

GREENWICH SQUARE, MACE



BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT OVERVIEW

The project is a mixed use development in the heart of Greenwich, providing 645 mixed tenure homes, retail space, a new leisure centre and library, health centre and commercial office space. Mace is developer and contractor for the scheme.

The project will provide nearly 8,000m² of new biodiverse soft landscaping once completed, including extensive green roofs, community and private gardens, bird boxes and log piles. Mace's in-house ecologist advised on the design of the green roofs. The planting specified uses predominantly UK native species with high value for pollinating insects.

During initial site preparation, wood for use as log piles on the green roofs was kept and stockpiled on site to maintain local provenance of the materials used, and allow the tree limbs to develop their fungi and invertebrate communities before being put on the roof.

As part of a site campaign to encourage smokers to move to e-cigarettes to help improve their health, we created an e-cigarette smoking area that was brightened up using some wildlife friendly planting. Waste materials were collected from site to create a bug hotel, including bricks, pallets and pipes. Offcuts from the recently installed green roofs were used to top them off! Novel planters were created using hard hats donated by the sub-contractors on site, along with tool belts, old boots and bottles collected during litter picks. Larger planters were created using left over site timber to brighten up the area. Our graduate ecologist was on site to help the team get the designs right to ensure they did their bit for biodiversity. By the end of the day, the first residents of the bug hotel, a pollinating bee, were seen moving in.

Fact box

Company name:
Mace

Project name:
Greenwich Square

Location:
London

Biodiversity enhancement:

- Flower planters
- Bug hotel
- Biodiverse landscaping

Size:
8,000 m² of biodiverse soft landscaping

Cost:
N/A

Tips:

- Engage your ecologists throughout the design and construction process.
- Anything can be made in to a planter that will offer some sort of ecological value.

Year completed:
2014

Categories:

- Large scale permanent
- Small scale temporary
- Pollinator

Pictures of the enhancements

