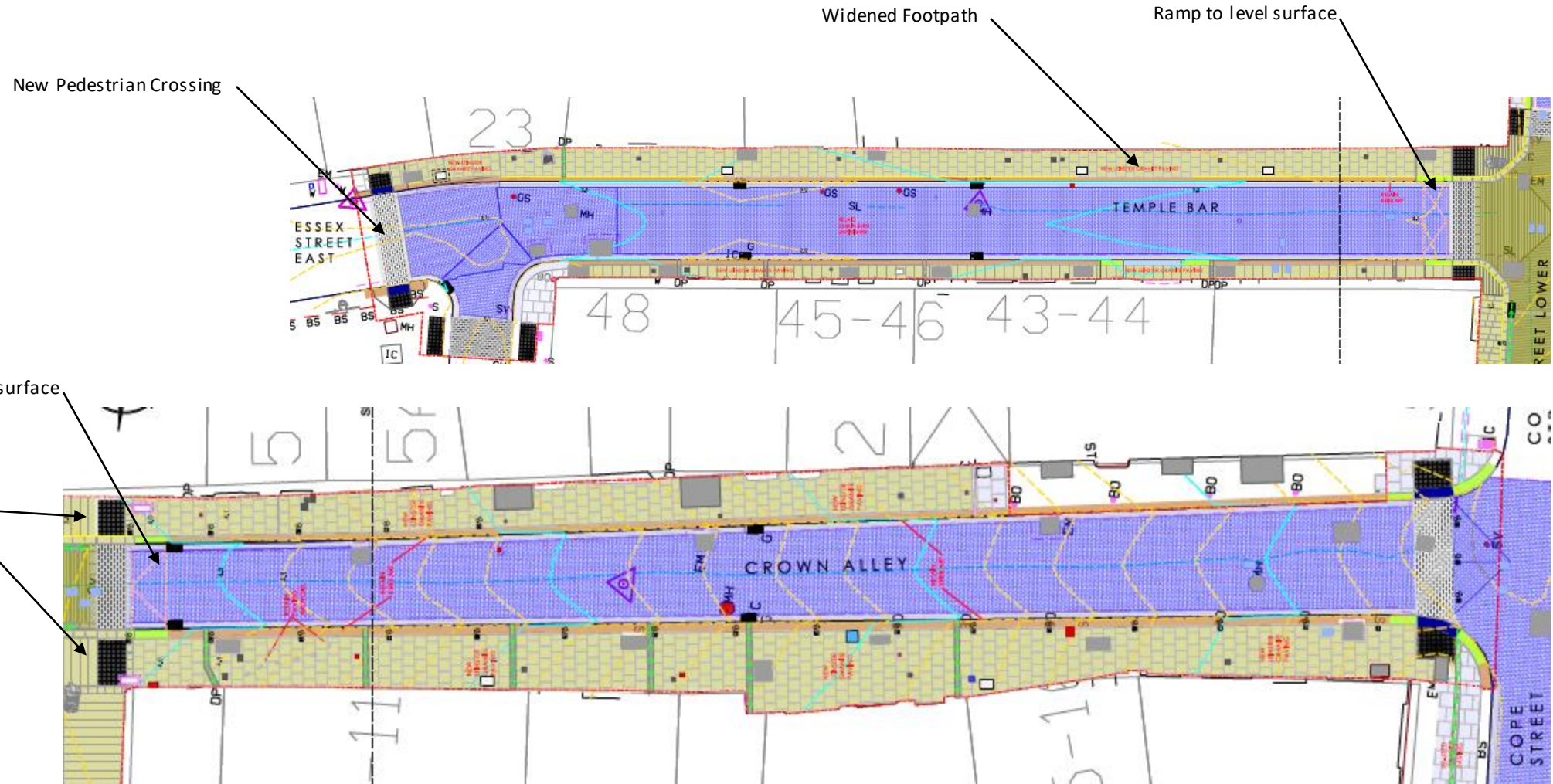
Accessibility

- A tactile guidance path has been provided along the northern and eastern sections of the Square to facilitate way-finding
- Additional bench seating of varying heights and both with and without arm rests has been provided to cater for users of all abilities
- A level difference between the cobbled carriageway and granite footways is to be retained on Temple Bar street and Crown Alley , providing a readable carriageway edge for those with visual impairments.
- As cobbled setts are not an accessible material, the northern footpath on Temple Bar Street has been widened to a more appropriate width
- Footpaths on Crown Alley are more generous and have been retained similar to their existing widths
- An additional dished crossing point has been provided on Essex Street East and all pedestrian crossing points within the site are to be reconstructed to modern standards

