

Community Well-Being Benefits

NEWSLETTER JAN - MARCH 2025



Welcome to our final update for the financial year 2024/25. We've made significant progress in delivering community well-being benefits, thanks to all involved for your dedication and hard work. This quarter, we welcomed two individuals, Jemma Downes and Erin Ryan-Phillips, to the Ardal team. Their expertise and enthusiasm will help us achieve our key objectives.

We also launched THRIVE, our new monitoring system for Community Well-being Benefits, which will help us measure our impact more effectively. Additionally, we celebrated Women in Construction Week and Apprenticeship Week, highlighting the outstanding work of individuals in the sector and community.

As we conclude this financial year, I am excited for what the next year will bring. Together, we've achieved so much, and I am confident we will continue to make a positive difference.



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STATS

If you are delivering CWB locally and want to be included in a future newsletter please email cwb@cardiff.gov.uk. The Community Well-Being Benefits (CWB) team are so proud of all the work that is happening locally around CWB/Social Value delivery. Below are the stats with some select stories on the following pages.



Apprentices
3308 weeks



Career Support
6007 hours



Employment
40 new roles



Training
1562 weeks



Work Experience
436 weeks



Education
5544 hours



Volunteering
2923 hours



Expert Hours
2288 hours

If you are delivering CWB locally and want to be included in a future newsletter please email cwb@cardiff.gov.uk

Follow Ardal on Social Media

Website:



LinkedIn:



THRIVE



Ardal procurement have chosen to capture, measure and report our projects Community Well-Being Benefits (CWB) (formally Social Value) with Thrive. This partnership will drive our CWB delivery across the 4 local authorities even further. This is a great opportunity to shape CWB delivery within the communities that benefit most. With this new partnership we will be able to provide up to date news stories from localised projects supporting with employment pathways, school engagement, community initiatives and more.

Are you currently working on an Ardal project involving linked to Thrive?

Navigating CWB delivery and a new database can involve unique challenges and so tailored support with implementing your project's CWB measures is available from the CWB team.
Email cwb@cardiff.gov.uk

Please tag @thriveplatform on LinkedIn and remember to follow them for media updates and news.

Jemma

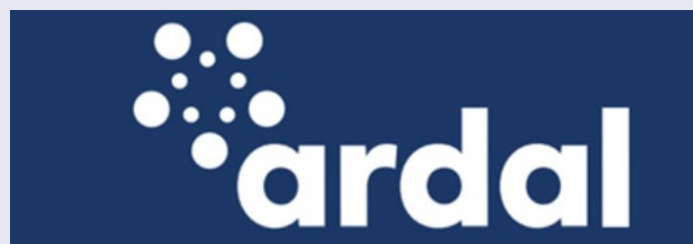
Cardiff Council are pleased to announce the establishment of a new Collaborative Framework Management team.

The team will be dedicated to managing collaborative frameworks led by the Council, across Wales and on a National basis, including the award-winning SEWSCAP, SEWTAPS and SEWH frameworks.

Jemma Downes has been recently appointed as Framework Manager, responsible for leading and coordinating framework activities, and ensuring effective management across the collaborative frameworks. This new role is crucial in maximising opportunities and positive outcomes for clients. Jemma brings a wealth of experience and strong background in public sector procurement.

The Framework Team will enhance contractor and client engagement, foster strong supplier relationships, and champion continuous improvement. We look forward to the positive impact the team will bring to our collaborative arrangements for all stakeholders.

If you have any comments or questions, please visit the framework website:
www.sewscap.co.uk
www.sewh.co.uk
www.sewtaps.co.uk



Erin

We are pleased to introduce Erin Ryan-Phillips, who has joined the Ardal Procurement as our new Senior Strategy Officer (Carbon).

In common with other public sector organisations, over 70% of each Ardal Council's Carbon footprint is as a result of what and how we procure over £1.2bn of goods, services and works annually. Erin will be leading the work to decarbonise Ardal Councils supply chains to support each Council's aim of being carbon neutral by 2030.

Some of the immediate priorities that Erin will be working to address include:

- Improving the accuracy of the carbon emissions data used to report supply chain emissions across all Ardal Councils, including contract specific reporting.
- Leading collaboration projects with key stakeholders and subject matter experts to develop options to tackle high carbon tenders/ contracts.
- Working to promote and embed low-carbon choices and circular economy principles into all procurement opportunities, ensuring sustainable procurement is considered at all parts of the procurement lifecycle, particularly at the outset.
- Ensuring that we effectively communicate our carbon reduction ambitions and successes to organisations that want to work with Ardal Councils.

