

Luton BSF Added Value Programme

Apprenticeships

Our commitment is to provide 5 apprenticeships for every £10million of Construction spend provided through the Supply Chain. With the additional non-BSF projects which have been added to the scheme, we are striving to achieve over 295 apprenticeships over the ten year period. Apprenticeships are a key route to skilled employment for many young people today, and we identify this as a priority initiative.

National Skills Academy for Construction (NSAfc)

We have agreed a framework in conjunction with ConstructionSkills to deliver an employment and skills plan (ESP) through the Academy. The Skills Academy will support training requirements of the projects and any up-skilling needs, and provide a central point of coordination for the involvement of the schools, and the Community. We have a full time Project Skills Co-ordinator who will be based at the Academy, which is located at Lea Manor High School. The expected official launch of the Academy is May-June 2010.

Work Experience

We have committed to 225 days of work experience per year through the supply chain. These placements will vary from half day, to full day to one or two weeks and will encompass a range of duties. The placements will be on offer to all ages 14+.

Dolly Parton Imagination Library

Launched in Tennessee in 1996, the Dolly Parton Imagination Library will see every child born from September 2009 in Luton, qualify to receive a free book every month up until they are 5 years old. The Wates family charity have donated £150k to the scheme. It will be launched in April 2010 with children receiving their first book in the same month.



Building Futures

Building Futures is a return to work programme aimed at helping those facing barriers to employment to acquire work preparation skills and construction industry knowledge. We have committed to running

two programmes per year in Luton, and our first two programmes will be taking place in April 2010. We are targeting 100% employment or into Further Education for all delegates that come through the Luton programmes.

Mentoring

We have committed to mentoring at least 17 Luton school pupils per year, with a minimum of 4 one to ones. These sessions will come through the Supply Chain and will vary depending on the needs of the pupils.

Management Trainee Programme

Wates will offer entry level training opportunities for at least two trainees per year for ten years in Luton, ranging from school/college leavers through to graduates and career changers. Wates will provide on-the-job training, as well as a structured personal development programme.

Making It Real

We will coordinate a series of Site Visits and School Talks in order to "make real" the benefits of the BSF programme in Luton. This will be done through the supply chain and will also involve seminars, taster days, assembly talks etc.

Civica Technology Lab

Our ICT Partner Civica, will install a Cisco Academy Lab in one of Luton's BSF schools, for use by the whole student population, in line with the Campus Luton strategy. Cisco engineers will attend the academy for mentoring, hands on advice and careers advice.

E-Learning Construction Tool

Launched in September 2009, Wates developed a hands-on online tool around construction which complements the Construction & Built Environment Diploma. The website, www.cbelearning.com supports the pupil, parent and teacher. This was funded by the Wates Family Charity.

Prince's Trust

Wates have a commitment to work with The Prince's Trust to deliver Get into Construction Programmes which are aimed at NEETs (Not in Employment, Education or Training). Through their family charity, Wates are donating £15k per year for the next 3 years to support this programme. A Get into Construction programme was successfully completed in Luton in February 2010.

Shakespeare Schools Festival

This initiative is the UK's largest youth drama festival enabling Luton schools to perform a half hour abridged Shakespeare play, in a local professional theatre, in front of their local community. The festival introduces young people to the excitement and discipline of live theatre, while combining key elements of learning. The Wates family Charity are funding the programme for three years. The first set of performances will take place in November 2010.



Luton Carnival

Luton Carnival is a creative celebration of the culture in Luton. It reflects the diverse mix of the region's ethnic communities and is highly regarded as possibly the biggest event in Luton's annual calendar. We will work with the BSF schools to engineer, design and build a float to participate in the Luton Carnival each year. Our entry has been accepted for this year's Carnival on 31st May 2010.

Dragons' Den in Luton

We have committed to facilitating and hosting a Dragons' Den initiative with Luton school pupils. The pitches have to be relevant to the regeneration of Luton town and/or construction related. The Dragons will come from Wates / LLCP, and our first Dragons' Den will be in October 2010.

Gleeds TV

Gleeds will provide the capability to produce short videos to promote the work of the Luton BSF and will broadcast them on their internal TV station. Gleeds will provide a cameraman, editing and produce the videos which Luton Borough Council can then use for their own promotional needs. Luton school children will carry out interviews and do voiceovers etc. Our first filming session begins in June 2010 with the case studies available by September 2010.

Civica Training and Development Programme

Our ICT partner, Civica will deliver a unique training programme for schools staff. This will provide opportunities for pupils and teachers to explore training paths across the country in wider business units.



Scholarship

Through our supply chain, we will offer various awards and sponsorship opportunities to reward the high achievers in the Borough.

Sponsoring Sport in Luton

Through our supply chain, we will sponsor sport initiatives across Luton to encourage healthy activity and community participation. We will sponsor sports kits, a sports tournament and equipment.

Community Day

We will organise and facilitate several Community Projects each year in Luton. Work will be undertaken by employees and supply chain partners.

Network Luton

Network Luton is a business networking platform for companies offering business services in and around Luton. Along with our supply chain, we have joined Network Luton and attend regular meetings.

Meet the Market

We will organise an event to draw together business expertise and experience from in and around Luton. Local businesses will be able to identify possible market needs, share best practice, find out about competition, and see the event as a business brokerage service.

Careers and Work Experience Fair

Wates will attend local Careers and Work Experience fairs on a regular basis in Luton to make potential permanent and short-term job matches. In addition, they will sponsor up to one Event in Luton over the duration of the BSF Scheme.

Come Build with Us

This was an event in Spring 2009 to draw together business expertise and experience from in and around Luton in order to identify potential local supply chain members to contribute to the delivery of Luton's BSF programme.

Business in the Community

Wates is a member organisation of Business in the Community and their membership represents its commitment to making a positive impact on society. Wates are committed to hosting a Seeing is Believing programme in Luton every two years.

Further information:

Luton Learning & Community Partnership,
1st Floor, 2-12 Victoria Street, Luton, LU1 2UA
Tel: DD - 01582 548912 - Mob: 07901515304