Strengthening social partnership



Merthyr Tydfil Bus Station

The Merthyr Tydfil Bus Station, funded by Welsh Government, provides the town with a state-of-the-art bus interchange and has set the benchmark for green transport infrastructure in Wales.

The project, led by Morgan Sindall, was delivered on time, within budget, scored 10/10 for customer satisfaction, and was designed with sustainability as the primary focus.

Procured by Merthyr County Borough Council through the South East and Mid Wales Collaborative Construction Framework, the £12m project has no gas or fossil fuel supplies, with its heating and hot water provided through green renewable sources, as well as a rainwater harvesting system that serves the toilet facilities. Highlights of applying Circular Economy principles include:

- The use of materials such as recycled natural stone and timber soffits.
- Layered construction allowing for easier maintenance and deconstruction at the end of its life.
- 100% waste diversion rate.
- Reduced construction carbon by 50 tonnes, through elimination of generators and switching to green energy suppliers, use of hybrid excavators, full energy audits and the cascading of these key requirements throughout the supply chain.

The socially responsible procurement framework ensured 94% of spend remained local, 18 local people new to the construction industry were employed on the project, and 807 weeks of new

entrant employment were achieved, exceeding the project target by 77%. In addition, six apprentices were employed on the scheme, forging new careers in the industry. Sub-contractors were able to attract new people to the industry through the provision of support and encouragement from the contractor. Those training and employment opportunities have enabled new entrants to gain qualifications and secure long-term employment following project completion.

A Project Charter was developed through a strong client-contractor relationship, which helped embed the council's requirements throughout the supply chain: namely the drive to employ local people, increase spend with local businesses, and engage with local schools and college. A project bank account was also implemented, ensuring security and simultaneous supply chain payments – this enabled some supply chain members to make investments that would improve their prospects of winning future work.

More information about the project can be found here: <u>Morgan Sindall deliver first electrified busstation in Wales | Morgan Sindall Construction</u>.

