

**R1 Building, King's Cross  
London  
BAM Construction Ltd**

**BIG Biodiversity Challenge Award category:** Small scale temporary

**Project overview**

BAM is building the R1 Building at King's Cross, a new 10 storey, academic institutional building for the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN).

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

Prior to our biodiversity enhancement, the conditions on site represented a concreted area which lacked character and colour.

The site team wanted to create a pleasant environment entrance of the project's welfare facilities and the site's office accommodation.

**Were there any specific reasons that led to this project?**

This initiative was carried out to engage staff in establishing a garden to contribute to local biodiversity. We developed a contemplation garden to enhance the image of the site and attract wildlife such as butterflies, dragonflies and bees to the site for food, breeding and habitats.

Having entered the BIG Challenge in 2016, the project has maintained and further enhanced this area.



*Photo Description: Planters made with local school children .*

## What were the biodiversity measures taken?

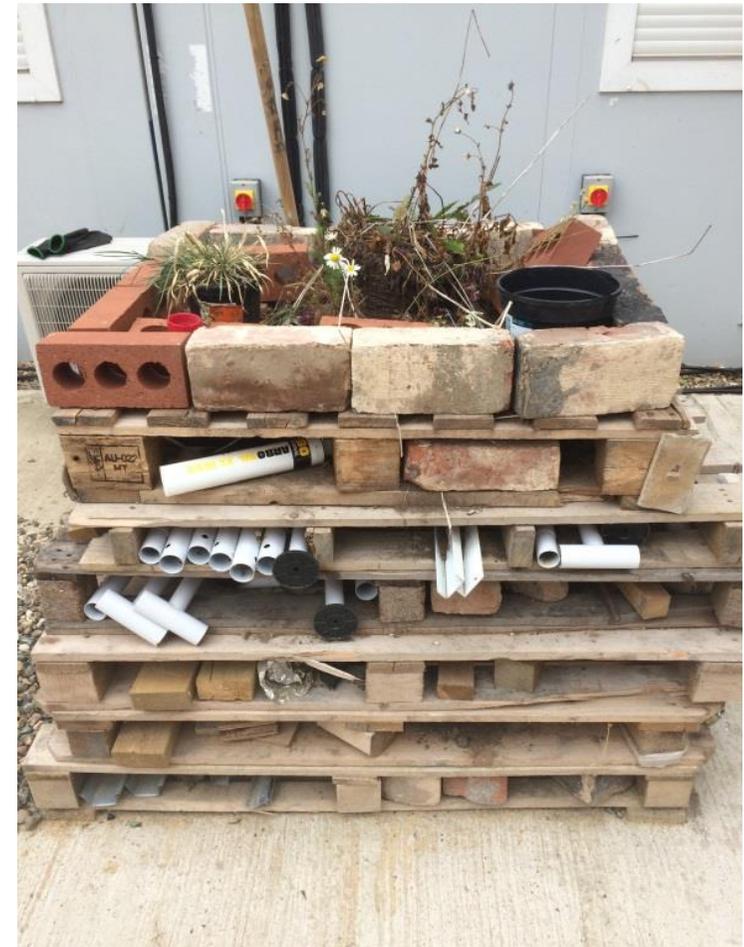
The additions since last years entry include extra planters in the site welfare area. This adds colour and improves the appearance of the area for visitors and everyone working on the site.

There is also an insect hotel made from pallets and waste from the construction site, including bricks, drainage tubes and pipework.

The aquatic plants and fish are still thriving in the contemplation pool. It has been noted from feedback on site that the pool provides a relaxing environment to take a break from work.



*Photo Description: Temporary contemplation pond.*



*Photo Description: Insect hotel.*

### How would you best describe the project?

Enhancement

### Further information

The garden has become very popular on site and is generating a great deal of interest and pride.



*Photo Description: Flowers along the perimeter edge and insect hotel on the hoarding.*



*Photo Description: New planter made from timber offcuts.*

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

To improve the appearance of the site welfare area and attract invertebrates such as damselflies and bees.