

Stadium Bowl

The restoration of the Crystal Palace Athletics Stadium is founded on a clear and consistent design principle: a stadium bowl embedded within the landscape rather than a structure imposed upon it. This approach responds directly to the site's distinctive topography, its mid-century modernist heritage, and its setting within one of London's most significant Grade II* listed public parks.

The existing sunken athletics bowl at Crystal Palace provides a powerful and appropriate starting point. Its integration into the natural landform has long reduced the visual impact of the Stadium while reinforcing its relationship with the surrounding parkland. The proposals retain and enhance this defining characteristic, reinforcing the sense of the Stadium as a landscape-led intervention rather than a dominant built object.

By working with the landscape rather than against it, the project seeks to deliver a low-impact, open and welcoming venue that enhances both the spectator experience and the wider park environment.



Aerial view of the Stadium set in the landscape

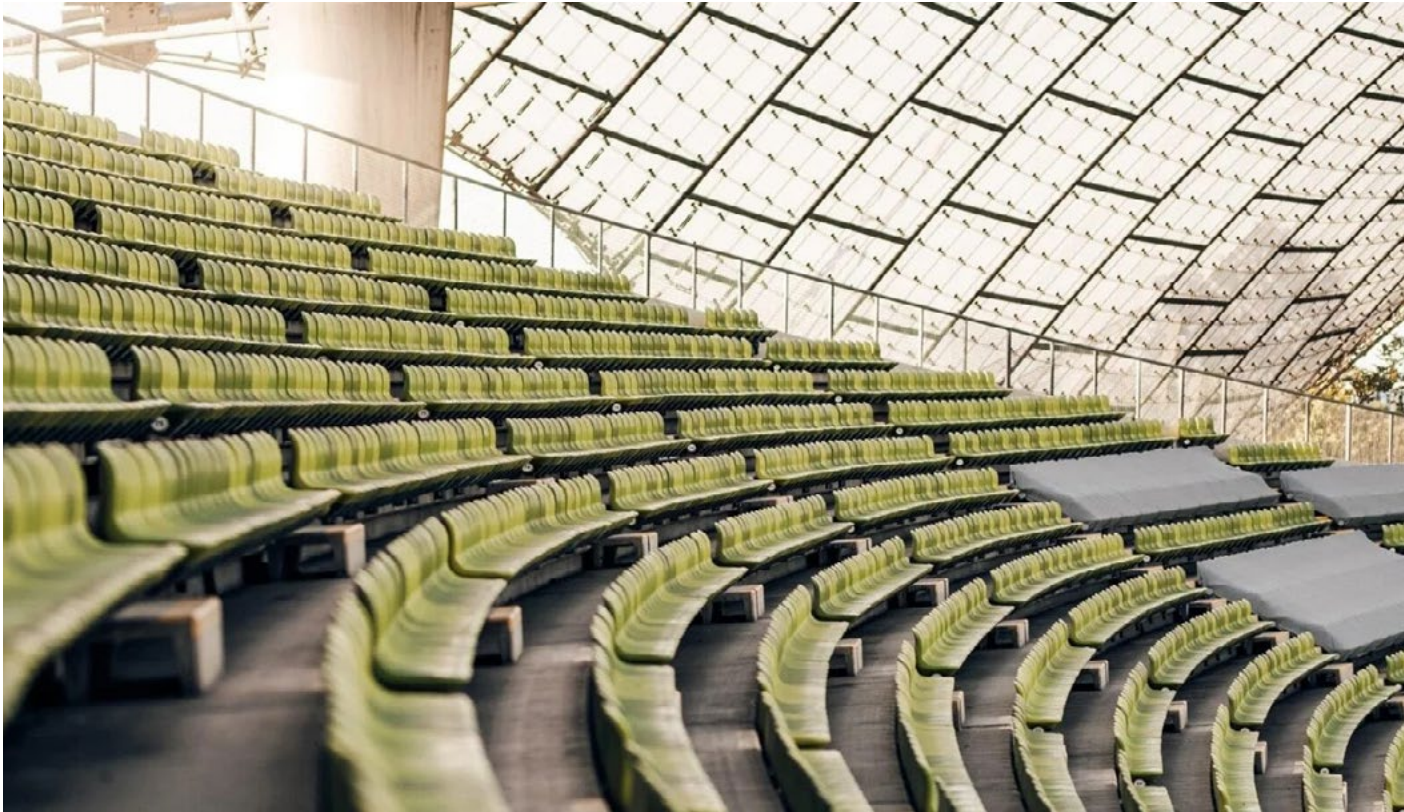
Indicative Seat Colour Strategy

A clear and carefully considered seat colour strategy plays a critical role in shaping how the Stadium is perceived within the park and experienced by users. The proposed approach seeks to reduce the visual mass of the seating bowl, soften its appearance within longer parkland views, and reinforce the Stadium’s integration with its landscape setting.

The strategy favours a palette derived from the surrounding parkland, using layered greens and muted natural tones rather than high-contrast or overly saturated colours. This approach allows the seating to recede visually when viewed from the wider park, reinforcing the reading of the Stadium as part of the landscape rather than a standalone object.

The use of restrained, landscape-led colours also complements the lightness of the canopy structure, ensuring that the sail-like roof remains the primary visual focus, consistent with the original modernist design intent. Where contrast is required, it is deployed selectively to support wayfinding, accessibility and legibility without undermining the overall calmness of the composition.

This colour strategy supports the heritage setting, enhances the Stadium’s relationship with the park, and establishes a coherent and timeless identity capable of accommodating both everyday community use and elite athletic events.



Olympiastadion Munich

Athletics Track

Track Colour and Identity

The colour and identity of the athletics track play a fundamental role in defining the character of the Stadium and its place within the wider landscape of Crystal Palace Park. Across the UK, blue tracks have become increasingly prevalent, often driven by broadcast convention rather than local context, resulting in venues that can feel interchangeable and detached from their setting. At Crystal Palace, there is a clear opportunity to establish a distinct and site-specific identity, rooted in the history, material language and civic presence of the park. The proposed approach treats the track not simply as a technical surface but as a key component of the Stadium’s architectural composition, using colour to reinforce a sense of place, enhance legibility, and create a memorable visual identity that is recognisably Crystal Palace rather than a generic athletics venue.



Current Crystal Palace Track

Traditionally, the Crystal Palace athletics track has been defined by a terracotta-toned surface, a colour closely associated with the Stadium’s post-war identity and its long-standing role in British athletics. This warm, mineral palette has sat comfortably within the parkland setting and formed part of the collective memory of the venue. The proposals seek to build upon this heritage rather than replicate it directly, using the traditional terracotta as a foundational reference while refining its tone and finish to suit a contemporary audience. This evolution allows the track to retain a clear lineage with the past while presenting a renewed and confident identity, establishing the surface as recognisably rooted in Crystal Palace yet expressive of its future.



Mahogany Track Identity

Indicative Track Identity

The proposed colour strategy for the athletics track is rooted in the layered architectural and material history of Crystal Palace, drawing directly on the character of the surrounding park and its associated structures. The primary running track adopts a deep mahogany-red, conceived as a refined evolution of the traditional athletics red. This tone echoes the brick and steel language of South London and references the robust materiality of Barry’s High Level Station, giving the track a grounded and distinctive presence within the Stadium.

The track D-zones are differentiated through a burnt orange and ochre tone, recalling the brickwork of the Crystal Palace High Level Station Subway and the stonework of the park terraces. Used in a controlled and measured way, this secondary colour introduces warmth and legibility without visual distraction. Together, the palette moves away from generic or synthetic finishes, establishing a crafted, mineral-based identity that is clearly rooted in place, supports performance and broadcast requirements, and reinforces the Stadium’s integration within its historic parkland setting.

