

# Construction in the West of England LEP area

Helping you to achieve growth



# Construction helps you to achieve economic growth

The construction industry accounts for **8% of United Kingdom Gross Domestic Product (GDP)** and has a workforce of **2.6 million**. The industry generates a **return of £2.84** to the economy for every pound of investment.

## The role of construction

The construction industry plays a leading role in delivering economic growth. The industry is essential in meeting the economic and social challenges that Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) face across the infrastructure, housing, repair and maintenance, industrial and commercial sectors.

Whether you are working to meet your area's housing needs or to deliver iconic infrastructure, **we can help you to plan and maximise your skills outcomes through construction.**



We want to help you **use construction to drive long-term growth and jobs** across the West of England LEP area and your priority sectors. We work with LEPs and bring together industry to find solutions to address the current and future skills needs of construction businesses in the LEP area.

With the economy now strong and continuing to grow, the UK construction industry needs to attract 43,000 new recruits every year for the next five years to meet the increased demand for skills and to replace those leaving the sector. We will continue to work with your LEP and local partners to support and bring growth to the West of England LEP area through the development of employment and skills in local construction businesses.

## Who we are

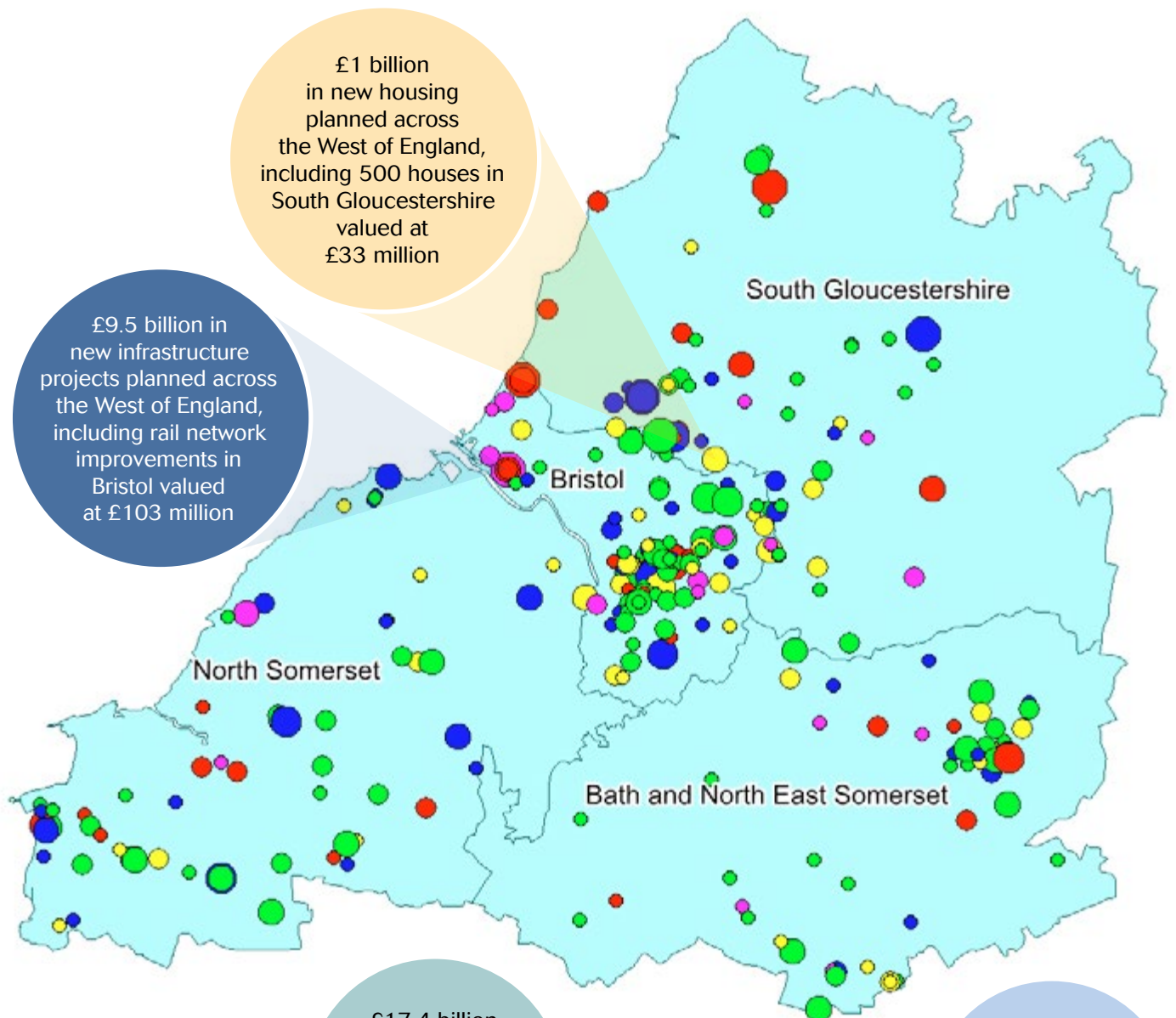
CITB is the Construction Industry Training Board. We work with the construction industry to reduce skills gaps, train the workforce and inspire the next generation of people to work in the industry.