This work, combined with decarbonisation efforts from suppliers, will help drive meaningful change towards a greener, more sustainable future for all Ardal Councils and their supply chains. It is a big and important agenda and Erin is looking forward to working with you.





Community Well-Being Benefits (Social Value) quarterly update

Tuesday 8th April 2025
David Portman

Agenda

- Ardal updates**
 - Thrive
- Reporting**
 - Newsletter
- Resources**
 - Task force
 - Employment support
 - Schools
- Checklist**

Each quarter the CWB team host an information session. This covers the above agenda points and highlights the support for contractors to deliver their CWB commitments locally. This is a great forum to get up to date on Ardal processes and

raise questions around delivery support.

If you are on an Ardal project and wish to be involved in the next event (8th July) then please email cwb@cardiff.gov.uk



This National Apprenticeship Week, meet Sam

Coughlin at Hale Group Ltd
Site: Bute Street, Cardiff
Level 2 Carpenter

"The kind of tasks I do onsite include fitting all the panels, sliding doors, and Juliet balcony building. One of the subcontractors, who's also a carpenter called Paul Powell, has been a very good mentor to me, and I'm enjoying working with him."

"I'd highly recommend an apprenticeship because there are endless options and opportunities everywhere, and you're never going to lack work."

Can you help build futures within the construction industry? If you're looking for apprentices, Ardal incorporates Community Well-Being Benefits into projects within the four local authorities. For tailored support regarding apprenticeships (NTW8 TOMs measure), please contact the CWB team at cwb@cardiff.gov.uk.



Ardal Procurement attended a Meet the Buyer event run by Torfaen Council on how through procurement we can support SMEs and local suppliers through the new Procurement Act 2023.

Looking forward to collaborating and drive positive impact in the community! #procurement #SME #communitywellbeingbenefits

It's Women in Construction Week!

We're thrilled to spotlight five amazing women breaking barriers and building futures in the construction industry:



Chloe Mahoney – Trainee Quantity Surveyor at Lovell Partnerships Ltd

Chloe manages costs, works with subcontractors, and collaborates with site teams to bring projects to life. Now in her third year of an apprenticeship, she's proud to help build communities like Cardiff Council's St. Mellons Community Living Project.



Jessica Dix – Site Operative at CMB Engineering

Training to be a supervisor, Jessica thrives on hands-on work, fitting pipework for heating and chillers in both domestic and commercial buildings. After completing her plumbing training, she's found her passion in a career full of growth and learning.



Katie Morrison - Project Manager at Kier Construction

Katie's currently working on The Court School project in Fairwater, procured via the SEWSCAP Framework SEWSCAP framework. She oversees the whole scheme, from the programme design and commercials of a project, as well as the health and safety.



Esme French – Senior Marketing Coordinator at CMB Engineering

Esme's varied role spans digital marketing, content creation, graphic design, and CSR. She loves seeing projects through from start to finish, showing how creativity plays a vital role in the construction world.



Rebecca Hollins – Office Manager & Document Controller at Borley Engineering Services

Rebecca ensures offices run smoothly, manages site inductions, and checks drawings for compliance. Entering the industry later in her career, she's now thriving and encourages women to follow their passion without hesitation.

Their stories prove there's no limit to what women can achieve in construction, and we'll be sharing more throughout the week, so stay tuned!

If you'd like to promote Women in Construction across your Ardal contract in the next newsletter, please email cwb@cardiff.gov.uk.

Shape my street

It's been a busy couple of days delivering workshop 1 of Cardiff Commitment's & Welsh School of Architecture, Cardiff University's Shape my Street Project!

As part of our Willows High School Project, we have been partnered with Year 3 in both Stacey & Baden Powell Primary Schools who are feeder primaries within the cluster.

During the workshops, the pupils discovered what it's like to be Architects and Designers by

designing their homes of the future and creating a neighbourhood by using their creativity and imagination.

Once built, it was really interesting to pick out key themes which the pupils felt were important elements to include when designing a neighbourhood... the main one being green space.

We look forward to returning in a few weeks time to deliver workshop 2 which will see the pupils Shaping their School!



