

Weekly News Summary

13th February 2024

Timelapse video shows M42 bridge demolition: HS2 has released a short film of its contractors removing a bridge over the 42 motorway last weekend. The 4,000 tonne bridge over the M42 near Solihull had to go to make way for the construction of the new London-Birmingham railway line. A team of 20 from Solihull-based demolition specialist Armac, working on behalf of HS2's main works contractor in the Midlands, Balfour Beatty Vinci (BBV), carried out the demolition in a 52 hour operation. To read more Click [Here](#)

Builders report slowdown in enquiries: The Federation of Master Builders reports that 47% of members saw a fall in enquiries in the fourth quarter of 2023. The Federation of Master Builders (FMB) state of trade survey for Q4 2023 found a 15% fall in workloads across its membership of SME building companies. The survey also found that while recruitment difficulties had eased slightly, 36% of members are still struggling to hire carpenters with 34% struggling to hire bricklayers. To read more Click [Here](#)

BAM tops contracts league with bumper start to 2024: BAM started the New Year with a brace of major orders that pushed it to pole position in the contracts league rankings. The firm's building arm finalised the contract to repurpose Digbeth's historic Typhoo Tea Building into a new home for the BBC in Birmingham. Its civils operation BAM Nuttall also achieved final sign-off on a £250m job to improve road congestion at three bottlenecks on the A38 around Derby. To read more Click [Here](#)

Willmott Dixon lands £55m Hertfordshire police HQ rebuild: Willmott Dixon has secured a £55m contract to build a new headquarters for Hertfordshire Police force in Welwyn Garden City. The project first involves demolishing 11 buildings from the 1960s to make way for a 5-storey complex to house over 600 operational staff. To read more Click [Here](#)

Currencies	Last	Chg.	Chg. %
FTSE 100	7,546.82	-26.87	-0.35%
DAX	16,933.02	-104.33	-0.61%
Euro Stoxx 50	4,703.25	-43.1	-0.91%
S&P 500	5,021.84	-4.77	-0.09%
Nikkei 225	37,963.97	1,096.58	2.97%
Dow Jones	38,797.38	125.69	0.33%
FTSE 100 Futures	7,514.50	-30	-0.40%

Current value as at 12:23 BST, 13th Feb 2024

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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Gilbert-Ash takes £31m London St Paul's junior school job: Gilbert-Ash has clinched a £31m contract to build a new junior school at St Paul's independent school in West London. Designed by architect HawkinsBrown, the project will consist of two new buildings. The largest, Junior School West, will involve building a three-storey block to house teaching and changing facilities. The other Junior School East will be a two-storey facility comprising a teaching block and double-height hall. To read more click [Here](#)

Cappagh takes on giant 'concreteberg' for Thames Water: Thames Water has drafted in contractor Cappagh to tackle a large 'concreteberg' blocking the sewers of part of West London. The water company said it still had a live investigation into which firm dumped concrete into the sewer system. Parts of North End Road in Fulham will now be closed for six weeks while Cappagh's team excavate the area and use specialist tools to break down the concrete. Once it has been removed, they will replace the affected sewer sections. To read more click [Here](#)

Permitted development rights relaxed: Converting empty office and department stores into residential flats is about to get much easier. Legislation laid in parliament today will extend current permitted development rights so that commercial buildings of any size can be converted into new homes with going through the full planning process. The government is today also launching a consultation on proposals that would allow property owners to build extensions or large loft conversions planning permission. To read more click [Here](#)

Traditional builders wanted for MMC framework: Social housing clients are looking for a raft of traditional contractors to join a new £800m modern methods of construction framework. The Building Better alliance of housing associations and councils was set up to increase the use of MMC in social housing. It is now working with Procurement for Housing (PfH) to develop the £800m framework which will run over four years. Traditional construction firms in 10 different regions of England and Wales will be appointed, offering their services as lead contractor on MMC projects. To read more click [Here](#)

Government told to stop dithering over HS2 Euston tunnel start date: Spending watchdog MPs have called on the Government to urgently take a decision on the start date for the last remaining phase one tunnel drive to Euston station. In a highly critical report published this morning, the Public Accounts Committee warned that there are still huge uncertainties over key areas of the project that threatened to continue to see costs soar. The MPs said that the decision to axe the second phase of HS2 meant the project now offers very poor value for money to the taxpayer, and the Department and HS2 Ltd could not set out what the final benefits of the project would be. To read more click [Here](#)



