



Loughborough University Facilities & Services Maintaining the Green Living the Sporting Dream

About the project

Summary

This project shows how sustainable and holistic landscape management practices can create a process that removes the tension between natural areas of landscape and formal/highly managed grounds whilst still delivering core business and maintaining a campus of exceptional external shared spaces. Biodiversity Plans are delivered alongside formal elite sporting facilities as the world joint number one for sporting facilities alongside ongoing development of the estate.

Project partners

Facilities Management, Campus Services, Sustainability Team, Grounds & Gardens Team, Loughborough University Contemporary Arts, The Big Tree Plant, Student Union Landscaping and Gardening Society, Loughborough University Students Union, Anne-Marie Culhane – Artist and Sustainability Campaigner, Educational outreach through Forest School and Soil Association Food for Life

The results

The problem

Delivering an ambitious Biodiversity Action Plan alongside world class facilities for sport within a Living Laboratory environment.

The approach

Integrated master planning and a pro-active approach have led to better working practices and cross fertilization of ideas for management of the estate.

Our goals

- To deliver the Biodiversity Action Plan
- To retain our status as world number one for sport
- To provide exceptional external shared spaces and active landscapes
- To integrate teaching, research and operations
- To share the campus and engage with local community

Obstacles and solutions

1. Large number of departments and stakeholders involved. Collaboration, communication and a shared goal
2. Sustainable Land management. Requires a change in culture and approach and preventative management
3. Capital Development Projects. Partnership working with key colleagues and clear guidance/process



Profile

- Higher Education
- 17,975 FTE students
- 3600 staff
- Rural & Urban



Green Gown
Awards 2017



Dissemination
supported by:



Finalist's case study



Performance and results

- Joint world number one provider for elite sport
- Gold winners in the Small Category for East Midlands in Bloom for the last 3 years and for Britain in Bloom proves an ongoing commitment to deliver an outstanding estate.
- Increase in efficient working practices and reduction in chemical application
- Preventative management
- Living Laboratory with our research forest and other academic projects utilising the biodiverse landscape
- Excellent example of cross campus collaboration

CO2 savings

Please record the **annual** carbon savings* you have/will achieve with your initiative**.

CO2t savings 2016/2017:	21 tonnes (Estimated)
CO2t savings 2017/2018:	21 tonnes (Estimated)

The future

Lessons learned

Persistence is important when working towards educational outreach projects. Engaging with a cross section of the organisation is important for delivering a landscape that is accessible and able to deliver for the core business.

Top 3 learnings from implementing your project

- Collaboration amongst teams and colleagues is key
- Social and community benefits have been significant and highly rewarding
- The facilities are critical to the student experience and their learning and well being

Sharing your project

Elements of the project have been award winning and shared widely.

What has it meant to your institution to be a Green Gown Award finalist?

Consolidation of the good work being undertaken across the campus.

Further information

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