# Unplygged



1%

This report explores how innovative interior design can enhance the work-life balance and well-being of professional eSports players. It also examines how interior spaces can foster in-person relationships through community and improve female representation in the industry. With the growing recognition of eSports as a legitimate sport, the challenges faced by players, both physical and mental, need to be considered in designing spaces that support performance and career longevity.





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That's me!

### My critical position

As an interior designer, I think that people's emotions, behaviour, and general well-being are greatly influenced by their surroundings. My strategy focusses on designing environments that value wellbeing and support users' physical and mental well-being. In order to enhance user experiences in a home, office, or retail space, interior design should go beyond aesthetics. I design purposefully, using lighting, colour, layout, and acoustics to foster comfort, relaxation, and productivity, considering the psychology of space.

I also have a strong interest in branded environments, where materials and ambiance align with brand identity to influence consumer perception and engagement. My goal is to design environments that enhance users' experiences by prioritizing their physical and emotional well-being while being visually compelling.



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### **Philosophies**

In this project, it will explore four key areas of design: user-centered design and within this, wellness and inclusivity, sensory design, emotional branding and biophilic design. To do so it will draw inspiration from Ben Channon's book Happy By Design and Elina Grigoriou's book Wellbeing In Interiors. Channon identifies seven factors for creating a happy interior: light, comfort, control, nature, aesthetics, activity, and psychology (Channon, 2018).

These principles will guide the design to ensure it is a space that supports wellness, which is crucial for the users of this project, as identified through research in this report.

It will also explore biophilic design, referencing Nature Inside, a book by William D. Browning and Catherine O. Ryan, which expands biophilia beyond plants and green spaces to embedding the essence of nature into every layer of design (Browning & Ryan, 2020).



5: Unknown photographer, 2018. Photoriph of Ben Channon, author of Happy By

Fig 6: Unknown photographer, 2017. Photograph of Elina Grigoriou's, author of Wellbeing In Interiors.

Fig 7: Bríd O'Donovan. Photograph of Catherin O.Ryan, co-author of Nature Inside.



### Continued

Additionally, it will focus on sensory design through interior atmosphere and decoration, drawing from Sensory Design by Joy Malnar and Monice Vodvarka. This book emphasizes that architecture and design are more than art; they create multisensory experiences that interact with human perception and evoke emotional responses (Malnar & Vodvarka, 2004).

Lastly, the project will integrate emotional branding using Marc Gobe's book Emotional Branding as a method of building a community surrounding healthy habits for professional eSports athletes.

Gobe's work highlights the importance of brands making people feel something—such as joy, nostalgia, or empowerment (Gobé 2007). In order to change the narrative in relation to professional eSports, the project will need to gain community support and emotional branding is the gateway to doing so.

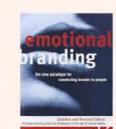


Fig 9: Marc Gobe, 2009. Book Cover of Marc Gobes book, emotional branding.

Joy Monice Malnar & Frank Vodvarka

Fig 8: Unknown photographer, 2022. Photograph of Joy Monice Malnar and Frank Vodvarka that featured in an article about their toy trains



# Decorative Architectural Branded



# Precedents Alienware Training Facility

Three "Alienware Training Facilities" were established by Team Liquid, a well-known professional gaming group, and Alienware, a top gaming brand owned by Dell. These facilities, which are situated in São Paulo, Brazil; Utrecht, the Netherlands; and Los Angeles, North America, are designed to offer top-tier training conditions for eSports players around the world.

Each facility is available to rent by eSports professionals or other groups ('Team Liquid Training Facilities' 2024).

Utrecht facility, which was designed and built between 2019-2020 by VenhoevenCS, a Dutch architectural practice founded by Ton Venhoeven in 1995 in Amsterdam (VenhoevenCS 2020).



### **The Architects**

VenhoevenCS is renowned for its innovative approach to urban planning and architecture, with a strong emphasis on circular, eco-friendly, and sustainable design solutions. Their work spans emission-free buildings, self-sufficient neighbourhoods, and infrastructure projects like stations, bridges, and bike parks.

VenhoevenCS focuses on integrating social and cultural factors into spatial solutions to address societal and environmental issues, particularly in urban settings. Their goal is to encourage healthier and more sustainable lifestyles, with "CS" in their name symbolising these cultural and social values (VenhoevenCS 2020).



### Their Approach

The architects, Danny Esselman, Ton Venhoeven, Arjen Zaal, and Eliza Mante, took inspiration from digital art and game design, showcasing how these can influence interiors. The facility blends real and imagined elements, merging functions like a restaurant with scrim rooms and a gallery with a player lounge.

It celebrates technology through exposed, ornamental systems rather than concealing them. The modular building features sliding walls, creating adaptable and fluid spaces ('Alienware Training Facility for Team Liquid - VenhoevenCS Architecture+Urbanism' 2023).





Fig 14 (middle right): Teo Krijgsman 2019–2020. Photograph of restauran and dining area inside Alienware: Trainina Facility

Pig 15 (Bottom Image): 160 Krijgsman, 2019–2020. Photograph of the players lounge inside Alienwares Training Facility.



### **What Went Well**

The design of Team Liquid's Utrecht facility combines hexagonal patterns, a sleek black-and-white palette, bamboo accents, and blue highlights to create a contemporary, practical space. Branding is subtly incorporated, with explicit and hidden nods that engage users. These methods of integrating brand identity are techniques that will be carried through the Unplugged project.

The facility prioritises sustainability, employing bio-based and recycled materials, efficient systems, smart acoustics, and adaptive lighting. These elements create a climate-conscious space that balances environmental responsibility with user well-being.



### **Precedent critiques**

However, while the facility succeeds in sustainability, there is room for improvement in its accommodation of health and wellness needs. Adding dedicated spaces for recovery, mindfulness, or relaxation could better support the physical

and mental health of eSports professionals. These additions would enhance the design's usability, offering a more holistic environment for performance, recovery, and long-term well-being.

Fig 17 (Top left): Unknown photographer. Photograph of someone having a sports massage. Fig 18 (Top left): Unknown photographer. Photograph of a yoga class at a branch of David Lloyd's club.



g 20: Lily Wolstenholme, 2025. Illustrated

### **Takeaways**

Moving forward, the project will draw inspiration from VenhoevenCS's effective zoning strategy to develop it's own schedule of accommodation, incorporating specific health-focused spaces such as recovery and mindfulness rooms. Their sustainable approach, featuring recycled materials, efficient systems, and adaptive

lighting, will influence the design. Additionally, it will aim to refine their branding integration methods while addressing their lack of rest and recovery areas. By prioritising spaces that promote physical and mental health, the project hopes to create a more balanced and supportive environment for esports athletes.

### **Plan view of Alienware Training Facility**

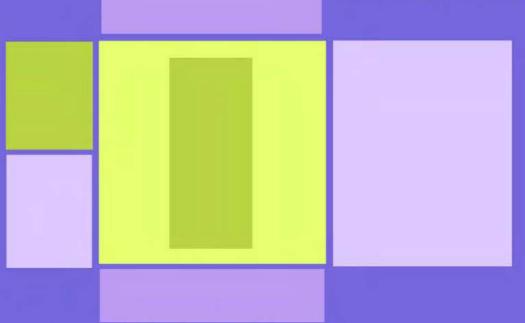


Alienware's Zoning



Within Alienware's zoning, their communal/chill out zone is considerably small in contrast to the other functions of the facility.

A different take



Within this alternative take on their zoning, the communal space has been centralised and prioritised whilst keeping the essential functions of the facility.

Open office space

**Training** 

Dining

Communal/chill out



### **Exploratory Q**

How can interior design enhance health in eSports while fostering inclusivity, community, and stronger in-person connections?





### What is eSports?

Esports or electronic sports are competitive video games in which teams or professional players compete for prizes. Players compete in virtual arenas during tournaments held by video games such as League of Legends, Call of Duty, Overwatch, and Counterstrike.

With prize pools in certain competitions reaching tens of millions of dollars, eSports has become competitive with traditional sports in terms of professionalism and viewer attraction (British Esports Association 2017).

2.6BN

Players worldwide

443M

Global eSports audience (FNATIC, 2024)

1.8BN

Western eSports w/hours 2019

19.85BN

Total watch hours in 2020

### Issues they face

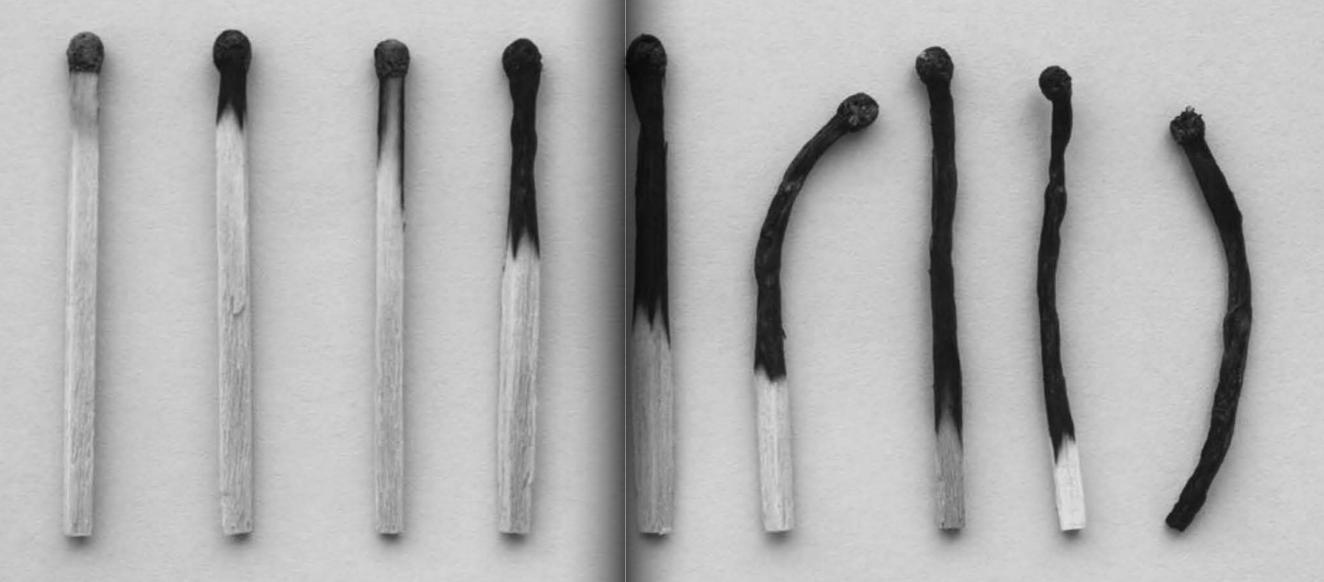
- 1. Physical & Emotional Strain
- 2. Social Isolation
- **3.** Gender Inequality



Fig 25: Alex mia. Burned matches in a row on a blue background. The concept of depression, extinction, illness, burnout.

