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Welcome to the latest Building Greater Exeter update. Thank you to everyone for your thoughts and feedback on the last edition, and your enthusiasm in providing us with content going forward.

We want to continue to share the good news and stories that are happening in our sector across Greater Exeter. In this edition we are pleased to feature articles from; BAM – on building the new Nightingale Hospital in Exeter, Kier – on adapting site operating procedures, and the story of Furlough from steering group member Charlotte Olver of Vistry Partnerships.

We have also published an overview of the variety of information available on **Site Operating Procedures** on the website – if there is anything else you would like us to include, please contact the team.

As always, we welcome your feedback, if you have something you want to share, or any ideas for future updates, please let us know: info@buildinggreaterexeter.co.uk

In the meantime, stay safe.



Matthew
Matthew Cousins
Chair, Building Greater Exeter

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BAM – Nightingale Hospital

Progress continues at a great pace on site at #nhsnightingale Exeter. #Thanks to everyone especially the BAM Construct UK team for their efforts this week in all areas especially getting ready for the first modular buildings that arrived today. Internals are now being driven by the MEPH above ceiling work. Lots of challenges working at this speed but the skills and clever thinking alongside great organisation is keeping things on track. What always strikes me is the fantastic attitude of everyone on site wanting to make a difference for our community and beating this virus- #thankyou one and all!



Graham Kingdon
Construction Director, BAM Construction



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An update on St Sidwell's Point

Construction at St Sidwell's Point is progressing well, with our site team continuing works in accordance with Public Health England guidance and in line with the Construction Leadership Council's Site Operating Procedures (SOP). Our site team have introduced new ways of working to keep everyone safe and allow works to continue.

Collaboration remains key to the delivery of this project, with a strong team culture amongst the site team, supply chain partners and client which has allowed effective implementation of new procedures. Everyone has adapted well to new ways of working.

Managing Social Distancing

We have reconfigured the welfare facilities for site operatives to enable social distancing requirements to be achieved. When colleagues are taking breaks, we have divided up spaces into bays and pods to enable safe distancing, with breaks staggered and cleaned between sit-downs. In addition there is now a one-way system, which enables the most efficient and safe movement around the site offices and welfare areas.

In the interests of both health and wellbeing and the environment, we have also enhanced the cycle store, as we have had an increase in the number of people taking to pedal power to travel to work.

Progress

Works are progressing well, the concrete has been poured for the frame of the confidence and learner pool and the spectator seating area. The concrete for the main pool is now complete.

Work continues on the three stair cores and the upper floors over the upcoming weeks. All of the concrete frame works have been delivered by Kier's sub-contractor Stephensons.

South West based G-Works have been delivering groundworks on the scheme and are continuing on the retaining wall for the elevations at the front of the external facade for the project.

T-Clarke, who will be working on the M&E installation, will be starting on site soon and their works will include the fit out in the swimming pool plant room.

The strength of the construction industry is defined in collaboration and the ability to work together to overcome the challenges, and we want to thank our supply chain, client team and consultants in supporting us in the delivery of this fantastic project for Exeter.



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The Partnerships Team are continuing to offer help, advice and guidance to our customers. At present, we are not able to meet with you face to face but are available by SKYPE, email, telephone, social media. Our priority is to help construction businesses through this challenging time with a clear focus upon how we can support the industry to retain skills.

Please continue to keep looking on our website for updates regarding our response to the current situation

www.citb.co.uk/urgent-messages

Our CEO Sarah Beale is emailing customers daily with CITB updates.

You can also read a copy of those messages at: www.citb.co.uk/about-citb/news-events-and-blogs

After careful consideration, CITB believes that prioritising funding to give employers maximum support during the COVID-19 crisis is the right thing to do in these testing times. For this reason, our focus in the year ahead will be on direct funding for employers' immediate skills and training activity, and support for apprenticeships. This means we need to stop or suspend many of our other funded programmes and projects.

We are also talking to the Department for Education about options that may be available to reduce this year's Levy bills. Details on the outcome of those discussions, and our funding decisions, will be included in our revised 2020/21 business plan, the Stability Plan, to be published in June.

HS&E TESTS: Following the Government announcement on 10 May, CITB is re-establishing the **Health, Safety and Environment testing operations in England.**

All Pearson Professional Centres in England will be operational from Monday 18 May with our ITC network being phased back on a one by one basis once they have confirmed the implementation of new social distancing measures.

