



Southern Construction
Framework

SCF Social Value Report

2026

Contents

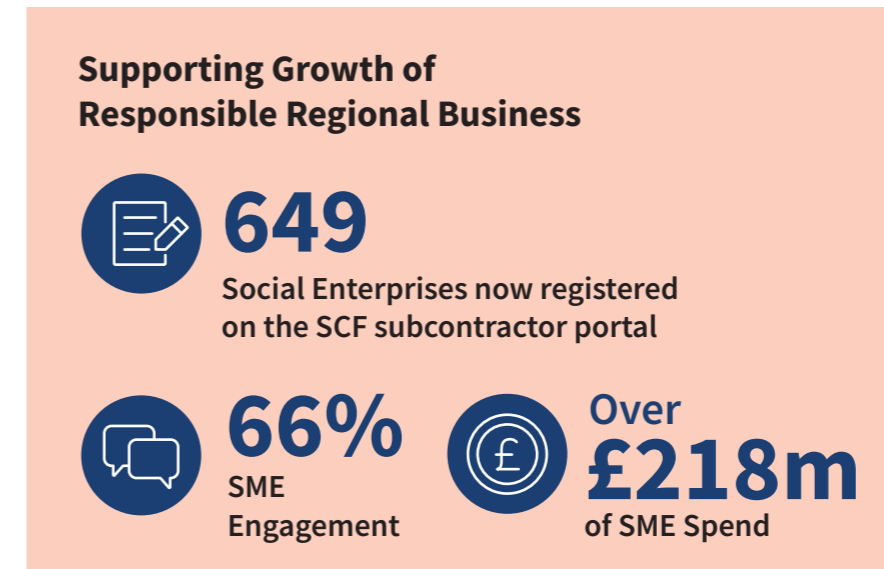
- Local Skills and Employment **4**
- Supporting Growth of Responsible Regional Business **10**
- Healthier, Safer, and More Resilient Communities **12**
- Decarbonising and Safeguarding our Work **14**

“ Each project is an opportunity to leave a positive legacy. Whether that’s supporting local people into employment or strengthening community resilience, our aim is to ensure that the benefits of construction are felt long after the project is complete. This report captures the real outcomes being delivered across SCF projects.

Adrienne Turner,
SCF Framework Manager



SCF Social Value Impact



Executive Summary

Social value has become a defining priority in the construction industry, shaping how organisations procure and deliver projects for the public good. As the sector continues to face persistent capacity challenges and an acute skills shortage, embedding social value not only strengthens the workforce but also ensures the creation of local legacy that can be experienced beyond the construction of the project.

The introduction of the Procurement Act 2023 and its shift from “most economical” to “most advantageous tender” has further accelerated this focus, requiring public sector projects to demonstrate meaningful social, economic, and environmental outcomes.

At SCF, social value is measured and reported in the legacy our projects leave. Through the use of Social Value TOMs, Contractors, Clients, and Consultant teams work collaboratively to deliver legacy in line with the need of the local community. With the industry facing a shortage in construction skills, SCF Contractors are committed to delivering an Employment and Skills plan for every project, bringing the development of local skills and employment to the forefront of construction projects.

“ Working in partnership with our contractors, clients, and communities is at the heart of everything we do. It’s incredibly rewarding to see the difference this makes in practice, and this report brings that to life. Showcasing the real impact SCF and our contractors are delivering across the regions.

Gabby Stevens
SCF Framework Manager



Local Skills and Employment - Apprenticeship Stories

Winner of SCF Apprentice of the Year (SE & London) Zak Scarborough, Rowan Wood School

Assistant Site Manager, Galliford Try

What attracted you to the construction industry?

My Grandad was a carpenter, later a site supervisor/manager, and my dad was also a plasterer, so I've always been surrounded by it. I also really like how every day holds something different, and as the project progresses the challenges and site change with it, keeping it interesting.

Tell us more about the project you're currently working on, what are your roles and responsibilities?

I am working on Rowan Wood School in Kidbrooke with Greenwich Borough Council constructing a new 128 place SEN school for KS3-KS5 students. It will provide learning spaces suited to their needs and allow them to have more support during their studies. I'm assisting in the day to day running of site. This includes coordinating trades and workfaces, management of health, safety and environment to ensure compliance, management of quality and maintaining good relationships with the local residents and coordination of site activities.



Winner of SCF Apprentice of the Year (SW) Hayden Smith, Bristol Beacon

Management Trainee, Willmott Dixon

What's the best part of your apprenticeship?

The opportunity to learn on the job, gaining invaluable hands-on experience alongside some of the best professionals in the industry, while also working towards a fully funded qualification that sets you up for long-term career success.

