

Project Name:

Peninsula Dental School, Plymouth

Client:

Midas Construction

Commencement: 2009

Keywords: BREEAM, Preliminary Ecological Assessment, Phase 1 habitat survey, reptile survey, Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA)



Summary:

Tamar Ecology was commissioned by Midas Construction Ltd to assess the BREEAM Land Use and Ecology credits for a new dental school at Derriford, Plymouth. The school achieved an 'Excellent' BREEAM rating for its environmental enhancement of the site.

Prior to construction the site was primarily species-poor unimproved grassland with a wooded area along the western boundary. Part of the site lies within the Plymouth Biodiversity Network, an area of semi-natural habitat likely to make a significant contribution to the overall movement/dispersal of species within the local landscape. Tamar Ecology undertook a number of ecological surveys and assessments at the site, including habitat, botanical and reptile surveys. The results were used to inform the design of the scheme to minimise ecological impacts and enhance the ecological interest of the site.

Areas of nature conservation interest were retained along the western and southern margins to maintain habitat links in the Plymouth Biodiversity Network and provide a buffer zone to the adjacent Bircham Valley Local Nature Reserve. Land Use and Ecology credits were gained through planting native trees and shrubs and sowing wildflower seed mixes. A green roof and green wall were incorporated into the new building to gain additional credits.