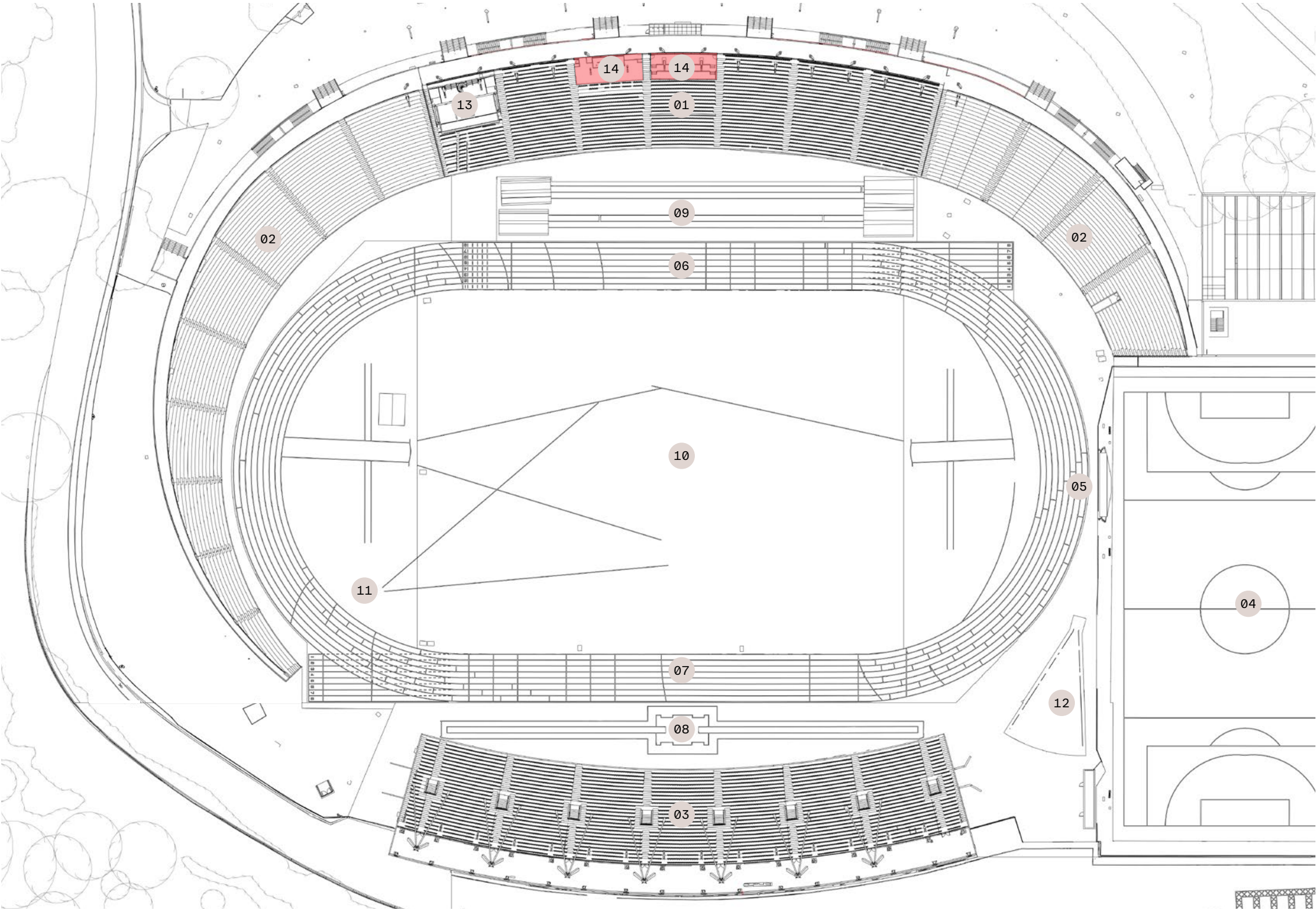


Crystal Palace High level Station Subway

Existing Stadium Layout

Elements to be demolished

- Key
- 01 West Stand Covered
 - 02 West Stand Uncovered
 - 03 Jubilee Stand
 - 04 Multi Use Pitch
 - 05 Scoreboard
 - 06 400m Athletics track
 - 07 Second 100m Straight
 - 08 Pole Vault Runway
 - 09 Long Jumps
 - 10 Infield grass football pitch (unused)
 - 11 Discus and throwing cage
 - 12 Shot put throwing area
 - 13 Control room
 - 14 Hospitality boxes



Indicative Proposed Stadium Layout - Bowl

Indicative Seating Bowl Plan

The indicative seating plan proposes a graduated mix of RAL 7035 (Light Grey), RAL 6021 (Pale Green), and RAL 6029 (Mint Green), creating a subtle green–grey gradient across the seating bowl. This softens the visual presence of the seating when viewed from within the Stadium and the surrounding parkland, allowing it to recede into the landscape and blend with the tree canopy. The track is proposed in a Mahogany tone, reflecting the heritage of the athletics track and adjacent high-level station, with Gold used as an accent colour. Together, these colours reference the historic identity of the Crystal Palace track while supporting legibility for major events.

The restrained palette reinforces the Stadium’s reading as a sunken element within the parkland. The overall effect is calm and cohesive, supporting a heritage-led design approach and complementing the landscape setting and lightweight canopy above.

Track Colours



Mahogany Gold

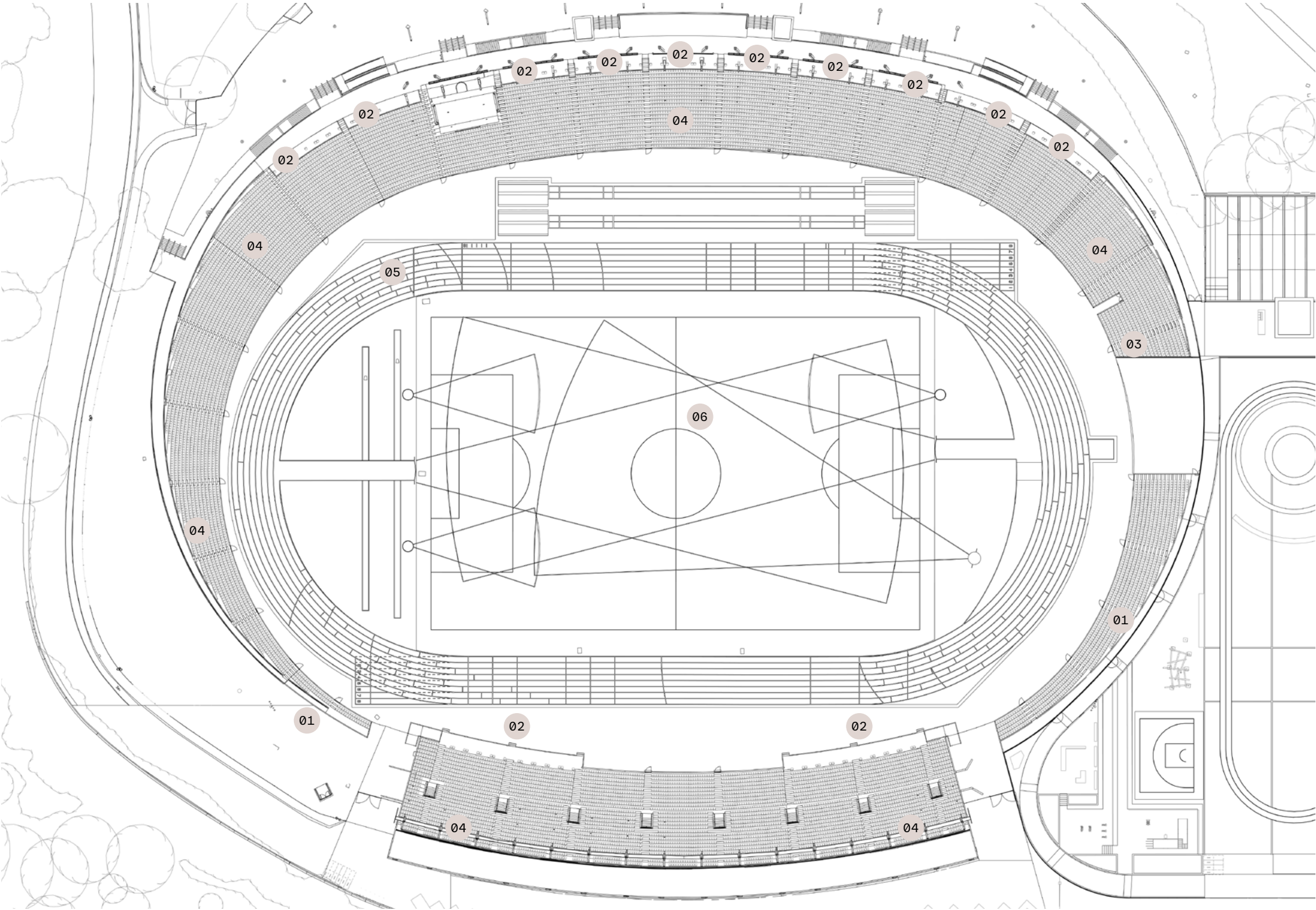
Seat Colours



RAL 6029 RAL 6029 RAL 6029

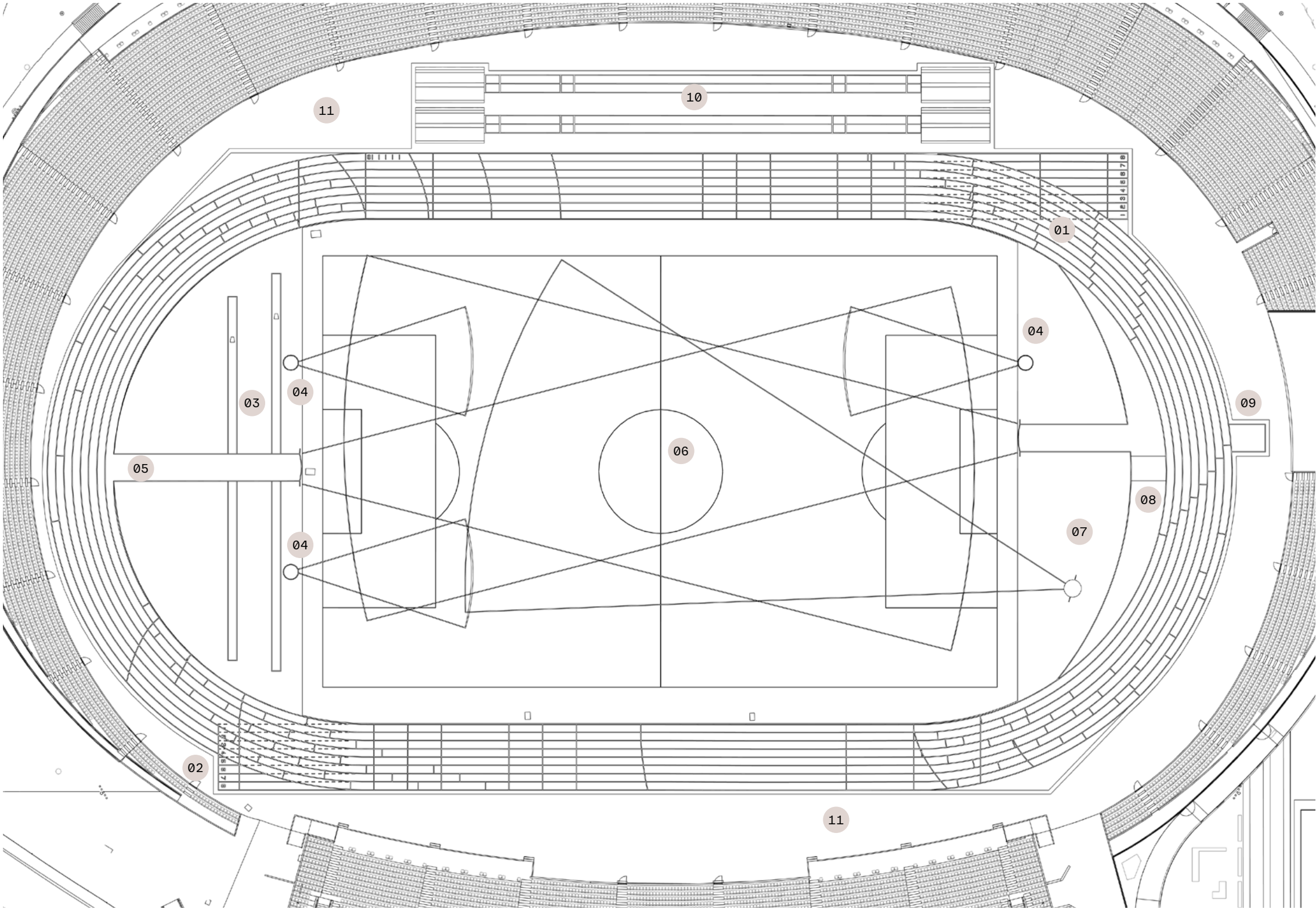
Key

- 01 New seating to complete bowl at north and south bends
- 02 Wheelchair platforms created
- 03 New Gangway introduced
- 04 New seats laid in existing blocks: gangways modified and number of seats in a row to meet the current standards, pitch access gates created at the bottom of each gangway
- 05 Restored Competition surface
- 06 Restored and extended natural grass infield