# 75% Of Professional eSports Athletes Reported Experiencing Burnout

According to a study I conducted (see appendix)





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# Physical & Emotional Strain

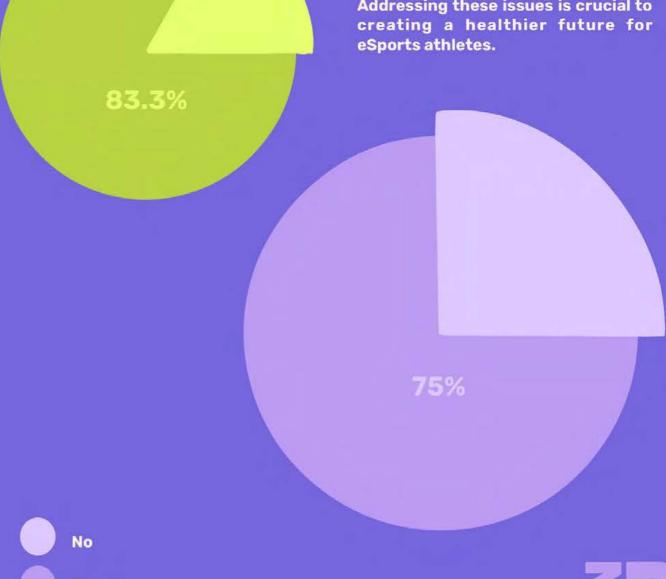
In the competitive gaming world, the physical and emotional toll on players is often overlooked. Long hours dedicated to mastering gaming skills can take a serious toll on players' health. Whether it's the strain of prolonged sitting with poor posture, the elevated stress after a tough loss, or irregular, restless sleep, the negative effects are undeniable (Corner, cited in Finch et al., 2019:134).

Recent studies highlight these issues. For instance, 32% of eSports players report hand discomfort, 36% wrist pain, and 42% neck and back pain. Conditions like "upper crossed syndrome," which results from muscle imbalances in the neck and shoulders, and "computer vision syndrome," linked to excessive screen use, are becoming alarmingly common (Franks and King, 2023; Chang et al., 2023; American Optometric Association, 2023).

Fig 26: Riot Games, 2021. Photograph of professional eSports player during a tournament, looking distressed.







### **Gender Inequality**

Gender inequality is one of the many prevalent issues within the professional eSports industry. Since its start, just one female player has participated at the highest level in the ten-team North American League of Legends Championship Series (LCS). Since 2017, there have been no female players in the Overwatch League (OWL), and in 2019, there was only one brief appearance by a female player (Pizzo et al., 2023).

Women are under-represented in eSports, which emphasises the obstacles they must overcome to compete at the highest levels. These obstacles include under-representation in gaming communities, lack of support, and societal views. It's critical to establish inclusive environments where female gamers may flourish and feel encouraged. This can be accomplished by carefully planning the interior and fostering a culture that values individuality and community.

### **Social Isolation**



In eSports, the majority of interactions occur online, often leading to a sense of isolation. Players spend most of their time indoors, rarely engaging in outdoor activities or offline socialization. This lack of inperson interaction can contribute to social anxiety and poor mental health. The absence of real-life connections is a major concern in creating a healthier eSports environment.







### What?

This design brief outlines the development of an inclusive and forward-thinking space for professional eSport athletes, specifically for League of Legends players, Riot Games' flagship game. League of Legends (LoL) evolved into one of the most competitive and prevalent eSports in the world since its launch in 2009 (League of Legends Wiki 2024), with professional players consistently pushing the limits of performance.

The project will consist of "Unplugged" a model of preseason bootcamps designed to address the ever-increasing need for eSports athletes to receive more advice and support in relation to their overall health. The main objectives include: a focus on mental and physical health, encouraging gender inclusivity, and creating a sense of community offline through in-person relationships as part of a 'healthy habits initiative' supported by Riot Games.

Professional players will stay at this bootcamp for 21 days "studies suggest that, on average, it can take anywhere from 18 to 254 days to form a new habit" (Calm 2024).

The Unplugged bootcamp concept is intended to be a worldwide endeavour that assists eSports professionals in optimising their performance in a balanced and healthy manner.

In addition to providing a wellness regime, state-of-the-art training facilities supporting the physical needs of the athletes whilst training, community spaces encouraging athletes to socialise away from the screen and 'unplug' from their computers, the facility will challenge the aesthetics of traditional eSports. Even though League of Legends was the first model of this, the idea may be applied to a variety of different eSports and has the ability to grow globally and change over time.





### **The Business Plan**

As part of this project there will be a collaboration with Riot Games and leading eSports brands: Establishing and branding the Unplugged bootcamp facility would require financial support from Riot Games or other sizable eSports companies like Cloud9 or Fnatic. This partnership would produce an upscaled, globally recognisable brand.

Alternatively, this could be a sub

brand created by Riot Games as part of a global 'healthy habits initiative' supported by Riot Games with the focus on promoting better work life balance and female representation within the industry.

With Riot Games being the developers of League of Legends, this would be a great initiative to find themselves involved with and in support of.

Lastly, possible revenue streams include producing items for the Unplugged brand, offering memberships to prospective eSports athletes and collaborating with streaming platforms to provide unique material.

LUGGED





**Brandon Beck & Marc Merrill,** 

**Co-Founders of Riot Games** 

### Who is this for?

The goal of this project is to help professional eSports athletes, those who play at the highest levels of competitive video gaming, form a better mindset surrounding their work life whilst building in-person relationships and an offline community.

Esports players, in contrast to traditional athletes, focus on games I i ke League of Legends, Counterstrike: Global Offensive, Dota 2, and Fortnite, where mental agility, reflexes, strategy, and teamwork are valued more highly than athletic ability (British Esports Association 2017).

Esports athletes typically start their careers in their teens and, similar to traditional athletes, train intensively to maintain peak performance. The global esports market is projected to exceed \$1.9 billion in 2024 (Newzoo 2018), with top players earning significant income from sponsorships, streaming, and competition winnings. For instance, The International 2023 for Dota 2 offered a prize pool of over \$40 million (Liquipedia 2024).

Despite the demands, the lifestyle of a professional eSports' athlete can be physically and mentally taxing. "It's not just playing games; it's like training for a sport," says eSports veteran Lee "Faker" Sanghyeok, emphasizing the need for a comprehensive support system (Liquipedia 2024).



### Why?

Inspiration for the project came from firsthand experience within the industry through a close industry professional who has been playing professionally for four years. From primary experience It's apparent the implications that the industry has both mentally and physically, these observations have been further backed up through research within this report.

Because of direct observations and the further conclusions of this report, It is clear the industry is lacking an experience like the one this project plans to provide, and it is imperative to the future wellbeing of eSports athletes that we create a solution for this.

### Sustainable strategy

In response to the United Nations 17 Sustainable Goals, this project aims to support and encourage health and well-being of professional eSports athletes, alongside empowering women and tackling gender inequality within the professional eSports industry.





Fig 33 & 35: United Nations Two of the United Nations 17 Sustainable goals, good health and well-being and gender equality



### Where?

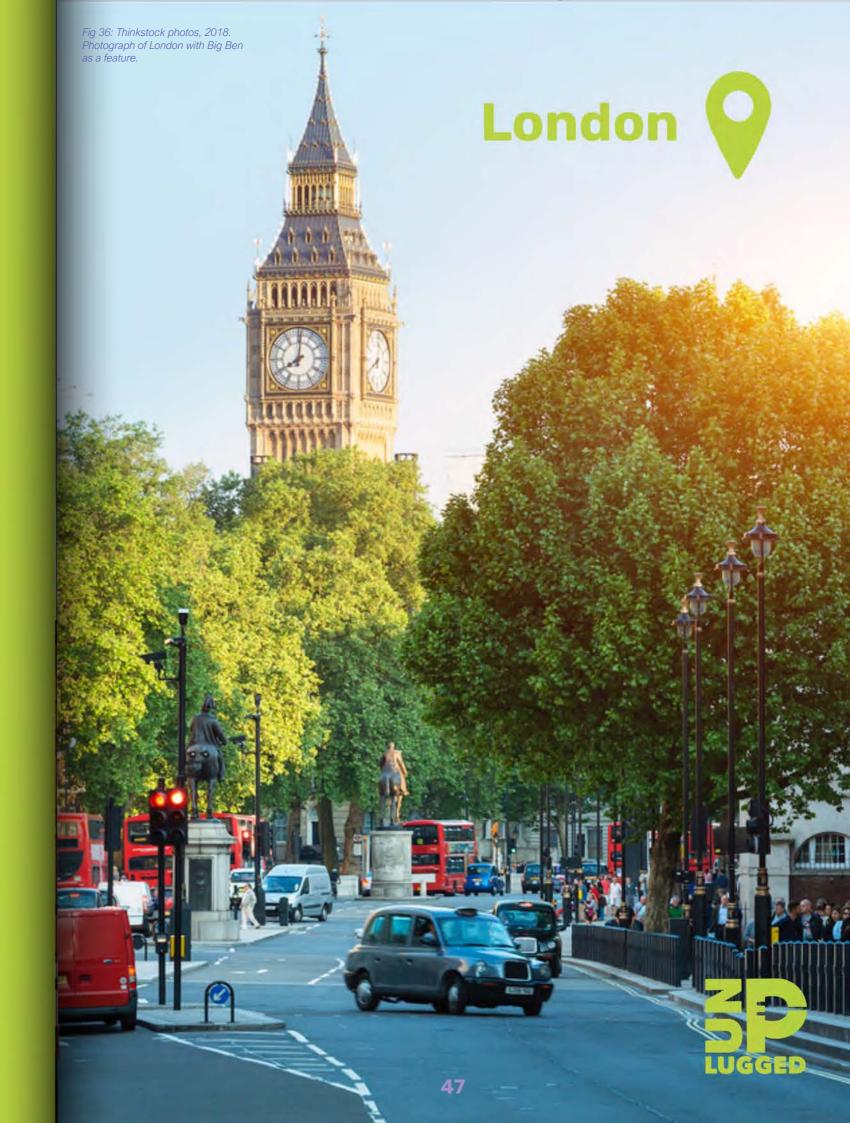
The first of the Unplugged preseason bootcamps will be located in the United Kingdom specifically in London. Despite there only being estimated around 100 professional esports athletes in the UK (British Esports Association 2017), "the revenue in the esports market in the United Kingdom was forecast to continuously increase between 2024 and 2029 by in total 75.7 million U.S. dollars (+33.1 percent). After the tenth consecutive increasing year, the revenue is estimated to reach 304.39 million U.S. dollars and therefore a new peak in 2029" (Gough 2024).

