

Location:

Selly Park

OClient:

Environment Agency

SERVICES



Vegetation Management



Ecology



Landscaping



Fencing

OVERVIEW

In 2019 a multi-million pound Flood Alleviation Scheme was completed in Selly Park North to reduce the flood risk to over 150 homes and businesses. This followed the completion of Selly Park South in January 2018, where together, these schemes will protect over 350 homes and businesses in the heart of Birmingham. Protecting key housing, infrastructure and highways during times of flood, maintaining vital transport and emergency routes in an area that was devastated by flooding in 2008, 2016 and 2018.





CHALLENGE

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Works were carried out throughout various designations of a working country park, local wildlife trust and the RSPB nature reserve. We collaborated and liaised with multiple stakeholders to balance the demands of ecology, seasonal constraints, construction phasing and public access.

Given that works were within a designated Green Belt area with an adjacent nature reserve, our approach needed to be considerate whilst addressing the following concerns:



- Minimising risk to wildlife, flora and fauna from the work/working methods. We liaised regularly with the Sandwell Valley RSPB to advise of our planned works and subsequent maintenance visits to minimise the disruption to them.
- Mitigating the risk of damage to newly established grasses in the meadow by other onsite contractors, including civil engineers and local maintenance teams. We introduced designated walkways, demarcated by rubber grass mats designed with circular holes to allow grass to grow through, providing access across site for contractors and the public, while ensuring newly installed grasses



SOCIAL VALUE

To build relationships with the local community we provided hedgerow planting to the Hamstead Infant and Junior School.