



February 2019

West Midlands Commonwealth Games

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Staffordshire

A £15m highway improvement programme has been commenced by Amey to ease access to a new £160m retail development in Staffordshire Development of the £160m McArthur Glen designer Outlet in Cannock necessitates local highway improvements Cannock Chase District Council granted planning approval for the McArthur Glen Designer Outlet at Mill Green in September 2016 and Bowmer & Kirkland began construction on site this summer.



The quid pro quo was that developer McArthur Glen also had to spend £15m on a highway improvement programme to facilitate additional traffic and ease congestion on roads. Amey has been appointed by Staffordshire County Council to carry out the road works, which include improvements on the A460 Eastern Way, Church bridge interchange and Orbital Way, widening the A460 Eastern Way to a dual carriageway, and building an underpass and access to the site from the A460. New footpaths and cycle ways will also be installed. new networks as part of the £15m improvement scheme to create better places to live, work and travel in Staffordshire.”

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The council-led scheme has attracted £165m funding from central government and £20m from the West Midlands Combined Authority. Cllr Ian Ward, Leader of Birmingham City Council, said: “Since we announced our intention to bid for the 2022 Commonwealth Games, I’ve always said the event is about so much more than just 11 days of sport.



The new stands will include temporary roof structures for the duration of the games. A 400m warm up track will also be developed

“The regeneration of Perry Barr will be the most tangible and transformative legacy we achieve as a result of hosting the Games, bringing investment and regeneration to area that has long been crying out for it.” Waheed Nazir, Corporate Director for Economy at Birmingham City Council, said: “The fact that we have secured planning consent for such a



scheme within 12 months of being awarded the Games demonstrates the ability of the public sector to drive forward major projects at pace.” Future phases of the Perry Barr regeneration plan will be consulted on in 2019.

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Safe lifting next to railways

When operating mobile cranes next to railway lines make use of the new official safety guide prepared by the Construction Plant Hirers Association (CPHA) The good practice guide focuses on the risks of operating in close proximity to rail tracks. It includes topics such as: a hierarchy of risk elimination and reduction; requirements for crane configuration and setting up; and lift planning. It also includes sample documents such as a foundation pre-rigging inspection report form.



The 29-page document, Good practice guide: Requirements for mobile cranes alongside railways controlled by Network Rail, has been produced by the Construction Plant-hire Association’s (CPA) crane interest group in co-operation with Network Rail. It is based on the same principles as the previously published guidance on tower cranes alongside railways, and is free to download from [the CPA website](#).

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National Gallery in London’s

£4m national gallery refurbishment Willmott Dixon Interiors has been contracted to refurbish parts of the National Gallery in London’s Trafalgar Square.



The £4m project includes the complete refurbishment of Room 32, the largest within the National Gallery, as well as refurbishing parts of the existing basement and ground floor areas to provide new offices, meeting rooms and behind-the-scenes facilities. The original building was designed by William Wilkins in the 1830s. Willmott Dixon Interiors’ project will be delivered in the extended part of the gallery designed by Edmund M Barry that was completed in 1876. The refurbishment works have been designed by architect Purcell and funded by Tetra Pak billionaire Hans Rausing.

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Grenfell Tower Cladding

Grenfell Tower's cladding proved to be not just highly flammable but also highly toxic. The Fire Protection Association (FPA) has today published a report detailing initial research that is designed to help the government in its deliberations on the acceptability of combustible building materials. A decision on the future use of combustible materials in the construction of buildings is expected from the Ministry of Housing imminently.

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Fees are now due please pay ASAP

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