

Sky Building Two Project Osterley, Isleworth, West London

Mace Group Ltd

BIG Challenge 2015 submission category: Temporary

Project overview

The Sky Building Two project will house 4,000 Sky employees within a state of the art building including studio, production areas, research and development facilities, cinema, restaurant and retail outlets, all located in the same building complex of approximately 41,000m².

The project is located in a suburban setting in Osterley. The project requiring the clearance of flora, equating to roughly 25 tonnes of felled trees. We have been able to avoid disposing of the logs by storing them in a log pile in a corner of the site and has now been in place for 18 months which has allowed for an increase in the temporary biodiversity of the site.

The logs will be used in the final landscaping to create bug hotels and increasing biodiversity of the final scheme and has also saved the project £3,000 on new landscaping materials and also £2,500 on disposal and transport costs.

What were the biodiversity conditions on site, prior to the enhancement?



Photo: Current Log Pile

Prior to the project there were several trees on the brownfield site however these had to be removed and have subsequently been used in this temporary biodiversity project.

Were there any specific conditions that led to you carrying out this work?

As part of the BREEAM assessment for the project we are required to create a set improvement to the site and as such we decided to incorporate the logs from

the felled trees for bug hotels in the final landscaping strategy to enhance the biodiversity of the project.

What were the biodiversity measures taken?

In order to construct this facility and landscape it required the removal of several trees (Non-TPOs).

It was decided that we should not dispose of the logs and such we have kept them in a single location for

the duration of the project so far (18 months). Whilst these have been in a large log pile we have created a natural environment for the enhancement of the biodiversity of the area.

This has been done in line with the BAP for the masterplan which takes lead from the local BAP. Ultimately these logs will be used in the final landscaping to create a permanent bug hotels for the landscaping and attract hedgehogs given their diminishing natural habitats.

All the timber logs have been reused from the clearance of the site. We have used this as an opportunity to engage with the workforce on site by providing them with Toolbox talks and educating them on the biodiversity throughout site, with particular attention being given to bird breeding season.

How would you best describe the project?

An enhancement.

Further information

The temporary log pile has been created through the felling of trees on site which were cut up into manageable sizes that are of benefit to the final landscaping scheme and the log pile.

They were then placed in a location that would be disturbed the least throughout the project and an exclusion zone created so any animals or bugs that had settled in the pile would not be disturbed.

The surrounding area has long grass which is left to grow naturally with a small bush behind the log pile.

The long term benefits to the biodiversity of the site will be enhanced through the storage and re-use of the timber for the final landscaping.

What was your personal motivation for carrying out the enhancement?

This project presented a great opportunity to re-use materials adhering to the waste hierarchy whilst also engaging the project team in regards to the impact we can have on biodiversity in the area and increasing the long term biodiversity.