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**June 2019**

### **Brighton**



£161m Brighton student scheme The University of Brighton has awarded a contract to Bouygues Construction for financing, designing and constructing a new student residence on the Moulsecoomb campus. Work on the project, which overall is worth £161m, will be jointly carried out by three of Bouygues Construction’s British subsidiaries. These are: Linkcity (through its brand Uliving), Bouygues UK and Bouygues Energies & Services. The project consists of five blocks varying between 8 and 18 storeys, which will provide more than 800 student bedrooms as well as ground-floor amenities for the students’ union and fitness facilities. The Mithras Road project forms part of a wider north Brighton masterplan, including the Preston Barracks site. Designed by Hassell Architect, the These are: Linkcity (through its brand Uliving), Bouygues UK and Bouygues Energies & Services. The project consists of five blocks varying between 8 and 18 storeys, which will provide more than 800 student bedrooms as well as ground-floor amenities for the students’ union and fitness facilities. The Mithras Road project forms part of a wider north Brighton masterplan, including the Preston Barracks site. Designed by Hassell Architect, the student residence will be built on the eastern side of the Moulsecoomb

campus and forms part of a vast transformation project aiming to turn it into a sustainable and innovative campus. Initial works have started with handover scheduled for September 2021. The residence is set to welcome its first pour students for the 2021-22 academic year. Vice-chancellor Professor Debra Humphris of the University of Brighton said: “We’re proud to be investing in the future of our university, making Brighton a great place to live, work and study. “Uliving has a track record of creating exceptional student of the University of Brighton, said: “We’re proud to be investing in the future of our university, making Brighton a great place to live, work and study.

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### **Commonwealth Games**

£60m Commonwealth Games pool approval. £60m Commonwealth Games pool approval. commonwealth Games has been given the final go-ahead. Wates are favourite to deliver the project and if confirmed would start work on the new Smethwick aquatic centre at a site in Londonderry Playing Fields this summer. Officials aim to open it in 2021 and say it will host all swimming and diving events in the Games.



Gloucester-based architect Robert Limbrick has designed the new centre with Arup as structural and building services consultant The designs feature a 50m Olympic-sized



competition swimming pool, a 25m diving pool and a studio pool along with 1,000 spectator seats The proposed centre – to be run by Sandwell Leisure Trust – will also have two activity studios, a 12-court sports hall, a 125-station gym, a 25- Sandwell Leisure Trust – will also have two activity studios, a 12-court sports hall, a 125-station gym, a 25- building the new centre would be met by various organisations involved in delivering the Commonwealth Games 2022, including the Commonwealth Games Organising Committee, Sandwell Council and Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership

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### Scaffolding accidents up by more than a quarter

NASC, the national access and scaffolding confederation, has published its annual safety report showing a 27% increase in the number of workplace accidents and injuries among its membership in 2018. On the plus side, there were once again no workplace fatalities among operatives for the sixth consecutive year. In fact, there has only been one site death among NASC members since 2005. NASC's 2019 Safety Report documents and analyses accident and injury statistics for its full contracting members – representing more than 16,700 UK scaffolding operatives – in 2018. There was a 27% rise in the number of incidents, from 89 in 2017 (which was an all-time low) to 113 in 2018. This was the highest it has been since 2012. The frequency rate, defined as the number of reported accidents multiplied by 1000 divided by the average number of hours worked, was 0.35 in 2018, up from 0.28 in both 2017 and 2016. This was also the worst result since members are required to submit a detailed accident return as a requirement of membership. Analysis of the 2018 returns shows that the most common cause of accident and injury was 'slips, trips and falls on the same level' – representing more than 43% of all accidents reported. There were 22 falls from height, up from 14 in 2017, and four falls of materials, down from 12 in 2017. 2012.

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### South of England regional contractor Beard

has posted steady growth in profit and turnover for 2018. The family-owned firm, which has offices in Bristol, Swindon, Oxford and Guildford, made a pre-tax profit of £4.5m in the year ending 31st December 2018 (2017: £4.3m). Turnover was also up 4% to £150.2m (2017: £144.5m) and cash flow remained "exceptionally strong", said chairman, Mark Beard. "2018 has been a good year for the group with favourable market conditions generating healthy levels of turnover and profit," he said. "Our strong construction performance has been underpinned by Beard's talented and committed staff, rigorous financial management, and our prompt and faultless project delivery strategy which continues to win work and generate high levels of repeat business. "With a strong order book currently standing at £105m, and our ongoing investment in growing our own skilled workforce, we expect this positive momentum to continue in 2019." Contract highlights for Beard during 2018 included the firm the replacement of toll booths on the Clifton Suspension Bridge; a £5.3m scheme to build Charlton Wood Primary Academy at the old Filton Airfield for South Gloucestershire Council; and a £3.4m extension to Fairford Church of England Primary School in Fairford. In Tidworth, Beard was awarded a £9.3m refurbishment of officers' messes for Aspire Defence, and an £11.5m contract for new facilities at Wadham College, University of Oxford. Maidenhead, Beard booked a £7m contract for a classroom block at Furze Platt Senior School. For Surrey County Council it is working on a £5.3m development to support adults with autism. During the year Beard also completed construction of a £7.9m science education centre and innovation hub for the Oxford Trust at Stansfeld Park in Headington Quarry.

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