Forest School Project



As part of our Willows High School New Build Project, we are delighted to be supporting the development of a Forest School at St German's Church in Adamsdown, which once complete, will be used by local schools in the area.

Today we kick started the project by clearing the identified space which was extremely overgrown and hasn't received any TLC for over 5 years. Lots of undergrowth and overgrowth which we managed to clear with a few hours of some serious hard graft (fueled by coffee and doughnuts).

Another day of clearance needed before we can

work with the local schools to start planning and shaping this area into a place which they can use as their outdoor education delivery model.

Well done and thank you to all the volunteers involved from Morgan Sindall Construction and Curtins and to BIRKEMP LIMITED for supplying waste bags.

#OutdoorEducation
#TeamWillows
#Volunteering
Cardiff Council | SEWSCAP



World Book Day 2025

To celebrate World Book Day, we recently delivered our very own 'The Story of Sitka the Spruce' Book to the Willows cluster schools in hashtag#Cardiff.

The book shares the story of Sitka the Spruce, as he makes the journey from the forest into the classroom and beyond, promoting to young learners that timber provides the planet with a positive and regenerative resource. We worked in partnership with Tales from Mother Earth, who write and illustrate informative stories for young children,

enabling them to find out more about habitat preservation, biodiversity and the things they can do to act on climate change.

Each school received several copies of the book which will be used in line with their curriculum but also help to inspire the next generation, whether that's having a passion for the environment, climate change or even a career in construction (plus making a nice addition to their school libraries)!



Zen Den visit to Grangetown school

The Zen Den's Well-being bus visited Grangetown Primary School for Children's Mental Health Week.

There has been a greater need for the offer of assistance, tips and tools to help improve mental health and well-being which is the aim of the Zen Project.

To support Children's Mental Health Week in 2025, Wates Group sponsored The Zen Project's Zen Bus.

The iconic American school bus was taken out of retirement and shipped over to the UK to be converted into a haven of tranquility.

The pupils took part in sessions which included Guided visualisation techniques, breathwork, and sound healing.

These activities are excellent when managing anxiety and promote relaxation and stress relief.



The children very much enjoyed their visit to the Zen Bus. The children took part in mindfulness, breathing exercises and listened to some calming instruments.

Michael and Laura were very friendly, listened to children's ideas and enabled the children to enjoy their experience on the Zen Bus fully.

Thank you, we hope you will return to Grangetown Primary School again soon.

Hannah Whittle, Year 5 teacher





PAPYRUS
PREVENTION OF YOUNG SUICIDE
ATAL HUNANLADDIAD IFANC

HOPELINE247
Call | Ffoniwch: 0800 068 4141
Text | Tecst: 88247
pat@papyrus-uk.org

Papyrus is Wates' charity partner and their aim is to reduce the number of young people who take their own lives by shattering the stigma around suicide and equipping young people and their communities with the skills to recognise and respond to suicidal behaviour.

Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) is a two-day skills building workshop, preparing participants to reduce the immediate risk of a suicide and increase the support for a person at risk.

Wates proudly funded ASIST training for 24 individuals who live and work in the Channel View and Grangetown community. We would like to say a big THANK YOU to the Grange Pavilion for hosting this training.

Suicide Prevention Training for the Community Case study 2025, channel view.

//
The trainers were well organised, informed and experienced in the topic, and were able to provide a comfortable environment in which to speak about things and learn both from them and each other.

I left the training feeling very upskilled and willing to bring the skills learned into my professional and personal life.Thank you again. //

Anthony Chubb, Cardiff Council



Supporting St Mellons Clean Up Group

In February 2025, the St Mellons Community Living Project development in Cardiff donated £349.37 to the St Mellons Clean Up Group, helping them continue their vital work in keeping the community clean and safe. This funding has been used to purchase essential equipment, including:

- Laminator and pouches – for creating promotional materials to raise awareness of community events
- Heavy-duty wheelbarrow – to transport collected waste efficiently

- Gloves – ensuring volunteers have proper protection while cleaning
- Heavy-duty sweeping brush – for clearing debris from paths
- Large shovel – to help remove larger waste items
- Dustpan and brush – for smaller clean-up tasks
- Battery-powered leaf blower – to clear leaves and debris quickly
- Printer and ink – to support event planning and community engagement



In March 2025, the St Mellons Community Living Project development in Cardiff bought a brand-new Beko dishwasher for Oakfield Primary School. This donation supported the school by enhancing its kitchen facilities, allowing staff to efficiently prepare meals and maintain cleanliness, which is essential for providing a healthy environment for students. The cost of this donation was £300.

