CORE CIVIL SYSTEMS®

MARKET SECTOR: ACTIVE TRAVEL
CLIENT: CARDIFF CITY COUNCIL
LOCATION: CARDIFF

HORAN CONSTRUCTION SOPHIA GARDENS CYCLEPATH & FOOTPATH

THE CONTRACTOR

Horan Construction is a Cardiff-based civil engineering and road-surfacing contractor established in 1976. Acting as principal contractor for the Sophia Gardens Cycleway Scheme, it delivered the works for Cardiff City Council as part of the city's expanding active-travel network.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Cardiff City Council commissioned a new cyclepath and footpath through Sophia Gardens, extending from the Bute Park entrance on Castle Street to Western Avenue. Delivered as Cycleway 4.1, the route improves cycling facilities through Sophia Gardens and Llandaff Fields, creating a direct active-travel connection through the mature parkland corridor.

CYCLEPATH & FOOTPATH

KEY REQUIREMENTS

The new route had to weave through established parkland and between mature trees while providing a durable, accessible surface for cyclists and pedestrians. The build-up needed to limit excavation and soil compaction around sensitive root zones, maintain natural drainage and follow the alignment's curves and level changes.

PRODUCT

CORE TRP is a no-dig tree-root-protection system for routes within Root Protection Areas. Its three-dimensional cellular structure confines free-draining aggregate, spreads imposed loads and helps maintain the movement of air and water through the soil below.

CORE TRP allowed the new route to pass close to established trees while creating a stable formation for the finished cyclepath and footpath.

SOLUTION

CORE TRP panels were installed along the new alignment to create a no-dig, load-distributing formation through the tree-sensitive parkland. The cellular system was shaped around the route geometry, filled with free-draining aggregate and covered with the specified wearing surfaces. This allowed Horan Construction to deliver a smooth, continuous cyclepath and footpath while reducing disturbance to the soil and mature trees below.

POROUS BUILD-UP

Free-draining aggregate helps maintain natural water and air movement through the soil.

ACCESSIBLE ROUTE

The stable formation supports smooth, continuous routes for cyclists and pedestrians.

ROOT-ZONE PROTECTION

The no-dig system spreads surface loads above soil around established trees.

CYCLEWAY

4.1

PHASE

BUTE PARK TO WESTERN AVE

ROUTE OPENED

2021

CARDIFF

ACTIVE-TRAVEL LINK

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