What would you say to someone thinking about doing an apprenticeship in the construction industry?

Having the opportunity to learn on the job while studying at the same time places you in the best possible position within the industry, developing you not only professionally, but personally as well.

What advice would you give them for their first few months?

Ask lots of questions, be keen and ready to 'roll your sleeves up' and always be there and available to get stuck in to take on new challenges.



Connor Thurston
Assistant Supply Chain Manager
Morgan Sindall

"I really enjoy travelling to different projects. I get to set my own schedule, and every day brings something new, whether it's working with different project teams or building relationships with our supply chain."

Isabel Crossen
Assistant Site Manager
Tilbury Douglas

"Seeing the building evolve through the various construction phases makes me feel proud that our work is going to benefit the local community for generations to come."

Amber Shippey
Project Management Apprentice
Mace Consult

"Working on a secure children's home has also deepened my appreciation of the specific design, safeguarding and operational considerations needed to support young people with complex needs."

Katie Rides
Site Manager Apprentice
Bam

"Katie's an excellent role model to young people. She is involved with education activity and has created a career journey vlog. The vlog has been instrumental in reaching and inspiring disengaged young people."

Local Skills and Employment

Kier - Hard Hat Ready Programme – Winner of SCF Social Value Award 2025

Developed with City College Plymouth, Kier are addressing workforce needs through their “Hard Hat Ready” programme. This is a free, 5-week training initiative that introduces participants to construction trades, whilst enhancing their numeracy skills and providing hands-on experience at an on-site training centre, culminating in earning their CSCS card.

Kier work with subcontractors to understand their vacancies and connect them with Hard Hat Ready students, creating direct opportunities for meaningful employment. This initiative promotes social mobility and inclusivity, transforming lives and addressing workforce demands in one of Plymouth’s most deprived areas.




Since its launch, Kier have supported 90% of learners into employment, either directly in Kier or within its supply chain and other construction companies leaving a lasting legacy.



Morgan Sindall – Knowledge Quad

To support local employment within the Royal Borough of Greenwich, a Knowledge Quad was established at the Woolwich Leisure Centre site. Here, Morgan Sindall delivered a range of programmes to upskill workers in numerous trades, deliver CSCS card training, and offer a range of employability training sessions such as mock interviews and CV support. The cabin is fully equipped and used by both internal staff and external partners including training providers, school, and colleges.



-  In collaboration with Portland Training, CSCS card training for 10 Greenwich residents
-  34 local people undertook short courses
-  41 local people gained work experience 2 x 14-week accredited construction courses.

Bam – Open Sites

Aiming to inspire local young people, career changers, and job seekers, “Open Sites Week” showcases how buildings are constructed, and the diverse range of skills and careers needed to deliver major city projects, like Plymouth Community Diagnostic Centre.

Bam welcomed T-Level students studying design surveying and planning from the City College Plymouth on a site tour of the new NHS building. Bam gave an inciteful careers and skills talk, outlining their work with Building Plymouth and the Skills Launchpad to provide exciting opportunities during the project and beyond.

Local Skills and Employment

Nevada - SCF - Broadmeadow Leisure Refurbishment - Student Site Visit

Students were welcomed to the SCF Broadmeadow Leisure project for a guided site visit, providing a real-world insight into construction and the delivery of a key public facility.

During the visit, the Nevada team explained key stages of the build, including site safety procedures, and the coordination of different trades. Students were also introduced to the roles of Project Managers, Site Managers, Engineers, and subcontractors, helping them understand how collaboration across the project team contributes to the successful delivery of complex community infrastructure, that leaves a positive legacy, while providing students with a first-hand experience of a live construction site.



Knights Brown

Knights Brown participated in Build Torbay’s “Foundations for Work” event, supporting local employment.

They identified candidates for jobs & apprenticeships via Construction SWAP delivered by social enterprise Eat That Frog C.I.C.

Collaboration included:

- DWP
- South Devon College
- VentureRecruit UK
- Knights Brown social value team

This is a strong example of social enterprise use, community impact, and a local skills pathway.

SCF Focus

Generation for Change

As part of our commitment to social value and skills development, Gabby’s involvement on the G4C (Generation for Change) committee strengthens our connection with the next generation of construction professionals. G4C is the young professional voice of the UK built environment industry and plays a key role in driving positive change across construction through Constructing Excellence.

Through this role, our team actively supports engagement with young people by promoting careers in construction, attending schools and outreach events, and participating in industry networking with other early-career professionals. This involvement helps inspire future talent, encourages greater diversity within the sector, and fosters meaningful collaboration with peers who are shaping the future of the built environment.



Framework Apprentice – Will Brench-Jones

What does a normal day look like, what are your roles and responsibilities?

