

London Overground station colour standard for the built environment

Issue 4

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Why colour is important

Colour, and the subtleties of shade, are the most effective means at our disposal for distinguishing one object from another.

Of the millions of colours available for achieving this differentiation it is important that a palette of only a few is chosen for application to TfL stations in order that finished environments are aesthetically pleasant as well as safe.

In this document, two palettes have been identified; one for application to traditional stations and one for modern ones.

By treating colours as materials, as no different than bricks or aluminium, rather than just 'paints', the following two palettes compliment rather than jar with their environments. Moreover, the use of colour is intended to be judicious and preference should be given to the retention and exposing of natural materials wherever possible.

Warm and cool greys sit side by side with creams and oranges so that no one colour is an artificial primary colour, a reflection of how we perceive different shapes in the natural world.

I How to use this document

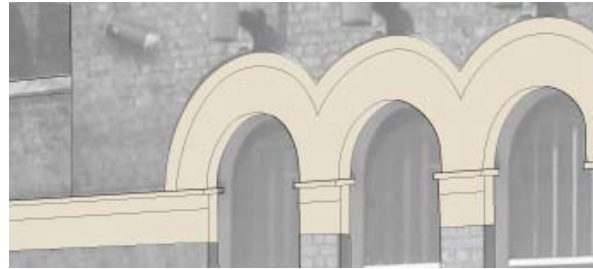


The stations depicted in this guide are intended as examples only. In practice each station to be decorated should be considered in its own right, but certain principles of colour application should remain constant and it is these themes that this guide intends to show.

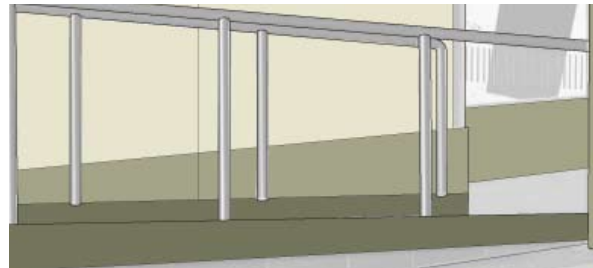
For instance: objects over head-height (canopies, light fittings, footbridges etc.) should be painted a light grey so they effectively disappear into the background; walls should have a low band of dark colour before their main, lighter, colour starts to provide contrast and combat the accumulation of ground-level dirt.

Bare in mind that colours applied to stations are intended only to compliment natural materials if any are present.

Natural stone should be left bare



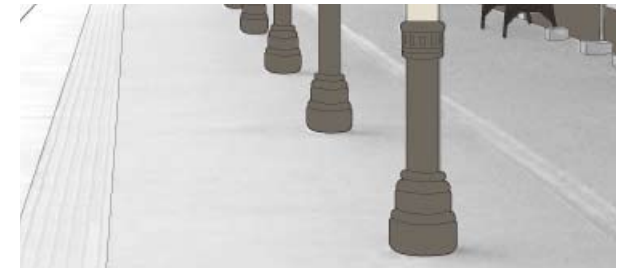
Accent colour should be used to draw attention to certain objects where safety is a concern, eg certain hand rails



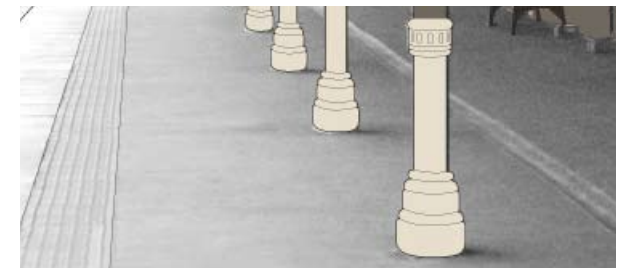
Low-level colour contrast on walls



Colour contrast on lampposts and vertical columns achieved through the use of contrasting shades of the same colour



In instances where vertical columns rise from light ground the lower colour should be dark (**above**); when the ground colour is dark, the opposite is true (**below**)



