

Annual

Impact Report



2025

Introduction

'Social Value' is a way of thinking about how scarce resources are allocated and used. It involves looking beyond the price of each individual contract and looking at what the collective benefit to a community is.

The themes which are being used in procurement at Stevenage are:

- ✓ Promote Local Skills and Employment
- ✓ Supporting Growth of Responsible Regional Business
- ✓ Healthier, Safer and more Resilient Communities
- ✓ Decarbonising and safeguarding our world
- ✓ Promoting Social Innovation

As a member of the Co-operative Councils Innovation Network, Stevenage Borough Council is a local authority committed to reforming the way it works through building an equal partnership with local people, based on the values and principles of the International Co-operative Alliance.

We will support the development of a framework and criteria for social value, giving substance to the concept and to ensure better local social and economic outcomes. Social Value can help support Community Wealth Building aims to revive local economies, renew trust in local services and deliver a renaissance of local government by giving businesses and communities a bigger stake in the local economy.

We are committed to ensuring a high standard of ethical trade practices, across commissioning and procurement activities.

We expect suppliers, service providers and contractors to act with integrity and transparency in their dealings and practices, adhering to the laws of the countries where they operate.

Stevenage Borough Council has signed up to the Co-operative Party Charter against Modern Slavery which aims to establish ethical labour sourcing practices in our supply chain and establish robust recruitment processes.

We require all of our contractors to comply fully with the Modern Slavery Act 2015, wherever it applies, with contract termination as a potential sanction for non-compliance. Procurement can be the target of anti-competitive, fraudulent and corrupt activities.

The Council will take steps to minimise the opportunity for these and use clear policy statements and codes of conduct which are easily accessible by members, staff and the public.

This report aims to highlight the work carried out by SBC and partners with regards to Social Value.

Community Chest Fund Awards 2025



£11,650

Total pot for CCF 2024



7

Local Stevenage groups supported



6

Key partner donations
From Mulalley (£2,500), Wates (£3,000), Aaron Services (£2,169), Lovell (£1,000), EEM Community Donations (£476)





One of the new teams sporting their new kit that the funds helped to provide.



Supporting local people, clubs and organisations in the Stevenage community.



£2,676





Crossroads
CARING FOR LIFE

The group attended a fun packed visit to the bowling alley in June.

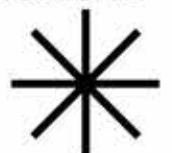


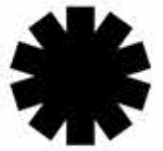
£1,228

Strong businesses build strong communities



As well as a social summer picnic in July.





June - Elvis entertained the group.

Local business, local impact



£1,228



July - The group enjoyed a Singalong





Over 50's Monday group

On behalf of the whole group, we would like to thank the council for the grant, we all had a very good trip out.

We all chose to go to Standalone Farm in Letchworth. When we arrived we all have some lunch of Jacket Potatoes with delicious toppings, and had a drink.



After Lunch we met up with the Farm's Farmer Mark who gave us all a tour of the farm and meet the animals, he gave us a talk about them and we were able to interact with them.

The group enjoyed giving them their feed. After our tour and talk we all had some free time to look round and visit the Farm Shop until we met up again to have another drink.



I thought it would be nice to have a Raffle so I purchased some items in the shop. We all had a great time. Sadly we were missing 2 members of the group as they were not very well.

Again, thank you so much for our outing, it did the group the world of good to get out, the weather was just perfect. Thank you."

Business and community grow together





£2,600



The children are benefiting greatly from the experience of cooking, showing fabulous team work, communication, problem solving skills, creativity and building confidence to name a few.

It's also lovely to see them sitting together to eat and socialise. We have a few children who choose not to eat in front of others or don't eat past a certain time, they are now slowly joining the group to eat with them, which is amazing achievements for them.



**Invest in
community,
invest in
success**

We are so grateful for the opportunities the funding has provided us.

We have had so much fun cooking and carrying out food based activities this term.

These activities are really helping the children and young people to build relationships with each other, whilst improving their social skills, communication, problem solving skills, working together, confidence, self esteem and of course life skills.

The children requested a food tasting session, which was a great experience for them. Many liked food that they've previously turned their noses up at and would refuse to try.

