

Weekly News Summary

24th October 2023

Forecasters now warn construction recession to last to

2025: Forecasters have downgraded the expected construction recovery next year warning the industry is now set to remain in recession until the start of 2025. High interest rates will continue to drag down housing activity with infrastructure and even industrial activity expected to slide in 2024. The scale of next year's contraction will be far less than this year's expected 6.8% fall. To read more Click [Here](#)

Planning approvals up 32% on last year:

Contract awards are down, starts are down but planning approvals are up, according to Glenigan. According industry monitoring firm Glenigan, detailed planning approvals in the third quarter of the year were up 12% on the second quarter and 32% ahead of 2022 levels. This sign of construction work coming down the line offers a ray of hope for green shoots of recovery, Glenigan suggest. To read more Click [Here](#)

Construction companies are doing 'too little' to reach

2050 net zero targets, say half of project managers: 50% of construction project managers answered "too little" when asked if they felt if their company was doing too much, too little, or enough, to reach 2050 net zero targets. A new survey from the Association for Project Management (APM) shows the pessimistic outlook amongst construction project managers towards achieving the government's 2050 net zero targets- with half believing that their company is not doing enough. To read more Click [Here](#)

Engineering construction workers vote to strike over pay:

Thousands of engineering construction workers at energy sites across the country have voted to strike. The action could include up to 3,000 workers at Stanlow, Fawley, Valero, Grangemouth and Mossmorran Oil Refineries, as well as at the Sellafield nuclear facility. Further strike votes are also expected at Drax and Hartlepool nuclear power station in the coming days. To read more Click [Here](#)

Currencies	Last	Chg.	Chg. %
FTSE 100	7,352.90	-21.93	-0.30%
DAX	14,787.65	-13.07	-0.09%
Euro Stoxx 50	4,037.35	-4.40	-0.11%
S&P 500	4,217.04	-7.12	-0.17%
Nikkei 225	31,062.35	99.95	0.32%
Dow Jones	32,936.41	-190.87	-0.58%
FTSE 100 Futures	7,370.00	-1.50	-0.02%

Current value as at 8:59 BST, 24th Oct 2023

ABOUT UKR

UKR is an established construction recruitment agency supplying trades & labour to the UK construction industry. We recruit at all levels across the following disciplines: Construction, Civil Engineering, Mechanical & Electrical, Rail and Utilities on a temporary, contract and permanent basis.

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In pictures | Farrans installs Govan-Partick Bridge main span: The main span of Glasgow's Govan-Partick Bridge was lifted and put in place this week by Farrans Construction, the main contractor leading the project. The structure arrived last week at Yorkhill Quay, close to the site where it was installed, after sailing up the River Clyde by barge. It left Westdorpe, in the Netherlands, on 7 October before being transported along Dutch canals. The pylon and cabling were installed prior to sailing to the Clyde estuary and up the river.

To read more click [Here](#)

A Victorian renaissance in Crystal Palace: A grand Victorian underpass that once connected the Crystal Palace with a neighbouring station is being restored to its former glory. Will Mann reports from south London. The Crystal Palace Subway is one of London's hidden – and largely forgotten – subterranean treasures. It was built in 1865 to give rail passengers alighting at the new High Level station a shortcut to the Crystal Palace, reassembled following the 1851 Great Exhibition in Hyde Park at a site on Sydenham Hill in south London.

To read more click [Here](#)

GRAHAM lands £20m Lincoln infrastructure deal: GRAHAM has been appointed by the City of Lincoln Council to design and deliver a £20m infrastructure package for its Western Growth Corridor development. Work will include the design and construction of new bridges and access routes connecting the city to the regeneration site which will contain 3,200 new homes. GRAHAM will start main construction work next year and a range of ground surveys are now underway. To read more click [Here](#)

Bidders day for £650m concrete road upgrades: National Highways is set to hold a bidders day ahead of a delivery partners shake-up for its major programme of concrete road replacement and repair work across the country. The works will be split between two frameworks, one covering major renewals works and the other minor works and repairs. To read more click [Here](#)

Balfour Beatty bags £43m Piccadilly line works: Transport for London (TfL) has awarded Balfour Beatty a £43m contract for works on London Underground's Piccadilly line. Piccadilly line is the second contract to be awarded under the London Underground High Voltage (HV) Power framework, to which Balfour Beatty was appointed last year. Balfour Beatty will be responsible for the design, supply and installation of new assets at Hatton Cross and Hounslow substations including transformer rectifiers, high voltage and low voltage switchboards, direct current switchboards, auxiliary transformers and associated cable routes. To read more click [Here](#)