What this shows is that the industry in the UK is ever increasing.

With the project sitting within the 'Interior Futures' category of the Interior Educator categories, it means thinking about what lies ahead for the eSports industry and where this project will sit within that.

From this research it is evident that there will be an ever-growing number of professional eSports athletes basing themselves in London therefore this project holds a valuable place in this location.

Furthermore Fnatic, "the world's leading eSports organisation, with a winning legacy of 17 years and counting in over 28 different titles" (Fnatic 2024), bases themselves here in London.



### The Schedule

The schedule for Unplugged will be developed from key foundations created by accredited Health sources such as the National Institutes of Health and the National Health Service where they outline a series of dimensions that encompass whole-person wellness. Examples include: physical, emotional, environmental and more (see figure 38). Furthermore, it will refer to the works of Ben Channon in his book Happy By Design, as previously mentioned (see figure 37).



Fig 37: Ben Channon, 2018. Happy By Design book cover.

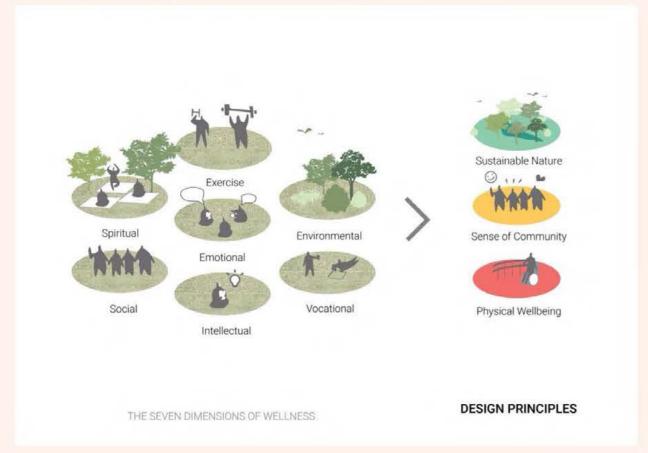


Fig 38: Landezine, 2020. The seven dimensions of wellness diagram.

**Design principles Physical Health** Mindfulness & Recovery Community & **Environmental** Connectivity Schedule of accommodation Growth Team 1 - Training and review space Recovery Hot Room **Desks** Yoga/ **Community space** meditation + restaurant and studio Gym dining Recovery Hot Room **Desks Team 2 - Training** and review space



# Brand Analysis & Development

This project is partly branded therefore it will establish it's own brand "Unplugged," which will be comprised of a series of boot camps for professional eSports athletes as part of a "healthy habits initiative." The goal is to instil a new mindset that prioritises and supports players' mental and physical health while promoting female representation.

# Unplygged

Rethinking Wellness For Professional Esports Athletes

"You Have To Feel Good To Play Good"

### Logo development



The chosen logo, which uses a plug to symbolise coming away from computer screens, embracing an analogue way of life.

### The mission

"Unplugged is committed to transforming the way eSports athletes approach competition. We support athletes in achieving long-term success in a supportive, inclusive, and innovative setting by implementing wellness, recovery, and mental health into every facet of training."



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# Time to Unplyg And Switch Off

### The Funding

In order to obtain funds for this project, there will be a collaboration with Riot Games. Riot Games was established in 2006 by Brandon Beck and Marc Merrill with the goal of "developing, publishing, and supporting the most player-focused games in the world" (Riot Games 2023). Riot has expanded to over 4,500 workers in more than 20 offices worldwide since launching League of Legends in 2009, which is currently the most played PC game worldwide. This has allowed Riot to approach their work with a global perspective.

Their Berlin-based 'Riot Games Arena,' home of the LEC (League of Legends European Championship), reflects their commitment to the eSports community.

Riot's player-first philosophy "everything we do is in service of players" (Riot Games 2023) perfectly aligns with my project's goals. Their emphasis on creating meaningful experiences and fostering a playerfocused culture inspires this vision for supporting eSports athletes' health and well-being.











### **User analysis**

The users for this project are professional eSports athletes, with a focus on those who play 'League of Legends' (LoL). The average age of a professional LoL player is 21.2, according to ESPN ('Average Age in Esports vs. Major Sports' 2017). These players face intense cognitive and physical demands due to rigorous training, strategizing, and team coordination. Supporting their mental and physical well-being is essential.

From primary research of a 28question survey via google forms with 12 responses from professional eSports athletes and coaches, the results found 66.6% spend nine or more hours gaming daily, with 50% confirming these hours are for their job (see appendix for full survey results). When asked how many days they are expected to play for their job, 83.3% said six days, and 16.7% said seven days weekly. That means 100% train six or more days as part of their job. Additionally, 83.3% reported having just one day off per week, and 50% of those still spent that day gaming.

This lack of work-life balance highlights a critical gap in the industry. This project design aims to address this issue by prioritizing spaces and strategies that promote both professional performance and personal well-being.

Fig 41: Lily Wolstenholme, 2025. Illustrated

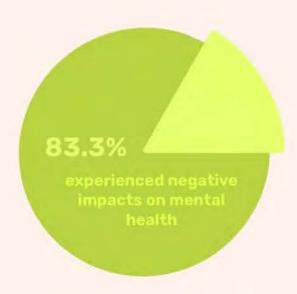
mage of a gamer.





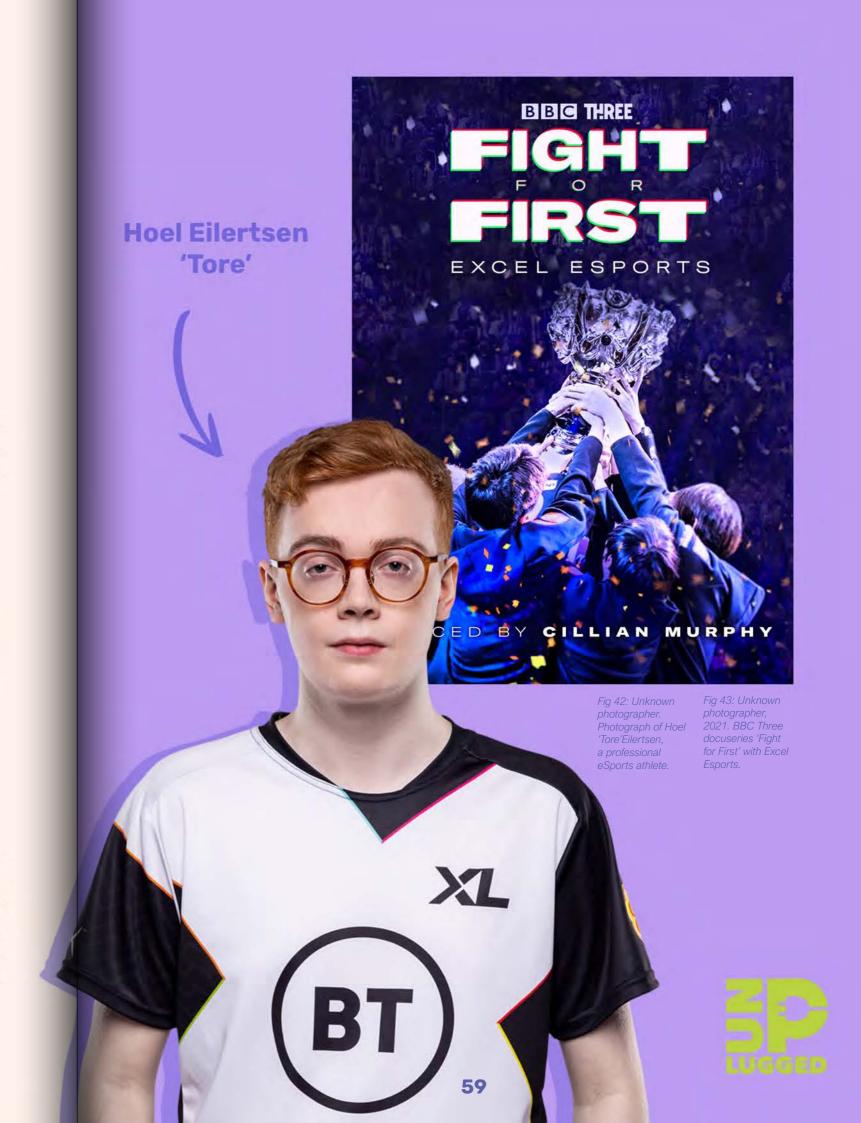
# Getting into the heads of eSports athletes

In addition, the research revealed that this user group often holds a negative, unhealthy mindset regarding their work. As mentioned, 83.3% of respondents said gaming negatively impacted their mental health, and 75% reported experiencing burnout (see appendix for full survey results).



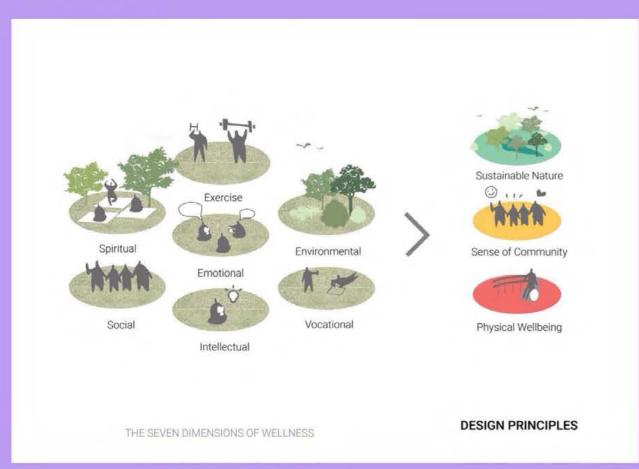


In the BBC Three documentary Fight for First: Excel Esports, which follows the British LEC team Excel Esports, it was clear that these players put immense pressure on themselves. In the first episode, Hoel Eilertsen, aka 'Tore', says, "If you are not sitting on your computer playing then you are wasting time" (Bloom 2021), reflecting the mindset of many professional players. This is an issue the design aims to address for the longevity and health of eSports athletes (Bloom 2021).