Funding Support for Breakthrough Theatre Arts C.I.C

In February 2025, St Mellons Community Living Project development provided a £2,083.04 donation to Breakthrough Theatre Arts C.I.C, a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to offering affordable and high-quality performance training for children and young people in East Cardiff and beyond.

This funding was essential in supporting the organisation's mission, enabling them to continue providing accessible opportunities for young performers while fostering creativity, confidence, and community engagement. The donation helped cover essential costs, ensuring that more children and youth could benefit from professional training in the performing arts.





Fairwater Primary Schools new sand pit

With the summer sun looming, the Kier team wanted to create a new sandbox for Fairwater Primary School pupils to enjoy. Site Supervisor Ional, took on the task with a bespoke design to fit the area.

The school team were thrilled with the final result. We hope pupils have a great time driving their mini JCB's through their new sand pit!

The Courts School Fairwater team have partnered with neighbours FareShare, to spread some extra springtime magic to communities.

The team wanted to help their local community celebrate pancake day by donating pancake mix, and ingredients for those wanting to make it from scratch, including berry toppings (yum!) for every food box going out to the community!

The team also donated flowers to put in every box, and daffodils just in time for St.Davids day.



If you are working on projects across Cardiff, Vale of Glamorgan, Monmouthshire and Torfaen and would like support please get in touch.



You're Hired! Partnership with Onsite Construction Academy Employment Success

Kier construction are thrilled to be partnering with Cardiff's Onsite Construction Academy (OCA) to support their learners gaining employment on our Kier sites in Cardiff. Our newest recruit from the OCA, Jay, has been a real asset to the Llanrumney Team joining as a labourer. We caught up with Jay to ask him about his career journey. Jay was unemployed and was signposted to the OCA earlier this year.

As someone who enjoyed working outdoors, having done landscaping, labouring and other construction related role, Jay knew that construction was the direction for him. 'The OCA team were really helpful, I was with them for roughly 3 weeks before taking my CSCS test then found out I'd been successful with a job at Kier'. 'I'd never been on a site before but since being with Kier, I've really enjoyed the variety of tasks and meeting so many new people. Its opened my eyes to even more career opportunities that are within my reach'.

Jay was initially interested in bricklaying, and will be placed on a rotation whilst working for us to gain experience with the trade. 'My confidence has grown so much since being part of the team, I'm now motivated to gain my drivers licence and possibly gain my HGV licence, I'm excited for the future!'

'Once your foot is in the door with construction, the opportunities are endless'. Site Manager, Stuart Jones has been blown away by Jay's enthusiasm and positive attitude 'Once Jay has finished a task, he's back to the office asking what he can do next, hes a real hard worker'.

We love having Jay as part of the team and look forward to welcoming more recruits from the OCA as the project continues.

New Nursery Building, Trellech Primary School



Speller Metcalfe provided a donation towards school library books with a focus on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) material.

The school and the site team had regular catch ups and were discussing the school's library. It was mentioned that books on EDI would be useful in the library.

The school needed funds to be able to purchase the books they wanted for the library, that would support all pupils in the school.

We donated £250 towards them being able to purchase what they needed. We marked this donation with a cheque handover to the school.

The school can now afford to buy the books for the pupils, helping to expand their knowledge of EDI and it's importance.

30

YEAR

ANNIVERSARY

Celebrating 30 years of excellence in collaboration, innovation and sustainable construction.

SpellerMetcalfe

If you are working on projects across Cardiff, Vale of Glamorgan and Monmouthshire.

BESL & Subcontractors build a bike shed for local school

As part of our Social Value initiatives for Fairwater Community Campus, we recently collaborated with Greenhill Special School to build a brand-new bike shed. Greenhill had previously reached out to us to see if we could support their pupils with future career opportunities, but instead of inviting them to site, we decided to do something different and help them with a project they were looking to complete.

The project took several weeks to complete, having to start by initially visiting the school to speak to the pupils about what they wanted, what they needed and what would be a dream shelter (TV's and hot tubs mentioned!) We took them out to measure the area, taught them how to use a tape measure, what measurements should be taken and where it would be best suited to build.

