

Weekly News Summary

16th April 2024

London back as most expensive place to build in world:

London has regained the dubious distinction of being the most expensive city in the world in which to build. According to the latest Arcadis International Construction Costs report, London has leapfrogged Geneva to once again the top spot among 100 global cities. Prices were pushed upwards because of enhanced specifications associated with safety and sustainability, as well as higher client expectations. To read more Click [Here](#)

Heavy rain causes 1.9% construction output fall:

Construction output fell 1.9% in February as heavy rainfall dampened construction activity. New work was hit hardest dropping by 2.3% with repair and maintenance decreasing by 1.4% during the month. Despite the uptick in output in January, construction new work output in the last three months to February contracted by a total of 3%. To read more Click [Here](#)

Building materials trade deficit tops £14bn: The UK's trade deficit in building materials shrank by 14% last year but is still nearly five times higher than the target set by the government's landmark strategy document. The trade deficit of construction materials – the difference between what we export and what we import – is a firm indicator of the health of the UK building materials sector, and of the wider economy. To read more Click [Here](#)

£220m London wharf homes scheme approved: Planners have given the thumbs up to a scheme to build 285 flats in blocks next to protected wharves near Wandsworth Bridge in London. As a former industrial shipping site, Albert and Swedish Wharves, will be improved and retained with new logistics warehouses below high-rise house blocks overlooking the Thames. Developer Henley Investment Management can now demolish warehouse buildings on the site to make way for the mixed-used scheme of seven buildings rising from 6-20 storeys. To read more Click [Here](#)

Page 1 of 5

Currencies	Last	Chg.	Chg. %
FTSE 100	7,853.09	-112.44	-1.41%
DAX	17,766.05	-237.16	-1.32%
Euro Stoxx 50	4,921.65	-62.83	-1.26%
S&P 500	5,061.82	-61.59	-1.20%
Nikkei 225	38,470.50	-739	-1.88%
Dow Jones	37,735.11	-248.13	-0.65%
FTSE 100 Futures	7,863.80	-67.9	-0.86%

Current value as at 10:37 BST, 16th April 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.

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



Let me through, I'm a consultant: Architects and consulting engineers are so fed up with demands to show their skills cards, that the Construction Industry Council (CIC) has had to issue a statement of clarification on the matter. The fact is that designers and principal designers are not required to have Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) cards – so could ignorant contractors kindly please stop asking to see them. “It is rife across the industry,” said architect Paul Bussey, chair of CIC’s health and safety committee, “creating unnecessary time wasting and cost to designers having to justify their own expertise, for others without competence, to profit.” To read more click [Here](#)

Morgan Sindall lands £19m Milton Keynes hospital job: Morgan Sindall’s Northern Home Counties business has been appointed to develop a £19.1m ward expansion on behalf of the Milton Keynes University Hospital (MKUH) NHS Foundation Trust. Procured via the Pagabo Framework, the project will create a new two-storey building known as Oak Wards as well as a link corridor to the existing A&E department in MKUH’s main building. Work is due to start on site this winter and be completed in late 2025. To read more click [Here](#)

Resi towers pioneer to transform Liverpool site: The King Edward Triangle neighbourhood within Liverpool Waters is set to be transformed into a high-rise residential complex following a major property deal. Hugh Frost – whose Beetham Organization pioneered the delivery of major residential skyscrapers in Liverpool, Manchester and Birmingham – has returned to the market in a partnership with national retailer T.J. Morris Ltd. To read more click [Here](#)

£200m carbon capture plan for Deeside site: Energy from waste operator enfinium has unveiled plans to invest around £200m in carbon capture and storage (CCS) technology at the Parc Adfer facility in Deeside, North Wales. The project could capture up to 235,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide every year because installing CCS would enable the plant to take more CO2 out of the atmosphere than it produces. The Parc Adfer plant was opened in 2019 and currently diverts up to 232,000 tonnes of unrecyclable waste from climate damaging landfill. To read more click [Here](#)

Profits double for employee-owned McGee: Specialist engineering contractor McGee doubled profits last year on near 50% revenue growth. Employee-owned McGee Group’s results for the year ended 30th November 2023 show revenue increasing 46% to £121.8m (2022: £83.3m) and pre-tax profit increasing to £12.4m (2022: £6.1m). The business remains debt-free, other than equipment funding, and cash at bank increased to £14.6m by year-end (2022: £10.3m). To read more click [Here](#)



