

# Flood Risk

## WINNER

### Bickershaw South Infrastructure

Client: Homes and Communities Agency | Local Authority: Wigan Council  
Designers: URS / AMEC Environmental | Contractors: Birse Civils / Balfour Beatty

**DESCRIPTION:** Bickershaw South Infrastructure was a key regeneration project in Leigh, near Wigan. The purpose of the project was to remediate the contaminated 18ha former colliery site and to provide primary infrastructure for future commercial and residential re-development, thus improving the economic prospects, environmental appeal and long-term sustainability of the local area. Works included provision of a sustainable drainage system (SuDS), which was developed to create both a natural attenuation to slow water flow (thus reducing flood risk) and an enhanced amenity feature. One of the major achievements is that the team have transformed a derelict, dilapidated site that contributed to local flooding into a high quality amenity space with a well-managed, aesthetically pleasing water network, which is now attracting inward investment.

**ACHIEVEMENTS:** Implemented a system able to manage 1:100 year flood conditions (plus 20% for climate change adaptation). Two temporary lagoons created on site early in the construction phase to intercept surface and rain water and to minimise the requirement for potable water consumption. Development of a new marina for public use and enjoyment.

**JUDGES' QUOTE:** *This project demonstrates a very responsible and proactive response to flood risk management in preparing the area for future development. This project sets the tone for what sustainable water management should look like in the future.*



[Sharon Gratton, CEEQUAL]

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