

Weekly News Summary

14th November 2023

Refurb work edges construction back to slow growth:

Two consecutive months of construction output decline ended in September as the industry edged back to slow growth. The 0.4% recovery was driven by a 2% rise in repair and maintenance, which offset another fall in new work during the month of 0.8%. In the new work sector, the only sector to register growth was commercial, which rose 3% monthly and is now 5% up on a year ago. To read more Click [Here](#)

King's Speech – construction industry left under-

whelmed: The government has set out its legislative programme for its final year in office, to no great fanfare from the construction industry. Highlights include an Offshore Petroleum Licensing Bill to allow more North Sea oil and gas extraction, a Trade Bill put UK membership of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership on the statute book and a Leasehold and Freehold Bill to make it easier for leaseholders to extend their lease or purchase their freehold. To read more Click [Here](#)

HS2 construction jobs hit record 30,000: The number of people in jobs, supporting HS2's construction, has hit a record high. Fresh employment data confirms over 30,000 people are now helping to build the new high speed network linking the UK's first and second cities. Employment numbers grew by 455 for the period July – September 2023, taking HS2's total workforce 30,204 – the highest figure to date. To read more Click [Here](#)

Construction industry reacts: Lee Rowley replaces Rachel Maclean as housing minister:

Lee Rowley has been appointed as the housing minister following the sacking of Rachel Maclean, who was in the role for nine months. Rowley is the 16th appointment to the housing minister position since the Conservatives came into power in 2010. To read more Click [Here](#)

Currencies	Last	Chg.	Chg. %
FTSE 100	7,420.92	3.16	0.04%
DAX	15,088.55	-47.42	-0.31%
Euro Stoxx 50	4,143.15	-15.49	-0.37%
S&P 500	4,365.98	7.64	0.18%
Nikkei 225	32,271.82	-448.48	-1.37%
Dow Jones	34,095.86	34.54	0.10%
FTSE 100 Futures	7,426.80	-7.00	-0.09%

Current value as at 11:13 BST, 7th Nov 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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Keltbray wins job to reveal birthplace of Sheffield: Sheffield City Council has selected Keltbray to lead the regeneration of the former Castle Market site revealing part of Sheffield's medieval Castle and new events area, while opening up the River Sheaf. The city has received £20m to deliver the project while also creating development-ready land plots—one of which is earmarked for a Sixth Form College and Adult Education Centre. Transformation of the site, once home to centuries of market trading, is expected to begin in the opening weeks of 2024 after plans were approved by the City Council back in May 2023 with completion due by the summer of 2025. To read more click [Here](#)

Green light for 800,000 sq ft Skelton Grange logistic park: Leeds City Council has given developer Harworth Group the go-head to build an 800,000 sq ft industrial and logistics park at Skelton Grange to the south east of the city. The 50-acre site is adjacent to Junction 45 of the M1 and was formerly the location of the Skelton Grange power station, acquired by Harworth in 2014. Harworth plans to build up to five shed units, ranging in size from 126,000 sq ft to 202,000 sq ft. To read more click [Here](#)

Retrofit skills revolution needed in London, say council leaders: Local government leaders in central London have called for urgent action to kick-start a retrofit skills revolution in the capital. The call comes as new analysis shows the scale of work needed to reduce emissions from homes and buildings. The analysis was carried out by construction industry experts Whole Life Consultants on behalf of Central London Forward, which represents the 12 central London local authorities. To read more click [Here](#)

Construction skills gap will continue to widen until image problem is solved: The construction skills gap may become a crisis, with 225,000 additional workers needed in four years. Ryan Jones, managing director of SLG Agency and founder of Deconstruction, says the industry needs to work on its image. Image is everything. Well, perhaps not everything, but it is essential. In the case of the construction skills gap, image is detrimental to the sector's ability to recruit and retain talent, which means the industry can't provide the country with the essential homes and infrastructure it needs. To read more click [Here](#)

Green light for 800,000 sq ft Skelton Grange logistic park: Leeds City Council has given developer Harworth Group the go-head to build an 800,000 sq ft industrial and logistics park at Skelton Grange to the south east of the city. The 50-acre site is adjacent to Junction 45 of the M1 and was formerly the location of the Skelton Grange power station, acquired by Harworth in 2014. To read more click [Here](#)



