



- ▶ Manchester
- ▶ July - December 2020
- ▶ 40 weeks

MANCUNIAN WAY JUNCTION IMPROVEMENT SCHEME

The contract was awarded under Lot 8 of the Manchester Highways and Infrastructure Construction Works, the junction improvement scheme was a design and build project that Colas took from concept to completion within a 40-week programme.

The scheme improved the junction for all users, including cyclists and pedestrians as well improving the overall safety of the area by removing the existing pedestrian underpasses.

THE NEED

It became necessary to make substantial improvements to the junction to significantly improve traffic flows and accessibility for road users, pedestrians and cyclists between the city centre and the neighborhoods of south Manchester. The junction was deemed the one of the most dangerous junctions within Greater Manchester, and as one of the main routes in and out of the city, it was notorious for congestion, proving dangerous and disruptive to local people and businesses.

Landscaping work was included within the package, and we worked collaboratively with Manchester City Council and communities to develop areas of food and shelter for wildlife by planting trees, plants and native flowers, enhancing the local environment.



OUR APPROACH

Located on the Manchester / Salford Inner Relief Route, the works encompassed improvements and extension of the Mancunian Way / Princess Road roundabout and surrounding areas – including a landscaping package to improve the aesthetics of the area and to increase biodiversity by attracting bees and other insects.

Working in collaboration with Manchester CC, two roads were built to improve traffic flow, replacing the former Princess Road / Medlock Way Roundabout underneath Mancunian Way. In addition, a new widened slip road for the inclusion of additional lanes allows traffic to flow more effectively towards the city centre.

The former ‘outdated’ pedestrian and cyclist underpasses were also replaced by safer, improved crossings and segregated walkways – and introduced two new links towards Medlock Street and Manunian Way East.

ASSOCIATED BENEFITS

SOCIAL VALUE:

Working with Manchester CC and their partner, Procure Plus, we offered employment opportunities for the unemployed, career changers and those under-represented in the construction industry, providing outreach to homeless and long-term unemployed people, assisting them to access services and support including temporary housing.

This award winning approach was recognised by CECA with the team achieving the 2020 Social Value Award in recognition of the desire to go the extra mile for Manchester's residents and communities.



- ▶ Manchester City Council (MCC)
- ▶ Mancunian Way, Manchester
- ▶ 11,452m² of asphalt laid
- ▶ Value £6.8m
- ▶ 40 week initial programme
- ▶ Strong stakeholder engagement
- ▶ 100% of cold-milling arisings reused on site
- ▶ Social Value award 2020 in recognition of helping local residents & communities
- ▶ Increased biodiversity with the planting of 160 new trees, 14,000 plants & wild flowers

This important scheme will improve traffic flow at this busy city centre junction and, by removing the outdated underpasses, it ensures that people who are walking or cycling have much simpler, safer crossing points to continue their journeys more easily. We listened to residents who told us that it was vital to preserve and enhance the local environment while delivering the wider benefits this work will provide.

Councillor Angeliki Stogia,
Executive Member for Environment,
Planning and Transport, Manchester CC

- ▶ After the project's completion, all available welfare items from site were donated to The Mustard Tree, a local homeless charity. Items included fridges, toasters, kettles, cleaning products and homeware which were given to homeless individuals being resettled, or sold to raise funds.
- ▶ Pallets were donated to combined Permaculture workshop and refugee & asylum seeker support project, the Gaskell Garden Project, based in South Manchester.
- ▶ Woodchip from felled trees was donated to a local resident's group for use in a community garden.
- ▶ 160 trees and 14,000 plants – including native wild flowers planted to create green spaces and increase biodiversity.