My roles and responsibilities are varied day to day, with key themes of data collation and analysis, specifically within my role at the SCF. I also spend time sitting alongside projects, and project updates to ensure all meeting minutes are taken and distributed. Over the past few months, more responsibility has come my way, with client facing positions starting on projects, while still working with my director to shadow my work.

What advice would you give them for their first few months?

You’re not going to learn everything immediately. Absorption of information is the key to learning through exposure so just turn up and listen!



Supporting Growth of Responsible Regional Business

Mental Health Awareness - Atlantic House, Willmott Dixon

Willmott Dixon Interiors is committed to supporting local communities beyond construction. During a fit-out for Thames Valley Police, Willmott Dixon Interiors worked in partnership with MCS to host a successful mental health talk for local supply chain partners.

Led by the Lighthouse Charity, the well-attended event raised awareness of mental health challenges in the construction industry. To create a welcoming atmosphere, attendees also enjoyed a delicious pizza lunch, provided as part of Willmott Dixon's commitment to looking after the people who help bring projects to life.

Social Enterprises and Driving Community Value - Brixton House Theatre, Galliford Try

Local Artwork and Restoration

Rising up from the ground floor is a pink cantilevered staircase, and greeting visitors and users of the theatre at each floor level is a mural from local artist Damilola Odusote. Known for his eclectic, intricate, illustrative work, Damilola was given free reign by Lambeth Council.

Painted on the side of Carlton Mansions, the Nuclear Dawn mural was given a new lease of life. Created in the 1980s when Britain was in the clutches of the Cold War, it has been fully restored by local artist, Morganico, and muralists Paul Butler and Linda Jane James. Brian Barnes MBE, one of the original creators of the mural, has been a regular visitor throughout.



Supporting SME's

£31.9 million (83%) of the contract spend of Brixton House was awarded to SME organisations.

A joint venture with Transport for London (TFL) established a Skills Hub to support local residents aspiring to join the construction industry. The initiative engaged 2,000 residents, provided PPE, organised site tours, offered mentorship, and hosted bi-weekly training sessions. Fourteen apprenticeships and six full-time job opportunities were created, with 85% filled by Lambeth residents.

SCF Intermediate - Supporting Local Businesses

Knights Brown

- Prioritising local subcontractors and suppliers, tied to carbon reduction and supply-chain strengthening.
- Encouraging our workforce to use local shops and services.
- Early market engagement and local recruitment
- Capability workshops and accredited training

Ascia Construction

HSDC Teaching block:

- £1.1m local spend with SMEs (20m radius). £11k of local sourced materials.

Fareham College:

- £1.5m local spend with SMEs. £61k of local materials.

SCF – Generating Responsible Regional Business

Supply Chain Resilience - Round Table

In 2025, SCF brought together Main Contractors, Subcontractors, Consultants, and Clients to discuss the importance of supply chain resilience in the current market and the impact this can have on communities. This Round Table was underpinned by our annual supply chain survey, which captured the view of over 50 subcontractors. Insights from the consultation provided practical recommendations to the industry for improving resilience and ensuring effective risk management and allocation.

“We live and die by our supply chain. If one of the main contractors goes under, the ripple effect across the industry is huge. It’s not just about one company failing—it’s about hundreds of subcontractors, projects stalling, and communities impacted.”



[Click here to read more: “Resilient Futures: lessons for a stronger supply chain”](#)

Healthier, Safer, and More Resilient Communities

Improving Physical Health and Lifestyle

Contractors take the wellbeing of their staff, and that of their subcontractors seriously. In the same way that they work to make sites safer and to provide support for mental health they are increasingly providing guidance about healthy lifestyles and offering health checks.

Morgan Sindall, Alderwood School

During the Alderwood School project, Morgan Sindall provided their employees and supply chain partners with the opportunity to attend a Healthy Lifestyle Assessment provided by partner organisation, The Healthy Employee.

Health checks looked at metrics such as blood pressure, blood glucose level, prostate cancer testing for males and thyroid testing for females along with lifestyle choice questionnaires. As a result of that assessment, quite a high proportion were referred to their GP.

In addition, personalised data about nutrition, alcohol use, sleep, activity and stress was produced to show people, perhaps for the first time, that their lifestyle choices are putting them at risk of disease, and they can now seek advice and support from their GP. Following on from this health assessment, the project is looking to use their provider to deliver sessions on healthy eating and lifestyle options.

Tilbury Douglas, Luminous Oak

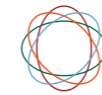
In 2025, Tilbury Douglas delivered 24 Health and Wellbeing promotional events on topics as wide ranging as prostate cancer awareness, financial wellbeing, sleep and fatigue and suicide awareness.

