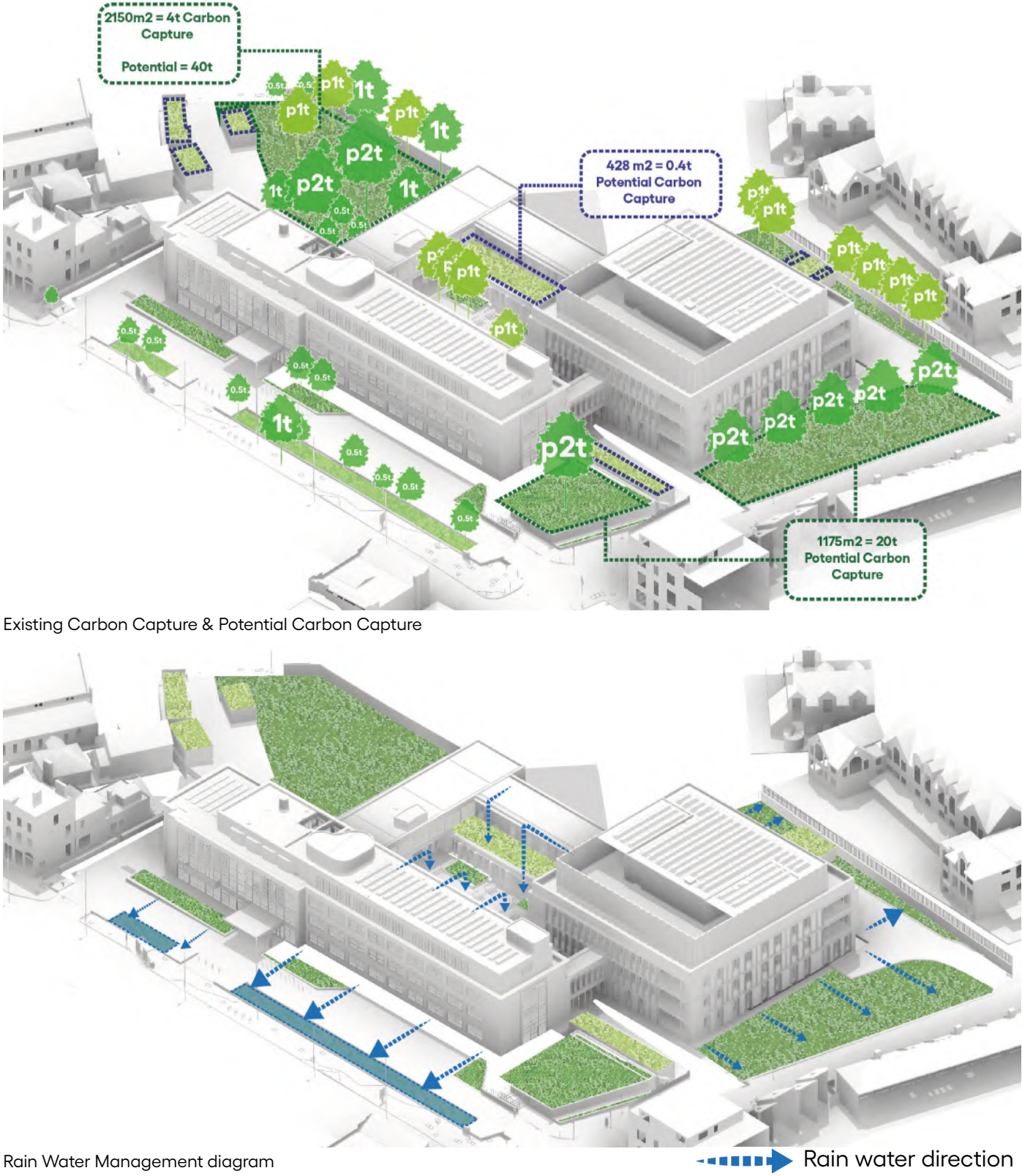


8.3.1 Planting Strategy
Provision & Proposal



8.4.1 Biodiversity & Sustainability
Strategy



A mature tree contains circa 1 tonne of carbon, with the potential to hold 2 tonnes at full age. Retaining all healthy existing trees saves 30 tonnes of carbon and could add up to 60 tonnes when reaching full size. The new potential of carbon capture is generated by planting 14 trees.

All of the rainawater run off generated will be attenuated on site, through rain gardens, swales or permeable paving. The adoption of best practice is a requirement of the Mayor's London Plan and is monitored by the Lead Local Flood Authority. A 7 point drainage hierarchy promotes attenuation at the source, the best outcome being a green roof, closely followed by swales and ditches. Underground tanks are now frowned on, and in some areas banned. Rain gardens are proposed to the front of the Civic Centre.

There is potential for a small attenuation basin or swale to the north of the site which would aid in the mitigation of flooding, the viability needs to be further explored in the next phase. Guidance related to open attenuation basins recommends that the side slopes should be no steeper than 1:3 and that a flat shelf is provided just below the expected maximum level of standing water.

Planting mixes will be either native and/or attractive to

wildlife. The use of species such as *Viburnum opulus* and crab apple will encourage foraging or grazing and will help to increase the quantum and diversity of small birds, bats, and small mammals such as hedgehogs, all species currently threatened. As the site is situated within an urban setting the possibility of creating links between adjacent sites should be further explored. An opportunity to do this would be with the adjacent Trinity Primary Academy, creating an opportunity for co-design and learning.

The planting selection will also be designed to respond to Secure By Design concerns with shrubs occupying the visual horizon between 1 metre and 2 metres being kept to low numbers, although some will be kept to maintain the food source of berries for small birds. More vunerbale boundaries will be supplemented with thorny shrubs

The site will retain a sense of maturity through the retention of the avenue of trees which define the occupy the boundary with Trinity Road and the mature trees located within the Woodland Garden. The new on plot areas will then be generously planted, the overall effect will be being of a well-vegetated site.

