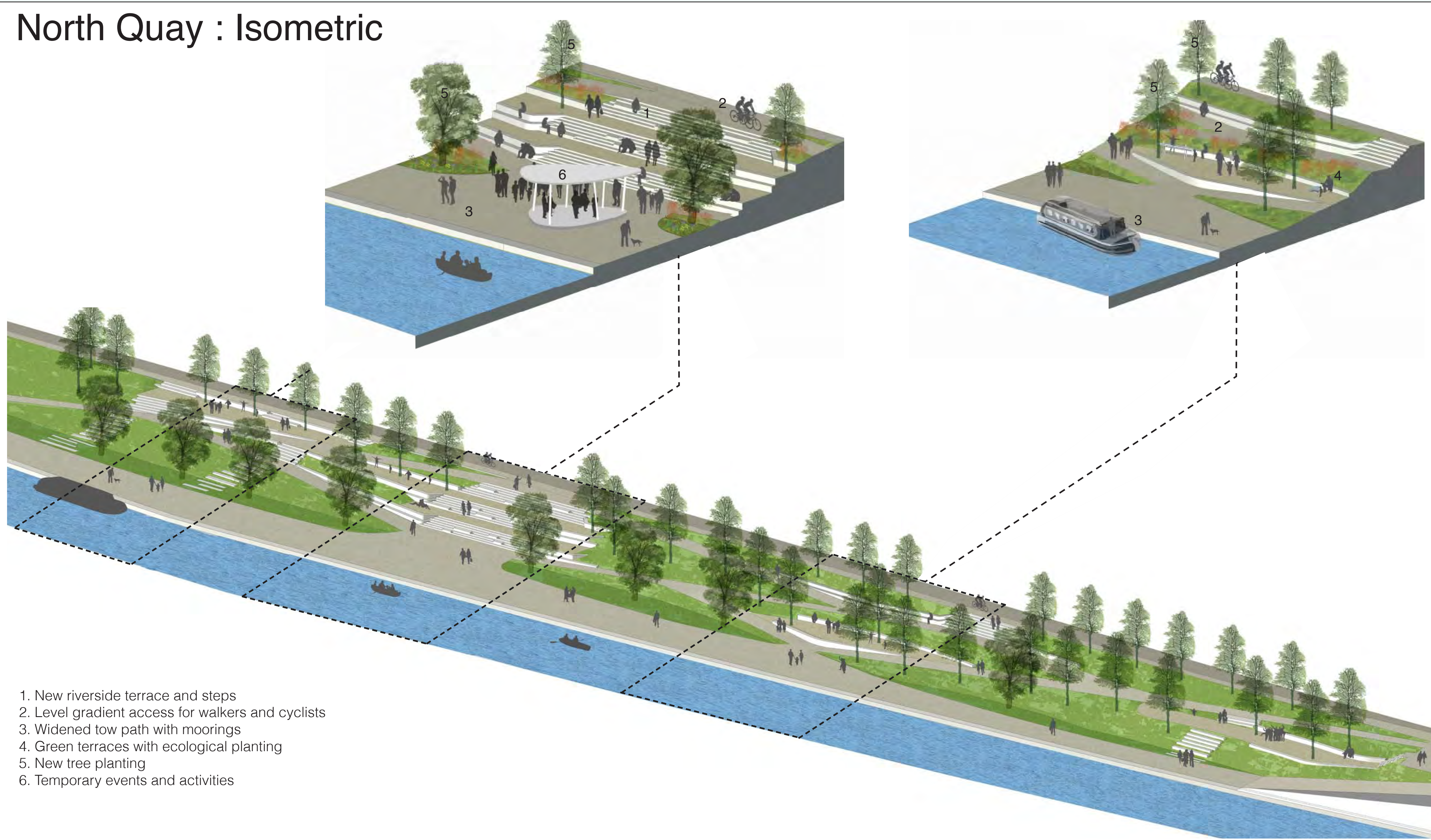


# 6

## Bath Quays Waterside : Flood Defence Project

### Scheme Description

#### North Quay : Isometric



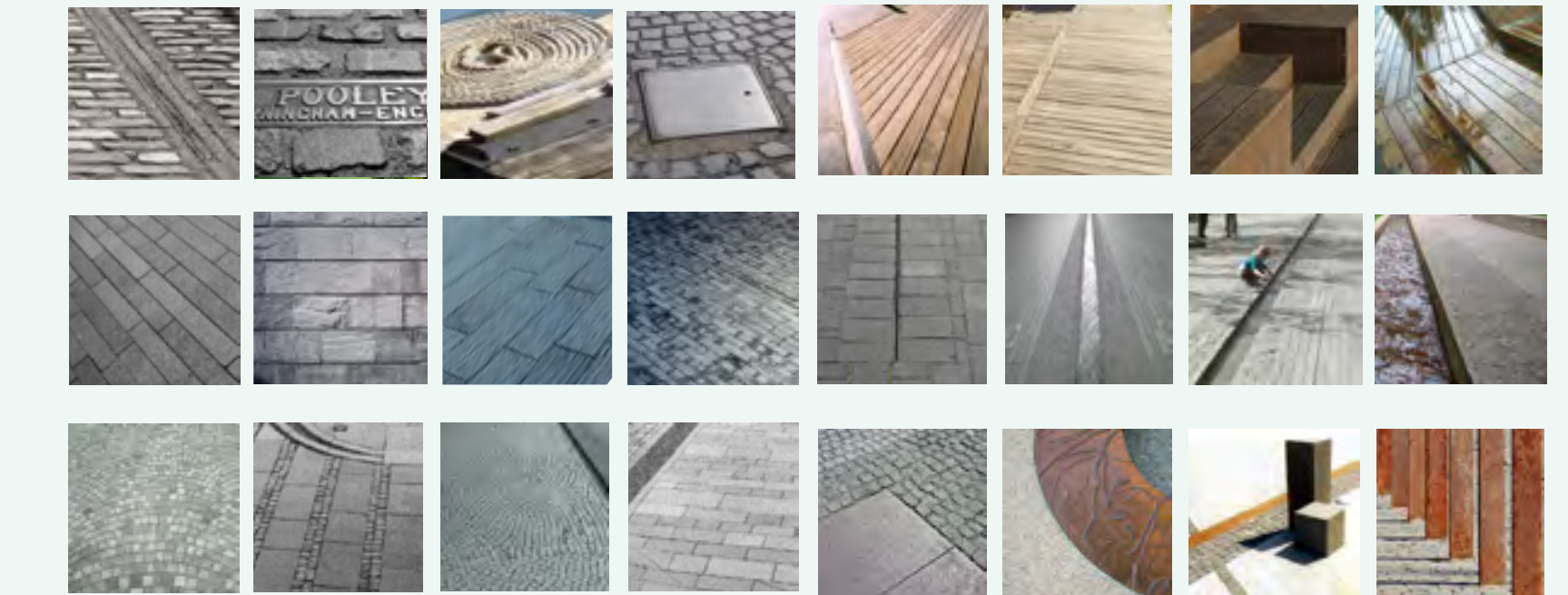
#### Activity

The new river side landscape at North Quay will provide a place for people to enjoy the tranquil waterfront. Due to the risk of flooding it is unlikely to be suitable for large scale public events but will be ideal for temporary and informal activities such as impromptu performances using the steps as an "amphitheatre". On the bankside terraces it will be possible for enthusiastic community groups to develop wildflower gardens growing spaces and other shared spaces. Suggestions for further ideas and activities are welcomed.