The feedback from parents is also so positive.

Baking has also extended to our Mindfulness group, following them speaking to children from the other group.





TRACKS is an independent charity that provides a safe, positive environment in which young children aged 2 to 5 with autism and related conditions can learn, play and be given support through intensive early intervention.

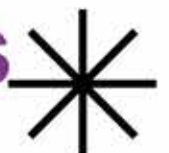
We work closely with families supporting them through the sometimes-difficult process of diagnosis through to their child's transition into school.

We help each child to achieve their full potential through personalised high-quality education, therapy, and support. The high adult to child ratio is made up of specialist teachers, teaching assistants, speech and language therapists and music therapists.

TRACKS is one of very few autism specific early years centre's in Hertfordshire and the only pre-school in England to be accredited by the National Autistic Society.

£2,600

**Supporting
community
is smart
business**



Community Chest Fund Awards Winners 2025



Community Events

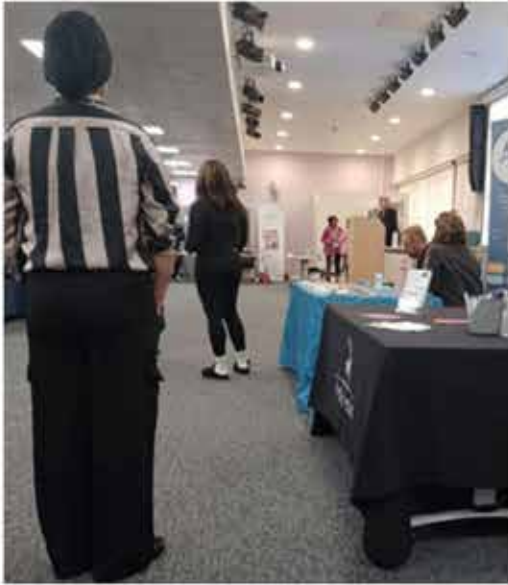
March - Herts Construction Cornerstone Group Insight Day

Stevenage Works joined a number of construction companies at this successful event held at SECS.



April - Construction Open Day JCP





**May - Care Leavers
Event**

May - Generation Stevenage, Knebworth House



November

Stevenage Works attended a mentoring day at Stevenage Education Support Centre



Official opening of Babyshed



August

A successful collaboration between Sureserve and Hill sub contractor ROL Construction, saw long awaited work filling in a defunct pond at The Nobel School being completed.



CSCS & Health and Social Care courses 2025



11

Courses held

2

Introductory Health & Social Care Courses held

51

Local participants

23

Local participants

23

Passed gaining a CSCS Card

5

Now in employment



Bell proudly donated 190 essential food and household items to the Food Shed in Stevenage, consisting of items from their wish list, including nappies, toothpaste and deodorant, as well food items such as rice, pasta sauce and sugar. In addition, Emma Arnold, volunteered a day to helping support The Food Shed in Stevenage. unpacking and sorting donations, rotate stock and pack essential food parcels ready to be collected by those in need.

In February, a donation of part used paint tins to Haven Fir in Stevenage, for use at one of their properties. They were extremely grateful for the offer and the paint was delivered just a few days later.

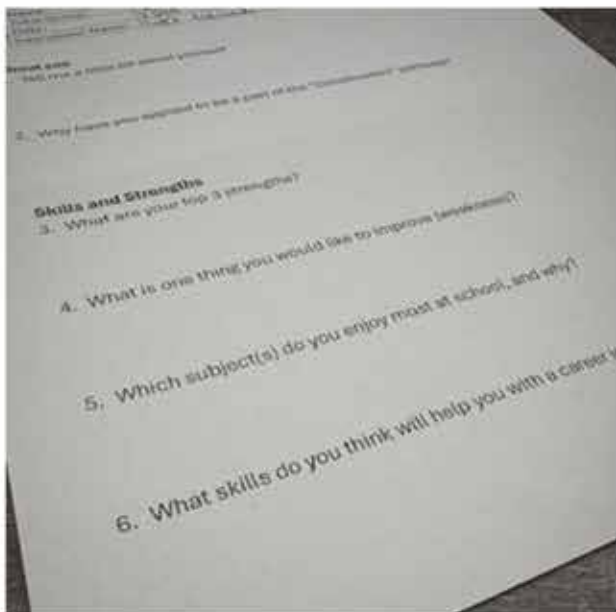


Emma also supported the local community by completing a litter pick on the Blakeney Estate. There was significant litter in the car park area, this was collected in 2 bags and disposed of off-site.



