

Community Well-Being Benefits

5th edition

NEWSLETTER APRIL - JULY 2025



Welcome to the Community Wellbeing Benefits Newsletter for Quarter 1 of the Financial Year 2025/2026

We are excited to share the latest updates on the impactful work Ardal has been undertaking to enhance community wellbeing. In this edition, you will find comprehensive updates on our initiatives related to Carbon reduction, combating modern slavery, and our newly launched guide on selling to the Councils.

Additionally, we are proud to present inspiring case studies showcasing the community wellbeing benefits delivered by our contractors. These stories highlight the positive changes and improvements being made in our communities, thanks to the collaborative efforts of our partners.



We hope you find this newsletter informative and inspiring. Together, we can continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve. Thank you for your continued support.

THIS ISSUE	PAGE
Ardal updates	2
- CWB Info Sessions	2
- Selling to the Council	2
- Business Wales event	3
- Carbon	3
Completed Projects:	4
- Hale	5
- Kiingfisher Developments	6
- Encon	7
- Morgan Sindall	8
- Wates	9-12
- Lovell	13
- Kier	14-15
- Willis Construction	16
- CMB Engineering	17
Modern slavery	18
Cardiff Commitment	19
Onsite construction academy	20-21
Into work Cardiff - Travis Perkins	22

ARDAL UPDATES

CWB Info sessions



Agenda

Resources

- Onsite Construction Academy (OCA)
- Into Work
- Task force overview
- Schools

Reporting

- Newsletter
- Thrive

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.

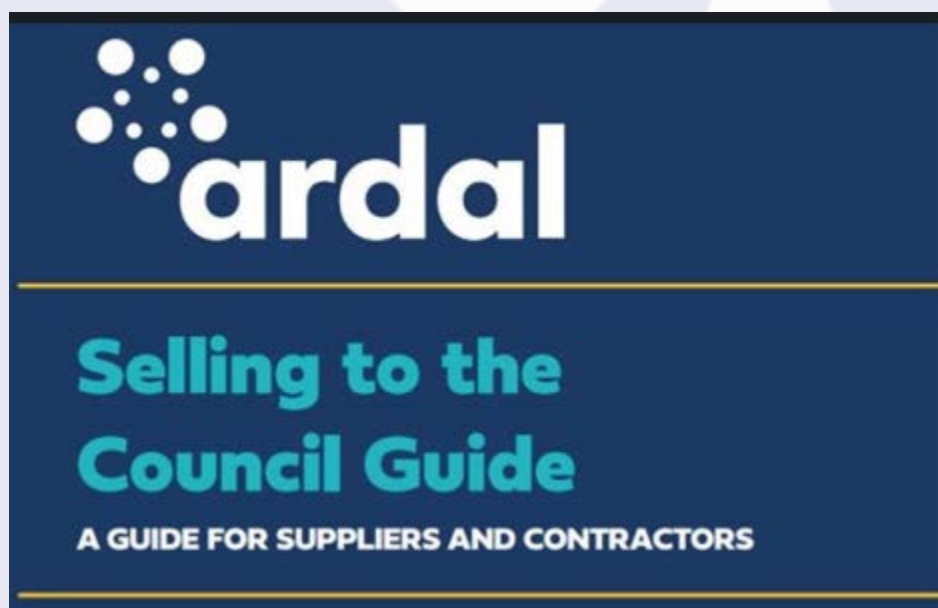
If you are on an Ardal project and wish to be involved in the next event (October 2025) then please email cwb@cardiff.gov.uk

CWB Info sessions

Calling all Welsh suppliers and contractors!

The Ardal Councils have released a useful new guide to help support you to find out about opportunities and to bid for work.

Read the guide here <https://orlo.uk/tr9Xg>



ARDAL UPDATES

Business Wales event

The Ardal team attended a Business Wales event this quarter to promote the service and network. Our Category teams were on hand to support and talk people through the Buying responsibly guide. There was also a presentation from one of the Ardal Contract Managers Trystan.



