
River Alt Diversion Scheme, Stonebridge, Liverpool



Project Description

The River Alt Restoration Project has opened up the river to create a new public park alongside Stonebridge Lane, on a site that had been vacant and derelict for some time following demolition. The project has diverted a section of heavily engineered river from culvert into a new 900m meandering, naturalistic, open river channel with 1740m of newly vegetated river banks including flood plain ledges, an extensive riparian zone plus adjacent wildflower areas, semi natural grassland, willow scrub and wooded habitat. This section of river corridor has been transformed from brownfield land to 8.2ha of new public greenspace for the community to enjoy and experience biodiversity come alive on their doorstep.

The River Alt Restoration Project supports several Liverpool and Environment Agency strategic priorities and plans including the River Basin Management Plan, the City's Green Infrastructure Strategy and Flood Risk Management Plan and addresses issues including:

Poor river morphology

High flood risk within built-up areas and agricultural land

Risk of blockage and failure of culverted sections due to fly-tipping

Presence of invasive species including Japanese Knotweed and Himalayan Balsam

Culverted river section creating a poor environment for biodiversity (e.g. status of 'Bad' for invertebrates)

Isolated green spaces and poor habitat connectivity

Neglected brownfield land blighting a deprived area of the city.

Nolan Associates were responsible for the design and detailing of the River profile, storm water modelling and retaining banks and structures. The remaining site is being considered as a possible location for Everton Football clubs new stadium.

Client	Cass Foundation and The Community Forest Trust In association with The Environment Agency
Contractor	William Pye
Value	£1.6 million