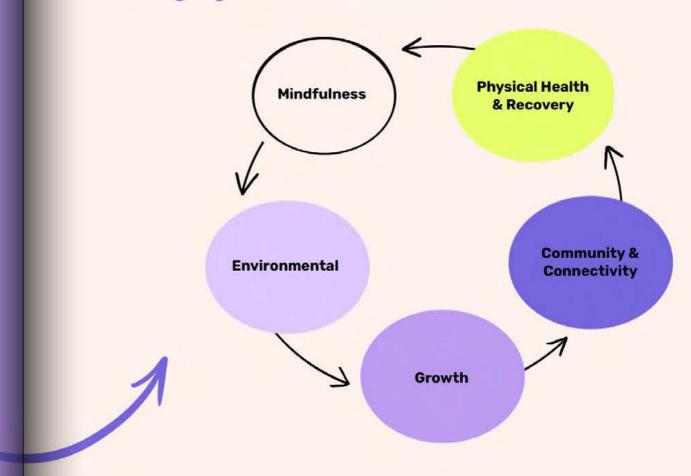
# User conclusions

After identifying the characteristics and challenges of this projects users, the project can curate a list of design guidelines based on the National Institute of Health and NHS wellness definitions (see figure 44) and Ben Channon's Happy By Design, as mentioned earlier.



### Fig 44: Landezine, 2020. The seven dimensions of wellness diagram.

### **Design guidelines**



### Mindfulness

This is about being present, creating safe places for reflection and prioritising mental health.

### **Physical Health & Recovery**

This is about prioritising physical health through exercise, correct equipment and recovery.

### **Environmental**

This is about environmental factors that affect the clients e.g. lighting, ventilation, ergonomics, temperature etc.

### Community

This is about building in person offline connections and encouraging social interaction.

### Growth

This is about learning new skills and hobbies. But this is also about future proofing this space so it can adapt to the changing needs of the industry.



Their mascot "Mr Pickle"

# The Site The Pickle Factory

### 5 New Tannery Wy., London SE1 5EB

Located a short walk from Bermondsey Street is The Pickle Factory where this project will be housed ('The Pickle Factory Bermondsey SE1 - by London Square | About' 2024). Bermondsey, situated in southeast London, is a vibrant and diverse area known for its rich history, thriving food and arts scene and its desirable proximity to central London (London Square 2024). Many open green spaces can be found in Bermondsey.

New Access from Grange Read

Art District

Private Residential

Courtyard

Private Residential

Route

Private Residential

Route

Private Residential

Route

Private Residential

Courtyard

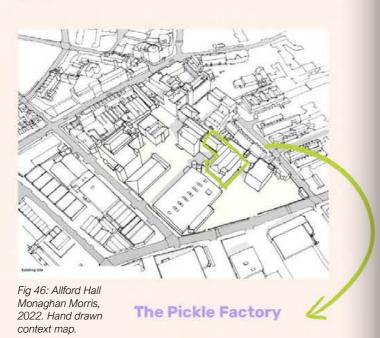
Private Residential

Route

Ro

Fig 45: Allford Hall Monaghan Morris, 2022. Hand drawn context map.

There are playgrounds, a games area, and picnic areas at the restored Bermondsey Spa Gardens. A little over a mile away, Southwark Park has 61 acres with attractions like a bandstand, boating lake, and rose gardens, making it a true community centre. Tabard and Leather Market Gardens nearby offer smaller green havens (London Square 2024). Accessibility to green spaces was an important factor for the user with them currently lacking in that department therefore this was a priority when choosing a site for this project.







### **Site History**

The Pickle Factory was built in the 19th century when it was first used as one of the many tanneries in Bermondsey and later, it contained premises owned by Crosse and Blackwell where they made their famous Branston Pickle (Orbit Architects 2023).

E. Lazenby & Sons became a household name thanks to the success of their Harvey's Sauce. The company expanded by acquiring "gigantic kitchens" on Crimscott Street, Bermondsey.

In 1919, they merged with Crosse and Blackwell, and in 1924, the iconic Branston Pickle brand emerged, embedding itself in Bermondsey's rich history. Crosse and Blackwell, established in 1829 by Edmund Crosse and Thomas Blackwell after taking over West and Wyatt grocers, became known for producing pickles, preserves, and bottled fruit. In 1924, the company built a new facility, the "Great Addition," on their site, which produced chutneys, jellies, and relishes until the factory's closure in 1969 (Orbit Architects 2023).



Fig 50: Unknown photographer. Crosse and Blackwell's pickle factory from the 19th Century.

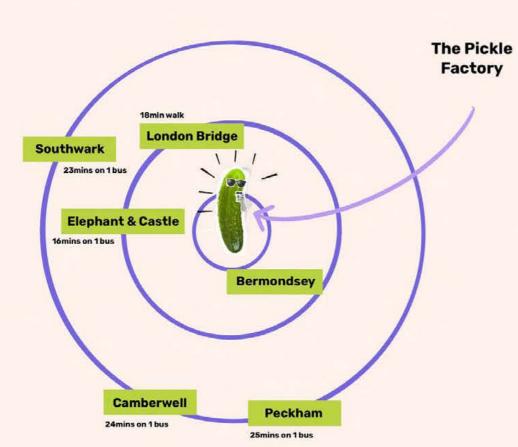


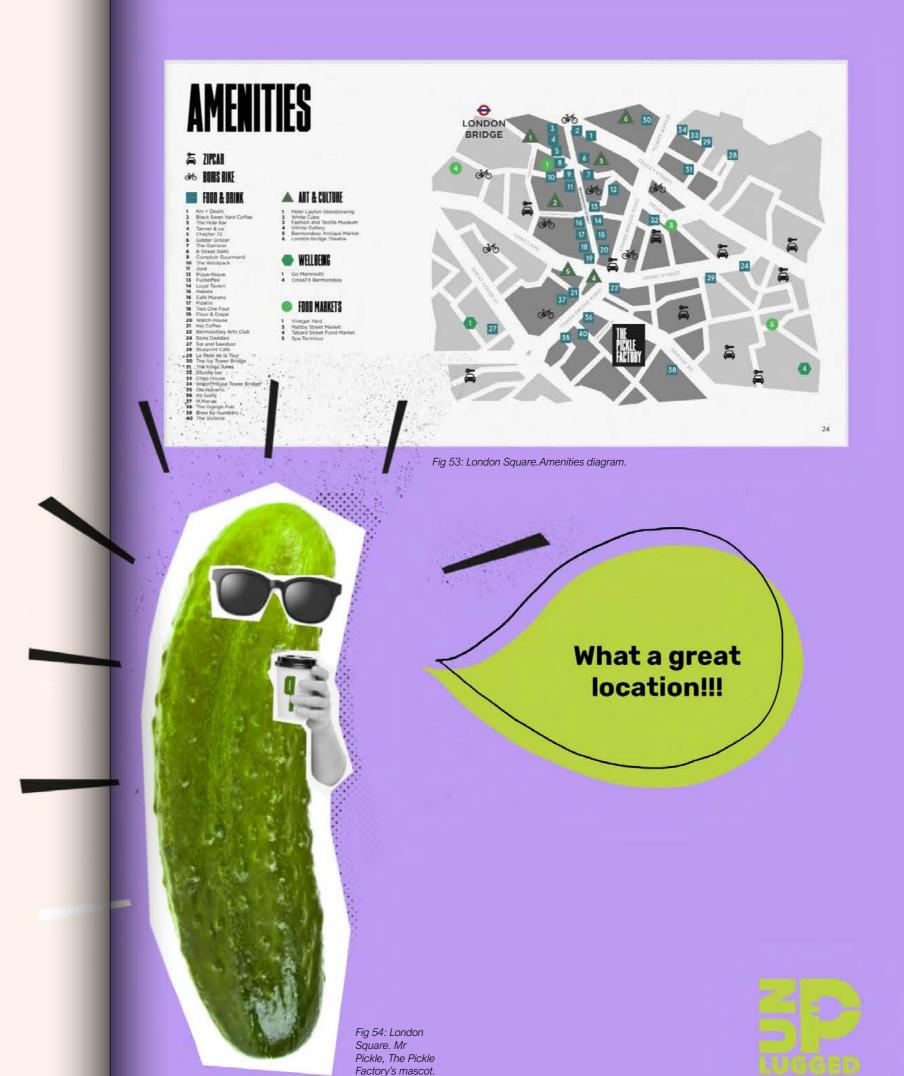
Fig 52: London Square. Mr Pickle, The Pickle Factory's mascot.



### **Transport links**

The Pickle Factory is a conveniently accessible site with it being located approximately a 15-minute walk from London Bridge Station. Rapid connections are available at this important transit hub, with travels to Waterloo Station taking 4 minutes and King's Cross Station taking 11 minutes. Alongside this, Bermondsey Station is around a 14-minute walk away and provides excellent connectivity across London.







#### **Site Pros**

#### 1. Transport links

The site offers amazing transport links across the whole of London.

#### 2. Fit for purpose

The site is currently multi-use with two floors of residential space and four floors of office units. This configuration works well for the proposed brief of a live and work bootcamp.

#### 3. Refurbished space

The warehouse has been carefully refurbished to preserve its original character while providing modern amenities, offering a blend of old and new that can enhance the design concepts.

#### 4. Flexible unit sizes

The building offers a variety of unit sizes, which can be combined to create larger, self-contained office spaces over two floors, providing flexibility in the design layout.

#### 5. Vibrant location

Situated in Bermondsey, the area is known for its trendy bars, cafes, and art galleries, contributing to a lively environment.

### Site Cons

#### 1. Potential design constraints

The preservation of original industrial features, while offering character, may also impose certain limitations on design modifications, requiring careful planning to integrate modern design elements seamlessly.

#### 2. Acoustic challenges

The open-plan nature of refurbished industrial spaces can lead to issues with sound carrying, making it harder to design spaces with effective acoustic control.

#### 3. Noise from surroundings

Being in a lively area like Bermondsey, external noise from the street, nearby businesses, or events could be a factor to consider in the design.