2 Colour palettes – traditional

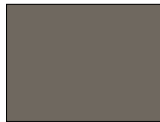
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T1

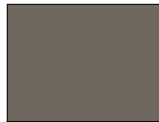
Dark colour

RAL



0605005

NCS



S 6005 Y50R

T2

Contrast colour one

RAL



0858010

NCS



S 2005 Y20R

T3

Contrast colour two

RAL



0758020

NCS



S 1010 Y30R

T4

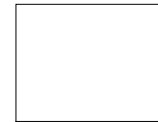
White

RAL



9016

NCS



S 0502 Y

T5

Accent colour

RAL



2003

NCS



S 0585 Y50R

Note: Colours shown here are indicative only.
Refer to the specific colour references when
specifying finishes.

2.1 Colour palettes – modern

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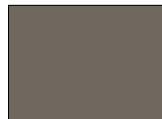


(M1)

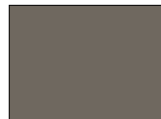
Dark colour

RAL

NCS



0806010



S 4010 Y10R

(M2)

Contrast colour one

RAL

NCS



0808005



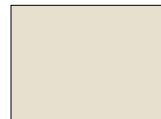
S 1502Y

(M3)

Contrast colour two

RAL

NCS



0859010



S 0505 Y10R

(M4)

White

RAL

NCS



9016



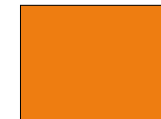
S 0502 Y

(M5)

Accent colour

RAL

NCS



2003



S 0585 Y50R

Note: Colours shown here are indicative only.
Refer to the specific colour references when
specifying finishes.

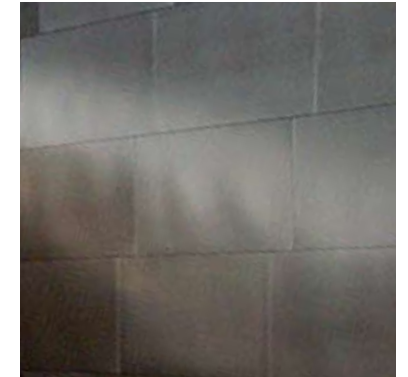
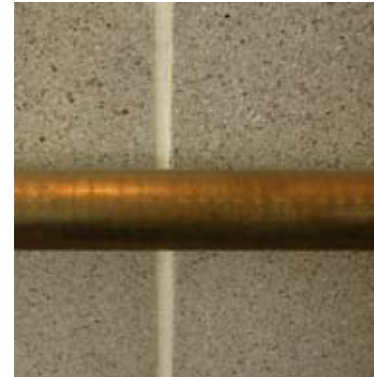
2.2 Colour palettes – natural materials

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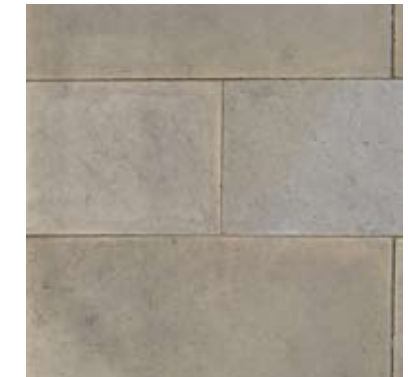


Wherever possible, natural materials should be used rather than painted surfaces. The following images are intended as examples only.