ARDAL UPDATES - CARBON

Across Wales, councils have declared a Climate Emergency - and we stand with them. From rising temperatures to biodiversity loss, the impacts are real and urgent. That's why we're committed to reducing our environmental footprint and leading by example. We're rethinking how we operate, procure, and engage - with sustainability at the heart of every decision.



<https://orlo.uk/nUIXO>

Follow Ardal on Social Media

Website:



LinkedIn:



COMPLETED PROJECTS OVERVIEW

In this quarter's newsletter, we're highlighting successful project completions from the past financial year. You'll find a selection of project overviews from contractors working across the 4 local authorities, as well as CWB initiatives they're delivering in the local area.



HALE - BUTE STREET



Project overview

The scheme is set to deliver 45 flats for our clients at Cardiff Council.

Many of these residents will be relocated from Nelson House, which is close by on Loudon Square.

These homes are built with innovative technology, such as ground source heat pumps, which will keep down fuel costs and allow residents to have a modern and efficient home.

There is also a community space on ground level, which will be run by Cardiff Council. This space will allow for different community groups to rent the space and utilise the building.

We hope that the blend of homes and community space will allow for this to be incorporated into the community and a proud place for people to live in.

Monetary Donations April 24-April 25

- NTW74/27: £2,000 towards VAWDASV and £3450 for Tanio Cymru's work with residents of Nelson House to create a Mural
- NTW73/24: £2,000 towards VAWDASV

Time donations

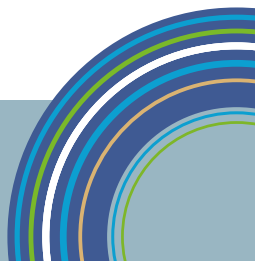
- NTW56/8: 16 hours at OCA with mock interviews and employability support and 12 hours at Job fairs
- NTW6/11: 16 hours to the shape my street project with Tredegarville Primary, 2 hours towards 2B enterprising and 8 hours at St Patricks primary with block play support
- NTW57/12: 6 weeks of work experience given

Overall employment stats

- 17 new apprentices worked on site in April 24-April 25
- 3 new trainees worked on site in April 34-25

Targetted outcomes

- New Yprentis Apprentice- Sam Coughlin
- Onsite Construction Academy- Mock interviews and offer of OSE
- Support VAWDASV Conference
- Insight into Site Build/TANIO Cymru



KINGFISHER DEVELOPMENTS

EMPLOYMENT OUTCOME THROUGH COMMUNITY WELLBEING BENEFITS IN VALE OF GLAMORGAM PROJECT



Brandon's story:

Brandon found himself living in a hostel at 16 and subsequently moved in with his partner, who he has been living with for a couple of years. He's really enjoying his time with Kingfisher and states that the *"Team are very good and it's a nice environment to be working in."*

He said that the best part of the job is feeling part of a Team, his daily duties include, moving materials, putting the mixes on and cleaning up the site.

Brandon is working on the Vale of Glamorgan's Cadoxton Primary School Project for Kingfisher Developments.

Kingfisher's Senior Site Manager, Gareth Seabourne, has quoted

"Brandon has come on hugely in the last 6 months and has grown in confidence. We have teamed him up with our ground work team and is very keen to learn new skills"

Ardal's CWB team has quoted

"Kingfisher have worked with the local community to employ Brandon and have supported him on his employment journey. This supported just shows the value of Community Wellbeing Benefits for local people. Well done Kingfisher Development and Brandon"



LECKWITH ROAD COMMUNITY LIVING SCHEME



ABOUT THE PROJECT...

The scheme will consist of 41 flats, community centre, MUGA, car parking and communal garden. All the properties will be built to Welsh Government DQR standards for use as Council rented accommodation, designed to EPC A standards.

The project is being constructed in partnership with Cardiff Council, Blake Morgan, Pentan Architects, Grays Consulting and Service Design Solutions.

Encon Construction have been engaging with a variety of organisations to deliver the Community Benefits Activities. Aligned with our social value timeline, please see to the right engagement delivered over the contract duration.



