



CABINET BRIEFING: 12 January 2026

BUILDING PLYMOUTH

Celebrating 10 years of working together on skills, training, education, careers and jobs in construction and the built environment.

BRIEFING



- **Cllr Sally Cresswell**

Cabinet member for Education, Skills and Apprenticeships

- **Emma Hewitt**

Skills Lead, Plymouth City Council

- **Martin Daw**

Operations Director, JEM Scaffolding

- **Sam Morcumb**

Business Development Bid Manager, BuildX (SW)

- **Q&A**



Building Plymouth: Vision



**Celebrating 10 years of our award winning,
Council-led sector skills partnership with the
construction and built environment industry.**

Working together to address the city's skills needs by attracting, and investing in, a skilled supply of people to match the demand for delivering the city's ambitious capital build programme and transitioning to a net zero carbon economy.

Building Plymouth: Our model



Building Plymouth is funded through an innovative public/private sector collaboration with voluntary co-investment from over 70 organisations and sponsorship for specific activities. Additional funding has been secured from Department for Work and Pensions.

This model has created a trusted and well-established infrastructure connecting the local authority, clients, consultants, contractors, subcontractors and the supply chain, as well as CITB, education institutions and training providers, professional institutions, Department for Work and Pensions, wider Skills services and collaborative working across construction networks.



Building Plymouth: Membership 2026



Building Plymouth: Awards and recognition



- Image of Construction Award – SW Regional Award
- People & Culture – SW Regional Award
- Inspirational Leadership Award – SW Regional Award
- Apprenticeship Development Award
- Corporate Social Responsibility Awards



Building Plymouth: Skills Framework



Skills framework and interventions

DEMAND

- Business need
- Sectoral partnership focus



SUPPLY

- Working age population
- Skills and training provision including adult, further and higher education

PIPELINE

- Those in education or training
- Young people not in employment, education or training (NEET)

Our delivery plan aligns with Plymouth's Skills Framework of:

- DEMAND
- SUPPLY
- PIPELINE

DEMAND:

Maximising the impact of major city developments



- Plymouth City Council is a CITB accredited National Skills Academy for Construction committed to maximising employment and skills opportunities through local planning and procurement, ensuring delivery of employment and skills interventions on major developments
- Building Plymouth Client Group aims to provide a coordinated approach to improve visibility and transparency of the city's consolidated public sector capital programme, informing skills planning (LMI), ensuring that the forward construction workload is understood and facilitating engagement with the local marketplace
- NEW: Leadership of Construction Taskforce
- Building Plymouth influences and coordinates opportunities for delivering social value



Community project: Keyham garden recovery response



£40,000

in-kind support from the local construction industry and a rapid response to help after the emergency situation.

The construction volunteers celebrating the completion of the three gardens with the residents of St Michael's Avenue, Keyham.

[Construction industry helps Keyham recovery for free |
PLYMOUTH.GOV.UK](https://plymouth.gov.uk)



SUPPLY: attraction, training, recruitment, retention and progression of the workforce



- Job seekers – claimants and non-claimants
- Those economically inactive
- Career changers – including Armed Forces community
- Those at risk/ facing redundancy (both in construction and wider)
- Those with experience of the criminal justice system
- Adults undertaking onsite construction training
- Existing workforce – upskill/ retrain/ career progression
- Informing/ promoting local skills, training and education provision



Employer perspective: JEM Scaffolding



PIPELINE:

