

Client: Green Park (Oxford Properties)

Press release: The Wildlife Trusts' Biodiversity Benchmark Award

Contact: Sue Payne, Managing Director, Quality & Service (Q&S)

Tel: 020 8777 8717 / 07956 697515

Email: SPayne@gslimited.com

Press release: 5 February 2016

Q&S Celebrates as Green Park Scoops The Wildlife Trusts' Biodiversity Benchmark

Quality & Service, (Q&S) the independent commercial landscape company, which delivers the landscaping for Green Park, Reading in partnership with Broadgate Estates; have been instrumental in assisting Oxford Properties achieving The Wildlife Trusts' Biodiversity Benchmark.

The combined Green Park Management Team (Oxford Properties, Broadgate Estates and Quality & Service, with PBA ecological guidance), have worked tirelessly over several years to ensure that the environment is taken into account in the decisions made every day, and biodiversity is now fully integrated into the management systems.

To date less than 20 companies in the UK have attained the Biodiversity Benchmark Award and met the rigorous standards set by the Wildlife Trusts. Of these, Green Park is the first and only business park in the UK to hold such an accolade. Environmental considerations have been successfully integrated into the day to day landscaping operations.

Sue Payne, Managing Director, Q&S, said: "This standard is very tough to achieve and maintain as it requires the grounds at Green Park be managed to a very high level. The Award reflects Green Park's commitment to minimise their impact on the environment and promote biodiversity, and our on-site landscaping team are rightly proud that their dedication to biodiversity has been recognised."

Rory Carson, Director-Asset Manager at Green Park said: "We are thrilled to have been able to achieve the high standard needed for the Wildlife Trust's Biodiversity Benchmark. The team here at Green Park work extremely hard to create a fantastic environment for businesses and their people. Green Park is living testimony that commercial and biodiversity interests can live harmoniously together within the same development, and to mutual benefit."

Peter Dorans, Corporate Relations Manager (The Wildlife Trusts) said of Q&S: "It is so impressive that your operational team have the opportunity to be involved in shaping the system in this way, I'm certain that the investment of time will be well worthwhile in delivering biodiversity improvements at Green Park. Congratulations on what has been achieved already on the site, it looks fantastic and thank you for showing us around. Our assessor was very impressed with the clear commitment of the team to putting in place and implementing a management system which will achieve continual biodiversity enhancement and protection on the site. This permeates throughout the team and by this differentiates it from many other sites we visit."

Sue Payne, concludes: "To receive such an accolade from the Wildlife Trusts is truly welcomed and provides inspiration to our landscaping team, who continuously work to an extremely high standard to provide a quality landscape that is such a key component in the overall experience for everyone who works or visits Green Park"

Green Park in Reading, owned and managed by Oxford Properties, is 195 acres of stunning parkland and home to more than 50 businesses.

~ ends ~

Editor's notes:

The Wildlife Trusts. There are 47 Wildlife Trusts across the UK working together for an environment rich in wildlife for everyone. With more than 800,000 members we are the largest voluntary organisation committed to all of the UK's wildlife whether in the countryside, towns and cities or at sea. www.wildlifetrusts.org

Biodiversity Benchmark. Biodiversity Benchmark is a certification issued by The Wildlife Trusts which encourages, recognises and rewards the continual improvement of landholdings for wildlife. 52 sites, managed by 18 organisations and covering an area of 8,500ha have been certified as managed to the highest standard for wildlife. Biodiversity Benchmark recognises an organisation's management of specific landholdings and is not an endorsement of the wider activities of the organisation. www.biodiveristybenchmark.org