

# 1 Introduction

## 1.3 Project Background

The MRC LMS aims to be at the forefront of innovative biomedical research and in partnership with Imperial College London and others, to promote the translation of its research for maximal benefit. The institute will train and mentor the next generation of clinical and non-clinical scientists and strive to enhance the public's interest, understanding and trust in science.

The MRC LMS (formerly the MRC Clinical Sciences Centre, CSC) is a core-funded MRC Institute. Located on the Imperial College Hammersmith Hospital campus, it has strong partnerships with Imperial's Faculty of Medicine, as well as with the Faculties of Engineering and Natural Sciences. This access to medicine, physics, chemistry and engineering affords the Institute superb support for delivering on its multidisciplinary remit to strengthen the interface between clinical and basic science. LMS is located in close proximity to Imperial's White City Campus development which will provide local access not only to academic chemists and engineers, but also to industrial collaborations and expertise in entrepreneurship and innovation. The first phase of Imperial West hosts space for spin-outs and more than 70 start-ups, while the Research & Translation Hub will contain research and incubator space for 1000 researchers alongside 50 spin-out companies, designed to accelerate the commercialisation of research. This exceptional environment underpins the world leading fundamental and translational biomedical research at LMS and at Imperial College.

LMS pioneers the study of gene regulation and gene-environment interactions, capitalising on its unparalleled strengths in basic epigenetic mechanisms, physiology and metabolism, genomics and imaging, combined with bioinformatics, biostatistics and imaging. The Institute's strap line, "Genes in discovery, inheritance and health" summarises both its strengths and ambition. It reflects LMS's commitment to fundamental science, its application for understanding disease and its determination to use this knowledge to improve human health across generations. The Institute currently comprises circa 35 investigator-led groups supported by eight research facilities.

At the most recent Quinquennial Review (QQR) by the MRC, the quality of the Institute's research and its proposals for the future were strongly endorsed, with research funding of £89.2M awarded for the period April 2016-March 2021. Among the Institute's noted strengths were:

- World-leading research programmes and outstanding examples of strengths in epigenetics, genomics, metabolic homeostasis and cardiovascular disease;
- The establishment of a new, interdisciplinary Integrative Biology Section, bringing together computational and experimental expertise and showing a promising focus on single cells and molecules;
- Involvement of leading international collaborators in the Institute's programmes; productive links with Imperial College, which promote and enhance interdisciplinary training and research;
- Innovative clinical science training programmes, producing clinicians with a strong foundation in basic research; innovative basic science career pathways;
- And field-leading public engagement.

The existing facilities restrict the opportunities for collaborative working as research groups are spread across many buildings on campus. A new building for the LMS aims to bring these groups together, creating new opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration.

This report describes the engagement of the Building Working Group, MRC & Imperial's Estates and Finance in the interrogation and development of the LMS's initial brief.

This report is the conclusion of RIBA Stage 01 which seeks to define a clear brief, budget and scope of the project.

During this stage the team have investigated the site opportunities and constraints paying particular attention to the existing contaminated slab and sub-station which sits centrally on the site of the recently demolished Cyclotron Building.

An area schedule has also been agreed through briefing and user consultations with key researchers and staff who will be homed within the new facility. A summary of the areas and cost is included below.

The next step is to establish a dialogue with the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham planning authority and to develop the concept design with other design consultants.

### Budget: £75,000,000

- Medical Research Council - £50,000,000
- Imperial College London - £25,000,000

### Affordable Total Area (GIA): 10,340m<sup>2</sup>

- Laboratory Space:
- Shared Technical Hub:
- Office / Write-Up:
- Specialist Facilities:



*Sketch impression of the new LMS atrium with an active stair and entrance space below*

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**MRC LMS** Mission Statement

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|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 2.1 Explaining the Process       | 2.9 Design Achievable Occupancy |
| 2.2 Project Governance Structure | Schedules                       |
| 2.3 Precedent Analysis           | 2.10 Current Brief Working      |
| 2.4 Existing Facilities Analysis | Towards Budget                  |
| 2.5 Space Classifications        | 2.11 Current Area Schedule      |
| 2.6 Benchmarking                 | Working Towards Budget          |
| 2.7 Existing Brief               |                                 |
| 2.8 User Consultations           |                                 |