

Weekly News Summary

21st November 2023

London office market sees highest volume of new starts in 18 years:

Latest Deloitte Crane survey found highest volume of new schemes on record as City leads capital's rebound. The London office market is roaring back to life with the past six months seeing the highest volume of new project starts in nearly two decades, Deloitte's latest crane survey has found. Some 5.1 million sq ft of new office space has started on site since May, the highest volume since Deloitte extended its survey to cover new central London construction activity in summer 2005. To read more Click [Here](#)

£8bn of HS2 savings to be spent on pothole repairs:

An extra £8.3bn has been allocated to repair potholes and resurface roads from savings made by the cancellation of the northern section of HS2. Across England, local highway authorities will receive £150 million this financial year, followed by a further £150m for 2024/2025, with the rest of the funding allocated through to 2034. To read more Click [Here](#)

Historic England tool pinpoints the 50% shortfall in skills pool:

The pool of skilled workers available to work on retrofitting England's old buildings is just half of what it needs to be, according to analysis by Historic England. Historic England is calling for action on getting more people into traditional building trades – including plumbing, electrical and plastering – to support the necessary carbon reduction works. To read more Click [Here](#)

£6bn London Earls Court scheme revamped:

The Earls Court Development Company has revamped its ambitious £6bn masterplan to deliver 4,000 homes at a large brownfield site in West London. The scheme will now go forward as a hybrid planning application next Summer with hopes that construction work will now start in 2026, a year later than originally planned. To read more Click [Here](#)

Currencies	Last	Chg.	Chg. %
FTSE 100	7,457.05	-39.31	-0.52%
DAX	15,931.25	29.92	0.19%
Euro Stoxx 50	4,337.25	-5.16	-0.12%
S&P 500	4,547.38	33.36	0.74%
Nikkei 225	33,354.14	-33.03	-0.10%
Dow Jones	35,151.04	203.76	0.58%
FTSE 100 Futures	7,473.80	-37.10	-0.49%

Current value as at 11:42 BST, 21st 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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Stratford MSG Sphere: Sadiq Khan rejects plans to build version of Las Vegas venue in London:

London mayor concerned about scale of light pollution and development's green credentials. Plans for a massive Las Vegas-style “Sphere” entertainment venue on the edge of the Olympic park have been rejected by London mayor Sadiq Khan. Mr Khan decided on Monday afternoon to block the giant eyeball-shaped dome proposed by Madison Square Garden Entertainment Company (MSG) on three key grounds, the Standard has learned. These relate to concerns about the amount of light pollution that it would cause for Stratford residents, its huge electricity bill and associated lack of “green” credentials, and the impact it would have on heritage sites in the area. To read more click [Here](#)

Mace to ‘green top’ and retrofit London city office: Mace has won the job to refurbish and add an extra rooftop floor to an office block at 10 Gresham Street in the heart of London’s historic Square Mile. Developer CBRE Investment Management gained planning consent for the 145,000 sq ft office overhaul at the end of September and is now proceeding with its plans. The original Foster + Partners designed building has been reimaged by architect Gensler and will see a rooftop green terrace floor added to the seven-floor building. To read more click [Here](#)

Hybrid working blamed for UK infrastructure delays: Post-pandemic working from home is causing delays to all UK infrastructure projects, according to the head of the government’s Infrastructure & Projects Authority (IPA). Nick Smallwood, chief executive of the Infrastructure & Projects Authority (IPA), told the Treasury select committee yesterday (11th November 2023) that hybrid working was having a negative impact on UK infrastructure projects. To read more click [Here](#)

Glenigan review reveals a downturn in construction performance amid reduced project starts: Glenigan has released the November 2023 edition of its Construction Review, focusing on construction performance leading up to October 2023. The review examines construction performance across major projects (exceeding £100m) and underlying projects (below £100m). To read more click [Here](#)

McGee wins South Molton Triangle package: Specialist engineering contractor McGee has won a package of works on the £500m redevelopment of the South Molton Triangle in London’s Mayfair. McGee has been appointed to deliver a major integrated package of works directly for client Grosvenor and Mitsui Fudosan UK. The South Molton Triangle is a 370,000 sq ft mixed-use scheme in Mayfair to create new office space, affordable housing, shops, restaurants and leisure space, all stitched together with improved public realm. To read more click [Here](#)



Planning Leads

Title	Location	Value	Publish Date
Conversion to Care Home (2 Beds)	Preston	£100,000	20/11/2023
Conversion to Dwelling	Leicester	£100,000	20/11/2023
Conversion to Dwelling	Hereford	£100,000	20/11/2023
Extension to Care Home	Exeter	£100,000	20/11/2023
Conversion to Care Home (3 Beds)	Blackpool	£100,000	20/11/2023
Workshop	Huddersfield	£100,000	20/11/2023
Pond	Chelmsford	£100,000	20/11/2023
Conversion to Dwelling	Leicester	£100,000	20/11/2023
5 Living Units	Huddersfield	£600,000	20/11/2023
6 Dwellings	Wigan	£700,000	20/11/2023
Pond	Peterborough	£100,000	20/11/2023
Conversion to Dwelling	Redhill	£100,000	20/11/2023
Conversion to Dwelling	Rochester	£100,000	20/11/2023
Extension to Cricket Club	Warrington	£100,000	20/11/2023
Conversion to Industrial Unit and Storage	Southampton	£100,000	20/11/2023
Wildlife	York	£100,000	20/11/2023
Play Area	Manchester	£100,000	20/11/2023
Extension to Restaurant	York	£100,000	20/11/2023
Extension to Village Store	Milton Keynes	£100,000	20/11/2023
Conversion to HMO	Oldham	£100,000	20/11/2023
Storage Building	Warrington	£100,000	19/11/2023
Conversion to Dwelling	Oxford	£100,000	19/11/2023
Conversion to HMO	Cardiff	£100,000	19/11/2023
Conversion to 2 Flats	Cardiff	£200,000	19/11/2023
7 Apartments	Birmingham	£800,000	19/11/2023
Bistro	Preston	£100,000	19/11/2023
Extension to Shop	Oldham	£1,500,000	19/11/2023
Pond	Chelmsford	£100,000	19/11/2023
6 Dwellings	Wigan	£700,000	19/11/2023
Conversion to Dwelling	Leicester	£100,000	19/11/2023



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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