

Committed to Action: Regeneration around Southmead Hospital

At Carillion, we see sustainable communities as those in which people have opportunities through education, employment and enterprise. Carillion's Southmead Hospital Redevelopment Project in Bristol, UK, is a great example of our vision in action.

Regeneration at Southmead

The hospital is our largest construction contract in the UK, and targeted to be the most sustainable development of its type in the country. The aim is for the hospital redevelopment to act as a regeneration catalyst for Southmead, a deprived area of Bristol, with the result of improving the quality of life for local residents.

Carillion Construction has been tasked with building a vital new hospital and at the same time making a positive economic impact in a deprived area.

Both Carillion and its NHS Trust partner agreed from the start that it was imperative for the contract to maximise the benefits flowing out to the community. Targets for local employment and procurement were built into the contract – 85% of the construction workers to be employed from the area and 60% of the materials and services to be supplied by local companies.

To encourage local employment, Carillion brought its contractors on board and set up an on-site job shop. The team also ran a number of education programmes in the community, including the successful Get into Construction course, alongside The Prince's Trust. So far, the contract has employed around 80% local labour. While short of the 85% target, it is still an impressive achievement given the specialist nature of many of the trades on site.

We identified potential suppliers in the locality and raised awareness of bidding opportunities through press advertising. A number of businesses in the area won contracts, and the project has already met the 60% target for local goods and services.

“Commitment to regeneration support is clearly a big issue. Carillion does not pay lip service; they really live it. We see this as we visit the site and talk to the staff. I believe it's also making a difference to the staff themselves as they can see the benefits their actions are having.”

**Tricia Down, Deputy Director of Projects,
North Bristol NHS Trust**

Southmead Hospital builds school greenhouse from waste

Carillion and Southmead Hospital staff have constructed a greenhouse at St Teresa's Primary School from around 1500 used plastic bottles.

The bottles, collected by the site and the school over a three month period, were sorted, cleaned and stacked by the children as part of an initiative to make good re-use of waste. This ensured avoidance from landfill and was a great opportunity for the team to engage with the school.

The stacked bottles were threaded onto garden canes, which were laid side-by-side to make panels and nailed to wooden frames. Materials and tools were donated by Carillion and our project suppliers, including Woodstock, Parkers, Travis Perkins and Speedy. Even the paving slabs for the base were re-used from the site!

Ian Robertson, who led the project, hopes that the school will make good use of the greenhouse for years to come.

"I hope St Teresa's Primary School makes good use of the greenhouse and enjoy it for many years to come."

Ian Robertson, Project Leader

