



Sep 14, 2021 09:30 BST

New eco-garden project taking shape at Jewellery Quarter station

The first phase of a brand-new eco-garden has been unveiled at Jewellery Quarter station in Birmingham following a community grant from West Midlands Railway (WMR).

The green installation has been masterminded by the Jewellery Quarter Business Improvement District (JQBID) and will be tended by a team of volunteers as it breathes new life into the station.

The first phase of the community scheme, entitled 'Greening a Grey Station', has seen the introduction of 12 two-metre planters throughout the station

which feature built-in reservoirs to maintain regular watering supply and the planting will be refreshed on a seasonal basis to ensure year-round greenery.

Fay Easton, WMR head of stakeholder and community, said:

"Our Customer & Communities Fund was designed to bring life to community projects that would benefit our customers and we are so pleased to see this installation 'greening the grey' in an inner-city environment.

"It's been a pleasure to work with the volunteers at Jewellery Quarter and to see the lead gardener's superb designs come to glorious life. Along with the dedicated station manager, we're looking forward to seeing the final phase of the project 'blossom' over the next few weeks."

With recent studies highlighting the benefits of foliage and planting to improving air quality as well as boosting mental health and wellbeing, it is hoped that the eco-garden will benefit both local residents as well as visitors to the Jewellery Quarter.

Steve Lovell, from the JQBID, said:

"We're delighted to be finally unveiling our brand-new eco-garden. By providing colourful and accessible spaces for passengers to relax and learn about the Quarter in between their commutes and rail journeys, we hope this will improve the overall wellbeing of residents and visitors alike.

"As well as supporting our plans to increase the number of green spaces within the area for the benefit of the environment, we're confident this new project will continue to cement the Quarter's reputation as a must-see part of Birmingham."

To register your interest in maintaining the eco-garden as a volunteer, email info@jqdt.org

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