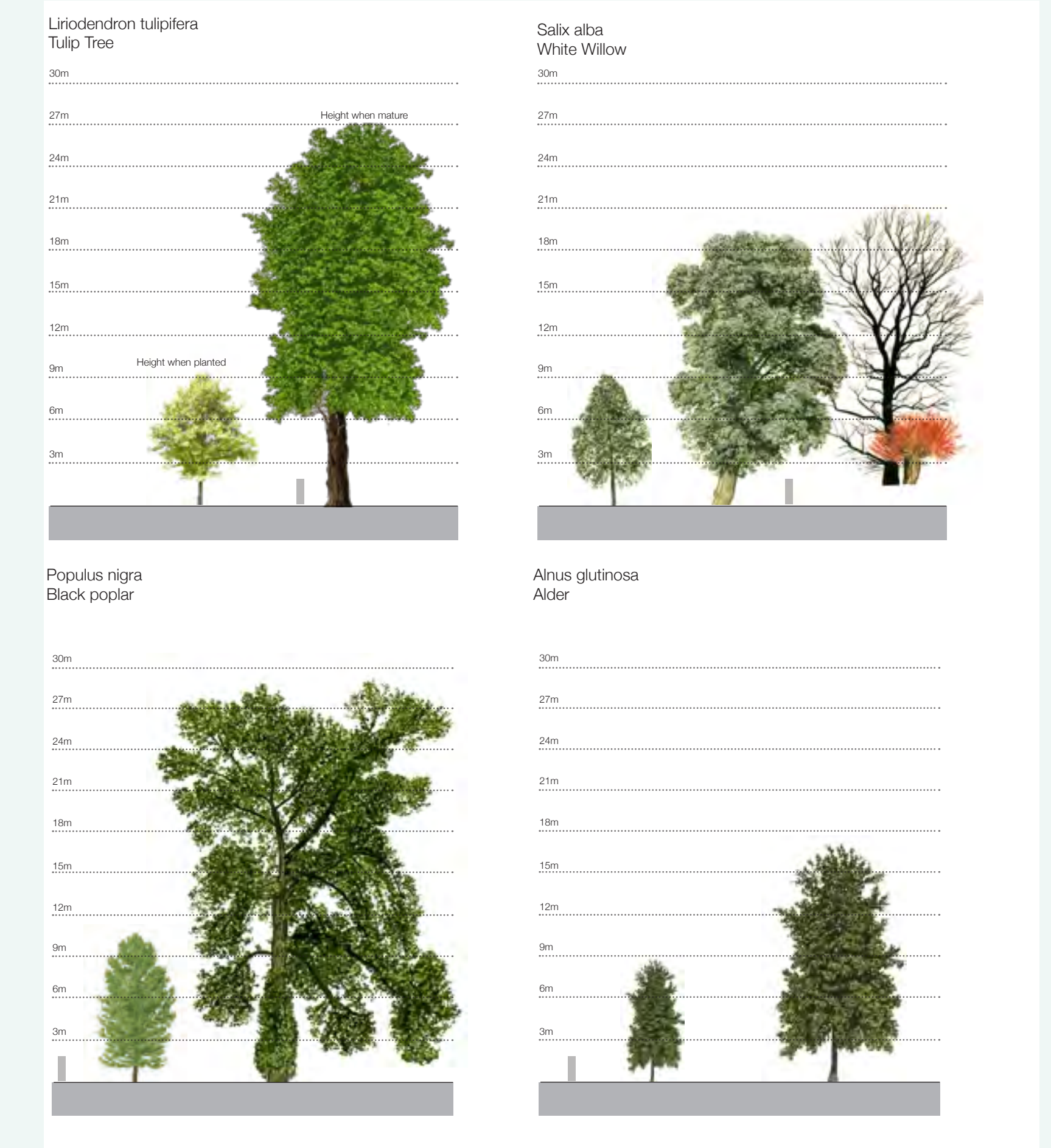
#### Materials

Materials for the new riverfront will be drawn from the palette of hard materials outlined in the Draft Bath Pattern Book and will include natural stone, cast iron and timber.



#### Trees

Trees for the new riverfront will be selected from the range of trees already found along the Avon waterfront in Bath outlined in the Draft Bath Pattern Book.



#### Frequently Asked Questions

**Question: Why are changes to the existing flood defences necessary? Is Bath in danger of flooding?**  
 Bath's flood defences along the River Avon were substantially improved in the 1970's, in response to severe flooding experienced in the City, notably in the 1960 and 1968 flood events. Since completion of the flood alleviation scheme in 1974, the City has not been significantly flooded, although the original defences have been stretched by recent events, notably in December 2000. The current flood risk management proposals represent a proactive response to the potential impact of climate change on flood risk in parts of the City, and plans to deliver economic growth in Bath through the development of the Bath City Riverside Enterprise Area. Flood risk from the River Avon is potentially a major constraint for Bath City centre, and managing flood risk is one of the priorities and local objectives. The Environment Agency's (Bristol Avon) Catchment Flood Management Plan states that they will also take action, with others, to actively reduce flood risk in Bath, where it is possible to do so. The proposed works to re-profile sections of the river channel can achieve this objective. Whilst providing a greater level of flood protection to existing residential/non-commercial properties along Lower Bristol Road, the works will also facilitate the safe redevelopment and regeneration of key riverside sites, at reduced flood risk.

**Question: Aren't there plans to carry out flood works/storage in Bathaston? Why has the Council's strategy changed?**  
 As part of the Council's Core Strategy evidence base, a series of studies have been carried out over a number of years in conjunction with the Environment Agency, which have better quantified existing flood risks, and assessed a range of possible flood risk mitigation options. The previous upstream storage options were discounted on feasibility and economic grounds. Both the Council and Environment Agency believe that the current proposals are the most technically effective and robust option. The works provide a deliverable means of unlocking key development sites and delivering flood risk benefits i.e the current proposal will provide a significant flood risk reduction to existing properties already at flood risk along the Lower Bristol Road.

**Question: Will the proposed solution increase flood risk downstream e.g. Keynsham and beyond?**  
 No. The proposed channel re-profiling works are localised and don't affect the total flood water volumes through the City. Any local improvements to flow conveyance would be insignificant by the time the flood peak reaches Keynsham, for example. The modelling work undertaken by our consultants Black and Veatch have shown that there is no increase in flood risk downstream of the City Centre.

**Question: How is this being funded and paid for?**  
 The Council and Environment Agency are funding these essential works with a combination of Flood Defence Grant and Revolving Infrastructure funding made available by the West of England Local Enterprise Partnership.

#### What's Next?

A project team was formed in the summer of 2013 to design and implement the Bath Quays Waterside Project. This is under direction of a steering group comprising senior council and Environment Agency officials. To date the project team has consulted with landowners and affected parties adjoining the scheme along with a selection of statutory and representative stakeholders. Wider public consultation will take place during April/ May 2014 with a planning application currently targeted for submission in June 2014. Subject to approval it is hoped that works could begin in 2015.

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#### View 1



#### View 2