Planning Leads

Title	Location	Value	Publish Date
Conversion to Apartment	Huddersfield	£100,000	16/04/2024
Conversion to Dwelling	Truro	£100,000	16/04/2024
Conversion to Flat	North West London	£100,000	13/04/2024
Industrial Unit	Colchester	£500,000	13/04/2024
Car Store	Edinburgh	£100,000	13/04/2024
Conversion to HMO	Bristol	£100,000	13/04/2024
4 Dwellings	Bristol	£500,000	13/04/2024
4 Bungalows	Colchester	£500,000	13/04/2024
Conversion to 3 Dwellings	Peterborough	£200,000	13/04/2024
Foodstore	Ipswich	£2,000,000	13/04/2024
2 Dwellings	Stevenage	£300,000	13/04/2024
Extension to Care Home	Reading	£100,000	13/04/2024
Conversion to Living Unit	Sheffield	£100,000	13/04/2024
4 Dwellings	Wigan	£500,000	12/04/2024
2 Dwellings	Milton Keynes	£300,000	12/04/2024
Conversion to Hotel (51 Beds)	Edinburgh	£1,500,000	12/04/2024
Conversion to Dwelling	Shrewsbury	£100,000	12/04/2024
6 Industrial Units	Portsmouth	£600,000	12/04/2024
Conversion to 6 Flats	Twickenham	£400,000	12/04/2024
Retail Units	Southend-on-sea	£200,000	12/04/2024
Conversion to HMO	Ipswich	£100,000	12/04/2024
5 Dwellings	Chelmsford	£600,000	12/04/2024
Conversion for 26 Flats	Nottingham	£700,000	12/04/2024
2 Dwellings	Gloucester	£300,000	12/04/2024
Conversion to Care Home (1 Bed)	Leicester	£100,000	12/04/2024
5 Dwellings	Doncaster	£600,000	12/04/2024
Chiller Room Extension	Huddersfield	£100,000	12/04/2024
2 Dwellings	Falkirk And Stirling	£300,000	12/04/2024
Mixed Use Developments (2 Units)	Doncaster	£300,000	12/04/2024
Conversion to HMO	Canterbury	£100,000	12/04/2024



Contractor ranked by work won during March 2024

Rank	Contractor	No. contracts	Value	Ranking	Contractor	No. contracts	Total (£m)
1	Lendlease	3	£481.1m	26	Downing Developments	1	£46.1m
2	Royal BAM	7	£463.8m	27	OCU Group	1	£45.0m
3	ISG	10	£325.2m	28	Galliford Try	3	£43.2m
4	Wates	3	£313.3m	29	Glencar	3	£42.2m
5	Willmott Dixon	7	£266.5m	30	McLaren	2	£41.9m
6	HG	2	£260.0m	31	Britcon (Scunthorpe)	4	£41.1m
7	Morgan Sindall	15	£235.6m	32	Barnwood	2	£40.8m
8	Multiplex Europe	1	£200.0m	33	Thomas Sinden	3	£38.5m
9	Countryside	1	£150.0m	34	Keady Construction	2	£38.0m
10	Ryebidge	1	£150.0m	35	Access Building Contractors	1	£35.0m
11	Winvic	3	£131.6m	36	Core Special Projects	1	£33.9m
12	Hill Partnerships	1	£130.0m	37	Vinci	3	£33.0m
13	The Torsion Group	1	£90.0m	38	Speller Metcalfe	5	£29.3m
14	JJ Rhatigan & Company	1	£88.0m	39	Darwin Group	2	£29.1m
15	Caddick	5	£76.8m	40	Farrans	1	£28.0m
16	McAleer & Rushe	1	£72.0m	41	Jones Brothers	2	£27.7m
17	Kier	9	£61.2m	42	Vistry	1	£27.5m
18	Bowmer & Kirkland	5	£60.2m	43	Collins Construction	1	£25.0m
19	McLaughlin & Harvey	1	£60.0m	44	Higgins	1	£25.0m
20	Tilbury Douglas	9	£56.2m	45	Interclass	4	£23.0m
21	Mott MacDonald Bentley	2	£51.7m	46	Osborne	2	£22.4m
22	Morris Property	1	£50.0m	47	J Murphy	1	£22.0m
23	Robertson	4	£49.0m	48	Hobson & Porter	3	£21.0m
24	Gilbert – Ash	3	£48.0m	49	Amey	1	£20.0m
25	VolkerWessels	4	£46.8m	50	Luddon	4	£19.6m



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