**Technical: Brick**

**Project**

**LSE Students’ Centre**

**Architect**

Cowell & Associates

**Location**

Sherfield Street, London, WC2

**Completion date**

April 2013

**By Adlanna Burtch**

O’Connor & Associates’ competition-winning proposal for the London School of Economics’ new student centre is a building with a performative brick façade.

The proposal proposes to use the brickwork in a novel and creative way to allow light and shade to change with the changing of the sun, while maintaining the integrity of the building envelope. Most of the building is to be naturally ventilated with its part sun, part shaded façade.

The 250,000 brick building has been designed to be visually linked to both the Sherfield Street and the LSE’s historic Brasenose Street, and will replace a Victorian building used by St Philip’s College but more recently by the LSE.

**Site plan**

- [Image of site plan]

**Facades elevation**

- [Image of facades elevation]

**Facades section detail**

- [Image of facades section detail]

**Perforated brickwork**

The proposed building has a perforated brick façade that consists of perforated brickwork, slotted below to create glazing opening frames. The perforated bricks are designed to be the dominant feature of the building façade and to provide shade and ventilation by allowing light and air to pass through them.

**Solid brick elements**

More traditional solid bricks are used in a variety of forms to create a visual and structural rhythm along the building envelope. Solid brick elements are used along the base of the building, at the roofline, and in vertical bands.

**Timbers framed glazing**

The timber framed glazing is located on the ground floor and is located at the corners of the building, providing a contrast to the brickwork. The timber framed glazing is designed to allow natural light to penetrate the building, creating a warm and welcoming interior space.

**Dressings in the glazed brick elements**

Dressings in the glazed brick elements are filled with terracotta glazed bricks in various positions.

**Timbers framed glazed**

The timber framed glazed areas are designed to complement the brickwork and provide additional light and ventilation to the building.

**East side section**

- [Image of east side section]

**West side section**

- [Image of west side section]