

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Providing a sustainable transport solution and car parking, the project forms part of a wider scheme to improve the environment and air quality in this area of Manchester.

Set over nine levels, the steel-framed structure will offer 406 parking spaces, 102 of those accommodating electric charging points. The ground floor of the hub has 150 secure bike spaces and charging points, a parcel delivery point and space for a café.

The scheme aims to discourage on-street parking and make way for more public open spaces, cycling and walking routes.



SUPPORTING LOCAL BIODIVERSITY BY PROVIDING HABITATS FOR BIRDS AND BATS

As part of planning conditions for Ancoats Mobility Hub, the project needed to provide habitats for birds and bats, enhancing biodiversity in the area more generally.

The Social Value team sought about finding a local provider who would be able to design the boxes – enter Touch Wood, a wood recycling & upcycling project 3.5 miles from AMH, which collects surplus and waste wood & timber giving them it a new lease of life.

The UK generates around 5 million tonnes of wood waste every year, but less than 1% is reused. Touch Wood rescues waste timber that would otherwise be landfilled or turned into woodchip; creating jobs and training opportunities for disadvantaged local people at the same time.

To meet the planning condition, a total of 5 bird and 5 bat boxes were built. All the boxes were made from environmentally friendly and recycled materials, while the rubber waterproof roofs are made from recycled bike inner tubes.



COMMUNITY DONATIONS

Whilst there is a big drive for construction companies to boost local economies through the promotion of local jobs and procurement of local businesses, considerations must be made to ensure our impact is far-reaching to ensure charities and community groups most in need of investment are supported. B+K discovered the "Simply Cycling" charity through Manchester City Council's Social Benefits Brokerage Scheme, which connects organisations needing support with those offering help.

Simply Cycling requested a storage container to better protect their bikes from weather, ensuring high-quality equipment for users. B+K aligned with the charity's focus on sustainable and active travel, seeing shared environmental and social value. Although B+K couldn't provide a container directly, they reached out to Pickerings Ltd., their site cabin supplier.

Pickerings donated a 20ft unused shipping container from their Trafford depot and repainted it inside and out. The improved storage helps Simply Cycling maintain their bikes, supporting users with mental health issues, disabilities, and social needs to access physical activity and wellbeing benefits.

"We are delighted with the replacement shipping container B+K have provided us with at Boggart Hole Clough. Since the day of delivery it has been used to securely store some of our best used and most valuable adapted bikes out of session times.

Our Boggart track has been targeted by multiple break-ins over the last year or so, resulting in the theft of several of our specially adapted disability cycles. The provision of a good condition steel shipping container allows us to more securely store our specialist disability bikes when we are not on-site /between session times.

With the additional storage space we can continue to grow and diversify our fleet of bikes at BHC enhancing our service and providing accessible and inclusive cycling to some of the most deprived communities in Manchester and the UK overall."

James Gell, Assistant Manager – Simply Cycling "



PLANBEE APPRENTICESHIPS

Industry placements in construction play a pivotal role in shaping the future of the industry, providing invaluable real-world experience, allowing students to apply classroom knowledge to real situations. Through firsthand work, students can gain a deep understanding of construction processes, project management, and industry-specific technologies.

On AMH, B+K hosted three students as part of their commitment to skills development: Ethan Crompton was on site from September to December. He worked alongside site staff and had his own responsibilities. He also had a tailored development plan created by Project Manager David Baker and made a strong impression, with staff hoping he might join B+K full-time.

- Romil Ahmad joined in January 2024, having previously been involved with B+K during college. His continued development was seen as a positive outcome
- Stanley Buchanan joined in April 2024, supporting both site and Social Value activities, including: Helping with the donation of a storage container and participating in a Q&A workshop with care leavers from the Greater Manchester Youth Network.

KEY TAKEAWAYS



3 placements
delivered



34 weeks delivered by
PlanBEE apprentices