Green Roof
Biodiverse, re:centre, Bradford University, UK

Project Description
The new build £5.2m re:centre, Bradford University, comprises a four-storey, 2,000m² building, containing workshops, business units, an open-plan office and a multi-function space, all of which will provide learning facilities and teaching resources aimed at promoting sustainable living. The re:centre has been designed to the University’s target driven sustainability specification, delivering the world’s highest ever pre-construction BREEAM rating of 94.95% at award. The buildings design showcases several highly sustainable low energy features including a full height sun space providing natural ventilation in the summer and heating in the winter, PV panels, hempcrete walls, rainwater harvesting and a biodiverse roof system.

The Challenge
Given the nature of the project it was important from the outset that the building and it’s construction embraced sustainability from the beginning. It was decided that all usable space, including at roof level, would be used to its maximum potential. It was critical that the Biodiverse system provided the necessary contribution towards achieving this and the associated BREEAM credits. The biodiverse system was required to replace lost habitat (LE04: 2 credits), enhance ecology and increase the number of native or beneficial plant species present on site (LE05: 3 credits). This is relevant to BREEAM primarily within the Land Use and Ecology section, although it does also directly impact other considerations including flood risk mitigation and indirectly in thermal comfort, acoustic performance, responsible sourcing of materials & waste management.

Project Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Client</th>
<th>Bradford University</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contractor</td>
<td>GB Building Solutions/Geogreen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Architect</td>
<td>Farrell and Clark</td>
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<tr>
<td>Landscape Architect</td>
<td>Margaret Twigg Landscape Design</td>
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<tr>
<td>Products</td>
<td>Roofdrain 20, ABG Biodiverse Growing Media, ABG Plug Plants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quantity</td>
<td>150m²</td>
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**Benefits**
- Significant contributor towards BREEAM rating
- Replace lost habitat & enhance biodiversity
- Complete ABG service from design support to installation.

ABG Biodiverse Roof System
Green Roof
Biodiverse, re:centre, Bradford University, UK

The Solution
ABG worked closely with the landscape architect to create a system to meet the stringent criteria. The roof installation comprised a wildlife pond planted with native marginal plants, a native wildflower area, matrixes of sedums, grasses and herbs, insect hibernacula’s including bird feeder tables, insect houses, pebble areas and coiled hemp rope, specially designed features to encourage the development of flora and fauna on the roofing area. A lightweight ABG Biodiverse growing media was used to minimise the roof loadings whilst providing a nutritionally rich base for the specially selected vegetation. Beneath this surface finish ABG Roofdrain drainage geocomposite was used to create a free-draining void that also allows for the storage of collected rainwater to irrigate the vegetation during dry periods.

The ABG Service
ABG’s in-house technical expertise & on-site installation experience provided the client with a solution that maximised the roofs contribution to the development.

Contact ABG today to discuss your project specific requirements and discover how ABG past experience and innovative products can help on your project.