

THE SMITH

ISSUE no.1 March 2025

Social Value News



Social Value Working Group

The Smith, Social Value Working Group, comprises representatives from various key stakeholders across the project team. Diverse perspectives and innovative ideas are encouraged.

The Group meets monthly and has an agreed goal to achieve social value outcomes which align with our Purpose.

Group members are asked to support and contribute meaningfully to the successful execution of the various initiatives, both with ideas and active participation.

Periodic newsletters will be published throughout the project to highlight the Group's achievements.

The foundational members of the Smith Social Value Working Group are:

OPLM
Skanska UK
McGee
MAKE Architects
WT Partnership
Hilson Moran
Gardiner & Theobald
JLL
Waterman



The Smith Social Value Purpose

We want a strong collaborative project team which is committed to:

- promoting a positive and safe working culture and environment,
- working together on initiatives that have a positive impact on the wellbeing education, employment, and social mobility, of the local community, and
- leaving a positive legacy that can be continued post-construction.

The overriding philosophy is that *'we can achieve more together'*

OPLM are a supporter of the Living Wage Foundation for all employees working at The Smith



THE SMITH

Social Value News



Work Experience Week

In March, eight City of Westminster College students joined The Smith project team for work experience. They were welcomed on-site with an introduction to The Smith and careers in construction, followed by a site visit to observe various operational roles. Each student spent time with our Social Value Working Group members (see previous page).

The week concluded with students presenting their ideas for a thriving workspace, their suggestions ranged from an inclusion of a nursery and well-being spaces to a live music area, beehive and telescope! Feedback from the students was overwhelmingly positive:

"I enjoyed the change in scenery every day and gaining the opportunity to have a brighter insight on how each role plays a crucial role in creating a successful project"

Over 20 members of our team were involved in in facilitating these activities, we'd like to extend a massive thank you to everyone involved.

This collaborative work experience programme marks the first of many activities led by the working group aimed at supporting young people and enhancing social mobility.



We ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

Back to School with McGee

McGee has been actively supporting Millbank Academy, engaging with pupils to provide valuable insights into the construction industry. They have been working with the school to deliver curriculum activities that bring construction to life in an interactive and engaging way. To inspire the next generation, they have hosted two assemblies, giving the children a deeper understanding of the industry and the wide range of career opportunities available.

Additionally, they have welcomed the children on two site visits, allowing them to experience first-hand the various stages of construction gaining a real-world perspective on how projects come together. They aim to promote the construction industry in a positive light, spark curiosity, and encourage young minds to consider the diverse opportunities within construction.



Millbank Academy



We are a warm and welcoming primary school that sits at the heart of our local community. We have a very simple aim, and we work closely with parents and families to achieve it: to set up our children for happy, meaningful lives, full of choice and opportunity.

Key Contacts:

Anna Bennett-Wilkinson:
David Gardiner
Lida Sargologou

Social Value Manager, Skanska UK
Head of Property Management, OPLM
ESG Lead, OPLM

anna.bennett-wilkinson@skanska.co.uk
dgardiner@oplml.co.uk
lsargologou@oplml.co.uk