

**Windsor Road Bridge Replacement
Cardiff**
Kier Infrastructure

BIG Biodiversity Challenge Award category: Temporary Award

Project overview

Windsor Road Bridge is located in a city centre location in Cardiff. Kier Infrastructure carried out the Windsor Road Bridge Replacement on behalf of Network Rail. Structural assessments identified the bridge did not comply with current railway and highway standards. In addition, the South Wales Main Line is currently undergoing works for electrification and Windsor Road Bridge needed to be raised.

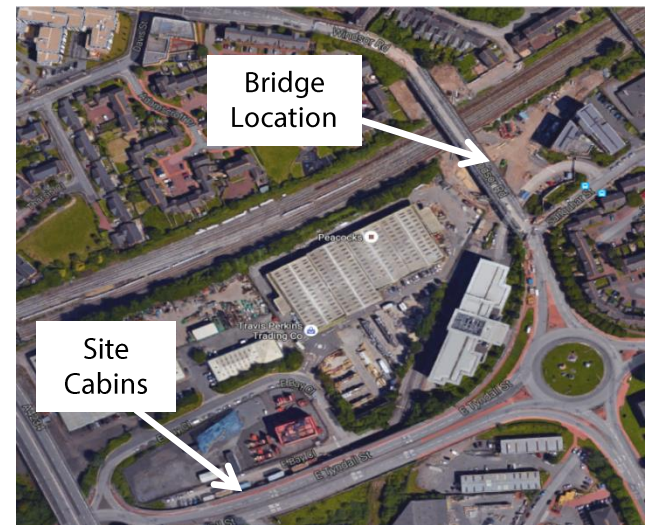
The project duration was October 2014 - July 2016 and the value £9,000,000. Approximately 60 staff worked on the project including sub-contractors. The project was located in built up city centre area within an industrial park that was run-down in parts with a surrounding housing estate.

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

The area offered little in terms of biodiversity due to its industrial landscape. Within closest proximity to the project boundary was a builders merchant yard and high rise flats although there were a few trees lining the access road to site all of which remained.

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

Following an environmental management toolbox talk which encouraged the team to bring out their green fingers, the works were carried out solely due to the enthusiasm and initiative of the project team.



Project Location

What were the biodiversity measures taken?

Throughout the works, the project team proved to have green fingers as they were always looking to improve the local area. A few of their initiatives are detailed below:-

Bleddyn Johns, General Foreman saw an opportunity to attract the birds and bees to the Windsor Road site in Cardiff and seized it. Due to the stacking of the Eco Cabins there needed to be a tonne weight placed at each end of the cabin to stop any drift. Bleddyn came up with the idea that the weights should be in the form of flower planters, 4 in total, which also helped to inject a bit of colour into the city centre based site.

Backed by the project team and the enthusiastic Environmental Coordinators, Chris Johns and Justin Webber, the first flower planter was installed during June 2015 by handy man Jason Brewer (TecRail Carpenter) and maintained throughout the project which completed in July 2016. The planter consisted of flowers including lavender and rose and was watered from the water abutment system that collected water via the Eco Cabin drainage system – clever!

The project team also created bird boxes from offcuts of wood as shown in the photos. A double winner as wood was recycled on site and we provided safe homes during nesting bird season.

During June 2016 the project team including Claire Candy (Assistant Office Manager), Zachary Cieslik (Graduate Engineer), Mark Boulton (Foreman), Kye Brewer (Site Operative) were joined by Harrison Barrett and Megan Vilic (Environmental Advisor's) to carry out a litter pick within residential areas close to the site. The team focused their efforts on a local park and collected 6 bags full of rubbish and over 200 cigarette ends.



Top – site operative planting flower beds. Below - Bird boxes erected around site

How would you best describe the project?

All activities were carried out to enhance the local environment.

Further information

These were simple steps taken to enhance the local environment which was made easier by having a carpenter on site and an enthusiastic and environmentally aware work force. Best practice is shared amongst Kier projects and where possible these enhancements will be adopted across our projects.



Example of the flower planter

Litter Pick

6
bags full of rubbish collected

200+
cigarette ends cleaned from the local park.

What was your personal motivation for carrying out the enhancement?

The project team sought opportunity to enhance the local environment and reuse wood, their motivation was to do their part as every little helps!