# SCHEDLE SEAREAS

#### **Cross Section**

86,160 sq ft / 4 floors 8,007 sq m / 4 floors



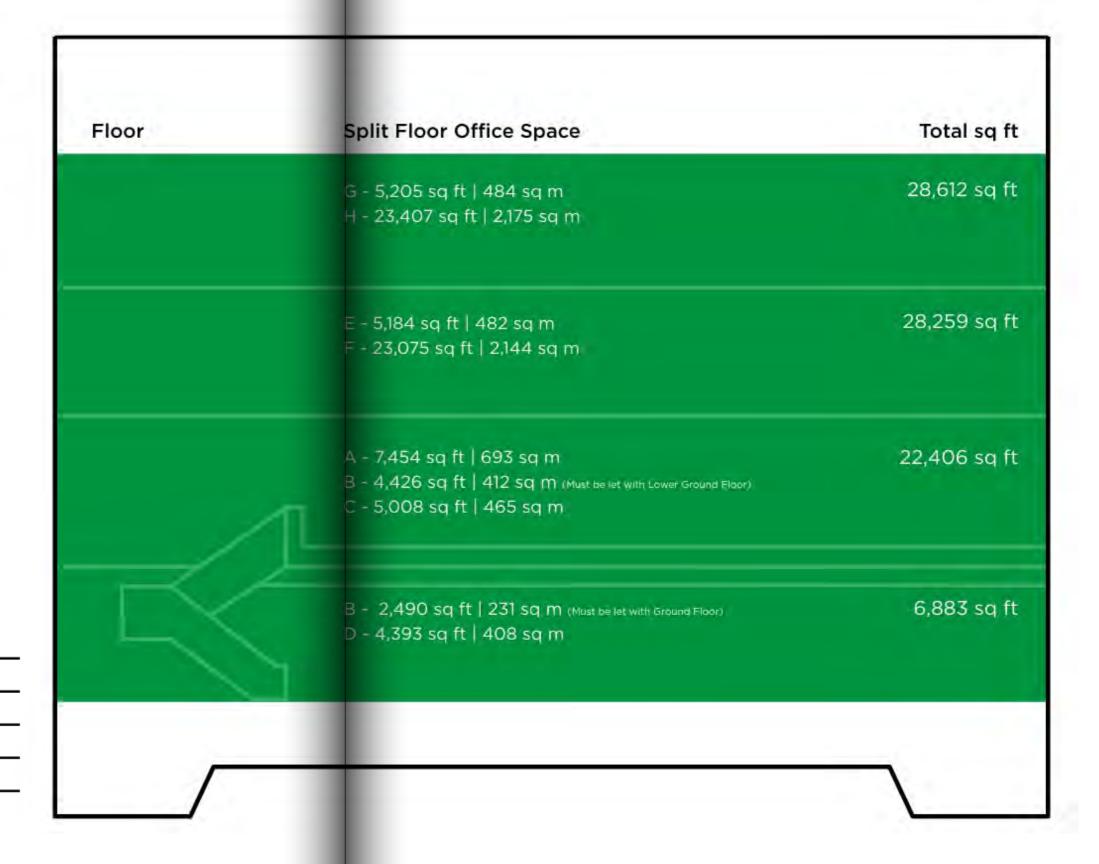
SECOND FLOOR

FIRST FLOOR

GROUND FLOOR

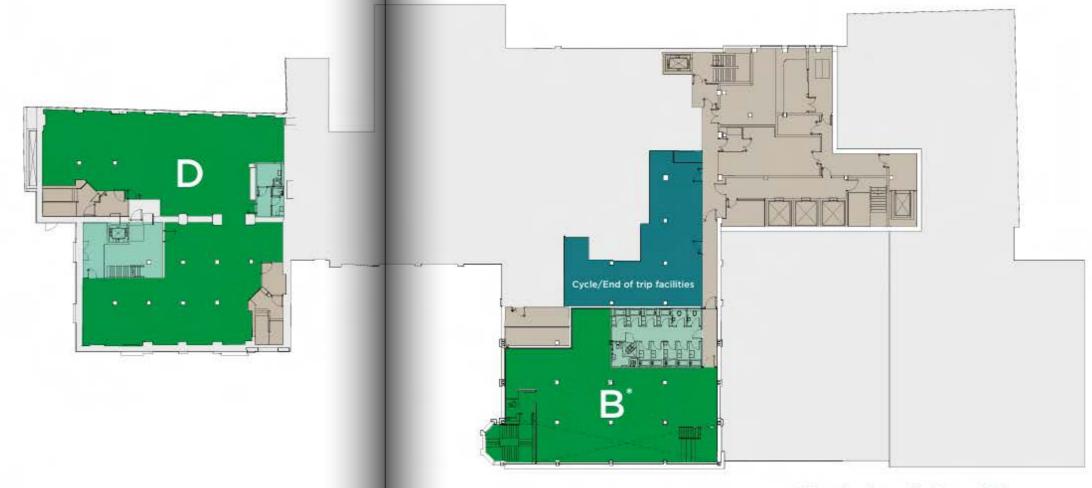
LOWER GROUND FLOOR

Fig 59: London Square. Schedule of areas.



#### Office Space Available

B - 2,490 sq ft | 231 sq m\* D - 4,393 sq ft | 408 sq m



\* Must be let with Ground Floor

Offices available to let

WCs & Showers Core

Bike Store

**76** 

Fig 60: London Square. Lower ground floor plan.

# CROUND FLOOR

Office Space Available

A - 7,454 sq ft | 693 sq m

B - 4,426 sq ft | 412 sq m\*

C - 5,008 sq ft | 465 sq m

Total Floor 22,406 sq ft | 2,083 sq m

Reception / Atrium 5,518 sq ft | 513 sq m

Reception

/ Atrium

Core



Fig 61: London Square. Ground

floor plan.

Offices

to let

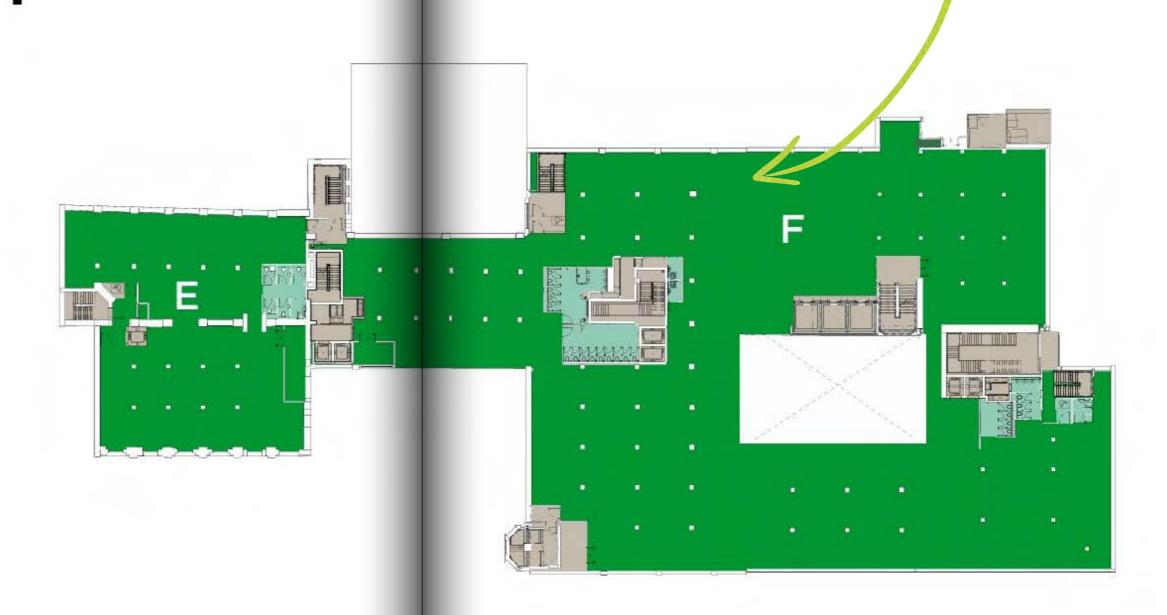
available

# FIRST

**Total Floor** 28,259 sq ft | 2,626 sq m

Offices WCs Core available to let

Fig 62: London Square. First floor plan. Office Space Available
E - 5,184 sq ft | 482 sq m
F - 23,075 sq ft | 2,144 sq m

