Masterplan Concept

Our concept develops the original masterplan principles and seeks to create a significant landmark for the city. The concept respects the scale and street pattern of the neighbouring buildings and preserves the cherished long distance views across the town's skyline.

It combines the best of international transport architecture with a contemporary vision and an understanding of the historical importance of the setting. The overall site configuration follows the principles of shaping space through the movement of people. Whether traveling by foot, train, bus, car or cycle, each mode is clearly defined and celebrated by modern and exciting architecture that is integrated into the wider context and characteristics of Oxford.

The concept emphasises key links with the city centre and aligns the new station with Botley Road, providing a memorable approach to the station from Frideswide Square.

A new public Plaza creates an appropriate setting for the station building entrance and forms part of a sequence of public spaces linking the new transport hub with the city centre.

The Transport Interchange has been split either side of Botley Road to provide much needed breathing space between transport modes whilst still ensuring a safe pedestrian approach to the station entrance.
The station concept will be easy to navigate, dramatic in experience and appropriate to its setting. Its volume and mass is derived from an analysis of the direction of user flows, which serves as a basis for the architectural form.

This building is moulded from a single volume that has been punctuated by large dramatic, arched openings to facilitate the passage and synergy of trains and travellers. Passengers are drawn through the building via a series of large domed spaces.

The station building will become a symbolic gateway into Oxford and an important urban link joining the developments on the east and west side of the tracks.

The elevated station concourse provides impressive views over Frideswide Square, into the city centre, underlining the station’s importance as a gateway to the city.
Rooftop Level
The elevated level provides additional commercial opportunities with dramatic panoramic views towards the centre of Oxford and over the Plaza below. A landscaped roof further enhances the quality of the environment and provides a versatile and exciting space.

First Floor Level
The elevated main concourse provides access to all platforms as well as allowing an easy transfer between trains. The concourse links the west and east side of the station and is designed to draw in pedestrian traffic from Botley Road. This footfall creates huge potential for a vibrant and attractive retail centre. Points of refreshment, shops, postal and bank services are all envisaged. All this occurs under a dramatic domed and arched roof.

Ground Floor Level
New station entrances provide improved and enlarged facilities. Proposed retail & leisure units face the new plaza. Four ‘Through Platforms’ and the new extended ‘Bay Platform’ are enhanced by commercial kiosks, waiting rooms and canopies that follow the platforms. Vertical access to the upper concourse is generous and celebratory to signify arrival as well as the beginning of a new journey.

Lower Ground Level
The lower ground level, aligned with the redeveloped Botley Road underpass, is designated for small scale retail space. This provides natural surveillance via a continuous active frontage. Cycle parking is mainly positioned beneath the taxi rank. The entrance stairs and ramps emerge through a large water feature and voids bring light into the subterranean space which incorporates a cycle workshop and retail.
Site & Context

The station building is central to the concept, maximising linkages to transport modes and the arrival into the city. A multi-storey car park is located to the south. The defined separation of bus users, cycle and pedestrian routes, assists all movement along Becket Street. Residential use proposed above the bus and coach station, provides important natural surveillance, additional commercial revenue and a strengthened street presence.

The corner of Botley Road and Becket Street is celebrated with a striking feature commercial building with active frontage, shops and cafés at ground floor level. The Plaza in front of the station prioritises pedestrians and is integrated with Frideswide Square.

The taxi rank and short stay car park on the north side of Botley Road is convenient for commuters. Cycle parking is mainly positioned underneath the taxi rank. The entrance stairs & ramps appear through a large water feature and voids bring light into the underground space. The proposed commercial buildings respond to the Oxford vernacular as well as to the new character of Frideswide Square. Retail and leisure uses address the Plaza.

The character of the west side of the station responds to the residential zone fronting Roger Dudman Way. The proposed residential block and the station operational building are considerably lower and smaller in scale. Small scale retail uses are located under the Botley Road Bridge.