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Sustainability Award

For a project that demonstrates success across the wider demands of sustainable construction, with best practice examples across the three pillars of sustainable thinking – environmental, economic and social performance
Sponsored by UK Power Network Services

Winner

The Hive, Worcester

Commissioning authority |

University of Worcester &
Worcestershire County Council

Architect and principal designer |

Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios

Services engineer | Max Fordham

Principal contractor |

Galliford Try Construction

High Commendation

– Nottingham Left Bank Flood
Alleviation Scheme

The strikingly clad Hive is an integrated public and university library, the first of its kind in the UK. It also includes the County Archives and Records Office, a local history centre and the County's Archaeological Service, together with a multi-agency customer service centre. It achieved Breeam Outstanding status.

The external form, inspired by the rich history of the city and its landscape setting, is also a response to current sustainability drivers.

As a sustainable building, The Hive's fabric works hard to passively temper the internal environment: the in-situ concrete frame – with 40% cement replacement – provides thermal mass. Glazing is designed and specified to maximise visible light, while minimising solar gain. The copper alloy cladding

to roofs and elevations completes a building envelope designed to achieve excellent air tightness.

Through teamwork, challenging ideas were explored and evaluated with open minds rather than rejected for being untried and risky. It has already been recognised with Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers and the Civic Trust awards.

Judges' comment

"The team worked well together to deliver what the client wanted – a outstandingly sustainable, multi-use building – and they weathered changes well"