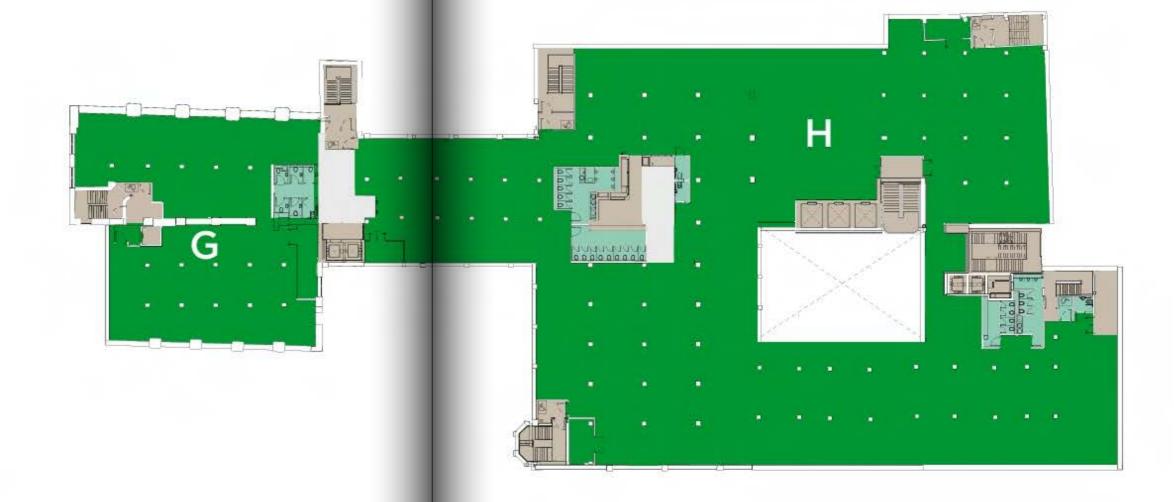


# SECOND FLOR

Total Floor 28,612 sq ft | 2,659 sq m

#### Office Space Available

G - 5,205 sq ft | 484 sq m H - 23,407 sq ft | 2,175 sq m



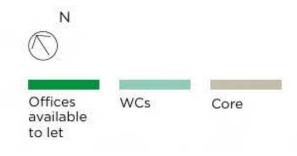
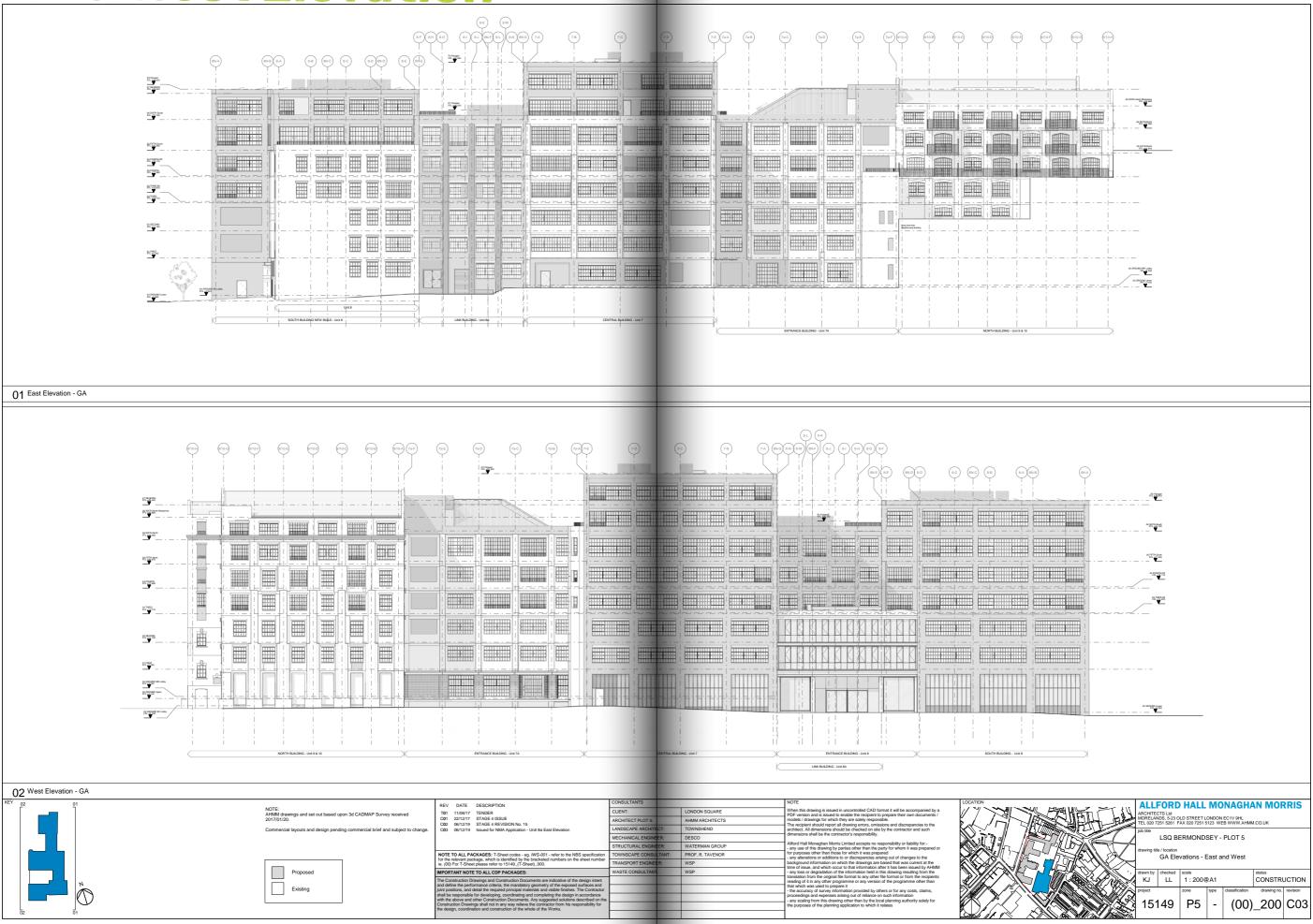
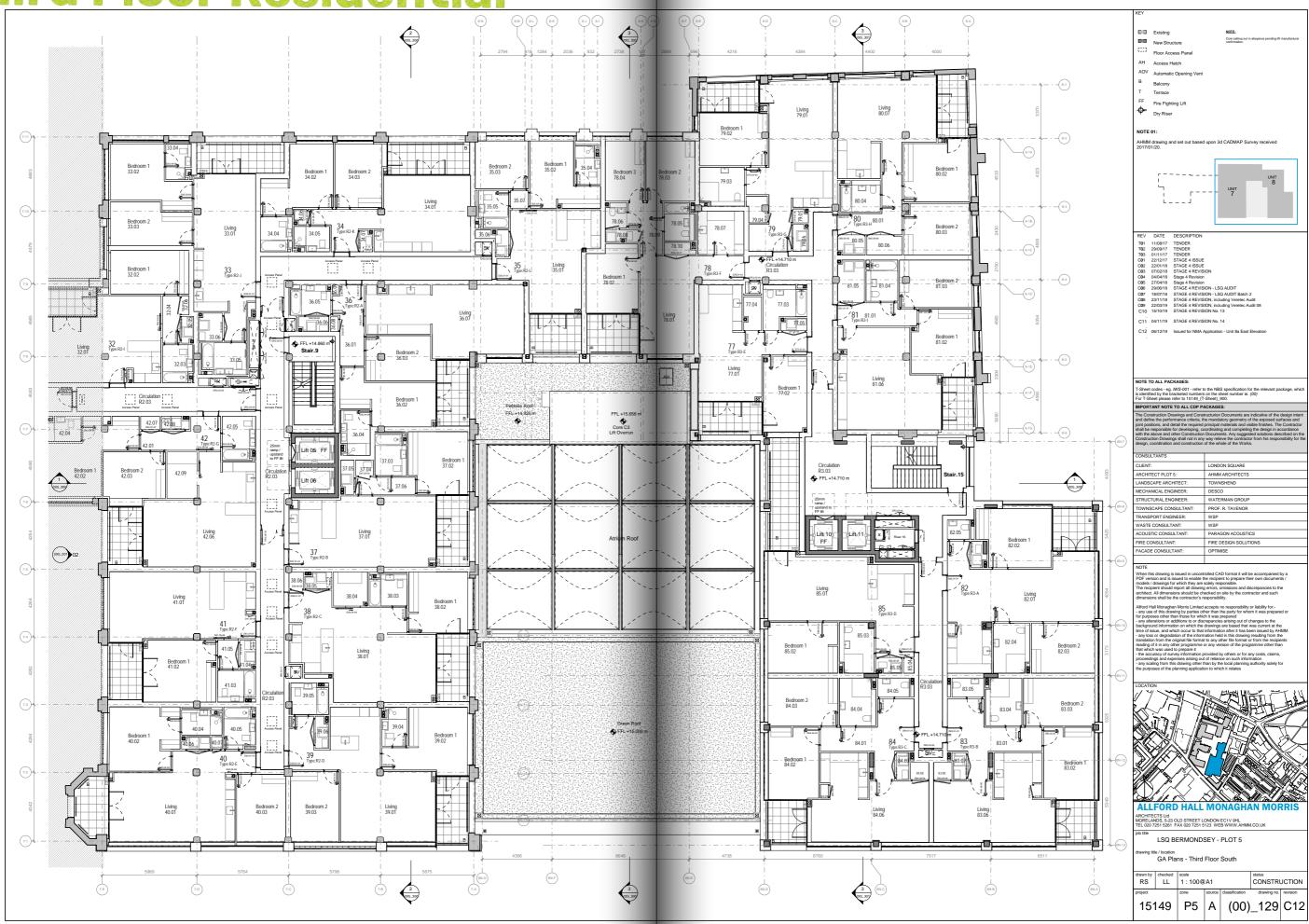


Fig 63: London Square. Second floor plan.

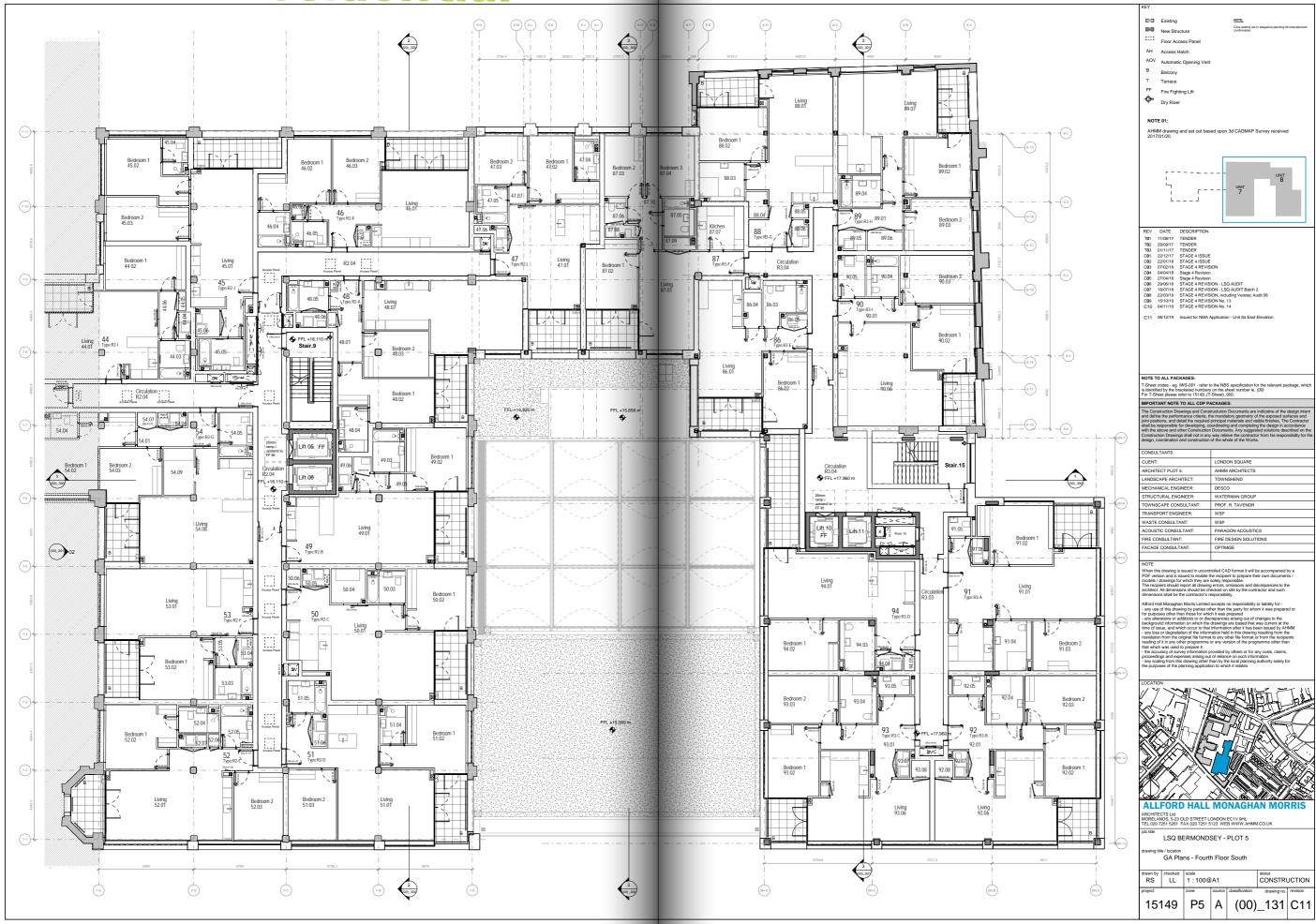
### **East & West Elevation**



**Third Floor Residential** 



### Forth Floor Residential



Fifth Floor Residential





#### Conclusion

In Conclusion, the "Unplugged" project presents a revolutionary way to address the difficulties that professional eSports athletes, especially League of Legends players, encounter. The idea is to develop a comprehensive and progressive preseason bootcamp that emphasises athletes' physical and mental well-being while encouraging diversity and work-life balance alongside building an offline community. This project is the result of a thorough awareness of the present issues facing the sport, especially with regard to the negative effects that rigorous training and the competitive atmosphere have on athletes' health. The need for such a facility is evident from both personal experience and in-depth research: professional eSports athletes are frequently under tremendous pressure to perform at their best, but they do not receive enough support in areas like mental health, physical recovery, and career longevity.

