

UKCMRI community

A NEWSLETTER FOR PEOPLE WHO LIVE OR WORK IN THE SOMERS TOWN AREA



Welcome to UKCMRI's newsletter

UKCMRI is planning to build a medical research centre in Brill Place, Somers Town. As you live or work near to the proposed new centre, we are sending you this newsletter to keep you up-to-date on the project.

UKCMRI submits plans

On 1 September we applied to Camden Council for permission to build our medical research institute on unused land at the back of the British Library.

Over the past two years we have consulted widely with local residents and community groups. We listened to what people had to say and, as a result, made significant changes to the design of the building. Turn to page two to find out more.

Above: Looking south down Ossulston Street.
© Justin Piperger Photography/Wadsworth3d.

ABOUT UKCMRI

- UKCMRI stands for the UK Centre for Medical Research and Innovation.
- It was founded by the Medical Research Council, Cancer Research UK, the Wellcome Trust, and UCL (University College London).
- UKCMRI will be a not-for-profit organisation.
- Discoveries made in the laboratories will be developed into treatments for major diseases such as cancer, heart disease and stroke.
- UKCMRI will bring new jobs and community facilities to Somers Town.

ON THE RECORD

Leaflets are being handed out locally which claim UKCMRI will study diseases including Ebola, Smallpox, Anthrax and the Plague. We do not and will not work on these diseases.

A small part of UKCMRI's work will be the study of different strains of flu virus. Flu research saves thousands of lives each year, for example through the design of vaccines.

Our scientists at the National Institute for Medical Research have been carrying out this work safely for over 60 years.

Government regulations for research laboratories are extremely rigorous and tightly controlled. They are designed to prevent people inside and outside the building being exposed to any virus being studied. UKCMRI laboratories will comply with these strict regulations which have proved to be extremely effective.

Listening to local people

UKCMRI wants to be a good neighbour. We have been consulting people who live in the Somers Town area and working closely with Camden Council to get input into the design of our building.

Since April 2008 we have:

- sent information about the project to residents, community groups and businesses;
- met representatives from schools, community groups, and health organisations;
- held more than 70 public meetings and consultation events; and
- welcomed more than 200 visitors to our on-site exhibition which opened in June, 2010.

Through these activities we encouraged people to comment on our proposals and we listened to what was said. In response, we adapted our plans.

- The overall height of the building has been reduced. About one third is now below ground.
- The roof has been changed to a curved shape and a second full-height glass atrium has been introduced. These features give the building a much lighter feel and help lessen the overall impact on the area.
- A community facility, provisionally called the Living Centre, has been introduced at the Ossulston Street side of the building. Plans for this facility have not been finalised.
- A courtyard garden has been created at the junction of Ossulston Street and Brill Place by setting the building back from the street.
- There will be a pathway for pedestrians and cyclists between the UKCMRI building and the British Library. This will provide a direct route between Midland Road and Ossulston Street.



Garden Project

UKCMRI teamed up with the London Wildlife Trust to give local people a chance to try out their gardening abilities.

Rather than leaving the land purchased for the UKCMRI building empty, UKCMRI funded a gardening project. This gave keen gardeners in the area a chance to produce their own fresh fruit and vegetables and get expert advice from the London Wildlife Trust.

The scheme proved popular - all of the 100 allotments were snapped up within days. The gardeners are now enjoying the fruits of their hard work.



Above: Looking across Ossulston Street at the public garden. Above right: View looking west along Brill Place. © Justin Piperger Photography/Wadsworth3d.

Building works

We have applied to Camden Council for permission to build our institute on Brill Place. Providing the Council gives us consent, building works will start in spring 2011.

It will take two years to build the shell of the building and a further two years to fit out the interior.

We understand that building works can cause disruption to people living near the site. We will do our best to keep this

to a minimum. All the works will be done in line with Camden Council's Code of Construction Practice and the Considerate Constructors Scheme.

We will also set up a construction liaison group made up of representatives from UKCMRI, the building firm and residents. This group will help keep local people informed of what's going on and address any issues about the building works.

OUTLINE TIMETABLE

September 2010

Planning application submitted to Camden Council.

Spring 2011

Building work starts (if planning permission is granted).

Spring 2013

External works completed, internal fit-out starts.