Planning Leads

Title	Location	Value	Publish Date
Distillery	Perth	£300,000	13/11/2023
8 Dwellings	Harrow	£900,000	13/11/2023
Extension for 2 Flats	Southend-on-sea	£300,000	13/11/2023
Extension to Office	South West London	£100,000	13/11/2023
2 Dwellings	Romford	£300,000	13/11/2023
5 Dwellings	Birmingham	£600,000	13/11/2023
Extension for Storage Unit	Perth	£100,000	13/11/2023
Conversion to Specsavers	Swansea	£100,000	13/11/2023
Extension for 2 Apartments	Exeter	£300,000	13/11/2023
Conversion to Dwelling	West London	£100,000	13/11/2023
Extension to Storage Facility	Preston	£200,000	13/11/2023
Conversion to Mixed Use (3 Units)	Rochester	£300,000	13/11/2023
Conversion to Holiday Let	Bournemouth	£100,000	13/11/2023
Extension to Golf Club	Cardiff	£100,000	13/11/2023
Conversion to 8 Dwellings	Blackburn	£500,000	13/11/2023
Conversion to 23 Dwellings	Kingston Upon Thames	£1,500,000	13/11/2023
Conversion to 6 Flats	Southall	£400,000	13/11/2023
Conversion to Dwelling	Tonbridge	£100,000	13/11/2023
Conversion to Mixed Use (6 Units)	Lancaster	£500,000	13/11/2023
Conversion to Mixed Use (2 Units)	South West London	£200,000	13/11/2023
Conversion to 3 Flats	Southall	£200,000	12/11/2023
Cafe and Restaurant	Tonbridge	£100,000	12/11/2023
4 Dwellings	Bath	£500,000	12/11/2023
4 Dwellings	Kingston Upon Thames	£500,000	12/11/2023
Extension to Care Home	Preston	£100,000	12/11/2023
Shop front	Portsmouth	£100,000	12/11/2023
Ponds	Durham	£100,000	12/11/2023
Conversion to 2 Flats	West London	£200,000	12/11/2023
Conversion to Rural Workers Dwelling	Bath	£100,000	12/11/2023
Multi Use Games Area	Romford	£100,000	12/11/2023



Contractor ranked by work won during October 2023

Rank	Contractor	No. contracts	Value
1	Laing O'Rourke	1	£300.0m
2	Willmott Dixon	8	£214.1m
3	Skanska	1	£158.0m
4	Bowmer & Kirkland	4	£157.6m
5	Farrans	2	£155.0m
6	Morgan Sindall	9	£154.2m
7	Ardmore	1	£154.0m
8	Galliford Try	6	£126.8m
9	Hill Partnerships	3	£101.2m
10	Wates	5	£100.0m
11	Glencar	3	£98.0m
12	VolkerWessels	2	£83.5m
13	Mace	1	£82.0m
14	Kier	6	£81.3m
15	Balfour Beatty	3	£78.5m
16	Henry Boot	3	£71.0m
17	J.J. Rhatigan & Co	1	£70.0m
18	Royal BAM	5	£62.4m
19	GMI	3	£58.9m
20	Domis Construction	1	£56.0m
21	Countryside	2	£50.1m
22	TSL	1	£48.0m
23	Cormac	1	£47.0m
24	Vermont	1	£45.0m
25	Vital Energi Utilities	1	£45.0m

Ranking	Contractor	No. contracts	Total (£m)
26	RED	3	£42.7m
27	Robertson	7	£42.6m
28	Management & Construction Services	2	£40.5m
29	Mott MacDonald (JBA Bentley)	6	£36.7m
30	M3 Build	1	£35.0m
31	Bridgestone Construction	1	£32.0m
32	Tilbury Douglas	3	£31.3m
33	Assured CMS	1	£31.0m
34	Bouygues	1	£30.0m
35	Formation Design & Build	1	£30.0m
36	GRAHAM Construction	2	£30.0m
37	McGoff	1	£30.0m
38	Waterman Group Civils	1	£30.0m
39	Clegg	3	£28.0m
40	Illingworth & Gregory	1	£25.0m
41	Beard	4	£23.0m
42	Winvic	1	£22.0m
43	Readie	2	£21.9m
44	GF Tomlinson	2	£21.0m
45	Muir Construction	1	£20.0m
46	Pentaco	2	£19.5m
47	RG Carter	3	£18.9m
48	Stepnell	2	£18.5m
49	Morrison	2	£17.9m
50	Prima Construction Management	1	£17.4m



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