Temple Bar Square Accessibility



Temple Bar Street & Crown Alley Accessibility

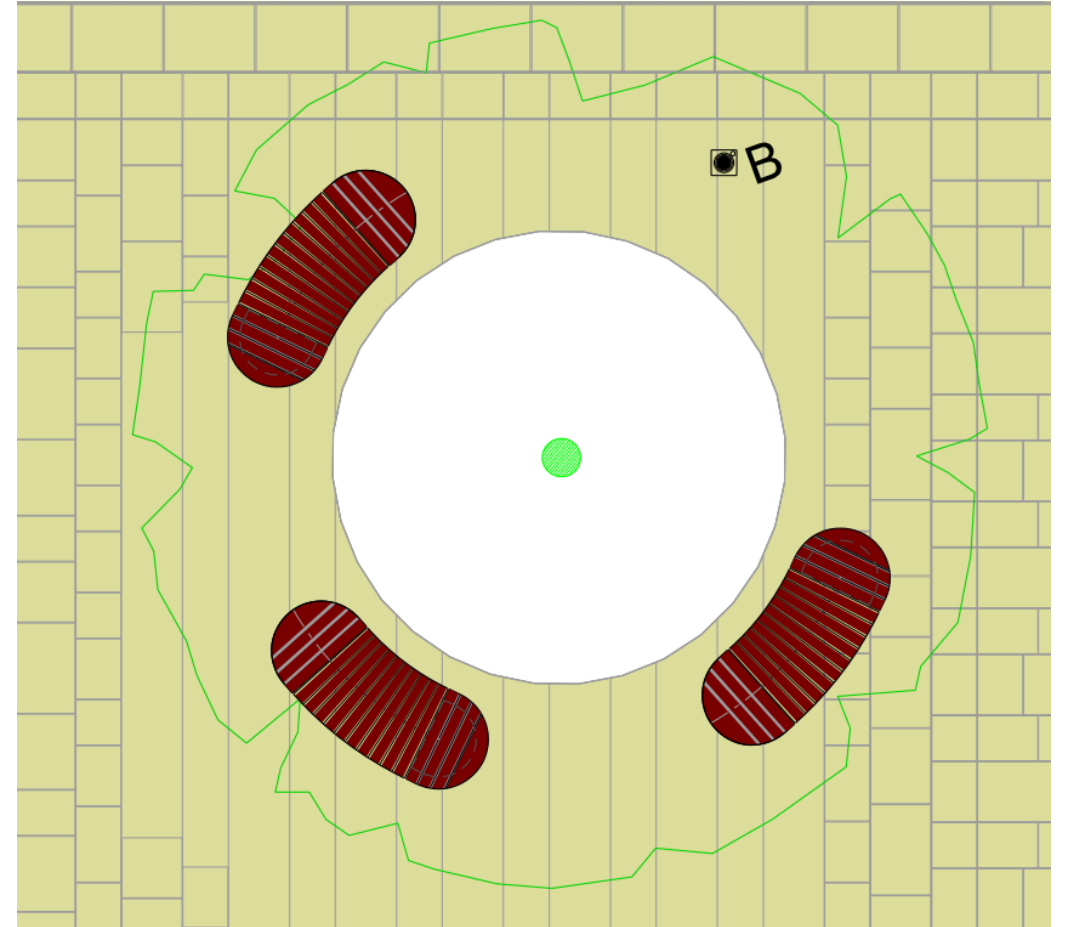


Art Offering

- The inclusion of an art offering as part of the development has been proposed due to the project area's location within the City's Cultural Quarter
- Local artist studios and practices were advised of the proposal and asked to recommend candidates for consideration
- A selection panel including two local Councillors, the Public Art Officer, Director of the Crawford Gallery in Cork and a member of the design team met in February to assess the candidates
- The panel overwhelmingly supported one of the candidates, who has been offered a direct commission in compliance with procurement rules in relation to public art
- The preferred candidate has expressed an interest in taking the commission and an initial meeting was held on site at the start of March to discuss the brief for the art offering

Art Offering

- The brief is for the artist to develop a two dimensional piece that will be integrated into the hard landscaping for the scheme
- The area surrounding the stand-alone tree at the north east corner of the Square has been selected as a potential location for the piece
- This would create a really interesting set piece with the larger tree and public seating
- The artist has been given the freedom to explore other locations on the Square for the piece



