



June 2019

Cardiff



Vita Student has handed Kier a £32m contract for the construction Vita Student has handed Kier a £32m contract for the construction in Cardiff. The building has been designed by Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios. Kier has been brought in to redevelop the Bradley Court site on Park Place in Cardiff with a student housing scheme and public space improvements. The 17-storey development, housing 320 self-contained studio student apartments, has studio student apartments, has Clegg Bradley Studios.

CITB

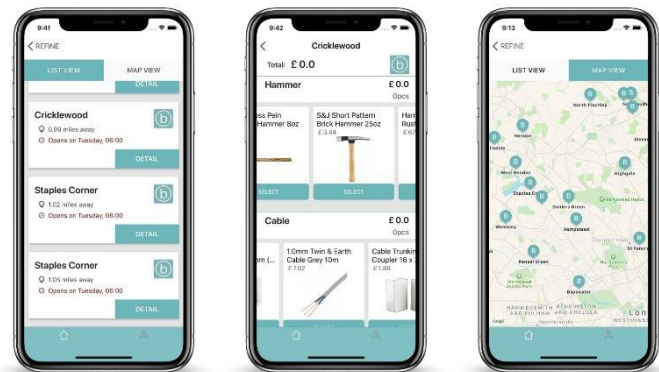
CITB to boost apprentice grants by 30%
Employers are set to get a major boost in funding from the Construction Industry Training Board to take on more construction apprentices. From next month CITB attendance grants to employers will increase to £2,500 per year and achievement grants will rise to £3,500 for companies whose apprentice successfully completes their training. The boost represents an overall funding increase from £10,250 to £14,500 for each apprentice an employer takes on – an uplift of over 30% on existing rates. CITB has acted as construction apprenticeships are falling and forecasts show the industry needs to fill

168,500 new jobs over the next five years. Stephen Radley, CITB Director of Strategy and Policy said: 'We know that taking on an apprentice is a big investment for employers who have seen the cost of doing this go up significantly in recent years.' These grant increases are designed to help employers of all sizes take on apprentices and ensure those learners complete their courses.

AGM and Dinner Dance is on the 6th July 2019, at the Wiltshire Hotel, Vastern, Royal Wootton Bassett, Wiltshire. SN4 7PB. Contact Mark at = m90rea@hotmail .com

Handy Builders Merchant App

A mobile app is now on the market to let builders know how close they are to the tools and materials that they need to purchase.



Buildiro provides a live database of builders' merchant inventory, although initially only in London Buildiro provides a smart directory of local builders' merchants and what they have in stock; type in 'plasterboard' and the app will direct you to the nearest source. The app was conceived by Luke Polach two years ago when he managed a small construction firm in north London. On one job, he needed materials and



used his phone to search for a local merchant. Google Maps told him the closest store was six miles away. But while stuck in traffic, he spotted a smaller merchant just a mile from the job site. Not only did this local supplier have everything Mr Polach needed, the products were cheaper than the larger retailer. The idea for Buildiro was born. Buildiro is now available in Google Play and Apple App store. The first phase covers Greater London only, where Buildiro is working with merchants to help them connect inventories to the app's database. The aim is to roll it out to other cities later in the year.

Schoolboy commended in RIBA bridge design contest

When the Royal Institute of British Architects holds an international design competition, it normally expects entries from the likes of Norman Foster or Ove Arup, not a 10-year-old schoolboy from Tamworth. William Tonks with his parents and Network Rail chairman Sir Peter Hendy RIBA and Network Rail issued a challenge last year for designers to come up with a fully accessible footbridge that could be used across Britain's rail network. There were 120 entries from 19 countries. The winner was Gottlieb Paludan Architects, whose design has now been added to Network Rail's new catalogue of improved station footbridge designs. A surprising entrant, however, was 10-year-old William Tonks from Tamworth, whose design impressed the judging panel with its imagination and innovation. During February William and his parents were invited to the winners' exhibition at the RIBA in London,



where his concept was showcased to around 100 guests, including Network Rail chair Sir Peter Hendy. William Tonks, Stuart's father, s

said: "I'm really proud of William's entry. Obviously, we knew he was unlikely to win, but we wanted to encourage him to follow his passion for bridges and engineering. The feedback we've had from the judges has been really helpful and has only strengthened William's desire to pursue a career in engineering in future." Network Rail chair Sir Peter Hendy said: "It's wonderful to see somebody as young as William with the enthusiasm and ability to successfully enter the footbridge competition, and we are all delighted to see his design showcased at the exhibition. We hope he goes on to become a railway engineer – we need him and many others in the future." contractor Multiplex over the course of a weekend.

South of England regional contractor Beard

. 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 book currently standing at £105m, and our ongoing investment in growing our own skilled workforce, we expect this positive momentum to continue in 2019."

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