School Engagement

42 hours delivering mentoring & employability sessions to students at Thomas Alleyne school



210 Year 8 Students attending a Construction Assembly
66 applied to take part in the "Careers in Construction" Project
All 66 students took part in Mock Interviews to secure 1 of the 25 spaces available
Attended the Cornerstone School event held at Stevenage ESC



Supporting Unemployed Residents

24 residents attended our "Hidden Roles in Construction" sessions

6 sessions designed to unearth hidden roles in our industry, and the transferable skills people can bring

Attendance at DWP Job Fair alongside one of our recruiters Regen Solutions –

Engaged 44 attendees

2 vacancies – 1 x RLO and 1 x SM to work directly on the contract



CHAS BERGER - THE CONSTRUCTION SESSIONS

JUNE & JULY 2025

TOGETHER WITH STEVENAGE JOBCENTRES PLUS

4 JUNE	GETTING STARTED IN CONSTRUCTION 10.30AM - 11.30AM
11 JUNE	HEALTH & SAFETY - WHY CSCS CARDS AND H&S ARE VITAL 10.30AM - 11.30AM
18 JUNE	APPRENTICESHIPS - ROUTES INTO CONSTRUCTION 10.30AM - 11.30AM
25 JUNE	HIDDEN ROLES IN CONSTRUCTION 10.30AM - 11.30AM
09 JULY	WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION 10.30AM - 11.30AM

38 - 44 THE FORUM STEVENAGE HERTFORDSHIRE SG1 1EZ

ASK FOR MORE INFO ON HOW TO SIGN UP FOR ONE OR ALL OF THESE SESSIONS

Local Employment Commitment

CBM Group continues to employ operatives residing within the **SG1 and SG2 postcode areas**, ensuring this contract directly supports local jobs and the Stevenage workforce.

Supporting Local Charities

We have made two charitable donations totalling **£500.00** to community-focused organisations, including **YMCA** and **FeedUpWarmUp**, helping to support young people, individuals and households facing hardship within the Stevenage area.



Investment in Stevenage Businesses

All materials and plant used on this contract are sourced through **Stevenage-based suppliers**, contributing to the local economy.

Skills and Training Development

Five electricians working on the contract have successfully completed **one-day professional training course**.



January - Galldris gave a presentation to students at North Herts College undertaking a CSCS course



Start of Swinggate project



Have you ever thought about
Working in CONSTRUCTION

Open Day Event in the Stevenage Jobcentre
Wednesday 9th April
at 10.30am

Come and Meet the employers

- ✓ Galdris
- ✓ Keepmoat
- ✓ Bell Group
- ✓ Gilbert Ash
- ✓ Chas Berger
- ✓ 3D Personnel



Make new contacts, understand what's happening in Stevenage and learn about the job roles, such as ...

- Apprenticeships
- Painting and Decorating
- Resident Liaison Officers
- Gatemen
- Forklift Truck Operators
- Women in Construction
- Labourers
- Groundworkers
- Traffic Marshals
- Handy Men

...career progression as well as higher roles in Construction such as Administrators, Cleaners etc etc

Interested...? Speak to your Work Coach for more details



On 9th April 2025, Gilbert-Ash attended a Construction event at Job Centre Plus, alongside our labour recruitment partner 3D personnel.

Our HR manager Ciara McKeivitt delivered a presentation on Gilbert-Ash, and 3D Personnel on entry level positions. 1 to 1 discussions were also held on the day with various interested candidates.

- Gilbert-Ash, alongside Mace and Stevenage Borough Council attended a volunteering day at Fairlands Valley Park Community and Leisure Centre. This included making good and decorations to internal and external areas. Gilbert-Ash provided tools, materials and volunteers from our management team (along with 2 painters and 1 carpenter) . Date 4th September 2025.





Hill welcomed a group of students from North Herts College for a site visit, supported by ALB Brickwork Waterproofing.