Metallic finishes



Natural stone finishes

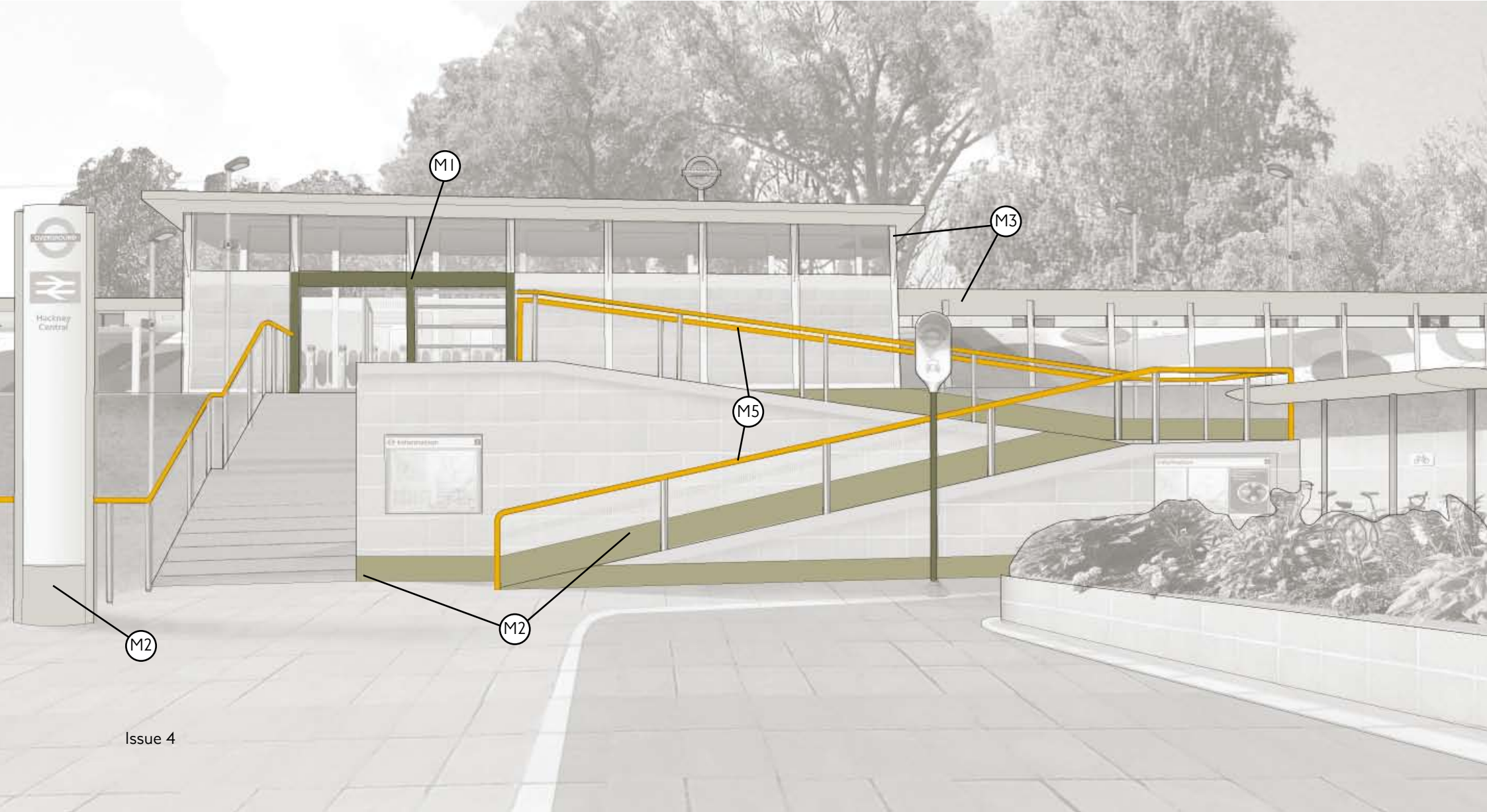


3 Station entrances – traditional

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3.1 Station entrances – modern