We then used the measurements and established what size we would need for the shed, what type of roof and where to place the bike stands and electric ports. The pupils each did drawings which were then used by BESL, Ian Williams Carpentry and Central Cladding to design a bike shelter that could hold all the pupils bikes and be long lasting to accommodate future pupils. Most importantly however, our aim was to teach the students how to collaborate with different trades and to pick up new skills on the way.

After design and planning was complete, BESL, IWC, Central Cladding and Evans Electrical then attended the school to carry out the works. This experience meant the pupils were taught valuable life skills and an insight into different trades that are on construction sites. Whilst some realised that they

didn't like working outside, or had a fear of heights, others were enthusiastic about the entire build, and asked questions on how to enter the industry, and even asking for future work experience



If you are working on projects across Torfaen and would like support please get in touch.



CMB Sparkle Donation

South Wales Sports Ground's 60th Anniversary Event at Cardiff City Stadium, we met the incredible people at Sparkle Appeal and our Managing Director, Steve Borley, was so taken aback by the charity and the services they provide, he asked to donate £5,000 to show CMB's support of what they do.

Sparkle provide a wide range of incredible services including providing specialist leisure activities, running youth clubs, swimming sessions, play activities tailored to the children's individual needs, exclusive cinema screenings, family swim sessions and family events. The donation will also help provide support for families, ensuring that parents, carers, and siblings feel included, supported, and empowered.

"On behalf of everyone at Sparkle, I want to extend our deepest and most heartfelt thanks to CMB for your generous donation. Hearing about your generosity in bidding on auction items and then making the incredible decision to increase your donation to £5,000 truly moved us – it speaks volumes about your kindness and commitment to making a meaningful difference."
Rebecca McDonald, Head of Sparkle Operations

We strongly recommend anyone who hasn't heard of them before to take a look at their video via link below. They truly do some remarkable work!
<https://www.sparkleappeal.org/>

WSP Roads Cardiff, have been working with the University of South Wales, to support the development of the Highways and Transport Module on the Civil Engineering course. WSP initiated a discussion with USW to provide support in this module, to ensure it is representative of the current requirements and trends in the industry. This discussion has resulted in the assignment brief being amended to incorporate active travel considerations, equating to approx. 20% of the assignment total.

WSP Roads Cardiff provided a guest lecture alongside Transport for Wales (TfW) to 59 students on the 14th of November 2024, to support this module and assignment change and delivered aspects on the importance and requirement for active travel, the governing policies and regulations

for active travel and best practise for active travel design. WSP led the first 2 hours of the lecture which covered the policy and legislation background for the need for active travel and how Wales's approach differs to other regions of the UK and the required data collection and audits to complete an adequate active travel route. TfW led the final hour of the lecture by showcasing the various design elements of an active travel route including route and crossing options.

WSP and TfW have received positive feedback from completing this event and the University of South Wales has invited WSP to deliver this element annually and further support has been requested in other modules.



Construction Opportunities with the PRU Pupils

The Project involved the refurbishment extension of the existing 'Mounton House' building, to create a new education facility for the PRU students. Willis has worked with the team at Monmouthshire County Council and the school staff to provide opportunities, experiences and resources for the pupils moving into the new facility.

Following our initial introduction session at their current facility, we created a series of site visits for the pupils. On their first visit, the group took part in a Site Induction with the Site Manager, including the importance of wearing their PPE for tasks. We sought permission from the Client to utilise an unused garage space on the grounds to provide some hands on activities with our Carpenters to build workbenches and outdoor planters to be used in the school when they moved over to it.

After a brainstorming session to decide that equipment they wanted to build, pupils were given some practice and teamwork sessions, before actually building the wooden structures themselves.

The pupils constructed workbenches for their new workshop, and planters for outdoor spaces to benefit them in their new school. In the summer term, we will be undertaking follow up sessions to include, planting fruit and vegetables in their planters, turning the old garage space into a useable workshop complete with their work benches and other equipment, materials and signage. Follow up sessions are booked in the summer term which also include the opportunity to obtain CSCS Cards, M&E sessions and any signposting for careers in construction.

National Referral Mechanism Statistics 2024

The latest numbers of potential victims of Modern Slavery/Human Trafficking in the UK for 2024 have recently been released.

