

Manchester Airport Runway 2

Case Record



Location	Manchester, UK
Client	Manchester Airport
Main Contractor	Carillion - AMEC joint venture
Contract Value	£172 million

Project to build a second runway for Manchester Airport.

Environmental Initiatives

Wildlife Protection	Minimise impact on ecosystem
Biodiversity	Create new habitats
Listed buildings	Dismantle and re-erect elsewhere.

The Carillion - AMEC joint venture to build Manchester airport's second runway was one of the largest and most challenging UK civil engineering and environmental projects.

Environmental considerations were a key influence in the design of the second runway and these were backed by one of the most comprehensive environmental mitigation programmes undertaken at a British airport.

A £17 million 'Green Charter' of extensive environmental works was undertaken to minimise both the long term and temporary damage to complex ecosystems along the three kilometre runway. Over 100 local environment protection measures were built into a legally binding agreement between Manchester Airport and Cheshire County Council.

Around the runway, which spans a trunk road and a river valley, habitats were protected and possibly enhanced. The habitats for species such as great crested newts and pipistrelle bats were protected by the construction of bat roosts, bird boxes, swallow ledges and amphibian routes within the Bollin Tunnel which runs under the River Bollin.

In addition, self adjusting illumination was installed by Crown House Engineering to match ambient lighting, which is important for the ecology of the rivers and its banks.

To enhance biodiversity, 100,000 trees and 1.8 million square metres of seeds were planted. This will allow extensive woodlands, grassland and wildflower areas to establish. These will be monitored under a 15 year landscape and habitat management plan.

A number of listed buildings were also protected. They were on the site of the new runway and so were dismantled and re-erected elsewhere. For example specialist restoration contractor Bernard A Shepherd rebuilt two of the listed buildings - Hanson House and Hill House - in Siddington and Nether Alderley respectively.