Indicative Proposed Stadium Layout - Field of Play

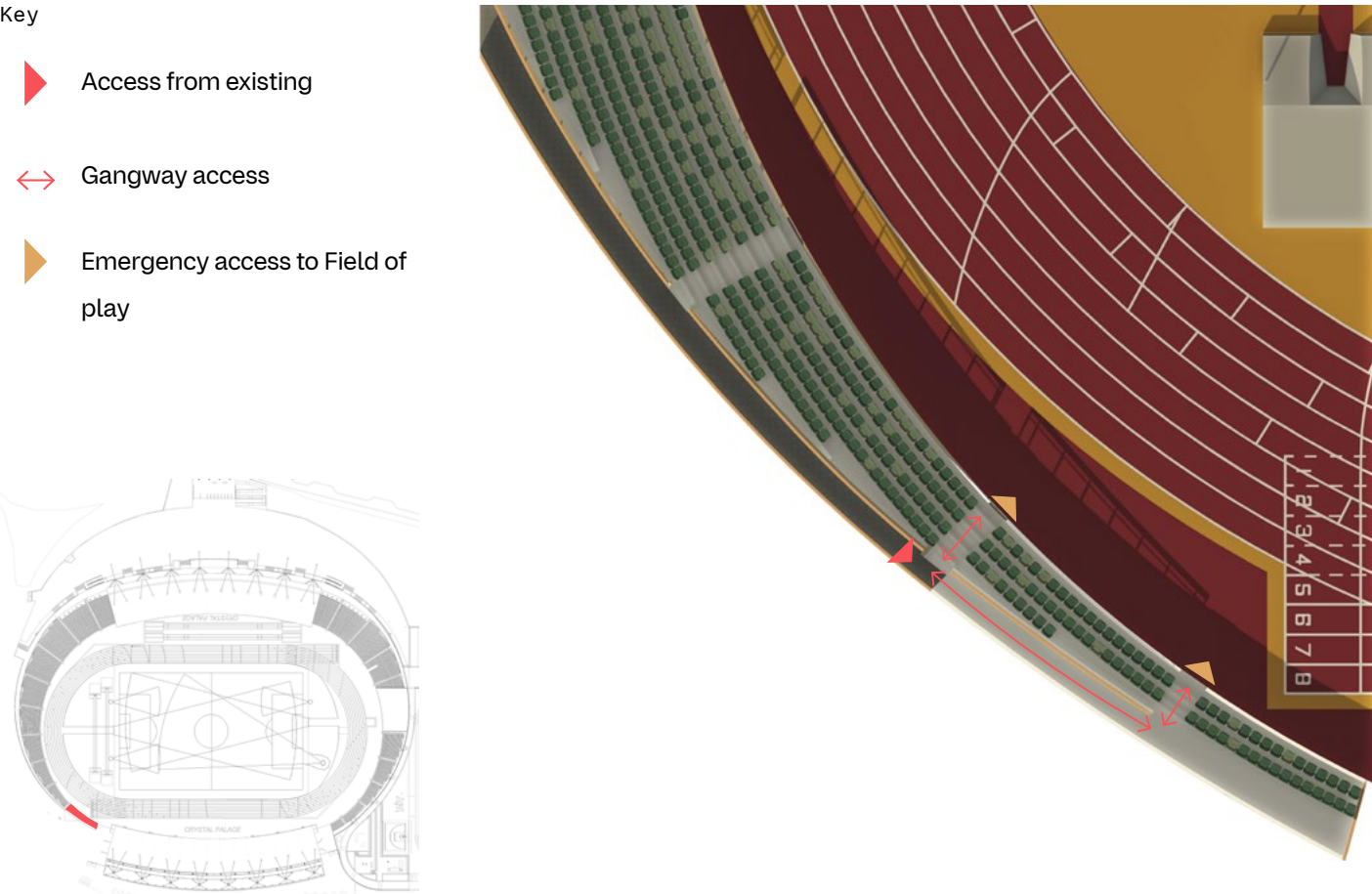
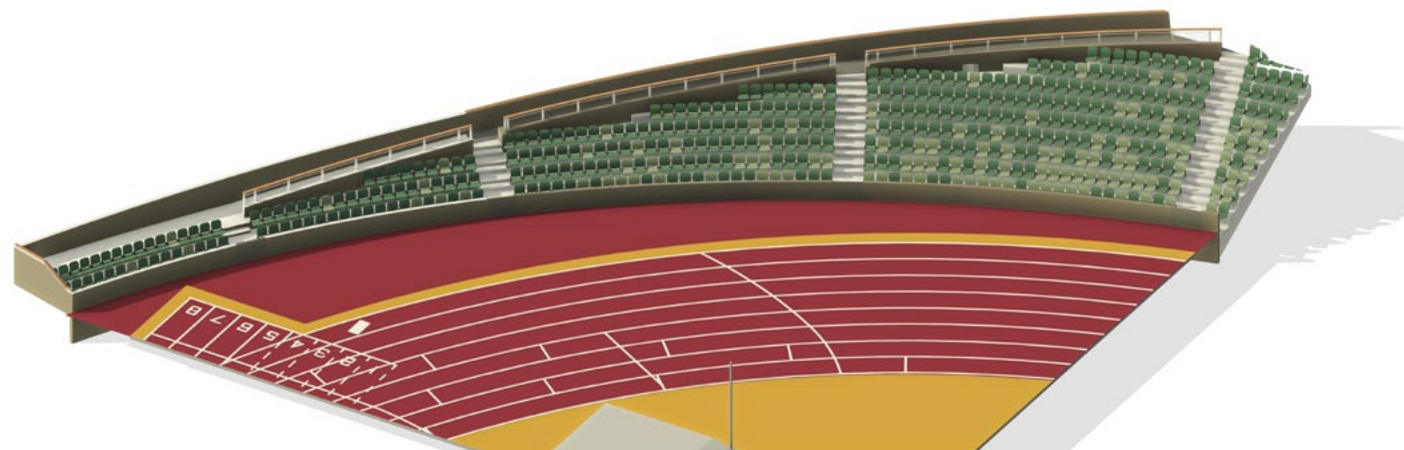
- Key changes
- 01 400m Running Track and all competition areas relaid with a New track Surface
 - 02 Second 100m straight start relaid
 - 03 Pole vault runways and sockets relocated
 - 04 Shot Put Throwing Circles relocated
 - 05 Javelin Runway recentred
 - 06 Full size Football Pitch and run-off zones in natural grass
 - 07 Discuss and Hammer combined throwing Safety Cage relocated
 - 08 Steeple Chase Water Jump retained in same location
 - 09 Javelin runway relocated
 - 10 Long Jump retained in same location
 - 11 Area external to the competition areas relaid with a spike-friendly surface



Additional Seating - South

Design
The original design of the curved West Stand follows the south bend of the athletics track, terminating at the secondary 100m straight. This sits uncomfortably in relation to the track. To address this, the stand has been extended and the athletics track layout amended accordingly. The revised design extends the West Stand further around the south bend to mirror the extent of the proposed North Stand. This extension provides an additional 78 seats to the stadium capacity.

Access to the seating
Seating is accessed directly from the West Stand lateral gangway, which is extended into the new stand. This approach maintains the existing access arrangements while providing access to the new radial gangway serving the extended seating area.



Plan of Completion of the Bowl showing access

Visual of proposed stadium bowl and field of play



Stadium Floodlights

The Original Floodlights

The original floodlights, constructed in 1964, comprised four 51m-high steel towers positioned around the athletics track. Their effectiveness was reduced by their location and by light obstruction from the West and Jubilee Stand roofs, resulting in the addition of supplementary lighting for events. The towers were demolished in 2022 due to safety concerns.

The Proposed Floodlights

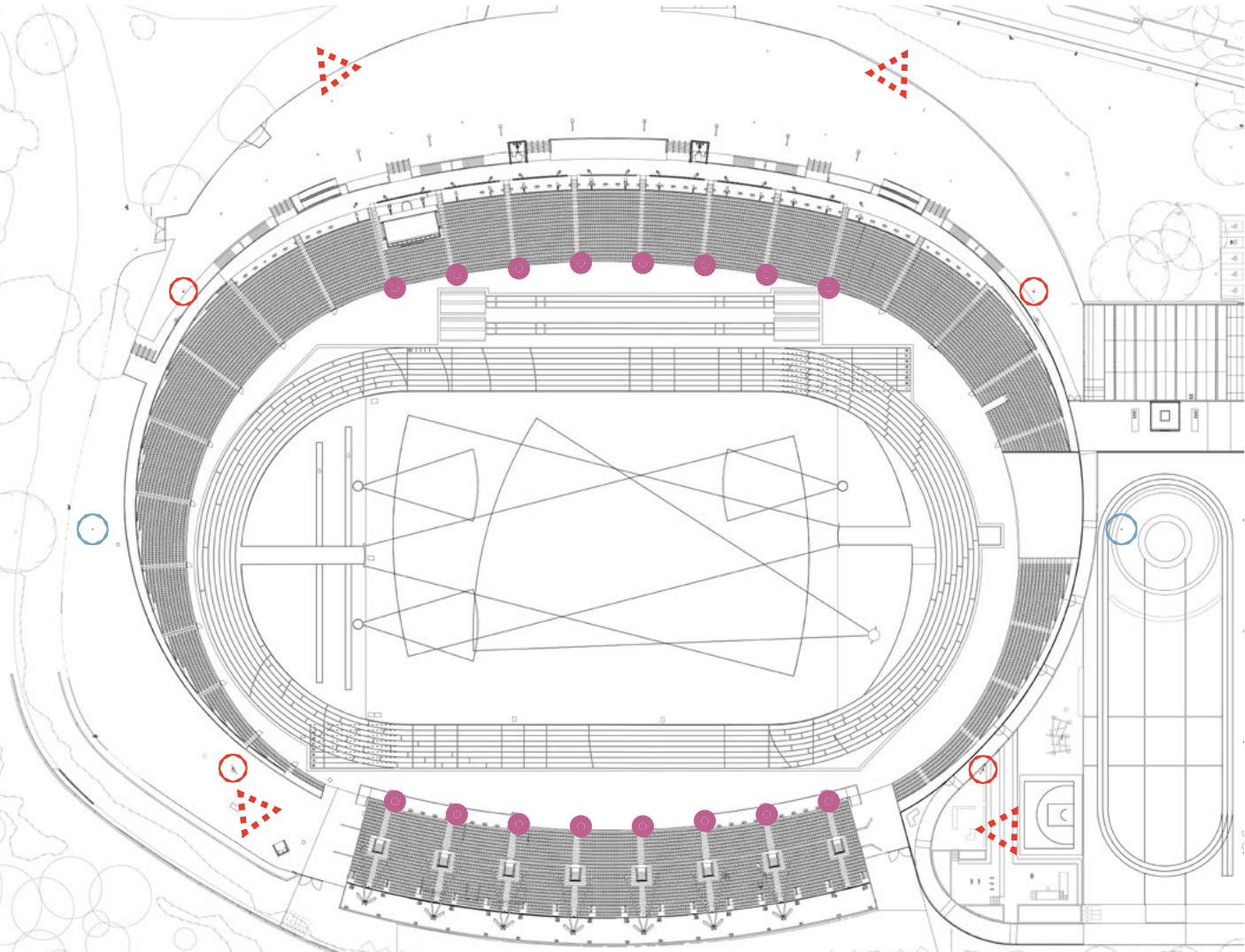
The proposed development includes four new floodlight towers designed to meet current lighting standards while significantly reducing their scale and visual impact. The towers are positioned closer to the athletics track, reducing shadowing and enabling a more efficient lighting arrangement. Additional lighting is provided along the front edges of the West and Jubilee Stand roofs.