July

Joe from Hill Group presented to a group of CSCS students

October

Hill Sub Contractors Keylon and Spiers carried out works at Nobel School, Keylon making good the walls

- Dulux donating paint
- Spiers decorating the stairwells





February
Stantec, who are working on the former
Icon site with Hill, made a very
generous donation of £200 worth of
Tesco vouchers to The Foodshed in
Stevenage.

EASTER EGG DONATION

In April, Mace's Stevenage project organised a special Easter egg donation drive to provide easter eggs to: the children's ward at Lister Hospital Stevenage, Survivors of Domestic Abuse (SADA) and every staff operative on site.



"On behalf of the East and North Hertfordshire Hospitals' Charity, I would like to say a heartfelt thank you for your generous donation to support the children that will spend time in hospital this Easter. Children who visit our hospitals are a huge priority, with the dedicated staff on our paediatric wards working tirelessly to provide extraordinary care and protection whilst also ensuring children in their supervision feel safe and reassured. Hospital can be a scary and uncertain time for children. Thanks to your kind donation we will be able to give out Easter eggs to young poorly patients visiting our hospitals. These gifts will allow us to bring smiles to children at our hospitals and provide reassurance and comfort at a challenging time for families. As a small local charity which relies heavily on the generosity and support of the community, we are so very grateful to you for helping to make campaign like this possible"

East and North Hertfordshire Hospitals' Charity,

As part of our ongoing commitment to community support and engagement, Mace NBEC organised a special Easter egg donation drive to provide easter eggs to: the children's ward patients at Lister Hospital Stevenage, Survivors of Domestic Abuse (SADA) and every staff operative on site.

This initiative was a collaborative effort involving the Mace team and several subcontractors on site. A total of over 150 Easter eggs were collected and distributed, with over 90 easter eggs going to Lister Hospital and SADA.

Lister Hospital offers comprehensive children's services through its dedicated paediatric wards providing care to children with both acute and chronic conditions.

SADA Stevenage is a vital service dedicated to supporting individuals experiencing domestic abuse. SADA offers a range of services to help victims feel safe, secure, and empowered.



Social Value Generated £5,830

ROSE GARDEN RENOVATION

In April, Mace with the support from some of our subcontractors, completed an edging renovation on Stevenage Rose Garden.



Dear Mace,

I wanted to say a massive thank you!! to you and the team for such a great job at the Town Centre Gardens. The rose beds look fantastic and I'm sure will last for a very long time.

*Karol Butrimas-Gair
Stevenage Works Officer*

We were asked to support Mace with a renovation project in Stevenage and we gladly stepped in. At Harringtons, we're passionate about giving back to the communities we work in. It's the little things- like this garden - that make a difference in creating welcoming, vibrant spaces for everyone to enjoy.

Harringtons Builders PLC.

The Rose Garden in Stevenage Centre is managed and maintained by a dedicated group of community volunteers. As the garden beds are surrounded by grass, the rose beds often became overgrown, requiring regular maintenance. The volunteers recognised that the garden would benefit from some wooden edging to define the flowerbed and reduce the grass overgrowth.

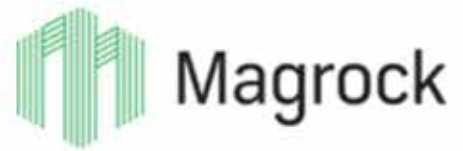
In April, Mace decided to support this initiative by collaborating with our subcontractors to provide the necessary edging material and labour. The renovation project required 4 labourers, and 2 grounds maintenance staff and took 5 hours to complete. The subcontractor Harringtons donated £800 worth of materials and £800 worth of labour.

The renovation has significantly improved the garden's overall appearance and design. The edging has clearly defined the area and improves accessibility making it easier for the volunteers to manage.





