

15 Bishopsgate

15 Bishopsgate, London, EC2N 3NW

Brookfield Multiplex Construction Europe Ltd

BIG Biodiversity Challenge Award category: Temporary

Project overview

Redevelopment of 15 Bishopsgate which is located in the Financial Centre of the City of London. A premium six storey office building, with retail at the ground level; The scheme incorporates further construction of a parade of one and two-storey Retail Pavilions along the northern pedestrian route between Bishopsgate and Old Broad Street with improvements to the public realm. The project is in the construction phase with the steel work and metal decking currently being erected.

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

The site prior to the work commencing was of low ecological value, comprising of hard surfaced areas with raised walkways and small areas of landscape planting. There is a small court yard round to the rear, within the clients estate containing a low-quality lawn and landscape planting.

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

15 Bishopsgate voluntarily seeks to implement ecological improvements throughout the construction phase of the project.

The project has certain drivers including **targeting BREEAM 'Excellent' and taking part in Considerate Contractors Scheme** but also contributing to the City of London Local Biodiversity Action Plan.



End product design

What were the biodiversity measures taken?

The Steel work subcontractors and the Logistics operatives volunteered their time to make two flower trough's, made from the remaining offcuts from the metal decking derived from the metal works on site. For safety and movability, the trough's have been encased with reused timber from the works onsite.

Three flower pots have been made from the metal stud-bins which were originally used for the packaging of studs for the metal decking to site. The metal stud-bins have been painted, using the remainder of the paint supply on site. The flower beds in the metal stud-bins are propped up with the limited amount of timber offcuts.

These flower beds have been designed to enhance the biodiversity of the site, purposely selecting hardy plants such as Lavender, Creeping Phlox and seeds of Poached Egg Plant which are all pollen plants, thus encouraging different insects, **particularly Bee's to visit the site. With using a selection of different plants, all** growing at different stages this will prolong the nectar growing season, thus encouraging insects all year round.

In addition, the flower bed's have been strategically placed on site to enhance the well-being of the surrounding community by also enhancing the visual aesthetics of site. The planters have been positioned by the windows of Itsu, a customer viewing point of site, by the entrance to the site and by the hoarding viewing window.

This innovative idea could easily be repeated on other sites as most construction projects would have access to material offcuts.



The two planters made from the metal decking offcuts, boxed in reused timber from site, prior to the plants being planted.

What were the biodiversity measures taken?

- The quantity and type of plant species were selected
- Type of plant species selected
- Growing stage of the different plants

How would you best describe the project?

An enhancement

Further information

This innovative idea of creating flower beds from using the offcuts from the installation of the metal decking onsite and the packaging meant that it was very easy to source the materials whilst also reducing the amount of waste. The metal trough flower beds were relatively easy to create, therefore these certainly could be replicated on other projects. The metal stud bins only required painting, using the left over from works on site, thus could definitely be replicated with ease.

There are plenty of benefits with creating these flower beds; a sense of achievement in actually creating the planting beds, whilst also increasing a sense of community on site by all the different trades working on an ecologically creative side-project. The flower beds will improve the biodiversity of the local area and enhance the aesthetics of the construction site.

What was your personal motivation for carrying out the enhancement?

With having studied Environmental Science at University, I clearly remember a lecture on the importance of Bees and the impact human actions are having on the Bee population. Therefore I wanted this entry to hugely contribute in supporting the Bee population as well as other pollinating insect species.



One of the two planters, positioned on site by one of the ITSU window's.