Flu Jabs - Every October Tilbury Douglas offers their colleagues free flu jabs. This not only protects employees by lowering the chances of getting the flu, but it also protects others, particularly vulnerable members of society.

PSA Testing - Tilbury Douglas made free PSA Prostate cancer blood testing available to all male employees aged 37 and over who haven't previously been tested through a Tilbury Douglas scheme in the last 12 months. Prostate cancer often develops without obvious symptoms. Many men won't know they have it until it's already advanced. A simple PSA blood test can help detect early warning signs, often before symptoms appear. Early diagnosis dramatically improves the chance of successful treatment and can save lives. Offering this test is a proactive step in supporting the long-term health of its workforce.

Supporting Local Communities

Knights Brown - Community Volunteering & Local Support



Team volunteers carried out a "Creek Christmas Clean", removing large volumes of litter along Ports Creek.



Delivered food donations to The Hive, supporting vulnerable residents across the city.

Willmott Dixon - DfE Headquarters

Total donations: £4,395.00

- **Westminster Chapel Christmas Foodbank Donation - £574.77**
- **Christmas Toy Donation - £2009.35**
- **Youth Football Club Donation - £499.96**
- **The Abbey Centre Easter Egg Donation - £610.00**
- **The Abbey Centre Foodbank Donation - £225.00**
- **T Level Placement Donation - £200.00**
- **Wrap Up London Coat Donation - £240.00**
- **4 Windows Laptops for the T Level Learners to keep.**

Volunteering - Galliford Try, Surrey & Borders Partnership, ACU

Galliford Try engaged local charities, including a volunteering event with Rosamund Community Garden in Guildford, constructing a garden hub using cob, wattle and daub building techniques.



Decarbonising and Safeguarding our World

Embedding Green Skills in the Supply Chain

Bam, Lyde Green School

Due to complete in June 26, Lyde Green Primary and Secondary School in Bristol will be a flagship sustainable development for South Gloucestershire Council. Designed to create a comfortable, energy-efficient learning environment, the schools exemplify sustainable design principles.

The Cross Laminated Timber frame helps to deliver a low embodied carbon building, achieving ~ 530 kgCO₂/m² upfront embodied carbon. Operational carbon is also minimised through the Passivhaus design which incorporates triple glazing, enhanced insulation and airtightness, heat recovery ventilation, and air source heat pumps to deliver a target energy use intensity of 54 kWh/m²/year.

Willmott Dixon, Hounsome Fields

In 2025, Willmott Dixon completed Hounsome Fields School, delivering the first primary school developed by Hampshire County Council to target Passivhaus Classic Certification.

Achieving Passivhaus Certification requires a strong quality of workmanship, in partnership with the Supply Chain Sustainability School, Willmott Dixon launched a tailored 5-hour course for the project team and its supply chain partners centred around Net Zero Carbon and Sustainable Construction. This has resulted in over 900 hours of Green Skills training.



Low Carbon in Construction

Morgan Sindall, Forest Gate Police Station

Morgan Sindall are supporting the MET Police with the refurbishment of their Forest Gate Police Station, a multi-storey building undergoing significant roof reconstruction and fit-out. Maintaining optimal internal temperatures was critical for curing materials, drying existing walls, and maintaining a stable environment for further works.

To address these needs, a 250kW Biomass Wood Pellet Boiler was installed in a 20ft shipping container on-site. The system was designed to provide consistent and energy efficient heating across the ground, first, and second floors of the building. The enclosed system in the shipping container ensured fire safety while running 24/7 during the project. The use of a wood pellet boiler provided a sustainable, eco-friendly solution while maintaining low operating costs.

Sharing Carbon Intelligence

Corstorphine & Wright, Sustainability Champions

A fundamental aspect of C&W's Roadmap to Net Zero was the formation of a cross-studio team of Sustainability Champions. Consisting of colleagues from different levels and roles their Champions have responsibility for increasing their skills and expertise and cascading these into their studios through active promotion and knowledge sharing within each project team.

To support these endeavours, Sustainability Champions have achieved various Certificated Training programmes, including BREEAM Associated Professional Certification, Certified Passivhaus Designer, and WELL Standard Certifications. Their role encompasses the integration of this knowledge into projects and the dissemination of these skills throughout their respective Studios, and design teams.

SCF, Carbon Working Group

SCF Contractors and Consultants are committed to sharing best practice through the "SCF Carbon Working Group". This collaborative forum is used to share carbon intelligence, lessons learnt, and data to promote best practice across SCF projects.

Since its formation, this group has collaboratively created two interactive guidance tools, to help support project teams in their Carbon Literacy.

[SCF Net Zero Carbon Guidance](#) [Biodiversity Net Gain Guidance](#)