<p>50 hours of monthly litter pick to protect native wildlife with Keep Wales Tidy</p>	<p>96 hours of volunteering to support Bike the UK MS</p>	<p>50 hours supporting local community projects and 'Give & Gain' days</p>	<p>135 hours of Equality & Diversity training for staff and our supply chain</p>
<p>2,700 miles saved by implementing a Green Travel Plan</p>	<p>Development of Young Adult Career & Employment Programme supported by Action for Children and Wales</p>	<p>Local NEET resident recruited through Encon's Build Back programme</p>	<p>125 hours of local school and college engagement</p>
<p>Donation of defibrillator to side of building for wider community use</p>	<p>139 trees planted in Welsh forests via Carbon Footprint Scheme</p>	<p>12 weeks voluntary work experience to local schools and colleges</p>	<p>60 hours supporting local young people into work through CAVC taster sessions</p>
<p>670 hours supporting unemployed through career mentoring</p>	<p>Donations to MS Society Cardiff/ Canton Rugby Club/ City Youth Acting Centre/ City Rangers F.C.</p>	<p>1,589 higher apprentice training weeks NVQs, HNC's and HND's</p>	<p>Supported Winter Wellbeing Club to provide hot food and advice workshops to locals</p>

NEW WILLOWS HIGH SCHOOL

Project Location: CF24 Splott, Cardiff

Project Overview: New build which will see the existing school relocated to provide capacity for 900 learners aged 11 to 16 years, in addition to a 30 place Special Resource Base for pupils with complex learning needs.

Project Status: Current 2024-2026

Framework: SEWSCAP 3



CWB delivery highlights for financial year 2024/2025

- Local people employed onto the contract = 16 persons
- Work experience opportunities for local people = 19 weeks
- Apprenticeships = 383 person weeks
- Local School Visits = 360 hours
- Community funds provided = £51k
- Community Volunteering = 288 hours

**MORGAN
SINDALL**
CONSTRUCTION

WATES - BROOKFIELD DRIVE

BROOKFIELD DRIVE PROJECT IMPACT REPORT SEPTEMBER 2022 - FEBRUARY 2024

The Brookfield Drive development is part of the Cardiff Living Partnership, which is set to deliver 1,500 homes across Cardiff by 2027. The project handed over 28 new affordable homes to Cardiff Council in February 2024.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT



Social Value Add – Using The Social Value Portal TOMs

Total TOMs Social Value Generated Through This Project	£2,487,527.00
TOMs Social Value Delivered from Employment and Skills on this project	£397,322.00
TOMs Social Value delivered through improved employability of young people on this project	£5,192.00
TOMs Social Value delivered through investing in growth and responsible regional business on this project	£2,081,996.00
TOMs Social Value delivered through investing in healthier, safe, and more resilient communities on this project	£3,017.00



INVESTING IN EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS

Value of Wates Investment in Employment and Skills	£207,790.00
People have benefited from employment and skills initiatives on this project (Total)	47
Local people have benefited from employment and skills initiatives on this project	38
People employed on this project (including apprentices)	22
Apprentices employed on this project	13
Women employed on this project	1
BAME employed on this project	3
People furthest from the workforce supported on this project	4
Training and employment weeks created (Total)	950
Local training and employment weeks created on this project	799
Accredited training weeks created on this project	11
Number of non-accredited short training courses undertaken on this project	13
Hours invested in employment and skills on this project	3,778



INVESTING IN THE EMPLOYABILITY OF YOUNG PEOPLE

Value of Wates staff time invested into improved employability of young people	£6,703.00
Students supported by our education activities and programmes on this project	1,499 students
Hours invested by Wates and partner staff into supporting young people	105 hours



INVESTING IN GROWTH AND RESPONSIBLE REGIONAL BUSINESS

Total Wates Investment into growth and responsible regional business	£3,530,571.00
Has been spent with SME businesses on this project	£3,496,774.00
Has been invested into Social Enterprises on this project	£25,798.00
Economic benefit has been generated for the local community as a result of this spend	£2,768,218.00



