Case Study
Total Traffic Exopave (TTE®)
Jodrell Bank Discovery Centre

The Jodrell Bank Discovery Centre is used by the University of Manchester for astronomical research. It is home to the famous Lovell telescope, the third largest steerable radio telescope in the world. The visitor centre and arboretum at the site are very popular throughout the year for educational visits. The existing car park was mainly a mixture of road stone and soil that had become muddy and unsuitable. The centre wanted a more attractive finish that would perform better whilst being able to cope with cars and coaches.

The project architects Planit-IE contacted Geosynthetics Ltd in August 2017 looking for a solution for the car park. They provided us with drawings and initially the discussion was about Golpla®. After further discussions about the intended use and the need for coach access, TTE® was proposed and samples were provided. Planit-IE discussed this with their client who preferred TTE® with its greater strength and resistance to lateral forces and by January 2018, TTE® had been confirmed as the surface choice. This would be similar to a nearby site at Hare Hill where the system has also been filled with gravel.

Bethell Construction were awarded the contract to carry out the installation. Geosynthetics Ltd made several visits to site to explain how TTE® works and supported the contractor during the installation process. The final choice was the colour of the unique concrete block inserts for demarcation. Samples were again supplied and dark grey was chosen. Installation continued right through to the end of July with Geosynthetics Ltd continuing to assist with technical support, including aggregate selection and material expansion during the very warm spell in the summer of 2018.

Now complete, TTE® is providing Jodrell Bank with a solid, robust and permeable car park surface.

‘TTE® proved to be a durable, permeable and visually appealing option when looking for a surface suitable for a high volume of traffic. We required a product that could function for heavy vehicles and delineate car parking whilst also fitting into a more rural setting. Geosynthetics Ltd provided useful advise from start to finish’

Sarah Barker - Planit-IE