

## Allam Medical Building University of Hull Hull

Interserve Construction Limited

**BIG Biodiversity Challenge Award category:** Temporary Award

### Project overview

Allam Medical Building, comprising a five storey 6500sqm new build and refurbishment of the Loxley Building at the Hull University campus.

Duration: January 2016 to June 2017

Value: £18.7m

The new building is predominantly concrete frame with an element of structural steel to the central elevation with reconstituted stone cladding, aluminium and zinc cladding to the façade. It will provide specialised medical teaching facilities including a full mock hospital ward, operating theatre and intensive care nursing facilities. In addition to providing extensive collaborative working areas for researchers, post graduate and undergraduate students, the building will house a large lecture theatre, an atrium housing a café, fully equipped meeting rooms, a think pod and 'green roofs' with external terrace areas.

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

The site was a disused brownfield area of the campus, with negligible biodiversity.

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

Interserve has a target to improve biodiversity on all our sites. The Allum Medical building site team wanted to create a pleasant working environment and improve the biodiversity during the construction phase of the building.



*Vegetable garden at Hull University:*

### What were the biodiversity measures taken?

The site team have built a range of raised beds and planters in the small space around the site cabins. A selection of vegetables, including tomatoes, lettuce and radishes have been planted in the raised beds and flowers in the window box style planters.

The site staff and operatives are encouraged to take and eat the produce.

This very simple example could be replicated on most sites as not much space is required and the costs were minimal. There is a small increase in biodiversity, with the plant providing a refuge for insects in an otherwise very urban landscape. There is also a positive impact on site wellbeing, with a pleasant and enjoyable area for use during rest periods.

The planters were made from reclaimed timber or off cuts from the site.

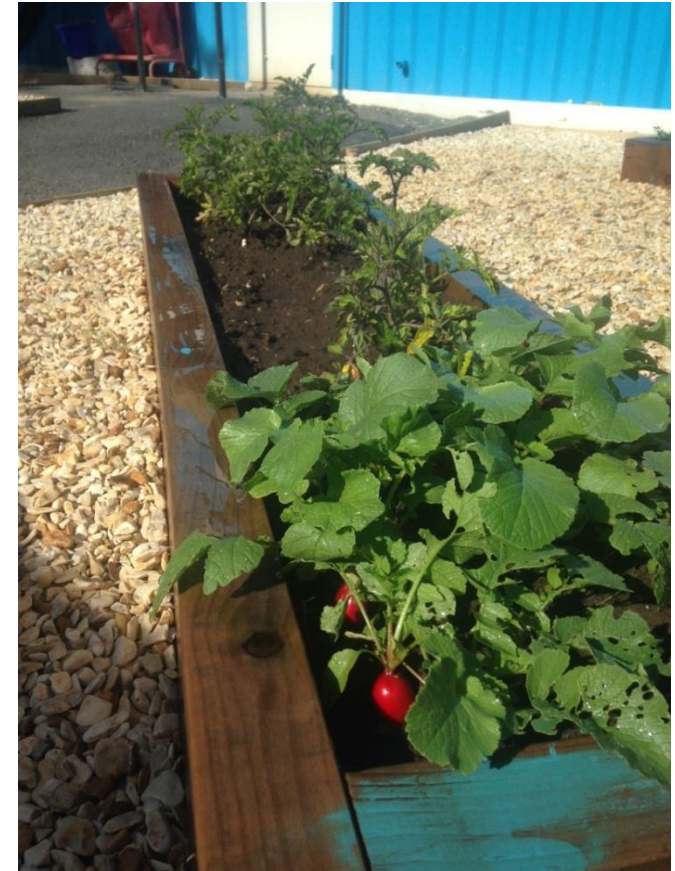
The plants and planting time were all provided by workers who are also keen gardeners.

### How would you best describe the project?

An enhancement

### Further information

This was a simple scheme with planters being made from available materials by joiners on site. And with plants donated by the workforce or the site management. There have been no objections or problems with the planters and we will definitely look to repeat this on other sites in the future.



*Vegetable planters at Hull University Allam Building:*

**What was your personal motivation for carrying out the enhancement?**

Several keen gardeners on site and a desire to enhance the area with a small amount of green space, making a better environment for both wildlife and workers alike.



*Vegetable planters at Hull University Allam Building:*