Wates

EAGLESWELL PROJECT IMPACT REPORT MAY 2023 - NOVEMBER 2024

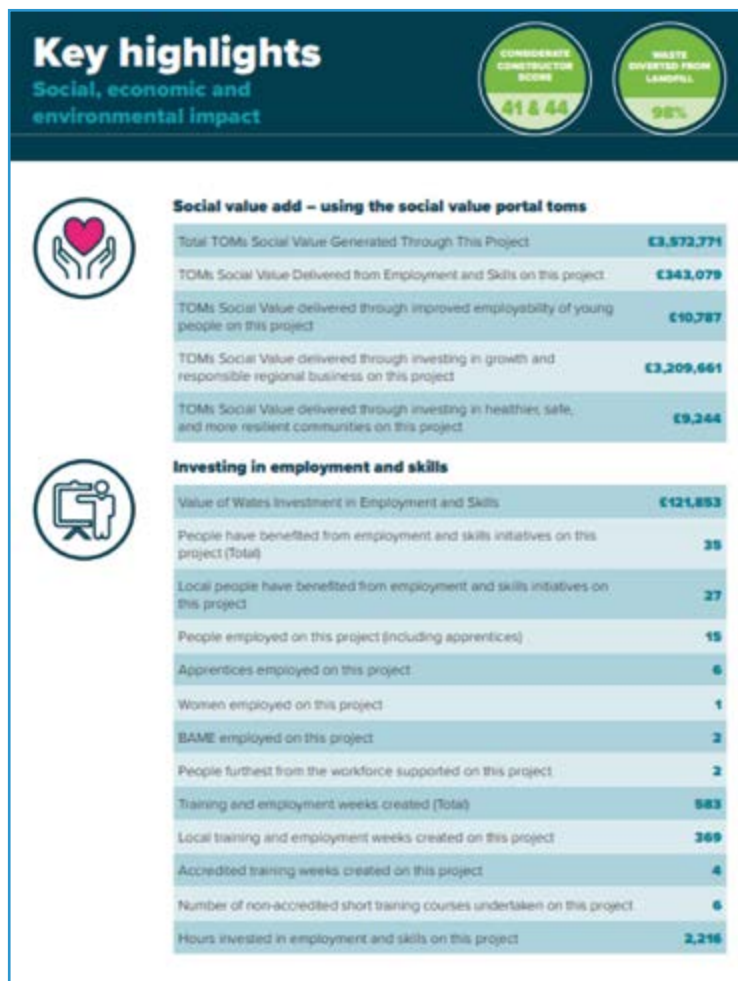
Wates has partnered with the Vale of Glamorgan Council to build 90 new modular homes on the former Eagleswell Primary School site in Llantwit Major. This project aims to address the housing crisis and support individuals experiencing homelessness.



WATES - GASWORKS PROJECT

GASWORKS PROJECT IMPACT REPORT JULY 2023 - OCTOBER 2024

Cardiff Living, a partnership between Cardiff Council and Wates Residential, aims to deliver 1,700 homes across Cardiff. The former Gasworks site in Grangetown, Cardiff, has seen 155 new modular homes built to support homeless families in Cardiff.



Wates

WATES - ASPEN GROVE & ADDISON HOUSE

ASPEN GROVE & ADDISON HOUSE PROJECT IMPACT REPORT OCTOBER 2020 - JULY 2024

Cardiff Living, a partnership between Cardiff Council and Wates Residential, aims to deliver 1,700 homes across Cardiff. The former Eastern High site in Rumney, Cardiff, now known as Aspen Grove, has seen 170 new homes built. Additionally, a Community Living Block for over 55s, called Addison House, contains 44 new apartments.



Wates

LOVELL - ST MELLONS

ST MELLONS COMMUNITY LIVING PROJECT

Project overview - Situated on Crickhowell Road, on the site of the former Youth and Community Centre, the St Mellons Community Living project will provide a total of 60 one and two-bedroom, self-contained apartments for social rent.

The new apartments will be built to very high sustainability standards and be powered by solar panels to help ensure they are affordable to power and heat for tenants. A wide range of on-site communal facilities will also be delivered, including electric scooter charging points, bicycle storage, activity rooms, residents' lounges, a health suite and landscaped gardens, enabling the new building to provide a hub of services for older people from within the wider community.

