



Bird's Eye View at Smithy Brook



3-D Imaging Off to a Flying Start

What a difference 3-D imaging has made to presenting plans for the Authority's latest minewater treatment schemes.

As these fly-through images of the new Smithy Brook scheme show, it is now possible to place the design of a minewater scheme onto an aerial view of the area, using computer modelling to create realistic three dimensional views of how it will look.

Utilising this advanced technology has many benefits for the Authority, its partners and stakeholders and residents living near the scheme. It is particularly useful when the Authority holds a public meeting to explain how the minewater treatment scheme works,

its impact on a community and the resulting improvements to the environment that will occur.

"The fly-through images are an ideal tool for introducing schemes to planning departments and local people as part of the consultation process," says Carl Banton, Development Manager in the Authority's Estates and Environmental Projects Team.

As well as highlighting how the scheme will look within the local landscape, it is possible to rotate the images and zoom in and out of individual areas in such detail that it is possible to view individual reeds in a wetland scheme.

The new-style presentation was especially helpful when the Authority outlined plans for a proposed minewater treatment scheme at Smithy Brook near Wigan. The 3-D images show how the reedbeds, lagoons and wider environmental improvements will appear when viewed from the air as well as the houses of residents living near the site.

Says Stuart Rolley, Senior Development Manager in the Estates and Environmental Projects Team: "Public consultation is important as this scheme is located close to local communities. Residents were very impressed when they saw the images and are keen to get involved in suggesting places where environmental improvements such as footpaths, benches and signboards could be sited."

Fly-through images show how the proposed minewater treatment scheme at Smithy Brook will fit into the local landscape.

