

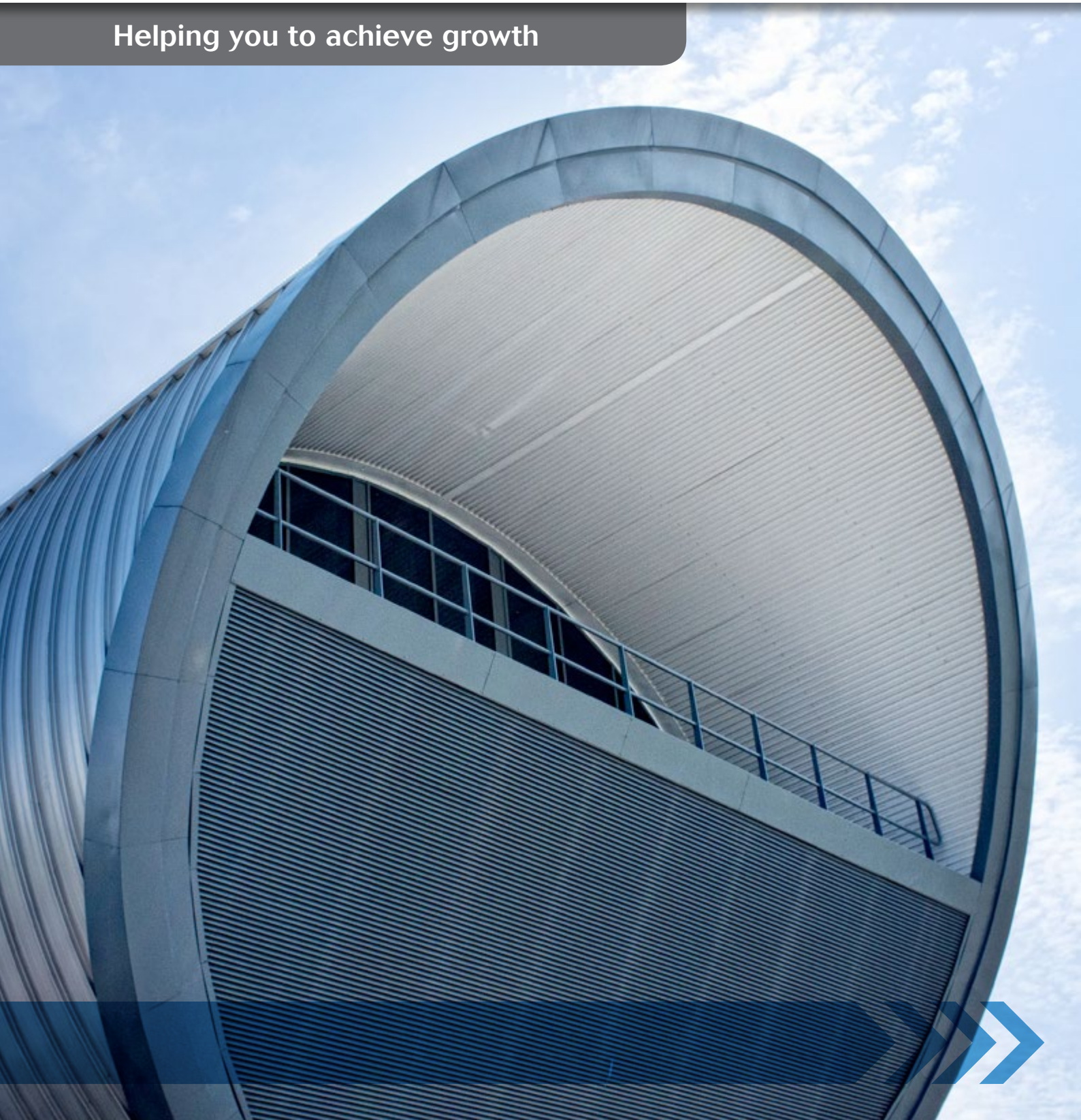
2016

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



# Construction in the Solent 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 Solent 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 Solent LEP area through the development of employment and skills in local construction businesses.