Planning Leads

Title	Location	Value	Publish Date
Industrial Unit	Cleveland	£45,000,000	10/02/2024
19 Dwellings	Sheffield	£2,500,000	10/02/2024
Conversion to 5 Dwellings	Southampton	£300,000	10/02/2024
Extension to Industrial Unit	Leeds	£100,000	10/02/2024
3 Dwellings	Colchester	£400,000	10/02/2024
Conversion to 14 Apartments	Derby	£800,000	10/02/2024
Extension to Doctors Surgery	Exeter	£100,000	10/02/2024
Conversion to Mixed Use (2 Units)	Leicester	£200,000	10/02/2024
Conversion to Living Unit	Sheffield	£100,000	10/02/2024
10 Dwellings	Leicester	£1,200,000	10/02/2024
7 Dwellings	Birmingham	£800,000	10/02/2024
Conversion to Dwelling	Aberdeen	£100,000	10/02/2024
8 Dwellings	Darlington	£900,000	10/02/2024
Conversion to 6 Dwellings	Shrewsbury	£400,000	10/02/2024
2 Dwellings	Sutton	£300,000	10/02/2024
Conversion to Dwelling	Tonbridge	£100,000	10/02/2024
2 Dwellings	Southampton	£300,000	10/02/2024
Extension for 2 Flats	Southampton	£300,000	10/02/2024
Mixed Use Development (3 Units)	South East London	£400,000	10/02/2024
Conversion to Dwelling	Bristol	£100,000	10/02/2024
Conversion to 2 Flats	Norwich	£200,000	09/02/2024
Mixed Use Development (3 Units)	South East London	£400,000	09/02/2024
8 Dwellings	Darlington	£900,000	09/02/2024
New Shop Front	Bristol	£100,000	09/02/2024
13 Dwellings	Swansea	£2,000,000	09/02/2024
Conversion to Dwelling	Bristol	£100,000	09/02/2024
3 Dwellings	Colchester	£400,000	09/02/2024
Conversion to Living Unit	Sheffield	£100,000	09/02/2024
Extension to Doctors Surgery	Exeter	£100,000	09/02/2024
10 Dwellings	Shrewsbury	£1,500,000	09/02/2024



Contractor ranked by work won during January 2024

Rank	Contractor	No. contracts	Value	Ranking	Contractor	No. contracts	Total (£m)
1	Royal BAM	6	£472.2m	26	CR Construction (U.K) Company	1	£38.0m
2	London Square	1	£300.0m	27	Multiplex Europe	2	£35.9m
3	Lendlease	2	£292.6m	28	ISG	6	£35.3m
4	Sir Robert McAlpine	4	£266.4m	29	RJ McLeod	1	£32.0m
5	Kier	6	£224.0m	30	Mott MacDonald (JBA Bentley)	1	£31.0m
6	Balfour Beatty	5	£203.3m	31	Morro Partnerships	1	£30.0m
7	Caddick	9	£191.0m	32	Lindum	5	£29.4m
8	RG Group	1	£185.0m	33	Beard	5	£28.3m
9	Vinci	3	£166.4m	34	Parkway	2	£27.6m
10	Dragados S.A	1	£125.0m	35	Key Construction (Midlands)	1	£27.0m
11	Willmott Dixon	9	£112.0m	36	Bugler	2	£26.8m
12	Morgan Sindall	9	£93.5m	37	Jenner	1	£26.4m
13	Winvic	3	£85.0m	38	Bowmer & Kirkland	3	£26.2m
14	GRAHAM Construction	2	£81.9m	39	Hall Construction Services	1	£26.0m
15	Wates	4	£70.0m	40	Bouygues	1	£21.6m
16	McAleer & Rushe	1	£60.0m	41	Tilbury Douglas	1	£21.2m
17	Galliford Try	3	£58.6m	42	8 Build	2	£21.0m
18	MTX Contracts	2	£51.1m	43	RED	1	£20.0m
19	Octavius Infrastructure	1	£47.0m	44	Feltham	2	£19.0m
20	McLaren	2	£46.9m	45	GMI	1	£18.5m
21	Benniman	3	£43.4m	46	Clegg	4	£18.3m
22	Heron Bros	1	£40.0m	47	Leck Construction	1	£18.0m
23	Higgins	1	£40.0m	48	Meldrum	1	£18.0m
24	The Torsion Group	1	£40.0m	49	Elliott Group	1	£17.0m
25	Lovell Partnerships	2	£39.0m	50	Keltbray	1	£17.0m



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