Birmingham Energy Savers (BES)
Community Partnering with Birmingham Playcare Network

Carillion’s commitment to building more sustainable communities through our 2020 Sustainability vision stretches well beyond implementation of the Green Deal in Birmingham.

June 2013: Carillion through its BES programme has been working with Birmingham PlayCare Network (BPCN) on its Scrapstore project. BPCN is a third sector organisation passionate about promoting both the importance of play and high quality play opportunities for children and young people.

Protecting our environment & promoting social cohesion

As part of Sustainability Week 2013, we approached staff and partner organisations for suggestions as to how we might best contribute to local community projects during the week. Rikem (who deliver our schools engagement contract and community lead generation) connected our Carillion BES team with BPCN.

BPCN run a comprehensive programme promoting the importance of high quality play. They also run activities such as Summer play schemes and the scrapstore. The scrapstore is a free resource for both play providers and families to access and benefit from the diverse range of carefully managed scrap and packaging, toys and books on offer. BPCN are always looking for volunteers to support the scrapstore, so that it frees up their time to undertake their core work. They are also keen to expand the number of companies that contribute items that would normally go to landfill; our BES team is working with them to see if we can contribute materials from Carillion construction projects as well as through links with our supply chain as part of the development of an ongoing relationship with BPCN and the wider National Scrapstore network.

For one day of sustainability week, a number of members of staff spent time helping out at the scrapstore. Alan Rogers donated his entire day to helping them transport large items between depots and other scrapstores in the wider region. The rest of the team went over in shifts and sorted through and bagged up the materials. Another member of our team has taken away some sewing that needed doing so that she can complete it in her spare time. The scrapstore made a real impact on the staff and made them think differently about packaging and waste. They have also donated 3 bags of toys and books to the store for the benefit of the wider local community.