Planning Leads

Title	Location	Value	Publish Date
Extension to HMO	Doncaster	£100,000	24/10/2023
Conversion to Flat	Portsmouth	£100,000	24/10/2023
9 Flats	Redhill	£1,500,000	24/10/2023
Extension to Cafe	Bournemouth	£100,000	24/10/2023
Conversion to Student Accomadation (3	Manchester	£100,000	24/10/2023
Conversion to Dwelling	Taunton	£100,000	24/10/2023
Conversion to 2 Dwellings	Lerwick	£200,000	24/10/2023
Industrial Unit	Bristol	£100,000	24/10/2023
Extension to Industrial Unit	Taunton	£100,000	24/10/2023
154 Dwellings	East London	£20,000,000	24/10/2023
Conversion to Dwelling	Bristol	£100,000	24/10/2023
Extension to Care Home (6 Rooms)	Darlington	£400,000	24/10/2023
Retail Unit	Bradford	£100,000	24/10/2023
Conversion to Flat	Stevenage	£100,000	24/10/2023
Shopfront	Sheffield	£100,000	24/10/2023
14 Dwellings	Blackpool	£2,000,000	24/10/2023
4 Flats	East London	£500,000	24/10/2023
Conversion to Care Home (12 Rooms)	Enfield	£400,000	24/10/2023
Conversion to 3 Bungalows	Darlington	£200,000	24/10/2023
Conversion to 5 Dwellings	Bath	£300,000	24/10/2023
Botanical Garden	Leeds	£100,000	23/10/2023
Play Equipment	Perth	£100,000	23/10/2023
Pond	Leicester	£100,000	23/10/2023
Pond	Colchester	£100,000	23/10/2023
2 Storage Buildings	Darlington	£100,000	22/10/2023
Extension to Care Home (2 Rooms)	Swansea	£100,000	22/10/2023
Conversion to Dwelling	Guildford	£100,000	22/10/2023
Storage Building	Peterborough	£200,000	22/10/2023
19 Dwellings	Swansea	£2,500,000	22/10/2023
2 Dwellings	Dudley	£300,000	22/10/2023



Contractor ranked by work won during September 2023

Rank	Contractor	No. contracts	Value	Ranking	Contractor	No. contracts	Total (£m)
1	Higgins	2	£251m	26	HG	1	£38m
2	Morgan Sindall	16	£197m	27	Caddick	3	£34m
3	Vistry	1	£150m	28	Robertson	3	£28m
4	Royal BAM	3	£105m	29	Pioneer Design And Build	2	£25m
5	Newry Construction	1	£100m	30	Galliford Try	8	£25m
6	Willmott Dixon	6	£96m	31	Clark Contracts	7	£25m
7	RG Group	1	£95m	32	Meldrum	2	£25m
8	Tilbury Douglas	4	£93m	33	GRAHAM Construction	1	£24m
9	Bowmer & Kirkland	5	£78m	34	Noviniti	1	£22m
10	Hill Partnerships	2	£75m	35	Osborne	1	£22m
11	Lendlease	2	£72m	36	Ashcourt Contracts	1	£20m
12	Blenheim House	2	£65m	37	Bennett Construction	1	£20m
13	Commercial Development Projects	2	£63m	38	Complete Moling Services (South East)	1	£20m
14	Balfour Beatty	2	£62m	39	REDS10	3	£19m
15	McAlee & Rushe	1	£60m	40	Barhale	1	£18m
16	Kier	6	£58m	41	Conlon	1	£16m
17	Jenner	1	£58m	42	Churchill Retirement Living	1	£15m
18	VolkerWessels	1	£57m	43	Structuretone (UK)	1	£15m
19	Morrison	4	£53m	44	Willis Construction	2	£14m
20	Wates	4	£52m	45	Adhan Group Of Companies	1	£14m
21	SDC	1	£49m	46	Beard	5	£14m
22	Glencar	1	£45m	47	RG Carter	3	£13m
23	McCarthy & Stone	1	£43m	48	Real Construction	1	£13m
24	John Sisk	2	£41m	49	AE Yates	1	£12m
25	JJ Rhatigan & Company	1	£40m	50	Kori Construction (SAC Construction)	1	£12m



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