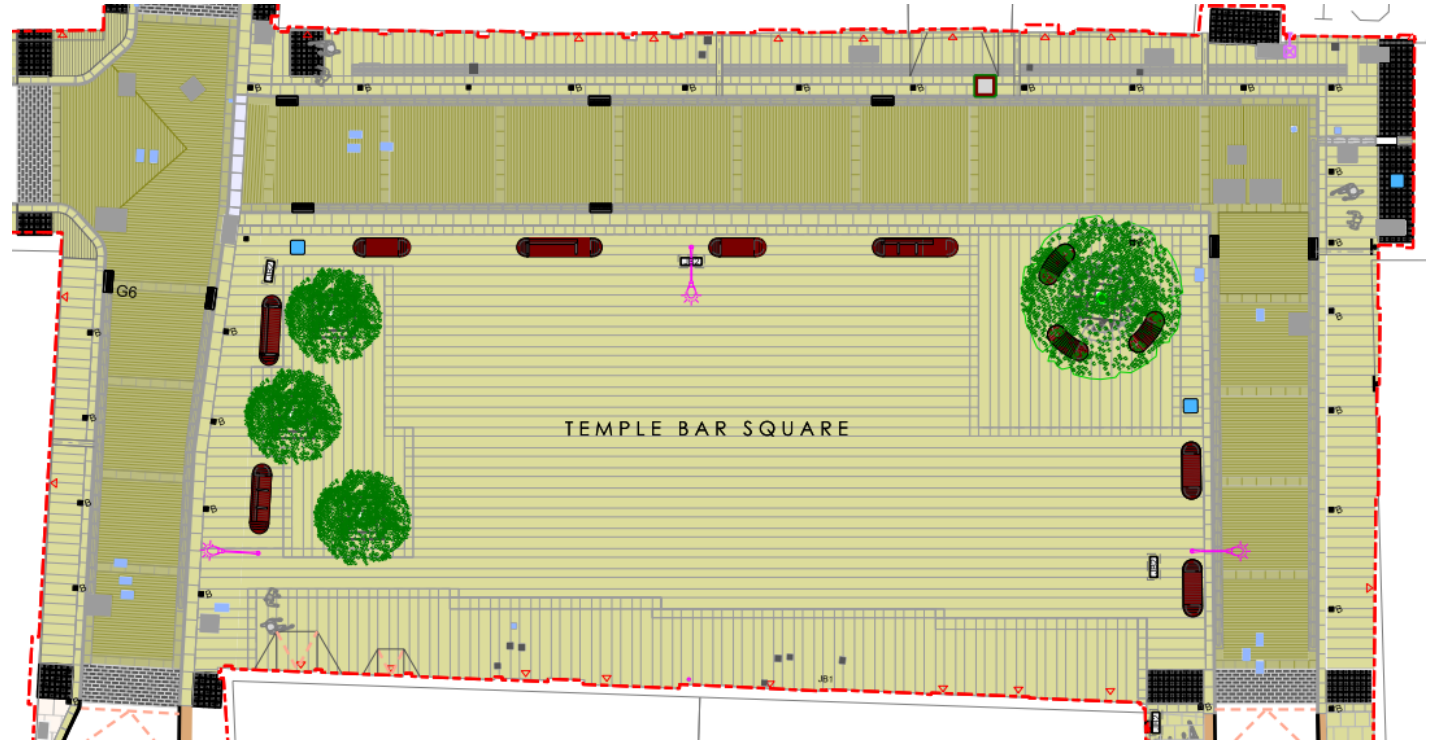
Lighting Design

- The Part 8 Report proposed a catenary lighting system for the Square.
- Following the completion of a lighting design for the catenary system, a consultant structural engineer was engaged to assess the design loads
- The spans involved in Temple Bar are significantly greater (25m) than those where catenary installations had been used previously in Dublin, resulting in significant design loads
- The consultant reported that their calculations indicated that the brick facades on three sides of the Square (including two listed buildings) would not be able to support the design loads for such a system
- As a result, it was not deemed feasible to proceed with the installation of a catenary lighting system on Temple Bar Square



Lighting Design

- A revised lighting design has since been carried out for a pole based system
- A high quality contemporary pole and lantern is now proposed for three locations on Temple Bar Square
- The poles are sited to align with the other street furniture elements on the Square so as to avoid introducing additional clutter on the Square
- The revised proposal will provide more consistent and appropriate lighting levels for the Square than the existing system, which has fallen into disrepair



Lighting Design



Proposed lighting column and lantern for Temple Bar Square

Next Steps

- Detailed Design is all but complete
- We hope to tender for a works contractor in Q2 2022
- Licensed seating on the Square can be cancelled with one month's notice
- In order to minimise disruption to summer trade for local businesses, construction will start in Sept-Oct 2022
- Total construction period is likely to be in the region of 12 months
- We hope to have completed work on the Square itself by March 2023

Questions?

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