

SCHEME

Leigh Sports Village, Wigan

CLIENT

Alfred McAlpine Project Services

WEHOLITE SOLUTION

700 m x 1.5 m diameter WEHOLITE HDPE storm water attenuation tank

## Value engineering pays off at Sports Village



A value engineering exercise undertaken by infrastructure contractor, Alfred McAlpine Project Services has delivered a cost saving; in relation to land take, and also a time saving; compared to more traditional attenuation methods, at a major leisure development underway in the North West.

A key attenuation tank at the Leigh Sports Village near Wigan has been designed and fabricated from WEHOLITE HDPE pipes from ASSET International Ltd. This decision was taken on the grounds of speed and flexibility by the contractor and was approved by Alfred McAlpine's client, Cyril Sweett Management and the local water authority, United Utilities.

Working in close partnership with Alfred McAlpine, ASSET was able to design a bespoke solution that

enabled efficient off-site manufacture. Simon Thomas, ASSET's Managing Director explains further, "The specifics of the site were supplied to us and along with input and guidance from United Utilities we were able to supply the design in a prefabricated form."

"The benefits of off-site manufacture of large-scale products, such as our attenuation tanks, are numerous," added Thomas, "Time and cost savings can be significant without sacrificing flexibility. Health and safety implications are minimised through the reduction in time and ease of installation and the environmental impact is also reduced." The results have borne out the initial decision to name ASSET as the preferred supplier.

The £83 m Leigh Sports Village is the most significant investment in public sports, recreation and education

## THE ESSENTIAL HDPE WATER MANAGEMENT SOLUTION

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facilities in the Wigan and Leigh Borough for many years. Its 88 acres comprise a new public sports centre with swimming pool, sports hall and gym; a 10,000 seat stadium, additional educational and sporting facilities, plus residential, hotel, business and retail developments.

The development is being undertaken by the Greenbank Partnership and Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council and will be handed over to the Leigh Sports Village Company working with partners who include Leigh and District Sports Development Partnership, Wigan Leisure and Culture Trust, Wigan Council, and Wigan and Leigh College. It is estimated that at least 2,000 jobs will be created.

The attenuation tank is an important element in the drainage network for the sports village. Located beneath a hotel car park, it comprises 700 linear metres of 1.5 m diameter WEHOLITE pipe, providing

1,300m<sup>3</sup> of rainwater storage capacity. The diameter of the pipes was dictated by the relatively high water table.

Value engineering identified that the choice of plastic pipe would provide a rapid and flexible option. This proved to be the case with installation completed on time despite modifications made to the design to accommodate changes in the hotel layout.

"We have used concrete tanks on previous contracts, and compared to WEHOLITE these are time consuming, heavy and inflexible," said Richard Butler, Alfred McAlpine's Site Design Manager, "Furthermore, with the evolution of the tank design, ASSET's ability to be flexible and provide bespoke fabricated elements, which were then welded in place on site, proved invaluable."



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