COVID-19 SITE SAFETY CHECKLISTS & FORMS:

During the pandemic it is essential that the workforce is protected to minimise the risk of infection on construction sites.

We have worked hard with CLC and others to produce a comprehensive range of checklists and forms. Guidance on issues such as close working, cleaning and what employees should do if they become unwell is included are available to download here.



Job Shop Continues

Whilst we can't currently meet people in person, we are still running our Construction Job Shop every **Wednesday morning 9.30am - 12noon 01392 265230**



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Charlotte's Furlough story

Like so many others across the UK I have been put on the Government Furlough Scheme to support my company at these difficult times.

At first I wrote down every job I've always wanted to do round my house/garden but never found the right time to do them without wasting precious weekend time. My garden and house hasn't looked better, if I do say so myself. Being a new build I've really had the time and energy to make personal touches here & there and make my house into a home. Secondly, I instantly signed up to as many local volunteer sites as possible, as I knew how much I could help.

Since then I am an active member of the Newton Abbot COVID-19 Mutual Aid Group, started up by local members of the community. I now each and every week help so many people in need, from prescription runs to food shopping. Most of all I am a friendly familiar face to a number of elderly single individuals that I support. Every week I support a single dad of 4 who has a very high

risk child and is unable to leave his property, two lovely older ladies who make my heart warm with the kind words and gratitude, as well as so many strangers I deliver to daily who are so thankful I can help.

I am already very passionate regarding community engagement and social value (which is a good thing, seeing as I'm a Social Value Manager after all). However, the community spirit that has been demonstrated time after time during this pandemic is something I am so glad to witness. I've spoken to neighbours to I've never had before, had conversations with people who just wanted somebody to talk to and I've seen so many different age groups support one another.

If there is one positive from this virus is that we will always support one another, regardless if they are strangers or not as this is what makes Britain Great.

Charlotte Olver
Vistry Partnerships



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COUNCIL BUYS FORMER FLYBE TRAINING ACADEMY

The vacant former Flybe Training Academy at Exeter Airport has been bought by Devon County Council. The deal, confirmed on Thursday morning, will see Exeter College on behalf of the council run a new academy to offer training for high-tech jobs in engineering, digital, construction and clean growth.

Devon County Council is investing almost £4 million into the project that will offer inspirational opportunities for the region's young people, while also offering adults the chance to upskill or retrain into a chosen career.

<https://www.exe-coll.ac.uk/big-boost-for-devons-economic-recovery>

Southern Construction Framework are Recruiting!

The Southern Construction Framework is growing. In the South West region our annual turnover comfortably exceeds £200m per annum and in the 20/21 financial year is likely to exceed £400m. Due to our growth and the increasing demands from our users, this post has been created to support the Framework Operations Manager (South West), to ensure the continued success of the South West region.

In addition, SCF is in the process of setting up a supplementary consultancy framework and investigating the options of creating a housing framework.

Whilst day to day the post holder will focus on the operational delivery of services to our construction framework users in the South West, you will also work collaboratively with the wider framework team across the SCF geography to ensure the framework continues to improve and evolve. You will also be supporting us in the creation of new Framework offerings both SCF Consult and SCF Housing.

<https://scfsolutions.org.uk/were-recruiting>



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Build UK accommodation website

The Open Doors website now features over 370 accommodation providers and more than 24,000 beds available across the UK. If you are a provider, or a #construction worker who requires accommodation in an area not covered, please get in touch via: <https://opendoors.construction>

Government Webinar for Construction – Monday 1 June 11am

The UK Government, in consultation with industry, has produced guidance for businesses in England, to help ensure workplaces are as safe as possible. Join this free webinar, hosted by the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, to find out more about how to make your workplace COVID-secure.

This webinar is designed to be relevant for people who run outdoor working environments.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/working-safely-during-coronavirus-construction-other-outdoor-work-tickets-105953257044?utm-medium=discovery&utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attend-share&aff=estw&utm-source=tw&utm-term=listing>

BUSINESS SUPPORT

All 3 local authorities in the Building Greater Exeter area have a wide range of resources and support available for all businesses, particularly whilst responding to the COVID-19 situation, the links for these are:

Exeter City Council

<https://www.exeter.gov.uk/clean-safe-city/community-safety/coronavirus/business-and-employers>

Teignbridge

<https://www.teignbridge.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-help-and-advice/coronavirus-updates/business-support>

East Devon

<https://www.eastdevon.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/businesses-employers-and-employees>

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