The use of improved positioning and modern LED luminaries allows the tower height to be reduced to 40m and results in

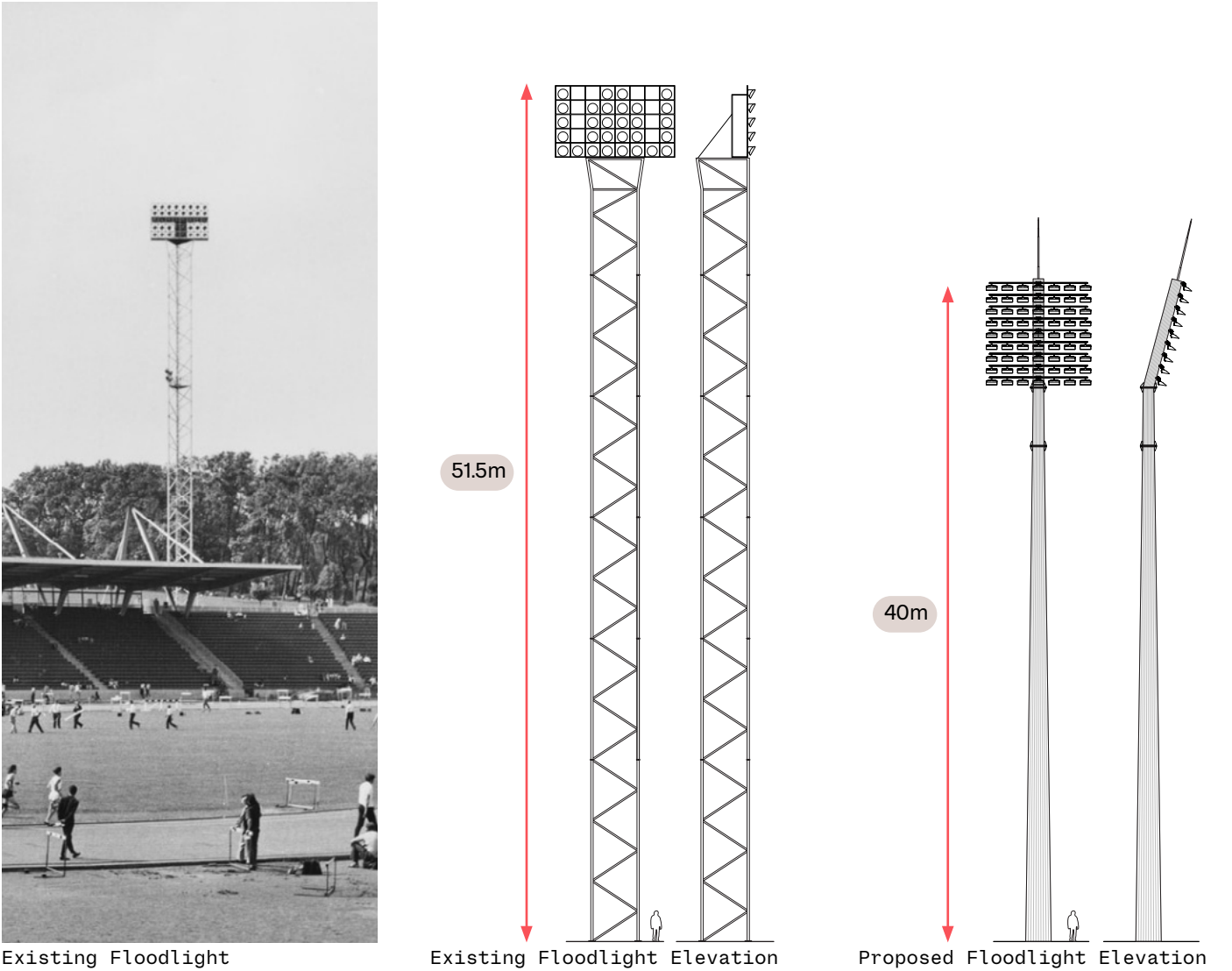
a more controlled lighting environment with reduced light spill.

For televised athletics events, two temporary floodlights will be installed as part of the event overlay, positioned to the north and south of the track to meet broadcast lighting requirements.

- Key
- Original floodlight location
 - Proposed floodlight location
 - Roof Edge lighting
 - Temporary floodlight location



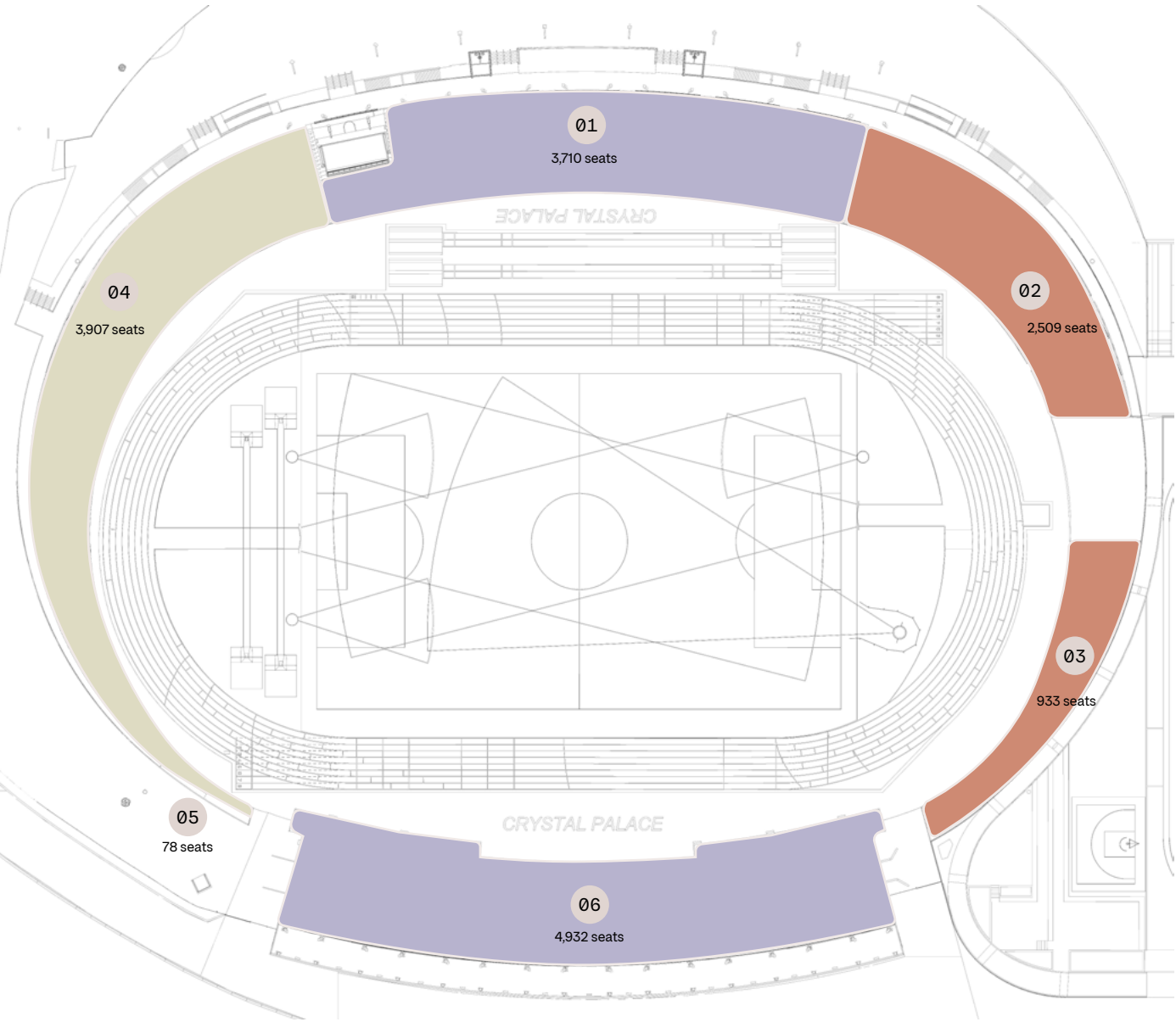
Plan showing the Floodlight locations



Proposed Floodlights

4.4.4 Amount

Stadium Seating Capacity



- 01

West Stand Central
- 02

West Stand North Bend
- 03

North Bend New seats
- 04

West Stand South Bend
- 05

South Bend New seats
- 06

Jubilee Stand

Existing & Proposed Seating Capacity			
Stand	Use	Existing	Proposed
West stand			
Central (under roof)	General admission	4,024	3,612
	Wheelchair positions	0	49
	Companion seats	0	49
North bend	General admission	2,499	3,399
	Wheelchair positions	0	22
	Companion seats	0	21
South bend	General admission	3,998	3,950
	Wheelchair positions	0	18
	Companion seats	0	17
Jubilee stand	General admission	4,932	4,759
	Wheelchair positions	0	36
	Companion seats	0	36
West stand	Overall	10,521	11,137
	Central (under roof)	4,024	3,710
	North bend	2,499	3,442
	South bend	3,998	3,985
Jubilee stand		4,932	4,831
TOTAL		15,453	15,968
inc.			
	Wheelchair positions	0	125
	Companion seats	0	123