T3

T4

T1

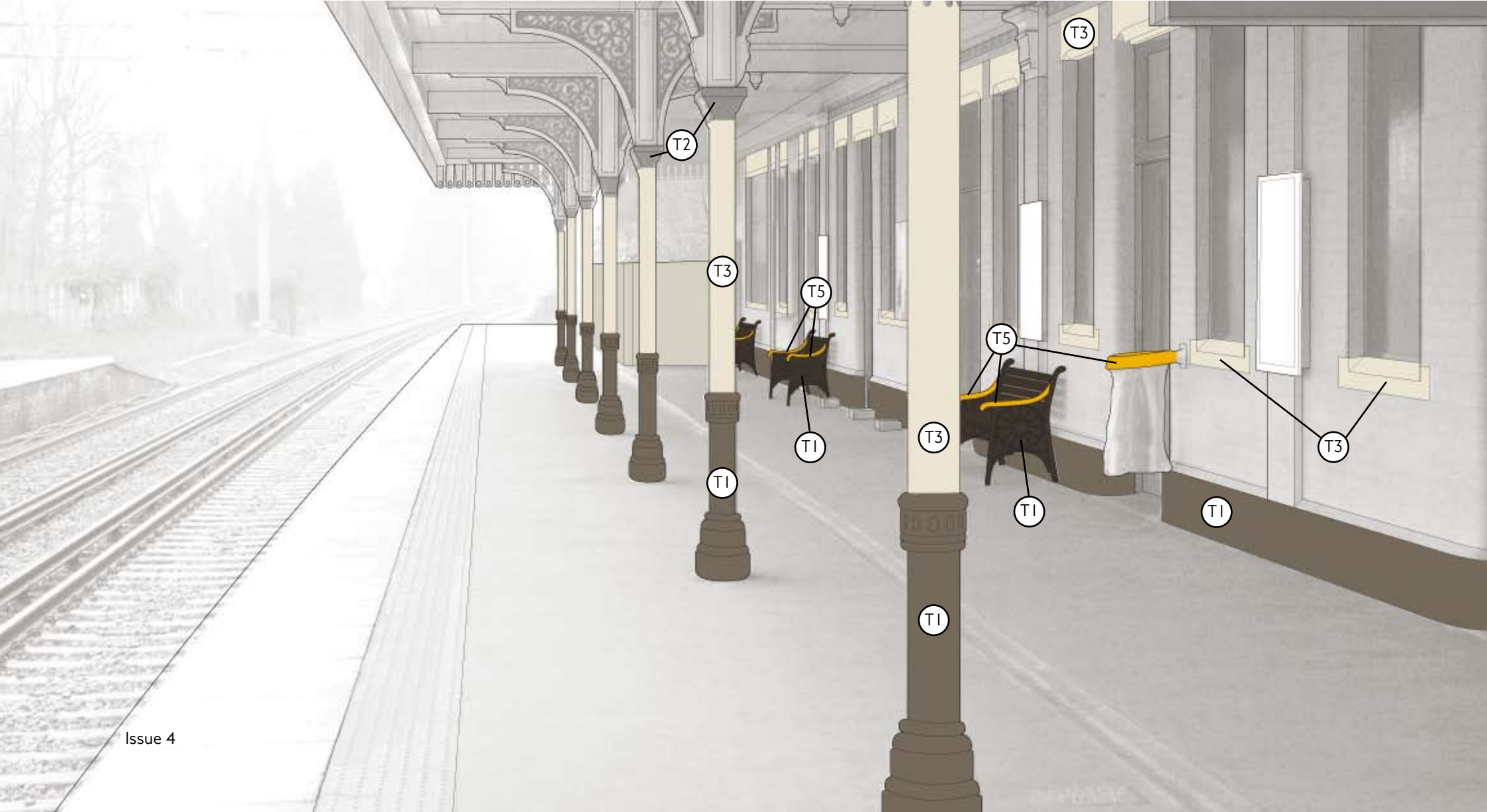
T3

T3

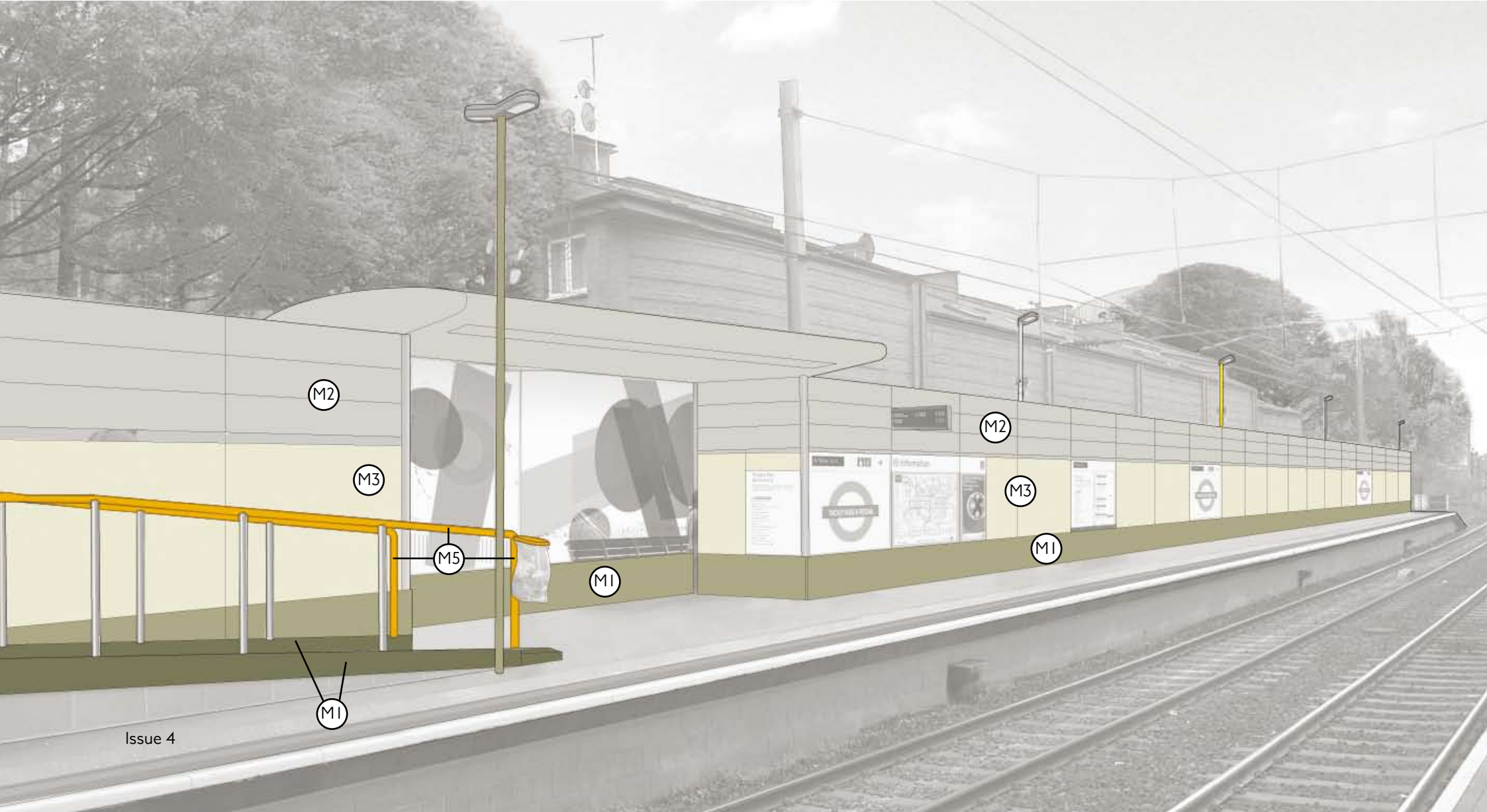
T1

T1

5 Platforms – traditional



5.1 Platforms – modern



5.2 Platforms – modern (with footbridge)

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6 For further information

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These standards intend to outline basic principles and therefore cannot cover every application or eventuality.

In case of difficulty or doubt as to the correctness in the application of these standards, please contact TfL Corporate Design.

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