August – Magrock carried out extensive painting works at John Henry Newman School



October - Much needed cupboards were built for a local church community group



'Dear Karol I am writing to thank you on behalf of St Hugh and St John for facilitating the installation of new cupboards - it has made such a difference to the way the hall looks We have been very lucky to have so many people help us - we are a small church with limited funds I've written a separate thanks to Alan Nagle, Magrock Yours sincerely Chandy'



A fantastic day for the team at Stevenage Borough Council 'Meet The Contractor' event in July

The local team were delighted to sponsor the Stevenage Together Awards – October



Stevenage Jobs Fair October



TOTAL - £1,039,370.29
(across Installs and Servicing) spent with local supply chain

Stevenage Borough Council



Social Value Performance

August 2018 – August 2025

“ We're proud to celebrate over six years of successful partnership in Stevenage! Throughout this incredible journey, we've remained committed to working alongside community partners to ensure that those who need it most benefit from our efforts. Our colleagues, in close collaboration with local stakeholders, have been the driving force behind the success of our community-focused initiatives, consistently delivering exceptional value through their dedication and hard work. Together, we've built a lasting impact for future generations. ”



James Gregg,
Regional Managing
Director

Investing in Employment and skills



63 People
have benefited from employment and skills initiatives on this project

15,198 Hours invested
in employment and skills on this project

48 Local people
have benefited from employment and skills initiatives

6 Apprentices
employed on this project

£835,890

Value of our investment into skills and employment

1760
Training / employment weeks created

£402,858

TOMs social value delivered from skills and employment on this project

1450
Local training / employment weeks created



Investing in the employability of young people



1543 Students
supported by our education activities and programmes on this project

69 Hours invested
by Wates and partner staff into supporting young people

£5,665

Value of our time invested into improved employability of young people

£16,793

TOMs social value delivered through improved employability of young people on this project

Investing in growth and responsible regional business



£15,951,529
Has been spent with SME businesses on this project

63.8% SME spend
as a percentage of total contract value

£12,890,369
Economic benefit has been generated for the local community as a result of this spend

£20,887,532

Our total investment (inc support hours) into growth and responsible regional business

£9,665,772

TOMs social value delivered through investing in growth and responsible regional business on this project

Investing in healthier, safer, and more resilient communities



661 People
from the community engaged in activities

895 Hours
have been invested into volunteering in and supporting the community

£97,459

Our total investment into local charities / community causes (inc time and donations)

Overall social value highlights

£21,826,546

Our total investment for this project

£10,089,732

Total TOMs social value generated through this project



Christmas Donations 2025



Foodshed and Toyshed gratefully received gifts from Bell Group

In the lead-up to Christmas, The Food Shed in Stevenage launched a Reverse Advent Calendar appeal, encouraging people to give back during the festive season by donating essential food and household items throughout December.

Bell were inspired by this initiative, taking part by completing three full reverse advent calendars, each filled with a range of cupboard staples, treats, and everyday essentials ready to be shared with those who rely on the food bank's vital support.



PiLON donated coats, gloves, hats and scarves to the local charity Feed Up Warm Up



Thank you!



Christmas Donations 2025

Hill Group made generous donations to SADA



Donations were purchased to the value of £650 and included gift bags for the women in the refuge and gift bags for the children.

Items for women included Lindt chocolate boxes, bath robes, face masks and sanctuary spa sets.

Items for the children included selection boxes, two Amazon tablets, colouring pens and a football gift set.

Additional items for the refuge included bedding sets, bathroom storage and bathmats. SADA are currently promoting the 16 days of activism campaign, so we have matching hoodies with their helpline number printed on.

In addition to the above, Hill attended the SADA Christmas party, which will double up as a safe space for families needing support, providing additional décor to make the venue look more festive.



Thank you!

Christmas Donations 2025



CBM donated valuable vouchers to OneYMCA and Feed Up Warm Up this year



Surserve presented SADA with a generous donation



Thank you!

Christmas Donations 2025



This Christmas, United Infrastructure's Social Infrastructure team was proud to support 15 residents in Stevenage by donating festive Christmas hampers, delivered in partnership with Stevenage Works.

The initiative formed part of our ongoing social value commitments, aimed at supporting residents who may experience financial hardship or social isolation during the festive period. Each hamper was carefully prepared with essential food items and seasonal treats, helping to bring comfort, dignity, and a sense of celebration at what can be a difficult time of year.



Thank you!

Christmas Donations 2025



Pilon donated much needed coats, blankets and sleeping bags to Feed Up Warm Up



Gilbert Ash generously donated £1,340.00 to Foodshed/Babyshed



TSG donated toys and food to SADA, Babyshed and OneYMCA



Thank you!