Jubilee Stand Internal Area

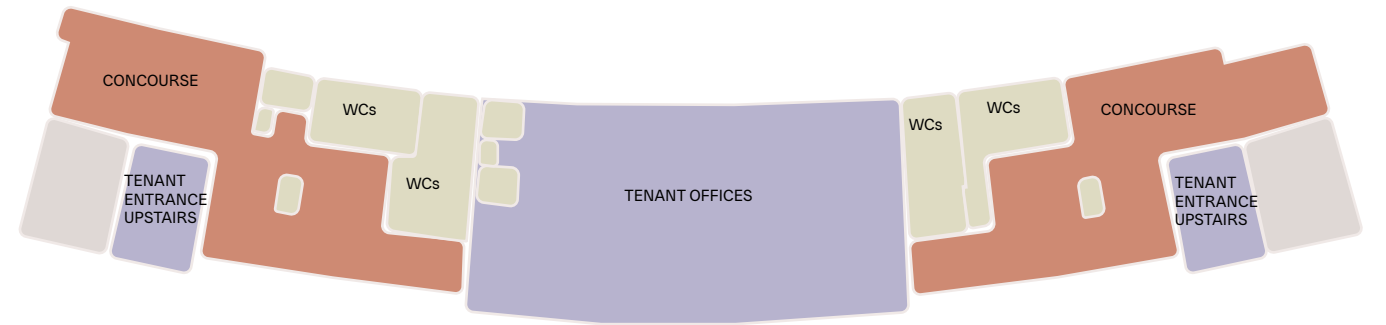
The proposed Gross Internal Floor Area (GIA) for the Jubilee Stand is a total of 3857m². This is split across 2 levels, the ground floor and the first floor. This is an overall loss in floor area after the demolition of the mezzanine level.

Existing
GF: 2107m²
ML: 929m²
FFL: 1465m²

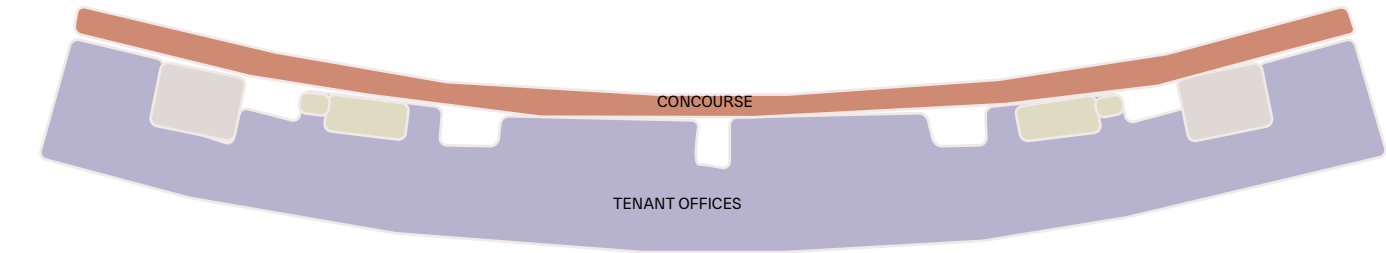
Total = 4501m²

Proposed
GF: 2392m²
ML: -
FFL: 1465m²

Total = 3857m²



GF Plan



FF Plan

Existing & Proposed Facility Mix Jubilee Stand			
Floor Level	Use	Existing	Proposed
GF	Tenant office space	394m ²	663m ²
GF	Circulation Core	33m ²	134m ²
GF	General Circulation	93m ²	Now a part of concourse
GF	Accessible W/C	7m ² (x1)	22.8m ² (x2)
GF	Spectator Male and Female W/C	194m ²	194m ²
GF	Tenant Female W/C	-	13m ²
GF	Tenant Male W/C	-	12m ²
GF	Tenant Accessible W/C	-	3m ²
GF	Changing Places	-	16.7m ²
GF	BOH Storage	202m ²	208m ²
GF	Stadium BOH	293m ²	Relocating to under stadium loop ramp
GF	Plant	109m ²	347m ²
GF	Stadium Concourse	391.4m ²	391.4m ²
GF	Stadium Storage	284m ²	289m ²
GF	Refuse	67.5m ²	67.5m ²
GF	Bike Parking	11m ²	11m ²
GF	BOH	-	20m ²
ML	Tenant space 1	299m ²	ML demolished
ML	Tenant space 2	178m ²	ML demolished
ML	BOH	452m ²	ML demolished
FFL	Tenant office space	825m ²	1044m ²
FFL	Circulation	565m ²	367m ²
FFL	W/C	75m ²	40m ² (x2 Male x2 Female)
FFL	Accessible toilet	-	6m ² (x2)
FFL	Storage	-	8m ²

4.4.5 Appearance

The proposed façade upgrades and interventions across the stadium establish a coherent and unified design language, enhancing the overall appearance while respecting the site’s heritage and landscape context. The approach focuses on rationalising existing elevations and introducing a robust, understated material palette that improves legibility, durability, and ease of maintenance, while responding sensitively to the character of the original stadium, the main sports centre, and connecting buildings, including the Indoor Sports Zone proposals.

Brickwork in black and limestone grey is used throughout to align with the Indoor Sports Zone and the Main Sports

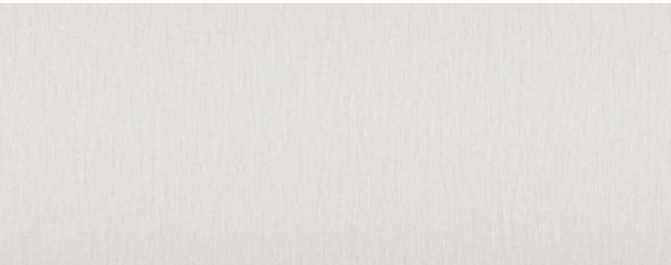
Centre, ensuring visual continuity across the site. Restored exposed concrete, alongside the introduction of Iroko timber handrails and white powder-coated aluminium elements, is consistently detailed across the scheme. The material specification adopts a language that reflects the existing architecture, combining glazing, concrete, and brick.



West Stand Materials



Exposed concrete to be restored (previously painted blue)



Natural anodized aluminium



Limestone grey brick



Iroko timber handrails

Jubilee Stand Materials



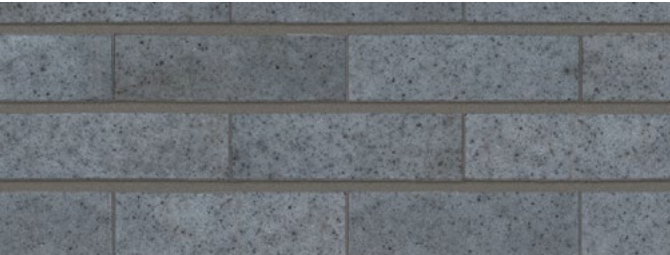
Exposed concrete to be restored (previously painted blue)



Mullions Anodised C31 Pale Bronze



Iroko timber handrails



Forum grey brick with glued perpendicular joints



Aluminium insulated spandrels anthracite Grey

West Stand - West Facade

Key

01

Exposed concrete

02

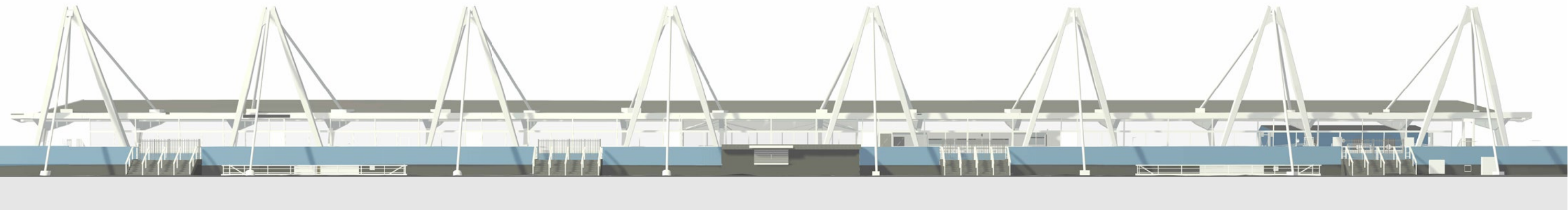
Limestone grey brick

03

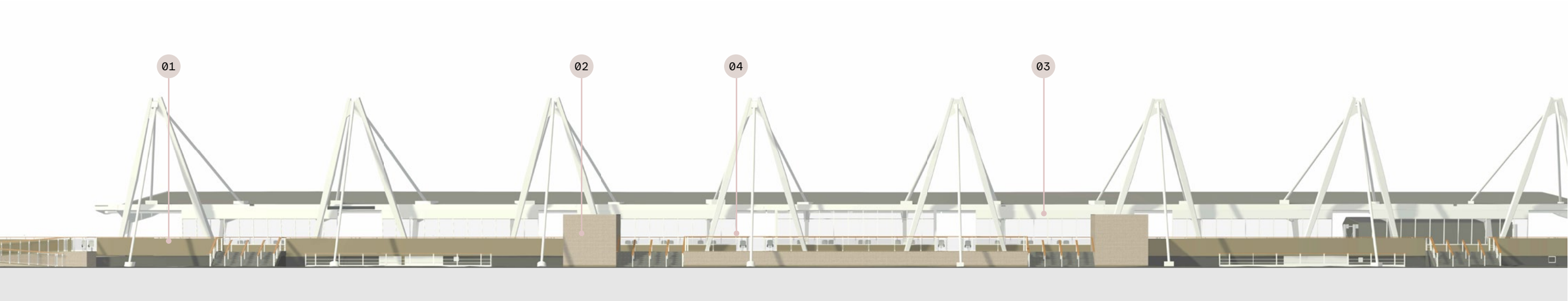
White powder-coated aluminium

04

Iroko timber handrails



Existing West Stand Upper Concourse Elevation



Proposed West Stand Upper Concourse Elevation

Jubilee Stand - East Facade

The entire east facade of the Jubilee Stand will be replaced on both the first floor and ground floor.

