

# Eagles Community Arena

Social Value E Report



**620**

**Local students participated** in our Stay Safe campaign

**5**

**Local schools** engaged with Building My Skills

**1**

**Northumbria University** environmental research project

**67%**

**Sub-contractors** within 20 miles of the project

**17**

**Apprentices** on site

# Introduction

## Eagles Community Arena

**This report has been produced by Esh Group's Social Value Team on behalf of Esh Construction, summarising the social, economic and environmental impact achieved from the Eagles Community Arena development, on behalf of the Eagles Community Foundation.**

The development is situated on a brown field site based in Elswick, Newcastle. The sports arena provides a new home for the Eagles Community Foundation and plays host to the region's most successful sports team, the Newcastle Eagles. The 2,800-seater venue allows the Newcastle Eagles to pursue its long-term dream of competing on the European stage whilst the Foundation will provide educational routes and workforce development opportunities.

Social Value targets were delivered in line with Esh Group's 'Constructing Local' strategy, following 4 themes:

- Employing **Local**
- Educating **Local**
- Engaging **Local**
- Buying **Local**

Key objectives relating to the Eagles Community Arena development included; maximising local procurement, supporting apprentice training, engagement with local schools and the wider community.

# Building My Skills

## Local overview



**5**

**Newcastle Schools Engaged**  
through Building My Skills

**1,065**

**Students Engaged** through  
Building My Skills

**25**

**Employability Sessions**  
through Building My Skills



## Building My Skills (BMS)

**Our established secondary school programme, Building My Skills, assists in supporting a successful transition from school to work through timetabled business engagement as part of the curriculum.**

Building My Skills is a free programme which provides students in Years 9 or above with a rounded introduction to the world of work. Each school receives 5 employability sessions throughout an academic year, with each session being delivered by a different business guest from a range of sectors.

Each business role model provides students with an introduction to their business, information about a variety of careers and employability skills guidance.

Students are supported to complete checkpoint tasks after each session which leads to completion of their own employability portfolio. The programme culminates with a Mock Interview Day for students who have fully engaged with the programme throughout the year.

**For this project, 5 local schools received the Building My Skills programme throughout the 2018/19 academic year:**



Heaton Manor School & Sixth Form



Sessions were delivered by a range of businesses, including; St. James's Placement Wealth Management, Doubletree by Hilton, PwC, Accenture & Kwik Fit.

### CHECKPOINT TASKS



My Pathway

Personal Finance



Online Appearance

Job Applications



Preparing for Interviews

“

**Working with Esh Group to deliver the Building My Skills Programme is a very positive experience. The demands of the programme encourage the development of initiative and accountability from our students resulting in them being more capable and competent. Students have responded really well to the programme because they recognise that this is advice and guidance from 'real employers.'”**



# Get into STEM

## Local overview



**2**

**Local Schools Engaged** through Get into STEM

**47**

**Students Engaged** through Get into STEM

**98%**

of schools agreed **Get into STEM linked to the curriculum\***

**85%**

**teachers agreed** it encouraged students to think about careers in STEM related subjects\*

\*Schools surveyed after being part of the Get into STEM programme

## Get into STEM

**Through our award-winning Get into STEM kits we aim to positively shape career aspirations whilst developing skill sets essential for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) careers.**

Get into STEM is a primary school programme which engages Early Years and Key Stage 1 students in construction through an interactive workshop and a construction-themed resource kit.

We deliver a 40-minute workshop to each school which aims to raise aspirations and encourage students to consider a STEM career from an early age. The STEM resource kit is provided free of charge to schools for a period of 2 weeks after the workshop, allowing classes to use it as part of the curriculum or free play.

Each STEM kit contains bright and vibrant resources which are commonly used in construction, such as foam bricks, measuring equipment, literature and personal protection equipment.

### ACTIVITIES



**Dress up and Job Roles**

**Building a Wall**



**Quantity Surveyor & Measuring**

**Architect Imagine and Design**



“

**What a fantastic resource for children. The realistic resources have been very inspiring for the children. Using them has encouraged lots of new vocabulary, role play and many conversations. It's given them a taste of the world outside the classroom and the project booklets worked very well.”**

**Mrs Clarke, Year 1 Teacher**  
Framwellgate Moor Primary School, Durham



### Considerate Constructors Scheme (CCS)

The development was part of CCS, a voluntary registration where we agree to abide by the Code of Considerate Practice.

The Code of Considerate Practice commits registered sites to care about appearance, respect the community, protect the environment, secure everyone's safety and value their workforce. Our compliance with the Code of Considerate Practice is scored on each construction site. On this project we scored 39/50.



## Site Visits

We engaged extensively with local schools, colleges and residents' groups to organise tours of the Eagles Community Arena construction site. Site visits are a great opportunity for individuals to gain an insight into the construction industry by viewing real-life examples on site.