Attracting and retaining future talent



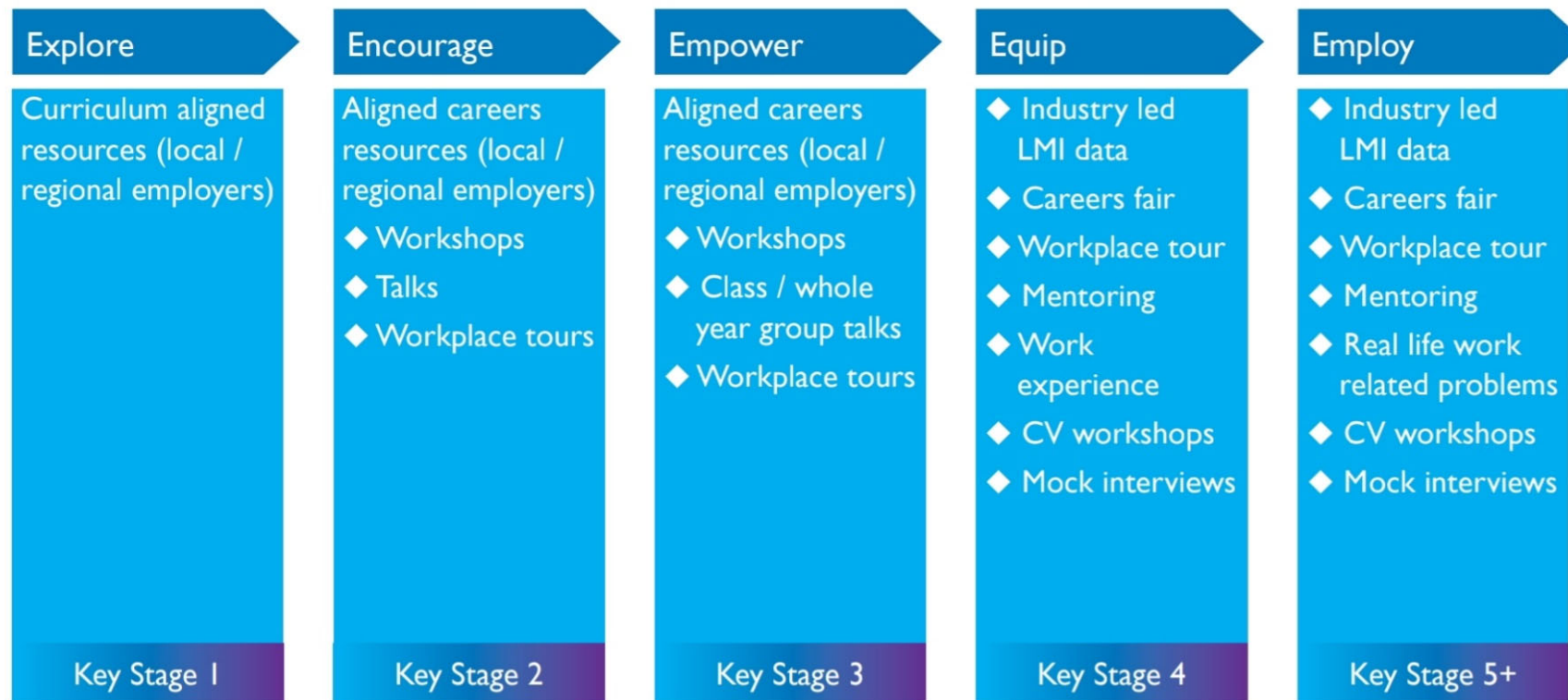
- Children and young people in education
- Apprentices – including Building Plymouth’s Aspiring Rising Talent Network (BPART)
- Further education students
- Higher education students and graduates
- Young people not in employment, education or training (NEETs)



PIPELINE: Building Plymouth 5E Group



Plymouth 5E – Careers Education Model



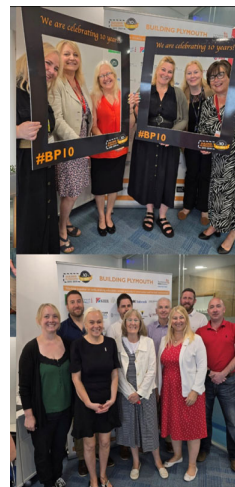
Inspiring Plymouth's children and young people and their future talent with coordinated, enriching experiences and opportunities; promoting careers in construction and the built environment. Accountability for social value commitments.



Coordinated 5E delivery



BPART



Work Experience Programme



PIPELINE:

Inspiring young people in education and influencing career advisors



- **‘Building Plymouth Adopt a School Programme’** – presented by Cllr Sally Creswell
- 21 schools ‘adopted’ by industry partners
- Monitoring and reporting on progress

Building Plymouth Adopt a School: Success Stories



[Malia Dakin and Chris Watts Video Clips No Test Bars](#)

PIPELINE:

Inspiring apprentices and recent graduates



BPART provides a free 12-month programme of CPD activity enabling both trade and technical apprentices at all levels as well as new graduates to access structured workshops to support their development and industry connections

[Celebrating local construction apprentices' achievements | Building Plymouth](#)



PIPELINE:

Care experienced young people pilot into construction





Q&A

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