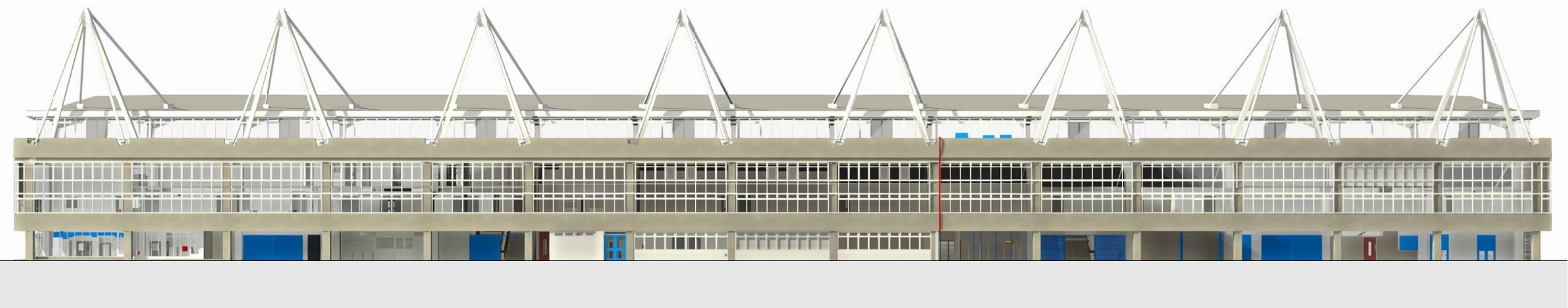
The new ground floor facade intervention will set a new facade line set behind the existing concrete columns. It is designed with two distinct bay types to accommodate the varied functional requirements of the building's entrances, ensuring efficient circulation and clear wayfinding for different users.

The proposed first floor facade profile is designed to align with the existing architectural language of the building by adopting a curtain wall system that closely mirrors the current profile. This approach ensures visual continuity and cohesiveness across the building's exterior while allowing for modern enhancements in materiality, performance, and detailing. By retaining the familiar profile, the design reinforces the building's established aesthetic character, while providing opportunities to incorporate updated technologies for improved thermal performance,

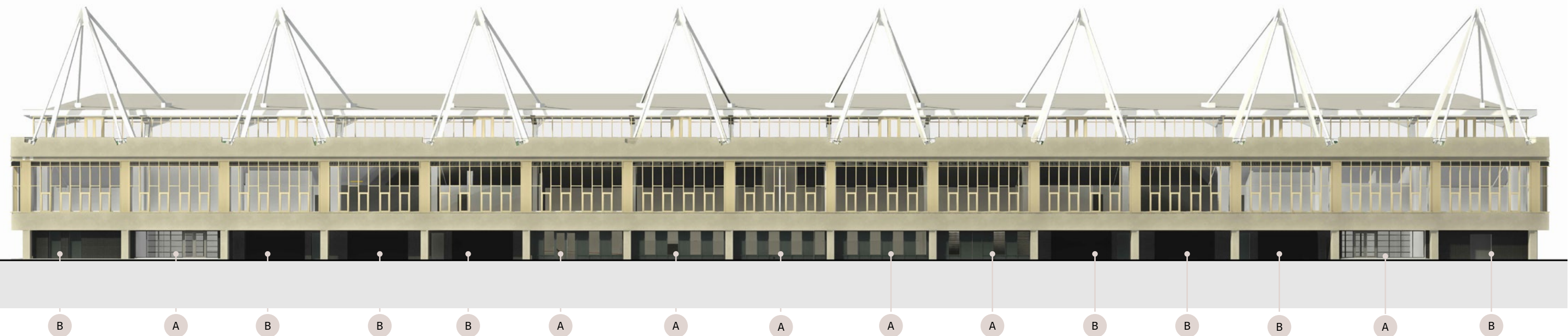
daylighting, and structural efficiency. With the mezzanine removed, the top part of the curtain walls incorporates a louvred band for ventilation. Openable windows are incorporated into the mullion grid for natural ventilation. Solid anodised amber panels are proposed at the existing column grid points, inline with the ground floor column grid to enforce the vertical grid of the facade.

The proposal for the East elevation is to:

- A Glazed and solid spandrels
- B Solid brick



Existing East Elevation Jubilee Stand

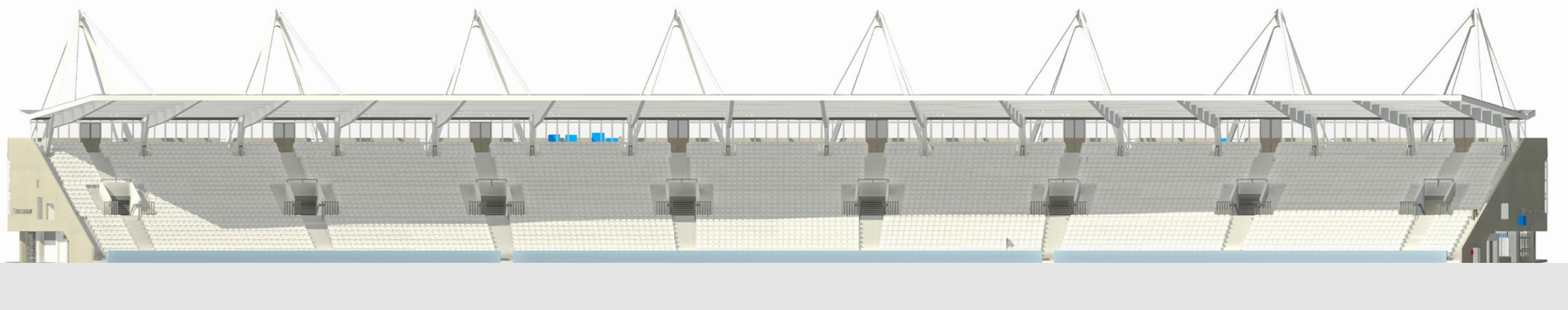


Proposed Elevation Jubilee Stand

Jubilee Stand - South Facade

The proposal for the East elevation is to:

- C
- End bay refurbished



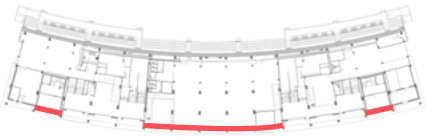
Existing South Elevation Jubilee Stand



Proposed South Elevation Jubilee Stand

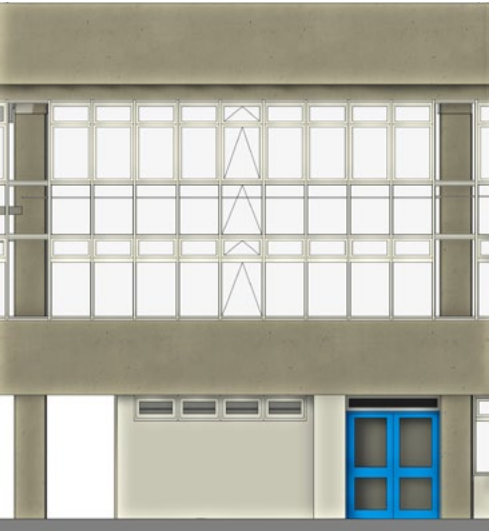
Type A Bay

Tenant Entrance: This ground floor bay type design incorporates an anthracite grey curtain wall system with a lower band of aluminium insulated spandrel panels, serving all thermally treated tenant areas, including office spaces and tenant entrances. The system aligns with the line of the existing structural columns, ensuring visual coherence and integration with the existing building structure.



Key

01	Exposed concrete restored
02	Mullions Anodised C31 Pale Bronze
03	Aluminium insulated spandrels anthracite Grey



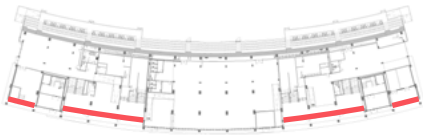
Existing Elevation Jubilee Stand Type A



Proposed Elevation Jubilee Stand Type A

Type B Bay

Spectator entrance: This bay type design combines dark brickwork with anthracite grey roller shutters to form the stadium access points at ground level. The roller shutter system facilitates efficient stadium ingress and egress and complies with the Green Guide requirements for emergency evacuation. The stadium entrances are recessed by one meter behind the ground floor façade line, enhancing the visibility and prominence of the tenant entrances, which are intended for day to day use.



Key

01

Exposed concrete restored

02

Forum grey brick with glued perpend joints

03

Mullions Anodised C31 Pale Bronze



Existing Elevation Jubilee Stand Type B



Proposed Elevation Jubilee Stand Type A



Above: Existing photograph West Stand
Right: Proposed visual West Stand





Above: Existing photograph Jubilee Stand facade
Right: Proposed visual Jubilee Stand facade



4.4.6 Use

The diagrams in this section illustrate the use of the stadium on typical occasions. They depict the anticipated circulation in, out and around the stadium in these different scenarios. The colours indicate which areas are activated.

Day-to-day use

The Athletics Stadium is primarily used for training. Club users can access the 400m track through the Indoor Sports zone. Access to the West Stand for maintenance or any other purpose is proposed through the main entrance, using one of the side gates. The Jubilee Stand is primarily used by tenants.

- Key
- Stadium secure perimeter

Main building secure perimeter

Stadium entrance and exit

General public circulation

Athletics club entrance

Tenant entrance

Athletics training area

Stadium back of house area

Tenant space
-
- ## Athletics Event up to 10,200 seats capacity
- This is the majority of events throughout the year. The extent of seating and concourse areas activated will depend on the number of spectators expected of this specific event. The diagram shows the West Stand used at its maximum capacity.
- The access to the Main Building and the Jubilee Stand is maintained, with limited impact on the circulation around the Stadium.
- Key