If you want to deliver growth in your area, we can help, contact **Leif Tarry, Partnership Manager** on **07554 416579** or **[leif.tarry@citb.co.uk](mailto:leif.tarry@citb.co.uk)**



In the West of England LEP area, there are 5,170 construction businesses and 35,100 construction jobs.



£17.4 billion in construction investment across the West of England with £12.7 billion planned

£1.3 billion in commercial construction planned across the West of England

£367 million in public non-housing construction planned across the West of England

**Planned projects by sector**

- Infrastructure
- New housing
- Private commercial
- Private industrial
- Private non-housing

**Planned projects by value (£ million)**

- >100
- 50 to 100
- 10 to 50
- 2 to 10
- <2

# CITB working in partnership with the West of England Local Enterprise Partnership

**A Construction Skills Strategy that aims to ensure that qualified workers from a range of backgrounds in the west of England are accessible to local employers is under way.**

CITB is working in partnership with the West of England LEP to develop an evidence-based, collaborative strategy. In developing the strategy CITB engaged with the LEP's skills team, infrastructure sub-group, local stakeholders and key local employers.

CITB's Labour Forecasting Tool and bespoke research services were used to understand the local construction employment and skills context and make suggestions for the future. This was done by:

- *Analysing the demand pipeline in the LEP area to understand the construction employment opportunities likely to be created*
- *Analysing current supply including existing workforce levels, local colleges' provision, skills development and retention and also establishing how many new entrants join the industry*
- *Considering inter-regional supply mobility and how this might impact on construction skills and employment in the area*
- *Assessing existing construction training provision in the area, the extent to which it is fit for purpose and the viability of a range of flexible future training options in the area*

- *Assessing the benefits of investing in local young people*
- *Making suggestions about how the evidence gained could be used to acquire investment funding.*

A supporting action plan was developed with the strategy. The plan utilised available research data and key information on demand, supply, skills, people gaps and area provision.

The key themes identified were:

- *Industry intelligence and responsiveness*

- *Co-ordinated information, advice and guidance*
- *Building capability (new provision, supply of people, future skills)*
- *Engaging SMEs and supply chains to boost productivity (including Shared Apprenticeship Scheme and Higher Apprenticeships)*
- *Promoting pathways for employment to enhance equality and diversity in the workforce.*

Task and finish groups are currently being selected to develop and deliver tasks that have been identified through the comprehensive review findings.



## Contact

Please contact Leif Tarry on 07554 416579 or [leif.tarry@citb.co.uk](mailto:leif.tarry@citb.co.uk) to arrange a meeting to discuss how we can work with your LEP or local authority.

## Useful links

[citb.co.uk](http://citb.co.uk)  
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