

**ULTICOLOUR**

Proven performance

Lasting performance: Over 10 years of service on a central London cycle path

Brighter, longer lasting coloured asphalts, Westbourne Grove cycle path, Central London

The challenge

ULTICOLOUR was originally chosen by City of Westminster Council for this project to refurbish the Westbourne Grove cycle path, a 340 metre stretch of cycleway in central London. Funded through Transport for London to develop London's Cycle Network, this formed part of a wider scheme aimed at encouraging residents and visitors to walk or cycle instead of using their cars. The cycle path forms an important link to connect cyclists and pedestrians to a number of surrounding schools and youth facilities. The new surface needed to offer accessibility in all seasons and weather conditions and provide visual demarcation between the pedestrian footpath and cycleway. It also needed to look appealing for local people and complement the surroundings in this tranquil green space.

Our solution

In response to the brief set down by City of Westminster, Tarmac recommended ULTICOLOUR asphalt in Buff Gravel for the pedestrian section of the path and ULTICOLOUR Classic Green for the cycleway. Natural and buff coloured asphalts offer a similar appearance to traditional gravel, ideal for parks and green spaces, but with a far lower maintenance requirement. The clear polymer modified binder and colour matched aggregates in ULTICOLOUR ensure a longer lasting finish that resists surface wear and keeps its appearance for longer. It can be laid quickly over large areas and has a smooth, even, monolithic finish that is safe for pedestrians. The contrast between the different colours would also provide clear demarcation for pedestrians and cyclists, helping to improve user safety.

Results and benefits

Tarmac supplied 50 tonnes of ULTICOLOUR Classic Buff and 30 tonnes of ULTICOLOUR Classic Green to the site in July 2008. As the ULTICOLOUR surface course was laid on top of the on the existing pathway, work progressed rapidly and was completed and reopened to the public in four weeks. The site was visited again in February 2019, more than ten years after it had been opened and the ULTICOLOUR footpath and cycleway is still well used by pedestrians and cyclists and is performing well. There is still clear colour demarcation between the pedestrian footpath and cycleway. As expected the ULTICOLOUR surface continues to provide a long service life and deliver excellent value for the initial £125k investment.