

Hermes RPI Awards



GVA Grimley: Brindleyplace Occupier Engagement and Waste Management

Best Practice Occupier Engagement Initiative Submissions

March 2009

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Summary

In 2004, Brindleyplace launched a new waste management scheme. Over the last four years, it has evolved into a successful waste management and recycling project.

Historically, schemes in place had serviced three managed buildings and approximately 30 bars, restaurants and retail units as well as contracts organised by individual tenants. These schemes were examined in detail to identify strengths and weaknesses and to consider the key requirements moving forward. The direct employment of the in-house Service Team also presented opportunities to be more creative.

In September 2007, recycling collections were increased to include non-confidential paper, aluminium cans, plastics, newspapers and toners. Tenants are now able to dispose of recyclables either in bins located in common areas or request scheduled collections from their workplaces.



Benefits

Tenant environmental awareness

The site scheme has also enabled smaller tenants to participate in recycling schemes that currently are not commonplace in high street environments. Communication with tenants regarding this scheme has resulted in cooperative working relationships being forged and exploited as other environmental initiatives are now being explored.

Tenant service

The visibility of the scheme has resulted in ongoing enquiries from tenants asking about opportunities to participate in the programme. Tenants choosing to participate have been able to benefit from a prompt and flexible service seven days a week, including collections to suit their business requirements.

The expansion of the Brindleyplace scheme to offer services to non-service charge tenants, in combination with the use of golf buggies to transfer waste to one collection point, has resulted in the reduction of 2,500 waste vehicles from the site each year. However, compactor collections have not increased, further demonstrating the efficiency of the scheme both financially and environmentally.

An email address was also established to improve communication with tenants, enabling them to arrange ad-hoc collections, enquire about services and share ideas on environmental issues: thegreenteam@brindleyplace.com.

Cost savings from the new contract were also identified:

- Compacted waste would be cheaper than bin lifts which tended to be inefficient.
- The Service Team could respond to tenant requirements providing an efficient service and maximizing recycling.
- Baled cardboard could be sold and glass could be taken away at no cost.
- Waste diverted away from landfill would not attract landfill disposal costs.
- Capital costs could be shared between the various contracts benefiting from the scheme.

The Future

City Inn joins the scheme on 1st October. Steve Cresswell, General Manager stated "This is an excellent opportunity for the hotel to participate in a scheme that not only benefits us financially, but demonstrates that we are keen to support and promote environmental best practice."

Brindleyplace is currently recycling at approximately 35%. On contract re-tender in 2009, the key requirement will be to increase this figure to 85% of waste away from landfill. Based on industry information currently available it is anticipated that this figure will be nearer 100%. Brindleyplace will continue to recycle directly wherever possible both to ensure that recycling revenues are maximized and also to continue to build positive relationships with our tenants.

Contact

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