

GIVING BACK IN BLACKBURN

SPENDING LOCAL

Casey are currently completing the construction of a new link road for Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council.

The project is valued at over £5 million, and Casey are very pleased that they have met the target of ensuring that at least 70% of all costs (labour, subcontractor and other suppliers) has been spent locally, within 25 miles of the borough.

This means that, as well as a new road to ease congestion, moneys the council pay to Casey are spent in a way that contributes to the local economy.



INTRODUCING A NEW GENERATION TO CONSTRUCTION

Blackburn College and Blackburn University Centre



A group of Blackburn College and Blackburn University Centre Construction students recently benefitted from a guest lecture delivered by Casey and Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council.

Level 2, Level 3 and Higher National Certificate (HNC) Construction and the Built Environment students were joined by Casey Contracts Manager, Alan Watkinson, and Assistant Site Manager and Stakeholder Manager, Sarah Harwood, as well as the Council's Transport Manager, Mike Cliffe.

Sarah, Alan and Mike presented their roles in construction projects and discussed in depth the processes that major contracts require. They also showed examples of a number of projects they have been and are currently involved in, particularly those within the Blackburn and wider Lancashire area.

Caroline Bracewell, Head of School – Business, Health and Technology at Blackburn University Centre, said: "We would like to thank Sarah, Alan and Mike for coming in and going into a high level of detail for our students. It was a wonderful opportunity for our students to see the career opportunities available to them, particularly in the local area."

TEAMING UP WITH CREATIVE FOOTBALL, WITTON PARK

Creative Support is a national provider of Health and Social Care and at a local level it has worked in partnership with Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council and other stakeholders for many years. Based at the new Witton Park 3G Facility, it uses football in a positive way to engage people informally, anchoring football at the heart of relationships to understand and help with wider needs.



When Casey were appointed as one of five contractors to the new Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council Growth Deal 3 Framework, they teamed up with Creative football to provide its participants with a variety of support. You can read more

about Casey involvement in the following pages, and future editions.

Ongoing Commitment to Training

Rob Perry and Mark Stone



Above L-R: Sarah Harwood (Casey), Councillor Phil Riley, Rob Perry (Casey), Paul Hardman (Creative Football), Mike Cliffe (BwDBC Strategic Transport Manager) and Paul Davies (Creative Football)
Below: Mark Stone (Casey)

As part of our commitment to work with Creative Football in Blackburn we have been offering support, mentoring and pathways into Construction to those members that the charity supports.

We were very pleased to have recently employed member Rob Perry as one of our COVID cleaners.

Rob has been attending Creative Football sessions for over 2 years and even helps by volunteering. He has always shown enthusiasm to work but never had much luck or opportunity of a secured job. He impressed us whilst on a work placement, and we offered him a permanent position.

In addition, we have recently taken on Mark Stone for one day per week to assist with our COVID cleaning. Mark has also come to us via Creative Football and has impressed with the amount of effort he puts in!



Honestly Sarah, the support you have given Rob and Mark is priceless and we can't thank you enough. We are a charity and as a charity we are always looking for more equipment and cash funding - it's the nature of the game. But you have changed a couple of people's lives for the better and that beats everything. Thank you!

Paul Hardman, Project Manager, Creative Football

Chris Bullock

Chris started life in Birkenhead, and when he was 9 years old, he moved to Norwich where he lived for the next 20 years. However, he got in with the wrong crowd and made some bad choices that led to him being imprisoned. After his release Chris found himself homeless and on the street. He finally found a place at Emmaus in Salford.

It was during his time here that Eileen Crowe, Emmaus Centre Manager, approached Casey. She asked Tony Doran (Snr Site Manager) if he had any need for a painter as Chris had some experience. Tony explained that most of the painting work had been completed but he could offer Chris a two week work placement as a labourer. Chris made a very good impression and



has consequently been offered a permanent role as a labourer on Fitzwarren Court, our project for Salix Homes.

"I am very grateful to all the people for giving me this golden opportunity. It is hard enough to get a job with all the problems that Covid 19 has caused but when you have the added issues that my past brings then I am a very, very lucky man," said Chris.

Tony Doran commented that "Chris is a really nice guy who just wants the chance to improve his life. Everyone deserves that chance."

