

BERRYFIELDS WESTERN LINK ROAD, KIER INFRASTRUCTURE



BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT OVERVIEW

The Western Link Road joins two major development areas – Berryfields (3500homes) and Weedon Hill (1500 homes) - to the north west of Aylesbury.

The new single carriageway is 2.2km in length includes a new 240m multi span bridge over an existing flood plain, river and agricultural land. The project commenced in early 2013 and was completed in August 2014. The road forms is a critical part of the sustainable development of this area, providing connectivity between communities, businesses and resources such as shops and schools.

Protecting Wildlife

- Permanent badger fencing has been erected along both sides of the carriageway along its full length – 4km of fencing in total.
- 4 mammal passes have been constructed under the roadway. These also link to ditch habitats which are used by otters which have been recorded in the area.
- Translocation of 5 colonies of Great Crested Newts to new pond habitats created nearby.

Habitat Creation

- New ditches alongside the road have been dug and lined with retained top soil which has led to quick reinstatement of local species assemblages. The new ditches are graded to reduce flow velocity to encourage rapid settlement of flora and fauna
- Additional settlement ponds are linked to the ditches to help provide flood alleviation and create additional habitat, particularly for overwintering and local waterfowl.
- Log piles and reptile hibernaculum were created at each of the five new pond areas (separate from the settlement ponds).

Fact box

Company name:

Kier Infrastructure

Project name:

Berryfields Western Link Road

Location:

Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire

Biodiversity enhancement:

- Wildlife protection
- Mammal passes
- Pond areas for GCN
- Habitat creation
- Log piles and hibernacula

Size:

- 4km badger fencing
- 4 mammal passes
- 5 pond areas

Cost:

N/A

Tips:

- Spread retained top soil in thin layers to reduce compaction and help maintain seed bank and faunal activity within the soil.
- Store any top soil in close proximity to the areas it was stripped from
- Top down and bottom up approach to delivery – an integrated team driving sustainable outcomes. Get the site team on board.

Year completed:

2014

Categories:

- Small scale permanent

BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT OVERVIEW (cont.)

Pictures of the enhancements



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