Stadium secure perimeter

Main building secure perimeter

Spectator entrance

Spectator exit

General public circulation

Athletes and event org. entrance

Tenant entrance

Spectator area

Competition field of play

Athletes warm-up area

Tenant space

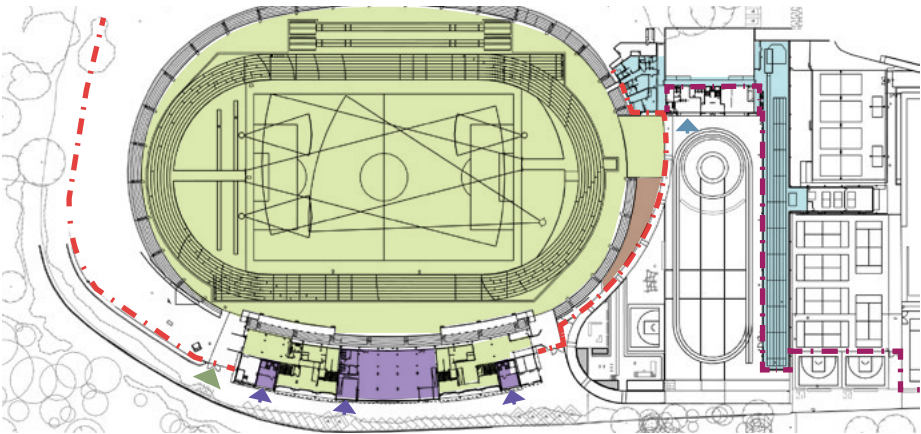
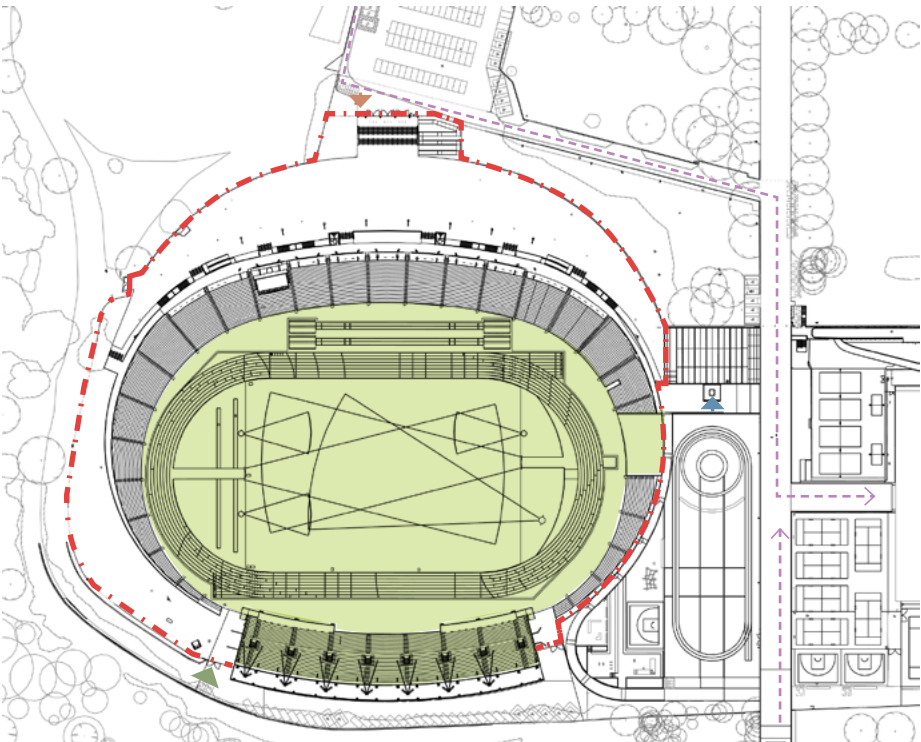
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School Event using the Jubilee Stand up to 4,800 capacity in stand

For school events, the Jubilee stand offers a self-contained solution. Access can be directly to the field of play through one of the vehicle gates.

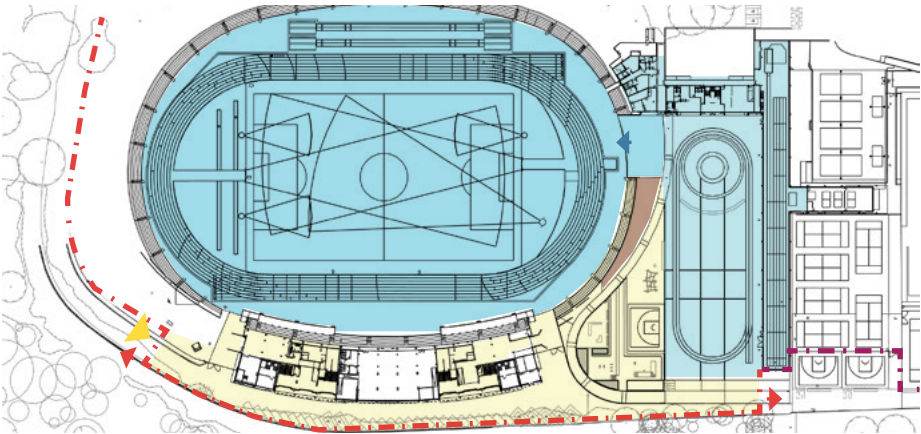
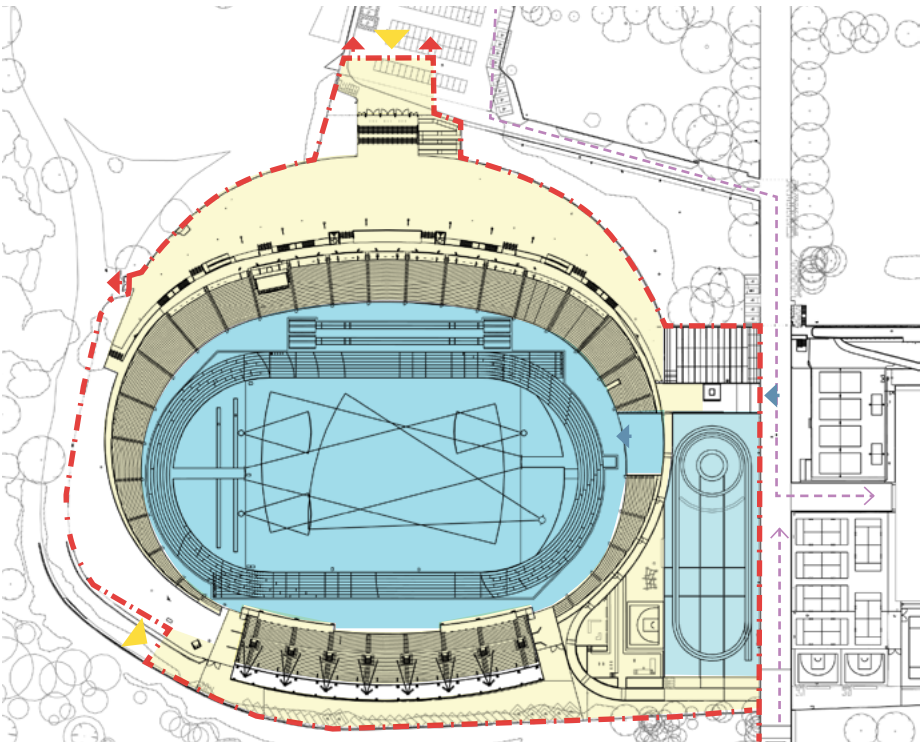
Access to the West Stand changing rooms can be closed-off to maintain training activities in the Indoor Sports Zone. The access to the Main Building is maintained. Tenant activities in the Jubilee Stand can continue.



- Key
- Stadium secure perimeter
 - Main building and Indoor Sports Zone secure perimeter
 - Side entrance
 - General public circulation
 - Athletics club entrance
 - Tenant entrance
 - School event entrance
 - Athletics training area
 - Stadium back of house area
 - Tenant space
 - School event area

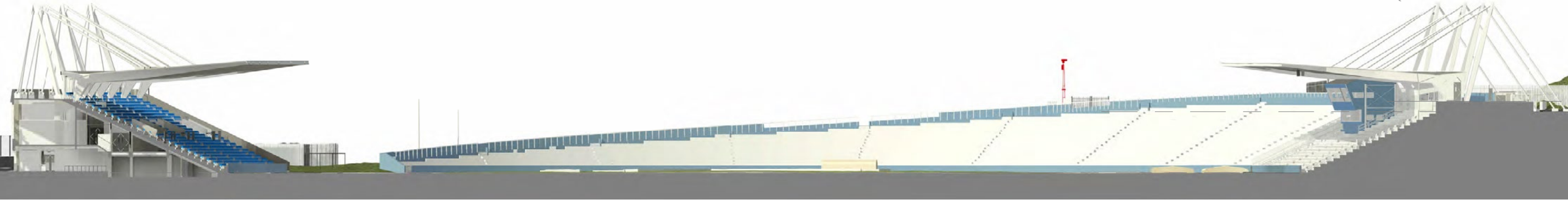
Major Athletics Event at full capacity

The secure perimeter around the Stadium expands to include the Stadium loop and the road behind the Jubilee Stand. The Indoor Sports Zone is used for athlete warm-up and event operations. The access to the Main building and the wider park is maintained but significantly impacted. A more detailed indicative event plan can be seen in the drawing package.



- Key
- Stadium secure perimeter
 - Main building secure perimeter
 - Spectator entrance
 - Spectator exit
 - General public circulation
 - Athletes and event org. entrance
 - Tenant entrance
 - Spectator area
 - Competition field of play
 - Athletes warm-up area
 - Stadium back of house area

