

Weekly News Summary

31st October 2023

Mace calls for London to lead world on circular construction:

Mace is calling for London to become the circular construction capital of the world. A report from the contractor argues that with the right regulatory regime and incentives the industry can deliver big savings in carbon dioxide emissions and cash savings. Mace argues that across Greater London it could be possible to save more than 13.8m tonnes of construction waste – worth £1.25bn over the next 10 years – through the adoption of circular economy principles. To read more Click [Here](#)

Building products inflation continues to slow – but so do sales:

Sales through Britain's builders' merchants continue to slow, with volumes down 10.5% on the year in August. There has been further modest easing in inflation in the prices of building materials and products, with builders' merchants' prices up 8.0% in August 2023 compared to August 2022. To read more Click [Here](#)

Demand grows for foreign engineers: The UK is recruiting more and more of its engineers from overseas, official data suggests – especially civil engineers. Work permits issued by the Home Office to foreign engineers increased by 71% in 2022 over 2021, according to data obtained by Integro Accounting. The data shows that the number of work permits issued to foreign engineering professionals jumped from 5,620 in 2021 to 9,617 in 2022, the highest level since the 2016 Brexit referendum. To read more Click [Here](#)

HS2 London TBMs being assembled for next drive: HS2's London tunnels contractor, Skanska Costain Strabag joint venture has lifted new TBM cutting heads into place as they prepare for the next stage of tunnelling under the capital. Major components of the first machine called Emily have now been lifted into the 25m deep ancillary shaft at the HS2 site in Ealing to prepare for the launch. The other new machine Anne will follow for the Northolt East Drive. To read more Click [Here](#)

Currencies	Last	Chg.	Chg. %
FTSE 100	7,364.55	37.16	0.51%
DAX	14,793.65	77.11	0.52%
Euro Stoxx 50	4,064.95	36.63	0.91%
S&P 500	4,166.82	49.45	1.20%
Nikkei 225	30,858.85	183.04	0.60%
Dow Jones	32,928.96	511.37	1.58%
FTSE 100 Futures	7,382.00	32.20	0.44%

Current value as at 10:59 BST, 31st 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.

CONTACT US

Mitchell House
433 Chiswick High Road
London
W4 4AU
0208 994 4139
info@ukrgroup.co.uk
www.ukrgroup.co.uk

ukrgroup.co.uk



In pictures | The best images of October 2023: Vertical works at Orwell Bridge: UK specialist access company Up and Under abseiled the equivalent vertical distance of four miles at Ipswich's Orwell Bridge as part of an inspection project, which took place across day and night shifts to complete inspection works. To read more click [Here](#)

Plan in for London 2,500-home Ladbroke Grove scheme: Ballymore and Sainsbury's have submitted plans for a major canalside neighbourhood at a large former gas works site in West London's Ladbroke Grove area. The proposed new neighbourhood will provide over 2,500 homes, of which at least 500 will be affordable, plus two parks and a local high street with a reinstated, historic canal basin at its heart. Plans also include over 90,000 sq ft of shops, cafes and restaurants as well as a new 130,000 sq ft Sainsbury's Supermarket. The 19-acre site is one of the largest remaining brownfield sites in Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea. A large proportion of the site has been closed off to the public for over 40 years as a former gasworks site. To read more click [Here](#)

Gilbert Ash tipped for 900-room London hotel: Plans to renovate and double the size of the existing Hilton London Olympia to over 900 rooms have been approved. Developer Frogmore and C1 Capital, which acquired the hotel last year, will now proceed with one of London's biggest hotel projects at 380 Kensington High Street. Under designs drawn up by architect Studion Moren, part of the property's existing structure will be retained, while nearly 500 bedrooms are added alongside a new rooftop garden. Contractor Gilbert Ash has been advising the client team on construction in pre-planning. Under the present schedule, demolition will start in the New Year, with construction set to start in November 2024 on the three-year build programme. To read more click [Here](#)

2,100 homes plan for UK's largest cluster of Victorian gasholders: Developer Berkeley Group's St William division has submitted plans to restore the UK's largest surviving cluster of Victorian gas holders to create 2,100 new homes within the heritage site. The Bromley by Bow Gasworks site in east London comprises seven dis-used Grade II listed gasholders. Under plans drawn up by architect RSHP, these will be restored to incorporate many of the new homes within the cast iron structures. To read more click [Here](#)

Plan in for 3,500 Essex garden community: House builder Countryside and housing association L&Q have submitted outline plans for a mixed-use development which will form part of Chelmsford Garden Community. The partners are seeking planning for up to 3,500 new homes within three villages. The plans include a local centre and two smaller neighbourhood centres, three primary schools and one secondary school, all within 130 hectares of formal and informal open space. To read more click [Here](#)



Planning Leads

Title	Location	Value	Publish Date
Extension to Storage Facility	Buckinghamshire	£100,000	30/10/2023
Extension to Office	Enfield	£100,000	30/10/2023
Conversion to Dwelling	Redhill	£100,000	30/10/2023
Extension to Football Club	Nottingham	£400,000	30/10/2023
Extension to Wedding Venue	Milton Keynes	£100,000	30/10/2023
Extension for 12 Flats	North London	£1,500,000	30/10/2023
Conversion to 3 Holiday Lets	Exeter	£200,000	30/10/2023
Storage Building	Plymouth	£100,000	30/10/2023
Extension to Office	Portsmouth	£100,000	30/10/2023
Conversion to Dwelling	Cambridge	£100,000	30/10/2023
2 Dwellings	Durham	£300,000	30/10/2023
Conversion to 2 Dwellings	Ipswich	£200,000	30/10/2023
3 Dwellings	Truro	£400,000	30/10/2023
Petrol Filling Station	Newport	£400,000	30/10/2023
Conversion to Dwelling	Brighton	£100,000	30/10/2023
Conversion to Dwelling	Gloucester	£100,000	30/10/2023
Conversion to Retail Units	Sheffield	£100,000	30/10/2023
Extension to Football Clubhouse	Coventry	£100,000	30/10/2023
Extension to Farm Shop	Telford	£100,000	30/10/2023
Conversion to Storage Facility	Salisbury	£200,000	30/10/2023
Conversion to Retail Units	Huddersfield	£100,000	29/10/2023
Conversion to Storage Facility	Salisbury	£200,000	29/10/2023
Bar/Cafe/Restaurant	West London	£100,000	29/10/2023
Extension to Football Clubhouse	Coventry	£100,000	29/10/2023
Extension for Retail Units	Birmingham	£100,000	29/10/2023
Playground	Canterbury	£100,000	29/10/2023
Extension to Retail Unit	Dartford	£100,000	29/10/2023
Extension to Farm Shop	Telford	£100,000	29/10/2023
Wildlife	York	£100,000	29/10/2023
Conversion to Dwelling	Leicester	£100,000	29/10/2023



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



DISCLAIMER

This report has been prepared using non-independent research materials available from public sources, which are believed to be reliable as at the date of this report. UKR Group and its employees make no representation as to the accuracy or completeness of this report. This report should therefore not be relied on as accurate or complete. The facts and opinions on this report are subject to change without notice. UKR and its employees have no obligation to modify or update this report in the event that any information on this report becomes inaccurate.

UKR Group is a trading name of UK Recruiting Ltd (Company Reg. No. 8803952). Registered in England and Wales. Registered office: Mitchell House, 433 Chiswick High Road, London, W4 4AU.

For further clarification or details, please contact UKR at info@ukrgroup.co.uk