

# CASE STUDY: HOWARD STREET, SALFORD: A SUDS PROJECT



GROWING MORE TREES  
FOR GREATER MANCHESTER

Three London Plane trees were planted in a specially designed trench in Howard Street, Salford, Greater Manchester in June 2015 with the aim of capturing the impact that trees had on both cleaning polluted water from road run off and managing levels of surface water, which can lead to flooding.

The ground-breaking study is a partnership between the Environment Agency, The University of Manchester, City of Trees, United Utilities, Urban Vision and Salford City Council.

The trees were planted in a specially designed pavement, where rainwater running off the road was diverted before going back into the sewer system the other end.

Using specialist equipment, a team from The University of Manchester has been monitoring the quantity and quality of the rainwater as it enters and leaves the trench.

The project, which will run for three years until 2017, has already produced promising initial monitoring results (June 2016) which reveal that the average water volume retention by the tree pit system was approximately 40% and the average storm peak reduction was 50%. Storm waters were also slowed by the system by up to 2 hours.

Dr James Rothwell from the University of Manchester said *"These results demonstrate that retrofit tree planting schemes in towns and cities can be used as a nature-based solution to tackle urban flooding"*.

The project is part of the Irwell Catchment Partnership's initiative to improve the quality of our rivers, lakes and canals.



**For more information and to watch the video visit:**

**[www.cityoftrees.org.uk/  
project/howard-street-  
salford](http://www.cityoftrees.org.uk/project/howard-street-salford)**