Key findings:

- A total of 19,125 potential victims were referred, a 13% increase compared to 2023 (16,990), and the highest number of referrals on record.
- The top three nationalities referred: UK – 23% Albanian – 13% Vietnamese – 11%
- 41% of total referrals were for labour exploitation – the most commonly reported type of modern slavery.
- 31% of all referrals were in respect of children (U-18).
- There were 563 referrals made in Wales.



Modern slavery in the care sector is on the rise

"Vulnerable people are being cared for by very vulnerable people."

In 2023, there were, in total, 918 potential victims identified. That is a 30% increase from 708 in 2021, and this follows a staggering 1,024% rise in 2022 compared to 2021!

Recruitment agencies have jumped on the understaffing problem, operating fake and fraudulent agencies to resource care homes.

These workers are often with minimal training, forced into long hours and in poor conditions, caring for our loved ones with little to no pay.

We have held meetings with relevant stakeholders to ensure we are doing all we can to mitigate the risk.

Modern slavery impacts many sectors, including construction, car washes, and care.highest number of referrals on record.

WILLIS
CONSTRUCTION

Official Statistics
Modern slavery: National Referral Mechanism and Duty to Notify statistics UK, end of year summary 2024
Published 6 March 2025

TACKLING EXPLOITATION & SUPPLY CHAIN TRANSPARENCY
MODERN SLAVERY STATEMENT

Financial Year: 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026



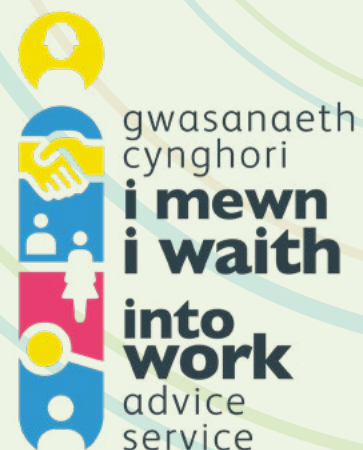
If you need support with the above get in touch with jeffrey.norman@cardiff.gov.uk

ONSITE CONSTRUCTION ACADEMY (OCA)



CAREERS DAY

CMB teamed up with the OCA with opportunities for training and then pathways for candidates. Blue Water attended as employer agency and candidates were supported to attend. Fantastic opportunity for candidates to meet employer and employees working on CMB site. Candidates were able to meet different trades people and an opportunity to discuss what roles were available, what training they had undertaken to be in their role along with the opportunities available.



ONSITE CONSTRUCTION ACADEMY (OCA)

The Onsite Construction Academy South East Wales (OCA) is a training, experience and employment programme for careers in the construction industry. Funded by CITB and delivered by the Into Work Advice Service, the OCA supports contractors and job seekers (new entrants, returners and career changers) of all ages across the Cardiff Capital Region, preparing job seekers for work in the sector through onsite experiences and funded training.

Our candidates represent some of the most disadvantaged and unrepresented demographics including the unemployed, economically inactive, long term unemployed, young people not in education/employment/training, care experienced young people, over 50s, ex-offenders, BME ethnicities and females.

We are experienced in working with tier 1 companies, contractors, supply chains and recruitment agencies, supplying reliable and committed candidates to support the achievement of Community Well-being Benefits targets around employment and skills and we are always seeking work experience and employment opportunities for our candidates.



If you need support with the above get in touch with claire.rowlands-gent@cardiff.gov.uk

Cardiff West Community High School
Construction and Engineering Project

As part of their social value and community well being targets several construction related organisations have teamed up with Cardiff West Community High School providing bespoke on site and off campus learning opportunities for year 10 construction and engineering students.

This month students learned how to construct student accommodation, and test for asbestos in specialised asbestos enclosures with Shield Services. Additionally Ian Williams Limited took the students through their paces learning quantity surveying skills while measuring their head offices, developing their understanding for transferable STEM skills from classroom to industry.



Nyth Y Deryn Construction Skills Project

As part of their social value and community well being targets several construction related organisations have teamed up with Nyth Y Deryn school providing bespoke on site and off campus learning opportunities for year 9 students.

tudents are developing their understanding of the planning, and completion processes of local construction builds, and all the skills required that support these projects. Their knowledge and understanding is being transferred to a real build at their school, creating a dog agility course for therapy dog Oreo.