Chris is now looking forward to the next chapter in his life and being able to find a nice place to live so that he can make plans for a brighter future.

g and Employment opportunities

Corey Grange and Maksym Kokhan

Corey and Maksym both studied carpentry and joinery at Hopwood Hall College. Both of them volunteered to help out at college during the summer holidays. This involved getting all the equipment ready for the new 1st year students. In addition to this they also provided support to the students.



complete their Level 2 in Joinery. They are both working on our High Peak Housing Project in Glossop. and currently they are learning how to install double glazed units.

Corey said, "I am enjoying the role and I'm very grateful to Cover-all and Casey for giving me a wonderful opportunity."

When Casey approached the college and told them they were looking for two students who would be interested in pursuing a joinery apprenticeship, the head of department had no hesitation in recommending Corey and Maksym.

During their week's work placement both boys made a great impression. They were subsequently offered an apprenticeship with our supply chain partner Cover-all Construction Ltd. The boys are now learning on the job and will attend college on a day release basis to

Maksym said, "I have learned so much and everyone is very welcoming, they are always asking me and Corey if we are ok."

Wes Hanley, Managing Director at Cover-all, said "The lads have been a great addition to our team. They are both keen to learn and turn up each day with smiles on their faces. Its good to see that there are good hard working lads out there!"

Bright Phiri

Currently working on the landscaping project at Fitzwarren Court in Salford, Bright was overjoyed to have been given the opportunity to join Richard Charlesworth and the Civils team. He was born in Malawi but migrated to England in 2007. "I wanted a better life for myself and I knew that if I worked hard I could achieve that."

Bright had gained a lot of experience working through employment agencies within the construction industry but, unfortunately, nothing permanent.

So, when someone from his housing association contacted him to say that there was a vacancy with Casey he jumped at the chance. Bright lives in Radcliffe but was more than willing to travel to work within the Greater Manchester area. He believes that to get on in life you have to take every opportunity to improve your skills. In August 2019 he enrolled on a 5 day course to become a dumper truck driver.

"This opened up a few more doors for me when I added it to my CV," he said. "I am always willing to learn new skills and that is why I am so lucky to have been offered this opportunity with Casey. I am loving every bit of it. I know that there are people on site with a wealth of experience and I will follow their guidance."

Bright is certainly a breath of fresh air. His enthusiasm is infectious and he will be a great asset to Casey.



Helping in the Community

St James C of E Primary School, Lower Darwen



At the commencement of our highways project in Blackburn in March our Health & Safety Team visited the pupils and teachers of St James Primary School in Lower Darwen to deliver a presentation about construction site safety.

We've been back a couple of times since, first to present the children with games, and most recently with selection boxes, donated by Casey, Capita and Blackburn with Darwen BC.



And kind, and to help those less fortunate than ourselves.

Here are some of the things that Casey has been doing for Christmas.



Toy donations for the Mission Christmas Appeal from our

employees, with a special shout out to our Kersal Vale site (who also did a raffle to raise money for gift cards)

Food donations to Rochdale

Foodbank and Barty's Foodbank in Ashton-U-Lyne. Donations have come from Head Office staff and our site teams at Rochdale Fire Museum and Ashton Old Baths.



We've also provided items for hampers for Creative Football in Blackburn. And we've contributed to creating a Christmas atmosphere along two avenues in Croxteth, next to our newbuild project for Cobalt Housing, by installing Christmas trees and lighting on the lighting columns.



Poppy-Mai FC

Formed in Blackburn to promote child cancer awareness, Poppy-Mai FC started out as a charity team that has now entered the football leagues.

They had been struggling with unwanted parking at their ground, so Casey donated soil to create bunds to restrict access.

Neighbourly Kindness

What lovely and caring people we have working at Casey!

Casey are currently working on a newbuild development in Clayton for One Manchester. When (former) Site Manager Mike Banks saw Martin, one of the tenants living next to the site, struggling with his garden he didn't think twice about offering to help.

Mike said, "Martin always used to bob round asking questions about the build. He seemed a bit of a character and we built up a relationship, swapping 5 litres of bleach for the use of his hose pipe to fill our tank up prior to our water connection. Lovely guy and my sort of character."

Mike knew that Martin has been unwell for a while and told him to stop what he was doing, and he would bring his petrol mower, strimmer and clippers in the next day.

Martin was delighted when four volunteers turned up (Mike, Martin Healer, Rick Henry, and Anthony Byron) and just like "Ground Force" they started to cut the grass, trim the privets, strim the lawn edges and clear away the debris.

Once finished Martin and his wife treated the lads to a cappuccino and some Jammy Dodgers.

Mike has since moved to the Isle of Skye but we are sure that Martin will always remember the act of kindness he was shown by Mike and his team.