Spring 2015

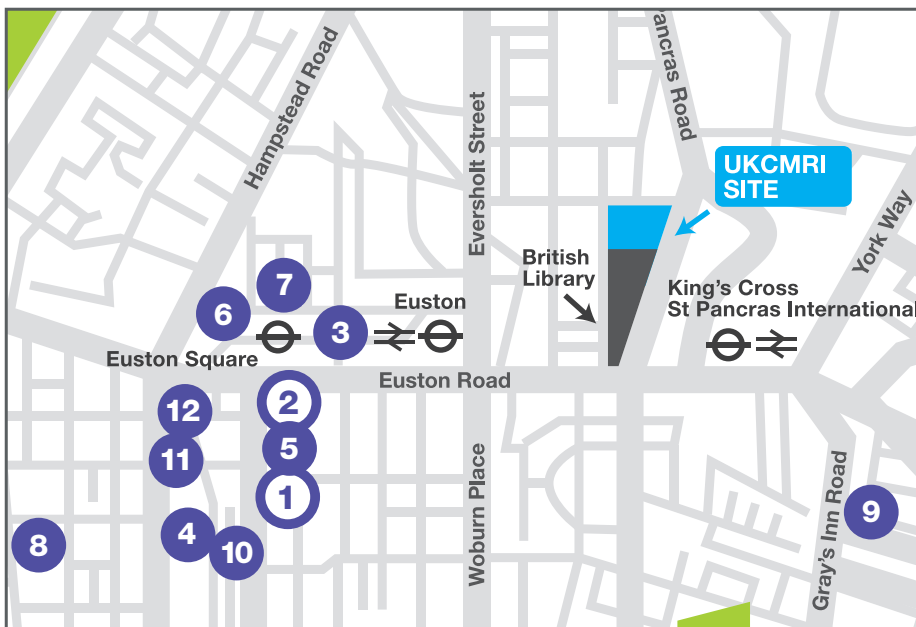
Internal works are completed. The building is ready for use.

Location is key

Camden residents have for decades lived alongside pioneering research activities.

Many medical research institutions and hospitals – as well as UCL, a world-leading university – lie within a few minutes walk of the proposed site for the UKCMRI building.

Being near to each other will help scientists and development laboratories work in partnership to turn discoveries made at the institute into cures, vaccines and drugs for major diseases. Also, because local hospitals will treat people in this area, residents in Somers Town will benefit from our work at an early stage.



- ① UCL Main Campus
- ② Wellcome Trust
- ③ Arthritis Research Campaign
- ④ Hospital for Tropical Diseases
- ⑤ MRC Cell Biology Unit
- ⑥ MRC Clinical Trials Unit
- ⑦ MRC General Practice Research Framework
- ⑧ MRC/UCL Centre for Medical Molecular Virology
- ⑨ Royal National Throat, Nose and Ear Hospital
- ⑩ UCL Cancer Institute
- ⑪ UCL Institute for Women's Health
- ⑫ University College London Hospital

Creating opportunity

UKCMRI is committed to making a positive difference to St Pancras and Somers Town.

The construction phase will offer work and training opportunities. An apprenticeship scheme will give local people interested in the building trades a chance to learn skills that will last them for life.

When the institute opens in 2015, new jobs will be available in a range of roles covering scientific research, engineering, administration, IT, laboratory support, maintenance and security.

Schoolchildren will be invited along to the teaching laboratory to learn more about UKCMRI's work and careers in science.



Inside the institute

UKCMRI will be a medical research centre. Its work will lead to new treatments for diseases such as cancer, heart disease and stroke.



Research into understanding why these and other diseases develop is already being carried out in the laboratories of the founder organisations: the Medical Research Council's National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR), Cancer Research UK's London Research Institute (LRI), and UCL. Scientists from these institutes will continue this important work at UKCMRI – but with a difference.

OPEN SCIENCE

UKCMRI is taking a fresh approach to medical research.

The new institute will give specialists in biology, chemistry, physics, maths, engineering and computing the opportunity to work side by side in teams. Research programmes will benefit from the expertise, knowledge and ideas that each person can bring to the area of study.

The inside of the building has been designed to support this plan

for joint working. Wherever the science allows, laboratories will be located next to open-plan desk areas and break-out spaces will encourage informal discussions.



GET IN TOUCH

If you have any questions, please contact us.

Email: info@ukcmri.ac.uk

Web: www.ukcmri.ac.uk

Phone: 0800 028 6731

Post: UKCMRI
PO Box 64746
London
NW1W 8HB

Visit: On-site exhibition,
Brill Place, NW1 1HG.

Staff will be on hand to answer your questions and you will be able to see the latest designs and plans for the building.

OPENING TIMES

(until 16 December 2010)

Tuesdays: 11.00 – 17.00

Thursdays: 12.00 – 19.00

Selected Saturdays

27 November: 11:00 – 14:00

This newsletter tells you about UKCMRI and its plans to build a medical research centre in Brill Place, Somers Town. If you would like a copy in Bengali, please send your name and address to UKCMRI, PO Box 64746, London, NW1W 8HB or email info@ukcmri.ac.uk.

এই সংবাদপত্রিকাটি আপনাকে ইউকেসিএমআরআই এবং এদের ব্রিল প্লেস, সোমারস টাউনে একটি চিকিৎসা গবেষণা কেন্দ্র তৈরীর পরিকল্পনার বিষয়ে জানায়। যদি আপনার বাংলায় একটি অনুলিপি প্রয়োজন হয়, অনুগ্রহ করে আপনার নাম ও ঠিকানা UKCMRI, PO Box 64746, London, NW1W 8HB-তে পাঠান বা info@ukcmri.ac.uk-তে ইমেইল করুন।

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