

98 Fetter Lane City of London

Brookfield Multiplex Construction Europe

BIG Challenge 2015 submission category: Temporary

Project overview

The project team (circa 10 people) collected hard hats that were otherwise being disposed of by sub-contractors as well as offcuts of timber to create a bug hotel and hanging baskets to decorate the hoarding and create temporary habitats on a small central London project.

Minor costs were spent on sourcing flowers and soil from a nearby flower market to reduce transport emissions to complete the hanging baskets and bug hotel as well as personal gardening offcuts from team members.

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

Previous to the enhancement, the ecologist had stated the ecological value of the site was negligible.

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

Encouragement from Project Sustainability Advisor via company targets to encourage wildlife into the area and create a

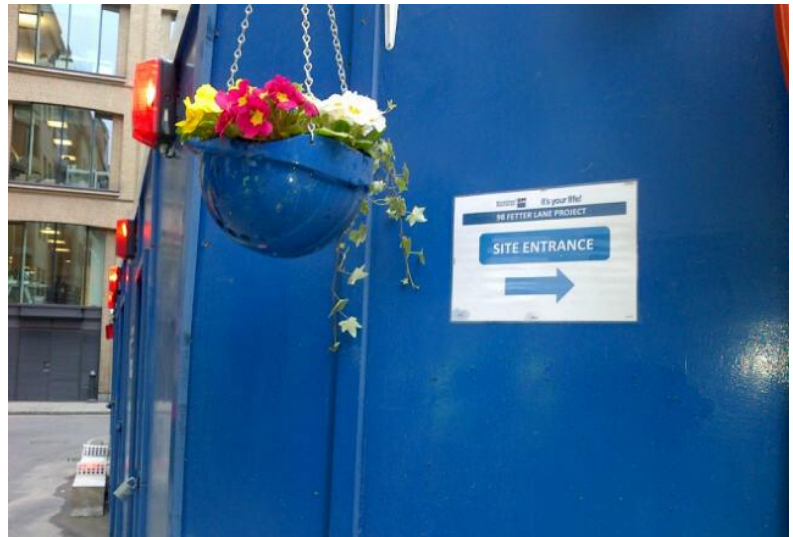


Photo: Hanging basket at site entrance

pleasant environment for both staff and neighbours, leaving a lasting impression of Brookfield Multiplex.

What were the biodiversity measures taken?

The implementation of a bug hotel and hanging baskets are nothing new or innovative to the industry, however they are easy to replicate and relatively cheap whilst taking only the initiative of a few people to make worthwhile.

It also uses waste which would otherwise be disposed of, mitigating impacts, most notably emissions further. New habitats have been created

for the city's smaller wildlife, but with the aim of transferring the measures to other construction sites upon finishing.

The measures have already led to an increase in species numbers in the area, encouraging bugs and bees to the flowers, contributing to the City of London's biodiversity action plan.

It brought together the small team on the project to make the various measures by volunteering their time, and the neighbours have already commented that it improves the image of the site.

How would you best describe the project?

An enhancement.

Further information

The measures were installed whilst working over a weekend, the hard hats were kept over a few weeks leading up to the scheme, so that there was enough to decorate the hoarding.

Paint was leftover from the hoarding which was used to spray the hard hats to mirror company branding. Timber offcuts were set aside from the skip to create the frame of the bug hotel, whilst team members brought in various gardening tools so that when someone visited a nearby flower market, the team could go ahead and plant the baskets.

Grass and soil from people's gardens made the bulk of the bug hotel. Watering the plants is undertaken by the maintenance people every few days.

What was your personal motivation for carrying out the enhancement?

Working in the environmental/sustainability field, it is important to mitigate construction impacts on the surrounding area.



Photo: Bug hotel

Simple and small ideas such as a hanging basket or two and a bug hotel can increase wildlife numbers in the local area, and is cheap so many sites have no excuse.