Using modern technology and wellness practices, the "Unplugged" bootcamp will offer an environment where athletes may prioritise their general health in addition to improving their mental health and performance. The bootcamp seeks to challenge the conventional eSports atmosphere, which frequently places players under extreme pressure at the expense of their own health, by encouraging recuperation, physical fitness, and mental wellness. Modern training areas, injury-preventive ergonomic settings, and communal areas where athletes can socialise and "unplug" from screens will all be included in the facility, giving them the time and space they need to rest and recharge. Additionally, by addressing the gender imbalance frequently observed in competitive gaming, the bootcamp's dedication to gender inclusivity seeks to establish a friendly environment for female players.

# Time to Unplyg And Switch Off



### Continued

A partnership with Riot Games will support the project, which is consistent with their dedication to sustainability and player-first initiatives. The collaboration with Riot Games guarantees that Unplugged will be well-funded and associated with the top competitive gaming brand in the market. The brand's focus on creating meaningful player experiences aligns nicely with Unplugged's mission to improve players' health and well-being while fostering an open and balanced culture within the eSports community.

The first bootcamp will be held in Bermondsey, London, which has several benefits, such as good access to open spaces, transport and a vibrant creative environment that can inspire and improve the bootcamp experience. The Pickle Factory provides the ideal setting for the creative and progressive design of the bootcamp because of

its unique blend of industrial history and contemporary renovation. However, during the design phase, difficulties including maintaining the building's original features and handling acoustic issues will need to be carefully considered. Nevertheless, the building's adaptable design and close proximity to important facilities make it the perfect site for this project.

In summary, Unplugged is a daring move towards rethinking the way eSports athletes approach their training and well-being. By combining performance, mental health, wellbeing, and recovery in an accommodating and inclusive environment, the project aims to provide a more sustainable and holistic approach to professional gaming. This bootcamp is a crucial addition to the eSports sector since it will enhance player performance while also promoting athletes' long-term health.



### **The Next Steps**

Fig 69: Unknown creator. Community village architectural image.

# Creating in-person community

# Concept 1 A village inside a building



This concept is focused on creating a sense of community. Inspired by street parties, I have come up with a village inside a building concept where the players will eat together. The space will immitate a street with shops and bunting.

**Initial sketches** 

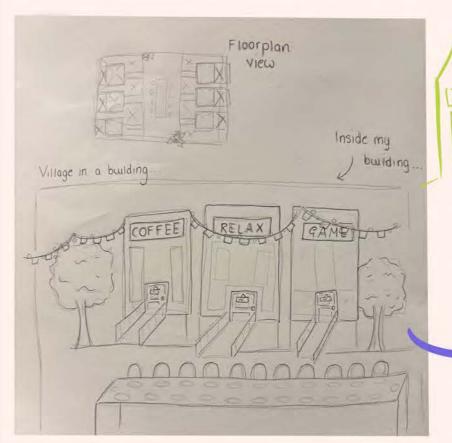


Fig 70: Unknown photographer. Black and white photograph of a British street party.



# Concept 1 Ai Image experiment

This is more like it



Disclaimer: These images were Ai generated using chatgpt.

This gives a general idea on how it could look how ever, the colour scheme and functions are not right.

This is more like it, it's it the right direction with colour scheme and materiality. This is a good place to start for inspiration.

ZP LUGGED



**Project Narrative** 



Iness Fig 75: Unknown photographer.
Outside dinner Fig 76: Unknown Yoga/meditation

Fig 72: Unknown photographer. Ai image of a biophilic interior.

Fig 73: Unknown photographer. People running.

Fig 74: Unknown photographer. Physiotherapy.

102

103

party.

class.

photographer.

Fig 77: Unknown

photographer.

Communal

gardening.



This report is submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements of the award of BA (Hons) Interior Design. I confirm that, except where other sources are acknowledged, this project is my own unaided work, and that its length is 4347 words.

Lily Wolstenholme 10.01.2025

1. Wotstenholme







### List of figures

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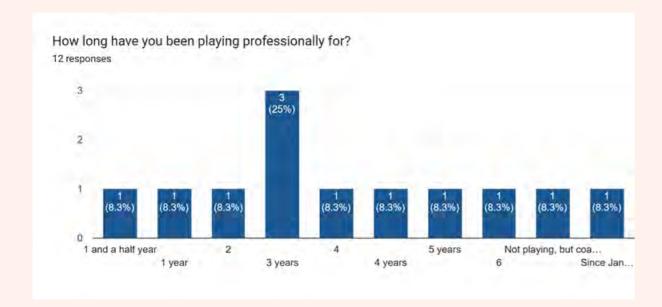
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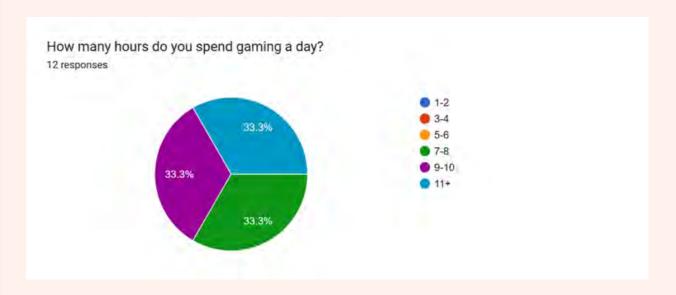


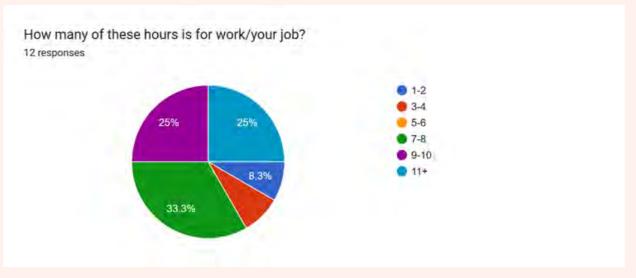
### Appendix

This 28-question survey was created by me to gain an insight into the habits of gamers, their lifestyle and their experiences within the professional eSports industry. I received a total of 12 responses from a variety of players and other industry professionals.

Published 16th October 2024



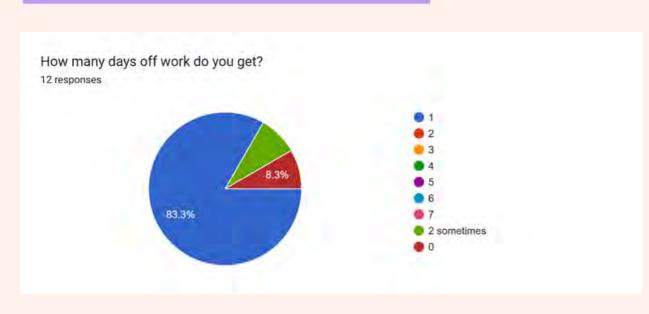


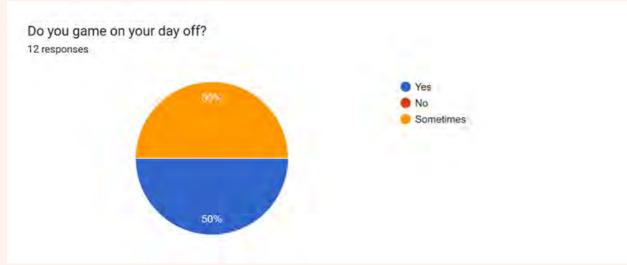


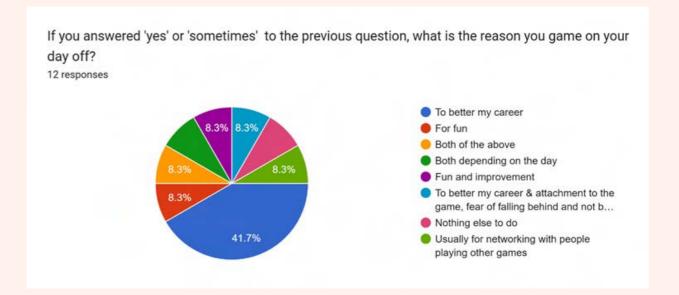




### Appendix

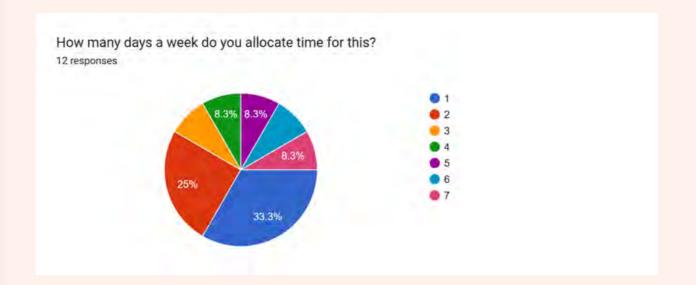






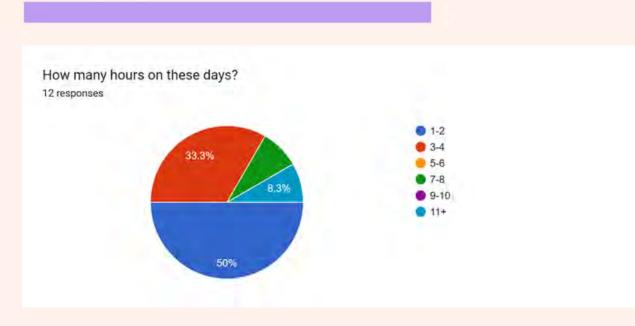
#### Q7. What do you do for fun aside from gaming?

