

The Library of Birmingham Carillion Construction Services



BREEAM Sustainability Case Study

Author: Marcelle Hornshaw

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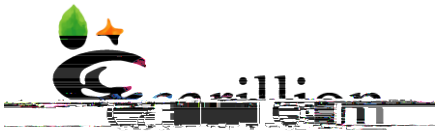


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. Description of the project and building

1.1 Background to the project

The Library of Birmingham is a world-class centre for knowledge, leisure, learning and innovation on a single site that benefits all the people of Birmingham. Library, information, and archive services play a vital role in society, by helping citizens to learn, to develop skills and knowledge for life, and to gain an understanding of our shared heritage.

Designed by international architects Mecanoo, the Library of Birmingham is located in the Edgbaston Square. The building is comprised of a spacious entrance and foyer with mezzanine, lower ground level with indoor terraces, four further public levels and two outdoor garden terraces, a 'golden box' of secure archive storage occupying two levels, provision for staff offices and service plant on a further two levels and at the very top of the building a rotunda feature housing the Shakespeare Memorial Room. In all, the facilities are spread over 10 levels of varying size and usage.

The new library is physically connected to Birmingham Repertory Theatre (The REP) and the two organisations work in partnership, bringing together the written and spoken word through drama, poetry and performance.

The Library of Birmingham provides a world-class collection of archives, photography and rare books. New facilities including state-of-the-art gallery space open up public access to the collections for the first time. It is also home to a BFI Mediatheque, providing free access to the National Film Archive. Other facilities include a new flexible studio theatre, an outdoor amphitheatre and other informal performance spaces, a recording studio, and dedicated spaces for children and teenagers. By harnessing new technology, everyone from Birmingham to Beijing, Bangalore and beyond will be able to access world-class resources. More than three million visitors are expected each year, and millions more online.

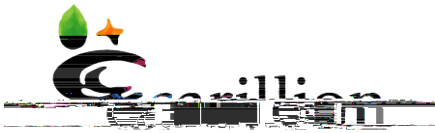
The Library of Birmingham is highly accessible and family-friendly. It delivers excellent services through collaboration between the library, The REP, partners and communities. It also provides a dynamic mix of events, activities and performance together with outstanding resources, exhibitions and access to expert help for learning, information and culture. As a centre of excellence for literacy, research, study, skills development, entrepreneurship, creative expression, health information and much more, the Library of Birmingham changes lives.

The landmark edifice maximises natural light through open spaces and glass, celebrating the craftsmanship and industry of Birmingham.

It houses a flexible studio theatre, an amphitheatre, exhibition galleries, cafes, open air garden terraces, social areas, a recording studio and a BFI Mediatheque (with free access to the National Film Archive and scores of movies, documentaries and archive films) - all developed with maximum accessibility in mind.

Digitisation will enable the creation of a living memory bank, bringing together the world's knowledge through a state-of-the-art online showcase, stimulating knowledge sharing and global interaction.

The digital library goes far beyond the physical library to meet the wider needs of the digital native. It includes interactivity with collections through digital technology in exciting and innovative ways, accessible online from a wide range of mobile devices.



Working in partnership with The REP Theatre and with schools, colleges, universities, business, voluntary and community organisations it creates an exceptional hub for learning, information exchange and culture.

A shift of focus away from traditional transactional services based on access to products (books and information) towards a knowledge-based service making connections between content and people.

1.2 How it fits into the Big City Plan

The Library of Birmingham is one of the most significant developments and cultural projects to have been undertaken in the UK in the past decade. A key cornerstone of Birmingham City Centre, the new library is a hub for the region and an engine for knowledge and economic development; it rewrites the book for 21st century libraries.

1.3 Project Cost

The total



. BREEAM rating and score

BREEAM stands for the Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method and it is the leading tool for the assessment of buildings from an environmental viewpoint. Its purpose is to carry out a review of a building or a design of a building and to identify its environmental strengths and weaknesses.

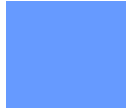
BREEAM uses recognised design codes, national and international standards, planning

Element	Net Cost £/m ²
Building	£2945
Services	£885
External works (incl. Drainage)	£86

2.3 Functions and areas

Element	Area m ²
Area of Circulation	16839
Area of Storage	6394
Foyer and Theatre Foyer	2408
Meeting Rooms and Team Work Areas	910
Study, Arts and Business Zones	470
Archive	5644
Library and Reader Services	

Monitoring carbon emissions from fuel, energy and water usage.



ion 4 – Conclusion

when the final assessment is conducted in summer 2013.