Dates - Construction work started in January 2024 and is expected to be completed in summer 2025.

Local people employed on the contract = 2

Work experience opportunity for local people = 10

Apprenticeships: Total Weeks delivered = 349

No. of hrs supporting unemployed people into work = Total (hrs) 64

Weeks of meaningful work placements/pre-employment courses = 10 weeks

No. of staff hours spent on local school and college visits = 20 hours

Equipment or resources donated to VCSEs = £2059

Number of voluntary hours donated to support VCSEs = 11.30 hours

Provision of expert business advice to 3rd sector & civil society organisations = 8 hours

Donations or in-kind contributions to local community projects = £16826

Volunteering for environmental conservation & sustainable ecosystem management = 14 hours

Initiatives to be taken to tackle homelessness = £1133

Initiatives to engage the community in health or wellbeing initiatives = 124 hours

Innovative measures relating to "A healthier Wales" delivered on contract = 170 hours

Initiatives to support people with learning disabilities = 2 staff hours



LOVELL

KIER - THE COURTS

YSGOL CYNEFIN (THE COURT SCHOOL) FAIRWATER & LLANRUMNEY

Project overview - Kier construction are delighted to be building the new Ysgol Cynefin as part of Cardiff Council and Welsh Governments band B Sustainable Communities for learning. The new school will replace the current Court ALN school in Llanishen, thus helping to meet the city's demand for primary age specialist provision. Split between two sites, the two new builds for The Court School in Cardiff will accommodate additional capacity for pupils across the city, increasing the number of places from 42 to 72 places and providing enhanced facilities adjacent mainstream primary schools. The schemes are a part of Cardiff Council and Welsh Governments band B Sustainable Communities for learning. The project will be aspired to NZC and BREEAM Excellent whilst including, CLT Frames, photovoltaic, Airsource heat pumps and rainwater harvesting.

Project status: In progress, due for completion Feb 2026

Framework: SEWSCAP

CWB highlights:

Local people employed onto the contract = 10

Work Experience opportunities for local people
= 110 people

118 weeks of trainees on the project supporting their career journey

Apprenticeships = 155 weeks

Local School Visits = 1206 hours over 15 visits
engaging with over 1803 pupils

122 hours of 'support into work' delivered including mentoring, mock interviews and career advice

Community Funds = £21,425.63

Volunteering = 802 hours



KIER - THE COURTS

Employment

Thrilled to share partnership with Cardiff Onsite Construction academy, Elite supported employment and Cardiff into work services. The team have successfully employed 6 people through these services in roles ranging from labouring, to skilled plumber to administration support.

Education

The team have successfully delivered over 200 education hours to Ysgol Pen Y Bryn, Greenhill PRU, Cantonian High School Cardiff West High School, Mary Immaculate High School, Eastern High School and the existing Court school covering topics such as Design, Ecology, Building Structures and Careers in Construction. The team have also given time supporting local students at Cardiff university through their Career Confident events and hosted over 10 weeks of work experience supporting school leavers, Cardiff and Vale College students as well as those starting their careers via Elite supported employment, supporting adults with additional learning needs.

Community

The project has significantly uplifted the local area by donating over £21k to the community from charitable donations supporting homeless projects, play sand to local schools, mud kitchens for local nurseries, to full garden refurbishment at local day centres supporting adults with additional needs. The team are incredibly proud to support local causes leaving a positive legacy in the area Kier works.

The Kier team have regularly supported local Fairwater FareShare initiatives donating supplies for pancake day and Easter and continue to support them throughout the project. The Fairwater Team have also ran workshops at local youth hostel teaching young people some essential life skills such as basic home electrics, plumbing and painting.

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



MOUNTON HOUSE – CREATION OF NEW PRU UNIT

Project Location: Chepstow

Project Overview: The scheme involved the remodelling and refurbishment of the existing building, and works to outdoor spaces. The new facility provides places for pupils and a base for the wider Pupil Referral Service, which supports children unable to attend school for a variety of reasons.

