

Government Communications Headquarters - Cheltenham

Case Record

Location	Cheltenham, Gloucester
Client	Foreign & Commonwealth Office
Architect	Gensler
Main Contractor	Carillion Building Special Projects.

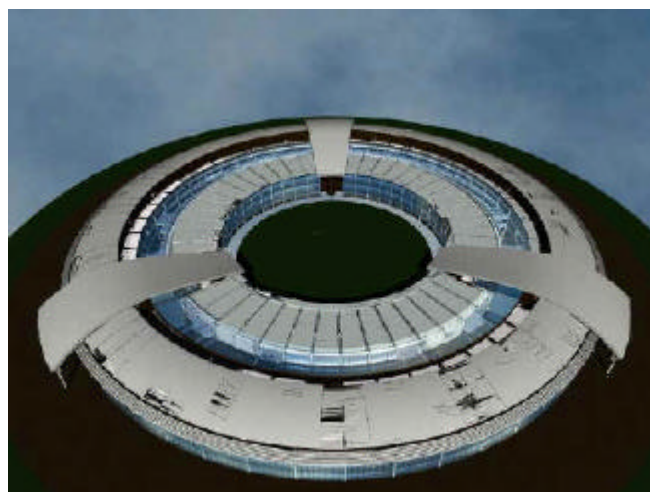
Technical Data

Contract Type	Private Finance Initiative
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Size	£342 million
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Environmental Initiatives

Community Interaction	Community liaison officer based on site
Economic Benefits	Reduced quantities of waste taken off site
Waste Reduction	Re-design to utilise spares
Energy Reduction	Heating kept to a minimum
Noise Mitigation	Working within a section 61 agreement
Avoiding ecological damage	Bund installation
Dust Abatement	Dusty activities kept away from site boundaries
Pollution Prevention	Emergency plan written & displayed
Water use reduction	Water for dust suppression taken from site lagoons
Lessons learnt	Start times adjusted to delay noisy works



Community Interaction

Carillion Building undertakes community interaction on this contract. They have set up periodic public meetings to discuss the contract together with operating a complaints / helpline that the public can ring to discuss any problems. A Community Liaison officer is based on site to deal with any communications with the public.

Economic benefits from environmentally sound practice

A concrete crusher is brought on to site periodically to crush waste concrete, damaged pipes / manhole rings and blacktop for use on haul roads and lay down areas. The design of finished ground levels on site have been such to ensure that the quantity of excavated materials moved off site is minimal. Any suitable excavated material is used on haul roads and lay down areas. Sub-contracts have been set up in specific ways to benefit both economically and environmentally. Examples of this are the target cost contract set up with the Earthworks contractor. The contract was set up such that it is a benefit to both parties to re-use as much excavated material as possible and reduce materials being taken off site to tip. A contract has also been set up with a fencing contractor in a way that encouraged the re-use of existing fencing on site as temporary site fencing, in place of supplying new fencing.

Waste Reduction

The redesign of drainage lines to utilise spare materials in place of ordering new pipes / manhole rings was undertaken.

Energy Reduction

All lights, photocopiers and computers are turned off every night. The heating is kept to a minimum, with all windows being closed while the heating is on. The Environmental Awareness training programme introduced for all operatives that includes the requirement to reduce energy waste, i.e. turning off plant when not in use.

Noise Mitigation

The site is operating within the section 61 requirements set on the site. The site goes beyond this in some instances by bunding of plant, such of generators where practicable.

Avoiding ecological damage / species protection

Measures have been set up to protect watercourses. Fencing has been erected around trees that are to be maintained. The local bird rescue centre has been contacted with respect to Moorhens nesting on existing pond on the site. The programme of works has been adjusted to allow chicks to hatch. The watercourse is monitored daily to ensure Turbidity levels are not increasing and chemical analysis is also done for comparison with the baseline sample carried out by the Environment Agency.

Dust Abatement

Water bowsers are used on site to dampen haul roads and suppress dust. Dusty activities, such as the cutting of concrete pipes are kept away from site boundaries where dust emissions could annoy the public. Cutting operations are wetted down as necessary and a wheelwash and wheelclips are on site to keep haul roads and public roads clean.

Pollution prevention

The installation of settlement lagoons for all discharges water to pass through prior to entering Watercourses. There are weekly contacts with the EA to forward monitoring results / discuss pollution prevention procedures. The EA are forewarned of any dirty activities taking place on site. All bunded diesel tanks with outlet valves are padlocked when not in use. All personnel are trained in the use of spill kits and the spill kits are situated at suitable locations around the site. The Emergency plan has been written and displayed.

Water use reduction

The water used for dust suppression is extracted from lagoons on site. A water abstraction licence has been applied for from the EA, mains water usage will then be reduced.

Complaints / lessons learnt

Start times on site have been adjusted to delay the commencement of noisy activities due to noise complaints received. January 2001