Each visit was tailored to meet the needs of the groups, ranging from local primary schools and colleges to resident groups. Personal protective equipment was provided, and all visitors followed a pre-designated walkway, stopping to view key operations and points of interest.

Throughout this project we coordinated site visits for the following groups:

- Northumbria University students
- Students from the Nacro Ambassador Project
- Stay Safe Poster Competition Winners (local primary school students)

## Stay Safe

Through Stay Safe presentations, we aim to reduce incidents and anti-social behaviour around our construction sites whilst building stronger relationships with the local community and raising the profile of our local construction work.

We delivered Stay Safe presentations in primary schools local to the Eagles Community Arena development. Each presentation was delivered by a member of our Social Value Team and supported by the Site Management Team who provided local project knowledge.

The assembly presentation introduces students to the key dangers of construction sites and ways to stay safe, with the help of our safety mascot Dudley the Elephant.

Students were invited to participate in a competition to design a safety poster, with the winning posters being displayed on our site hoarding.

Primary Schools engaged for this project were;

- St Michael's RC Primary School
- Hawthorn Primary School
- St John's Primary School

### 3

Schools Engaged through Stay Safe

### 620

Students Engaged through Stay Safe



## Work Experience

We provide work experience placements across our sites to help people gain the valuable experience needed to improve their employability skills and differentiate themselves when competing for future jobs.

The opportunity to gain experience starts from application stage, whereby candidates apply via a formalised online application. Whilst on site, candidates are assigned to a mentor and supported to work on real tasks which helps them develop the soft skills required in the workplace.

### “

This placement has helped me put into practice the knowledge learnt at college on a real working scale.”

Level 3 Electrical Installations Student  
Newcastle College

5 Work experience placements were advertised for this site. Placement trades included; Joiner, Bricklayer, Electrician and Plumber.

To promote the work experience opportunities, 3 employability talks were delivered to students studying construction subjects at Newcastle College.

1 candidate studied Level 3 Electrical Installations at Newcastle College and was offered a job with the electrical sub-contractors upon his placement ending.

## Apprentices

Apprentices are an important part of our culture at Esh Group. Many of our senior management team began their careers as apprentices.

We offer over 15 different apprenticeship pathways in a range of disciplines, including; site, office and customer service roles. We work together with our supply chain to offer training opportunities for apprentices across our sites.



17 apprentices worked on site throughout the project in the following trades; quantity surveying, engineering, electrical and plumbing.

## Donations

We worked with Newcastle United Foundation and Princes Trust to support a community restoration project where 11 participants were tasked to improve a walkway along the city walls.

We donated materials including paint, workwear, timber, tools and other supplies to the sum of £537, the area was cleared of foliage and rubbish, graffiti was covered with paint and benches were restored with new wood.





# Environment

## Local Overview



## Research Project

We worked with MSc Environment, Health and Safety students from Northumbria University to conduct research into our carbon footprint on site.

Students were tasked with producing a Site Waste Management Plan and an analysis of the savings from connecting the site to the electricity grid instead of running a diesel-powered generator. Students presented the draft findings from the project to our Group Environmental Advisor through a presentation at Northumbria University Campus.

**Key environmental outcomes from the project include:**

- Decision Support Tool designed by Northumbria University student which will be utilised across all sites, measuring efficiency savings of connecting to the grid or running a generator.
- Carbon efficiency savings made through use of an EDF low carbon electric contract.
- Water maiden used to remove silt and discharge, reducing the need for tanking the water out with a vehicle.



Waste  
Diversion

CO2  
Efficiency



Saving Fuel

Environment  
Awareness



## BRE SmartWaste

SMARTWASTE

We use the BRE's SMARTWASTE platform which monitors and reports our environmental impact. The system helps us better manage waste, water, energy, transport, materials and ecology.

Key savings on this project include:

- 146 tonnes of waste generated
- 87.6% of waste diverted from landfill
- 127 tCO2e saved through CO2 efficiency plan
- 43,174 litres of fuel saved through connecting to the grid compared with running the site from a 40 KVA generator



## Local Procurement

We actively engaged with sub-contractors in the local area to ensure the project generated maximum value for the surrounding economy.

Working closely with Esh Construction's procurement team, we monitored spend throughout the scheme and achieved the following:

- **£3.1m of spend to sub-contractors within 24 miles of the project**
- **88.7% of the project value to sub-contractors within the North East and Tees Valley**

**Yorkshire  
& Humber**

Unit 17B,  
Astley Way  
Industrial Estate,  
Swillington,  
Leeds  
LS26 8XT

**North East  
& Tees Valley**

Esh House,  
Bowburn North  
Industrial Estate,  
Bowburn,  
Durham  
DH6 5PF