Project Status: Completed

As part of the Mouton House PRU project, Willis undertook a wide range of social value initiatives, including construction workshops with PRU pupils, apprenticeship opportunities, charitable donations, and volunteering. Key examples include:

Mouton House Pupil Construction Skills

Following an introductory session at their current facility - which included a careers talk and a guided site tour - Willis arranged a series of interactive site visits for PRU pupils.

- **Site Induction:** Pupils completed a site induction with the Site Manager, learning about site safety and PPE.
- **Hands-on Carpentry:** With permission, an unused garage space on the grounds was converted into a carpentry workshop. Pupils worked with Willis carpenters to build workbenches and outdoor planters for use at the completed school.
- **Teamwork and Skill Development:** After initial practice and planning sessions, pupils constructed their own workbenches and planters.
- **Ongoing Support:** Willis supported pupils in painting the planters and continues to offer engagement opportunities, including CSCS Card access, M&E sessions, and career signposting in the construction sector.

Chepstow Foodbank

- Paul Cachia (Health, Safety & Training Manager) and Emma Lewis (Business Development Manager) volunteered at Chepstow Foodbank, assisting with food deliveries and learning about the organisation's challenges.
- When the team shared a maintenance issue on-site, Willis arranged for carpenters to assist with repair work, continuing their support for the Foodbank's vital community efforts

Dean Farm Trust

- Willis donated £500 to help keep the animals warm over winter.
- Additionally, a team of carpenters volunteered at the farm, relocating a chicken house and building play structures for the goats as part of ongoing maintenance and support.

Community Donations

- Palmer Centre: £500 donation to support their Dementia Café, a crucial local support network.
- Foster Wales: £500 donation to assist with events, along with a commitment to ongoing support via the Foster Wales Charter.



CMB - FAIRWATER COMMUNITY CAMPUS

FAIRWATER COMMUNITY CAMPUS

Project location: Fairwater

Project Overview: Fairwater Community Campus, £110 Million project which is 4 buildings, 3 schools. Wales' largest education facility. The new home for Cantonian High School, Riverbank Primary and Woodlands High School. Including a Health & Wellbeing block.

Project Status: Current

Framework: SEWSCAP

Local people employed onto the contract =
44%

Work experience opportunities for local people
= 33 hours

Apprenticeships = 11 First Year, 12 2+ years - 21 weeks each (financial year)

Local School visits = 197 hours (financial year)

Community funds provided = £8121 (financial year)

Community volunteering = 11.5 hours (financial year)

Others = Helped set up a PTA for Pen Y Pil, Helped set up a burger van enterprise at FCC. Supported 2 people to finish their NVQ, created 11 jobs for unemployed, a further 2 for long term unemployed, 1 for an ex-offender and then 4 roles across site.



MODERN SLAVERY UPDATES

Due Diligence in Supply Chains

Due diligence in supply chains refers to the process of assessing and managing risks associated with the sourcing, production, and distribution of goods and services. It involves a thorough investigation and ongoing monitoring to ensure that suppliers and business partners comply with legal, ethical, and environmental standards.

The Ardal collaboration is committed to this process and invites an appropriate person from our many suppliers to complete the attached survey (which should only take 30-45 minutes), which we are sure might also assist an organisation to identify potential gaps in their standards.

We have already had completed questionnaires from suppliers including Wenick Buildings Ltd, Willis Construction, R & M Williams, Encon Construction, Ian Williams, Willmott Dixon Construction, SWG Construction (Build & Renovate) Ltd, Tilbury Douglas & John Perkins Construction Ltd.

We're here to help and support you in this process, so please do not hesitate to contact our specialists whose details you will find on the first page of the survey, if you have any questions or require any assistance.

Survey: <https://forms.office.com/e/hqsnfEMvgF>



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

Cardiff Commitment

Shape the Future Workforce of Cardiff — Today
Join the Cardiff Commitment and connect your business with schools and young people across the city.
What is the Cardiff Commitment?

The Cardiff Commitment is a city-wide initiative that brings together schools, employers, and community partners to inspire and support children and young people in Cardiff. Our mission is to ensure every young person can access meaningful opportunities that prepare them for the world of work

Why Get Involved?