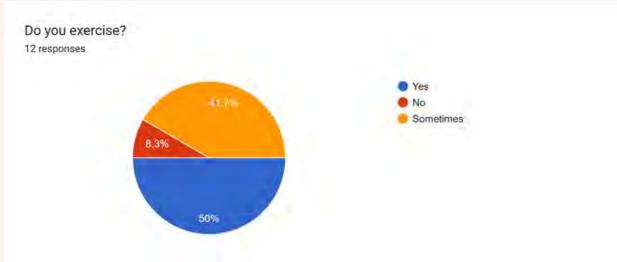
- . Watch movies
- 2. Sports, gym, climbing, pretty generic things
- S. Spending time with my gf and friends
- 4. Going out to dinner
- 5. Anime/Collecting K-pop Albums/spending time with friends
- 6. I play boardgames
- 7. Cooking, watching shows and films
- 8. Gym, series, movies, go out
- 9. Football, gaming, hanging out with friends, gym, anything out of the ordinary
- 10. Going outside, exercise
- 11. Meet friends
- 12. Gym and play Pokémon





### Appendix



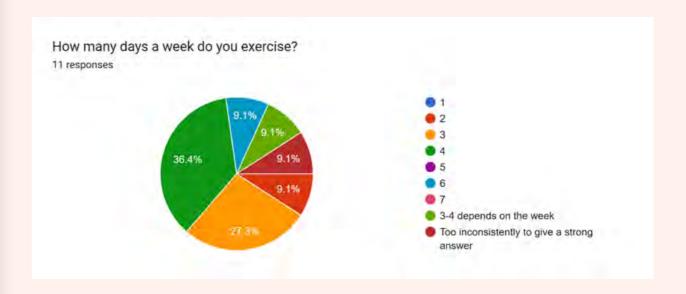


Q10a. If you answered 'yes' or 'sometimes' to the previous question, What type of exercise? e.g. gym, tennis (please specify)

- 1. Gym
- 2. Gym
- 3. Mainly gym but also running
- 4. Hiking
- 5. Gym and football
- 6. Gym
- 7. Gym
- B. Gym
- 9. Gym
- 10. Gym
- 11. Gym

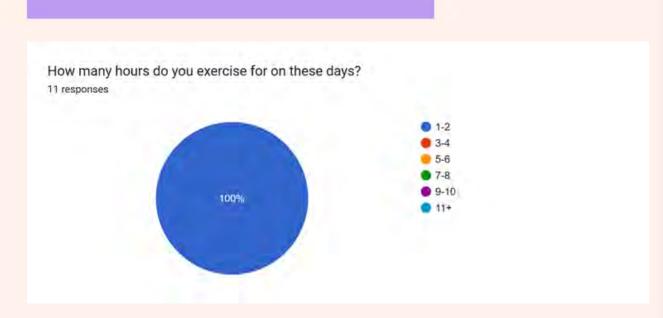
#### Q11. Why do you exercise?

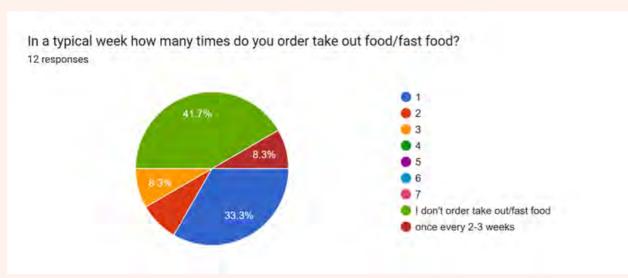
- 1. To be an example to other esports athletes
- 2. Want to feel and look great
- 3. To maintain a healthier and more stable life
- 4. Healthy, will help me have a longer career
- 5. Good for health
- 6. To keep in form / stay healthy
- 7. I like to sweat
- 8. To have a better routine and a healthier lifestyle
- 9. Routine
- 10. Only way for me to be physically active and take care of myself





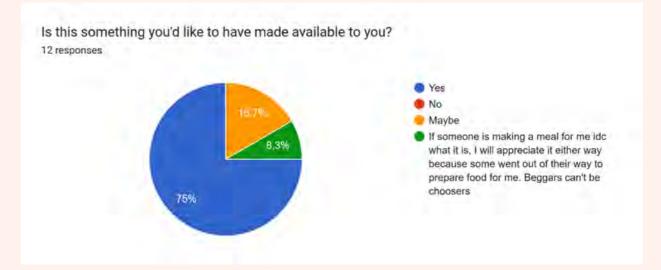
### Appendix







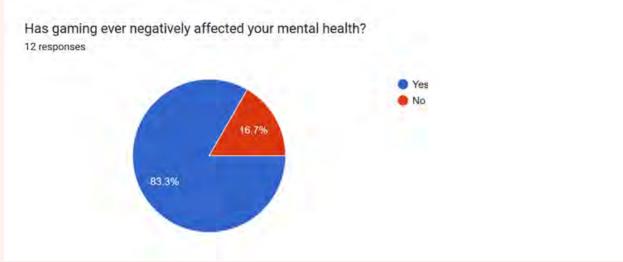


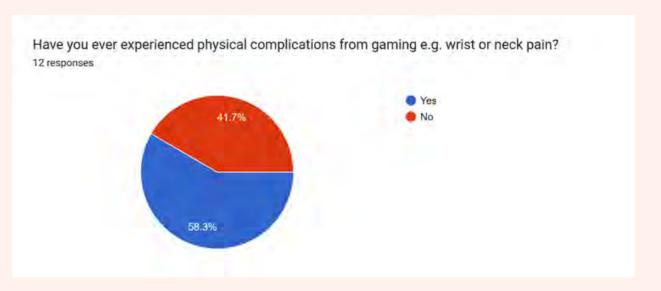


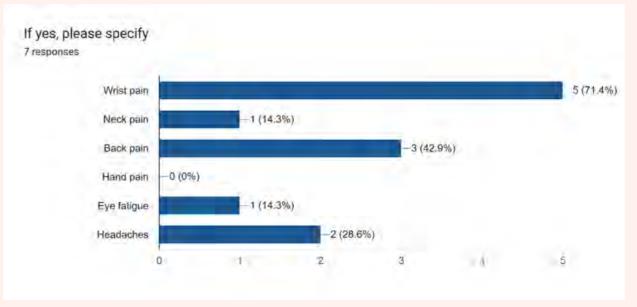


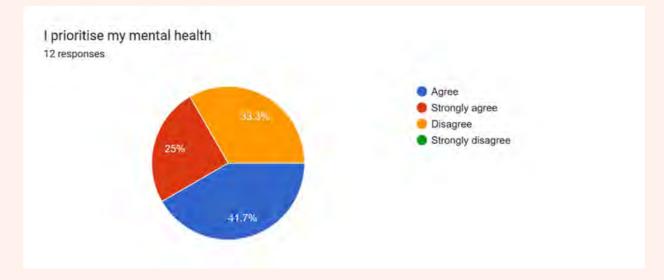
### Appendix





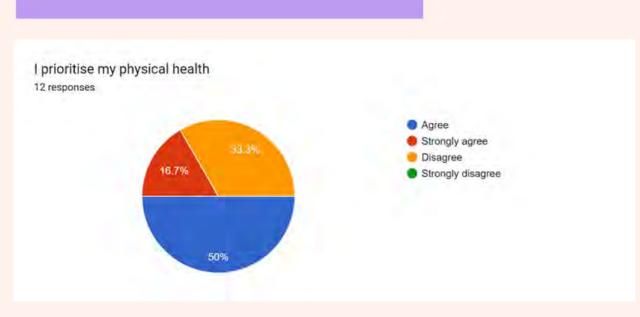


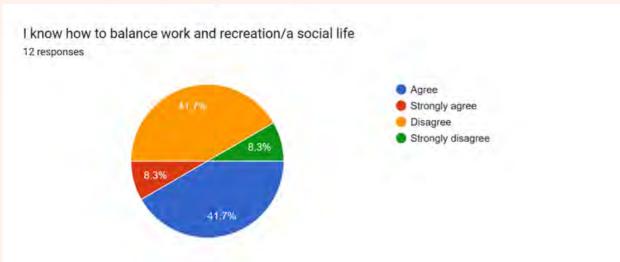


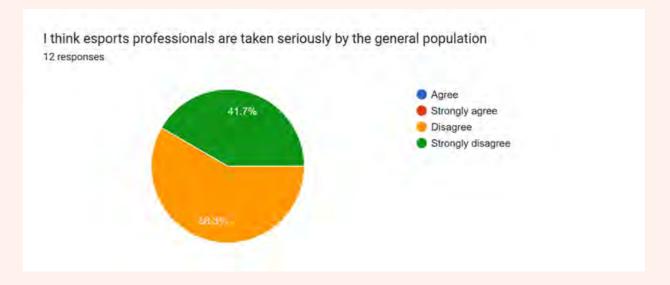


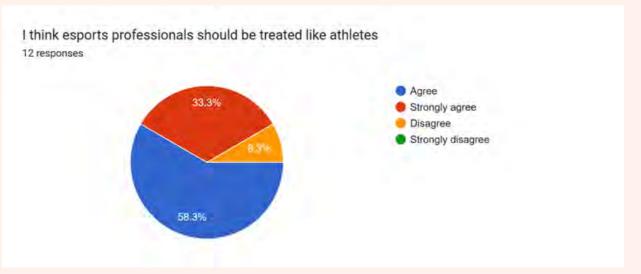


### Appendix









Finally, I propose to you the Esports village...

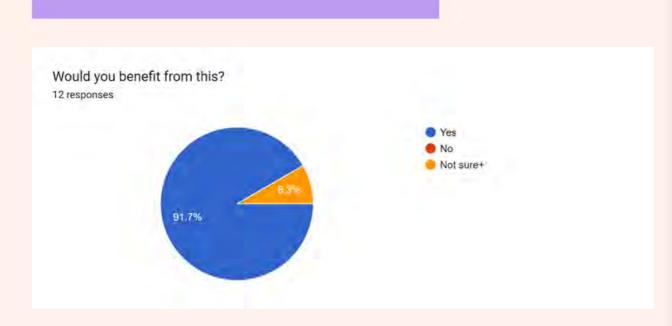
I am to proposing to you a new and improved version of the well-known 'gaming house' that will take shape as an esports community village with a focus on your health and wellbeing whilst creating a more balanced and well-rounded routine for esports professionals like yourselves.

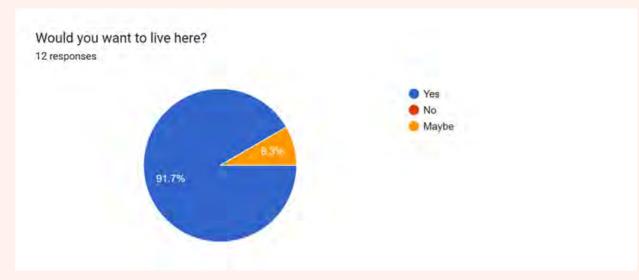
Multiple professional teams will be housed here creating a community for professional esports players and their followers. Much like an Olympic village or university campus, this village will have everything you need to thrive.

Housing a plethora of things such as; a supermarket, a gym on site, sports massages, arena for streaming games to fans, on site physiotherapists and chiropractors, recreational grounds like tennis courts, different variants of rooms to game in with the highest quality pc's, nutritious restaurant and café supplying free meals and more...



### Appendix





Q28. Do you have any improvements, comments or additions to this proposal?

- 1. No, it's a super great idea
- 2. Keep up the good work!
- 3. Not really





An illustrated essay by Lily Wolstenholme