



developments. Across our retail sites we have replaced hedgerows with native species at White Rose, Leeds, planted trees as part of the Queen's Green Canopy at Gunwharf Quays, and introduced a bee hive with 35,000 honey bees at Lewisham Shopping Centre.

This year, we're investigating how our business activities depend on and affect nature, so we can integrate nature into decision making across our operational and development activities. The work will consider the draft recommendations of the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) and build upon our current commitments, as well as provide biodiversity toolkits to support the whole business in considering how we can best enhance nature and biodiversity through our activities.

### Using resources efficiently

#### Water

Over the last year, we have undertaken water management assessments across assets under our operational control, to help shape our water strategy for both our office and retail portfolios.

Actions taken include a programme of work to install automatic meter reading (AMR) across our portfolio, testing technology to obtain increased detail of where water is consumed within our buildings and to identify potential leaks, and developing a water standard for the taps, toilets and showers we use across our facilities.

To raise awareness of the importance of saving water, on World Water Day in March 2023 we communicated our approach to water management and reduction across the business and encouraged our colleagues to take action. We are in the process of setting a new water target using 2022/23 as our baseline year, due to launch later this year.

#### Waste

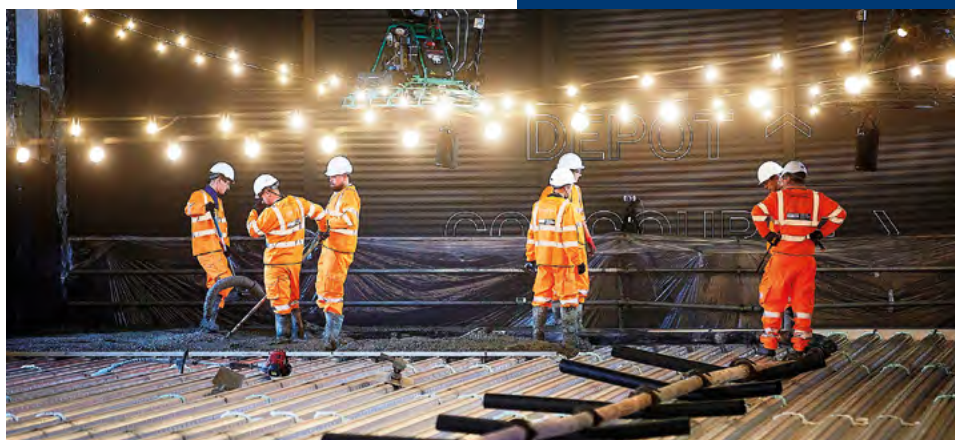
In 2022/23 we continued to divert 100% of waste from landfill and recycled 68% of operational waste (2021/22: 71%).

#### Materials

To use more sustainable materials and to use these resources efficiently, we encourage reuse and recycling where possible, promoting the principles of a circular economy. On our development schemes, we work closely with our supply chain, including carbon consultants in the design team from the very start to guide decisions on the most carbon-efficient solutions. Additionally, our Materials Brief sets out the requirements for common materials used across our schemes, considering health impacts, responsible sourcing, carbon and resource efficiency. We continue to source all our construction materials from ethical sources (materials with a responsible sourcing certification).

## Using innovative materials at Mayfield

Production of cement for use in concrete creates approximately 8% of total global carbon emissions. At our Mayfield regeneration scheme, we've therefore tested Concretene, a pioneering low-carbon material that has the potential to transform the global construction sector by providing an alternative to traditional cement. Concretene uses a product called graphene to significantly improve the mechanical performance of concrete, allowing for reductions in the amount of material used and the need for steel reinforcement. We were the first developer to employ Concretene on a commercial scheme and have used it to create a 54x14m mezzanine floor.



▲ We've used an innovative alternative to cement at Mayfield, Manchester – Concretene.