

**Coal Drops Yard, King's Cross
London
BAM Construction Ltd**

BIG Biodiversity Challenge Award category: Small scale Temporary Award

Project overview

BAM is refurbishing the existing Grade 2 listed buildings into a new retail space in King's Cross . BAM will renovate the Victorian brick arches, which will eventually house quirky boutiques, restaurants, galleries, music venues and more, while the cobbled streets will play host to markets and street festivals.

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

The site previously lacked any biodiversity measures, as no ecological issues were of concern prior to construction.

Were there any specific reasons that led to this project?

At BAM, we are aware of the impact that the industry can have on biodiversity and wildlife. Therefore, the site team were looking for a way to highlight ecological issues and make this visible to the public. Having entered the BIG Challenge in 2016, the project welfare area has changed location, and the enhancements have been relocated too.



Photo Description: insect hotels, planters, hard hat hanging baskets in the site compound.

What were the biodiversity measures taken?

Located at the pedestrian entrance to the site, BAM created a bee friendly garden to provide a beneficial habitat for bees and other pollinators. The plants were specially selected for their suitability in attracting pollinators, such as bees, to the site. The site team created an insect hotel out of plywood offcuts, slate and bamboo tubes. A smaller insect hotel was made from plywood offcuts and has been placed inside the planter.

This year the team has grown more plants in the mini greenhouse and added extra planters, made from timber offcuts, around the perimeter of the site welfare area. It's great to see that the enhancements have been maintained from last year. Rainwater harvesting on the cabin provides irrigation to the planters.

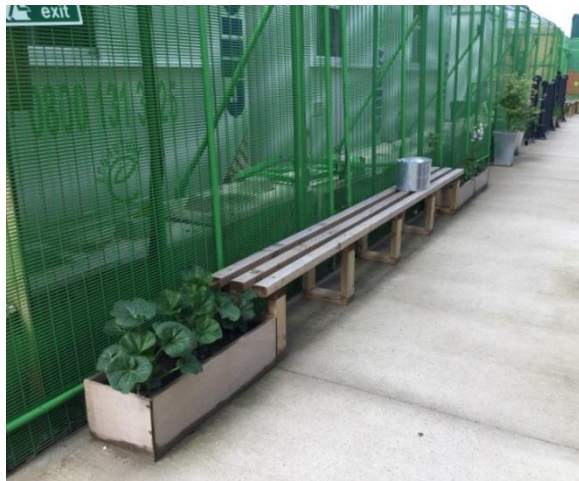


Photo Description: Planters in the site compound.

Photo Description: New planters on the hoarding perimeter and mini greenhouse for growing the plants.

How would you best describe the project?

Enhancement

Further information

We believe this could be replicated on many other construction sites, as it does not require a vast amount of space or resources.

What was your personal motivation for carrying out the enhancement?

To improve the appearance of the site compound and site welfare area.



Photo Description: Planters located next to the pedestrian site entrance to the welfare area.