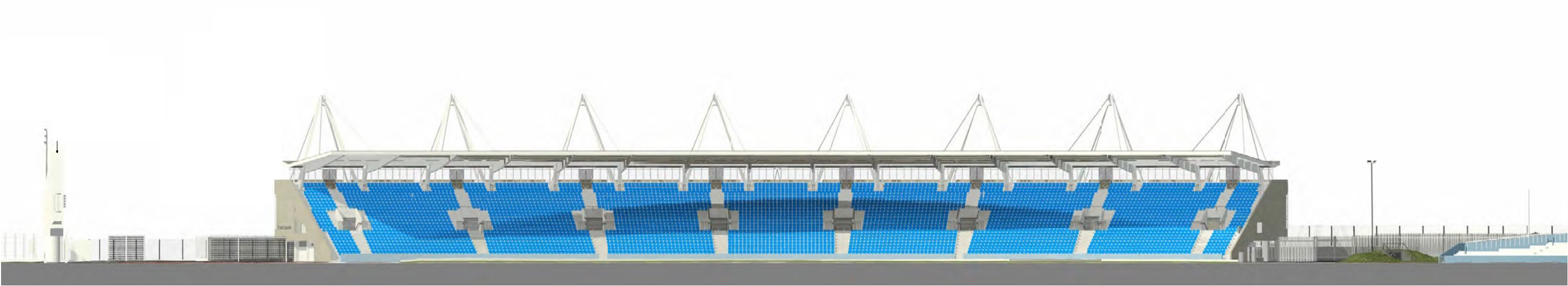
4.4.7 Scale



Existing South Elevation



Proposed South Elevation



Existing East Elevation



Proposed East Elevation



Existing North Elevation



Proposed North Elevation

4.4.8 Access and Inclusion

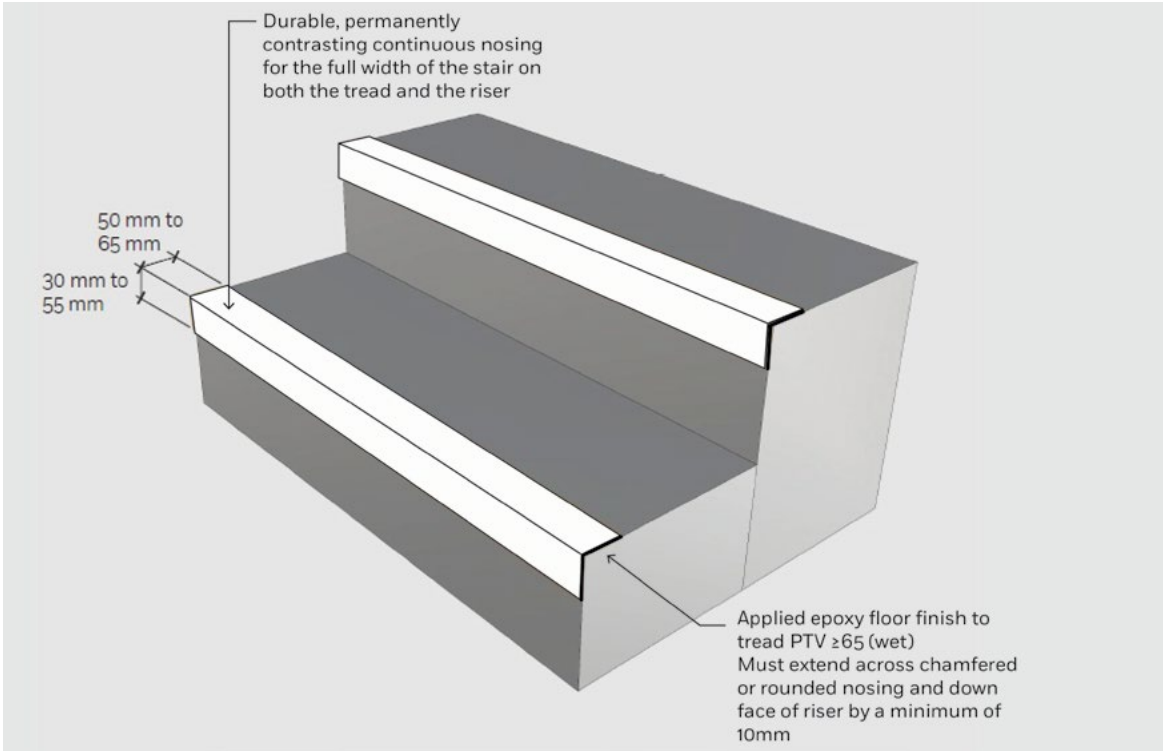
Step Nosings

The refurbishment strategy for existing steps and stairs across the Crystal Palace National Sports Centre includes the application of a high-durability epoxy finish to all step nosings, formed in a clearly contrasting colour. This approach enhances safety, legibility and accessibility while minimising intervention to the existing fabric.

Each step nosing will incorporate a permanently contrasting, continuous material extending the full width of the step across both the tread and riser. This treatment assists people who are blind or partially sighted in identifying the presence, extent and rhythm of the stair, supporting safe and confident movement through the building.

The contrasting nosing will extend 50mm to 65mm from the front edge of the tread and 30mm to 55mm down the

face of the riser. The selected finish will provide a clear visual contrast with the adjacent tread and riser surfaces, be robust under heavy public use, and be suitable for long-term maintenance within a high-intensity sports and events environment.

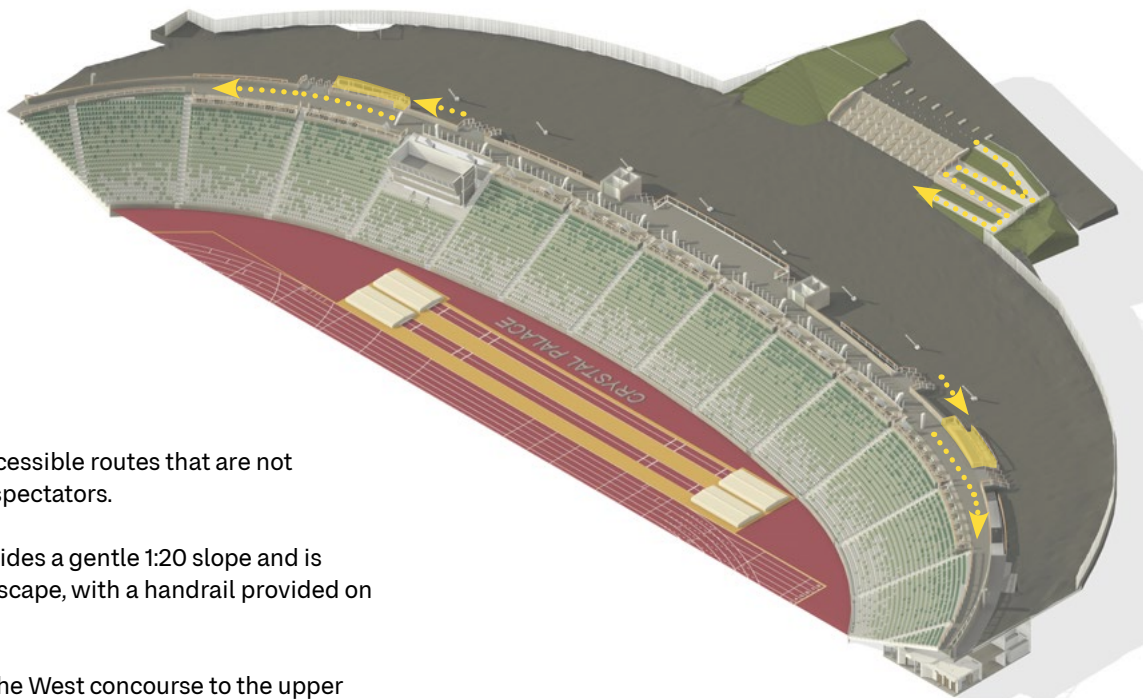


New accessible ramps

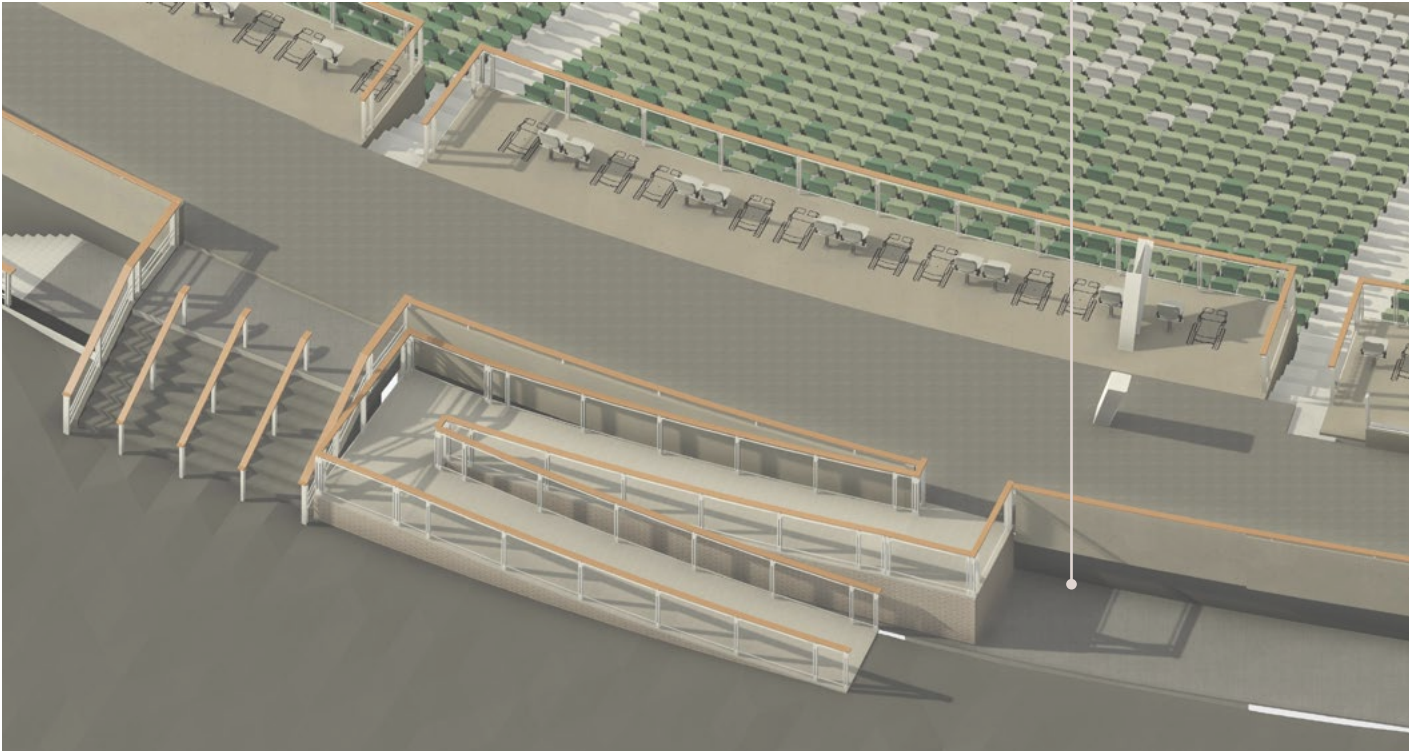
The new ramps offer accessible routes that are not segregated from other spectators.

The entrance ramp provides a gentle 1:20 slope and is integrated into the landscape, with a handrail provided on only one side.

The two ramps linking the West concourse to the upper concourse have a 1:15 gradient and lead directly to the wheelchair viewing platforms. Their positioning is designed to limit travel distances both to the platforms and to the temporary disabled toilets.



For full capacity events, temporary accessible toilets can be added here. Travel distance is kept under 60m.



Jubilee Stand

The proposed layout enhances overall accessibility throughout the building. At ground floor level, two new stair and lift cores are introduced at the tenant entrances, ensuring full compliance with Building Regulations. One of the key challenges of the Jubilee Stand building is the presence of multiple level changes. This is addressed through the proposed central office space, which rationalises the ground floor tenant area by creating a single, level floor throughout.

The design also incorporates fully compliant wheelchair access in accordance with Building Regulations and inclusive design standards. Level access is provided at all entrances, with appropriate door widths, circulation space, and accessible sanitary facilities to ensure the space is inclusive and usable by all occupants. Additionally, the stadium access points at the north and south feature integrated ramps with a 1:20 gradient, enabling step-free movement from the internal concourse areas to the wheelchair seating positions within the seating stand.