Make a Real Impact
- Help shape the aspirations and skills of Cardiff's future workforce.

Build Your Talent Pipeline - Raise awareness of your industry and the career pathways it offers

Deliver Social Value/CSR - Demonstrate your commitment to the community delivering social value or volunteer through CSR

Collaborate with schools - co-design Careers and Work-Related Experiences (CWRE) that align with your sector.

Ways to Get Involved

- Support schools with careers and work related experiences
- Offer Work Experience, mentoring or volunteer in schools
- Join a Secondary School Business Forum
- Develop Supported Employment Pathways
- Share Post-16 opportunities via www.whatsnextcardiff.co.uk

Let's Build a Brighter Future — Together

✉ Contact: Darren Phillips, Principal Business Development Officer
✉ cardiffcommitment@cardiff.gov.uk

🌐 www.cardiffcommitment.co.uk

🌐 www.whatsnextcardiff.co.uk



ONSITE CONSTRUCTION ACADEMY (OCA)

2024-25 Highlights

Employment outcomes - 15

Onsite experiences - 19

Site Visits - 47

Career support - 8 employers



Case Study: Macauley – From Site Visit to Employment Success with Hale

Macauley had already obtained his CSCS card through the Get into Construction programme, delivered in partnership with Communities for Work+ (CFW+) and CELT+ in the Vale of Glamorgan. However, despite holding his card, Macauley lacked hands-on, on-site work experience—something he was eager to gain to kick-start a sustainable career in construction.

In March 2025, he attended a site visit at Hale in Penarth, an event organised collaboratively by the OCA, Hale, Acorn Recruitment, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), and CFW+/CELT+. Macauley showed strong interest in the industry and was particularly enthusiastic about taking part in voluntary work experience (VWE) to build his practical skills and confidence on site.

At the time of the site visit, Macauley was preparing for the birth of his child and made the decision to delay his VWE placement until after his baby was born. Once ready, a one-week VWE placement was arranged for him in June 2025.

Macauley made an immediate and lasting impression during his placement. His strong work ethic, reliability, and eagerness to learn were quickly recognised by the team at Hale. As a result, Hale offered him a job at the end of his placement and have committed to supporting him further by helping him gain his crane licence—paving the way for even more opportunities within the construction industry.

Macauley's journey highlights the power of collaborative working across local partnerships to remove barriers and support individuals into meaningful employment.



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 Wellbeing 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

INTO WORK CARDIFF - TRAVIS PERKINS

Over the past 18 months, the Into Work Employment Liaison Team and Travis Perkins Managed Services partnered on three employment projects to help unemployed residents of Cardiff. The program, which took place in February 2024, October 2024, and July 2025, provided participants with CV writing workshops, work shadowing opportunities, and one-on-one guidance. These efforts aimed to improve participants' employability, confidence, and job prospects.

Key Outcomes

Overall Engagement: From a total of 51 referrals, 25 participants attended the workshops and 24 went on to work shadowing placements.

Employment & Development: Two participants were hired for paid jobs at Travis Perkins, and three are still in volunteer placements. All attendees left with updated CVs, interview experience, and increased confidence.

Support Provided: The Liaison Officer dedicated over 130 hours to screening, workshop delivery, and ongoing support for participants across all three projects.



July 2025 Session Highlights

The most recent session saw 12 participants attend, making it one of the largest and best-prepared groups. The two-hour CV workshop focused on Travis Perkins' job requirements, with all attendees receiving tailored guidance. The participants were then all offered work shadowing placements, which were scheduled to continue into September 2025.

Success Factors

The project's success was driven by:
Strong collaboration between the Into Work team and Travis Perkins.
Continual improvements to the program based on feedback from earlier sessions.
Increased engagement from external partners like the DWP and Careers Wales.
A shared commitment to social inclusion and creating genuine opportunities.

Conclusion

This partnership has successfully provided direct job opportunities, valuable real-world experience, and personal growth for participants. This model serves as a strong example for future collaborations between local government and socially conscious businesses.