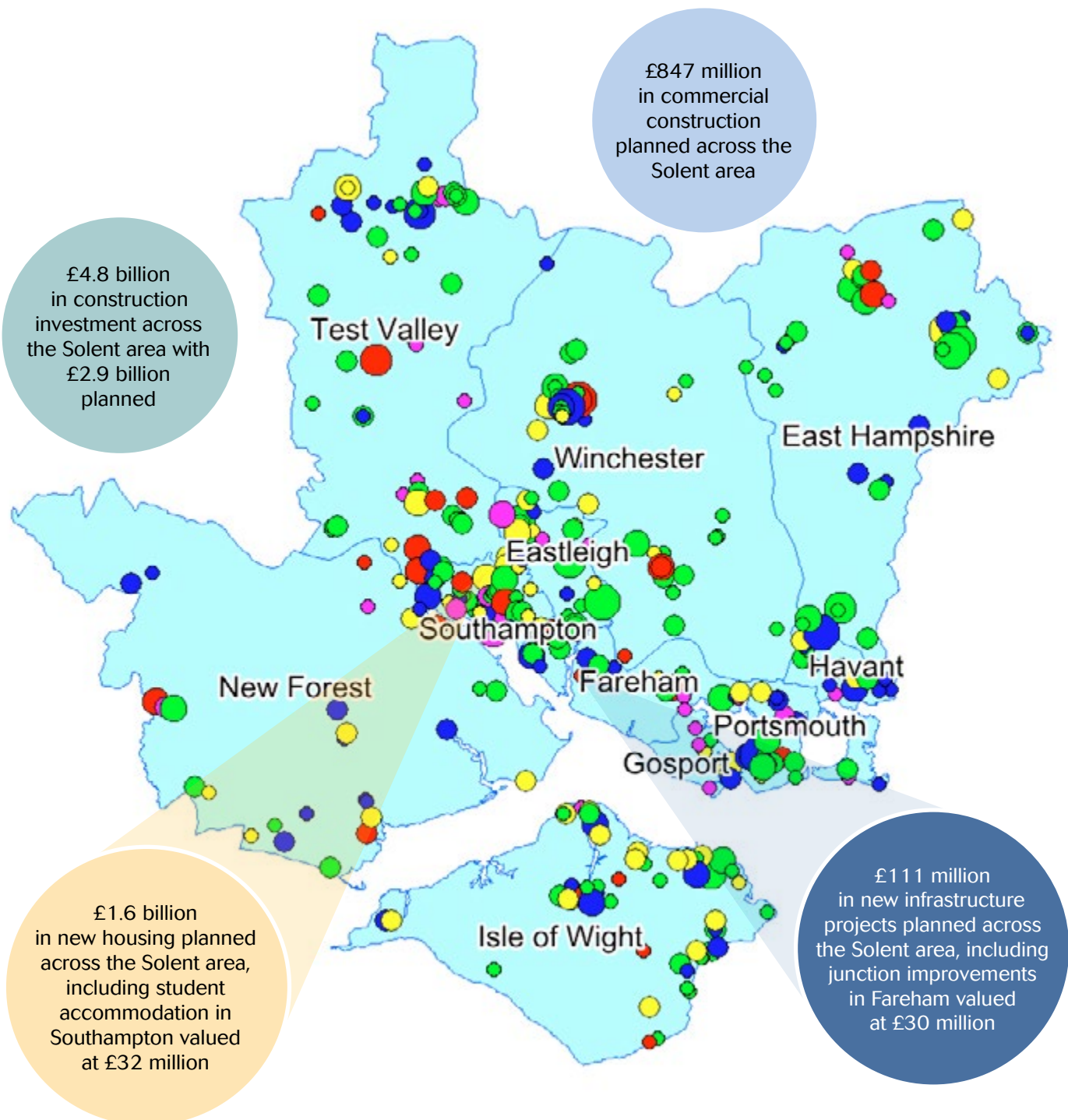
## Who we are

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 **Nick James, Strategic Partnership Director** on **07584 205554** or **[nick.james@citb.co.uk](mailto:nick.james@citb.co.uk)**

In the Solent LEP area, there are **8,275** construction businesses and **63,200** construction jobs.



**Planned projects by sector**

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

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

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

# Solent LEP promoting construction as a positive career choice

**A strategy setting out the construction skills needed for employers across the Solent region is currently being developed by CITB and the Solent LEP.**

The strategy will define how construction projects can be co-funded and delivered in partnership. It will utilise CITB's Labour Forecasting Tool to gauge factors impacting on local construction employment and skills.

The strategy will be supported by a clear evidence base to support future actions by:

- *Analysing the 'demand pipeline' in the area to understand how employment and training opportunities can be maximised*
- *Conducting analysis into current supply including the existing workforce and provision supplied by local colleges*
- *Looking at how new entrants join the construction industry*
- *Assessing if existing construction training provision in the area is fit for purpose*
- *Evaluating the benefits of investing in local young people*
- *Making suggestions about how the evidence above might be used to gain investment funding.*

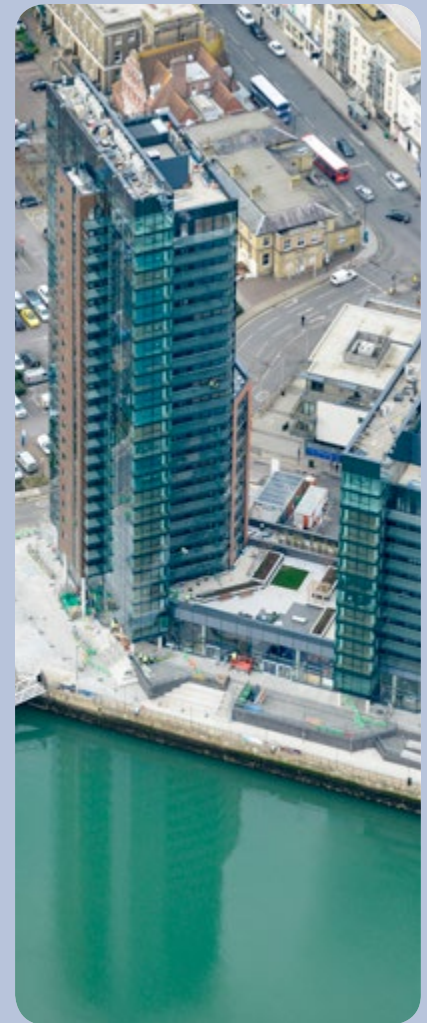
A comprehensive action plan will then be developed using the new Construction Skills Strategy. Key themes identified in a partnership workshop were: industry intelligence and responsiveness; co-ordinated information, advice and guidance; building capability (new provision, supply of people, future skills); and engaging SMEs and supply chains.

Working groups will be set up to develop and deliver the actions identified through each of the key themes.

Commenting on the strategy, Roger Stone, Sector Strategy Manager at CITB said: "Recent cooperation between the LEP, CITB, employers and providers has already led to positive actions in the development of the strategy and operational requirements.

"Initiatives have been identified that will promote construction and further enhance the excellent work by local authorities in embedding employment and skills into their projects.

"Future results through the action plan groups will showcase construction locally and promote the industry as a positive career choice."



## Contact

Please contact Nick James on 07584 205554 or [nick.james@citb.co.uk](mailto:nick.james@citb.co.uk) to arrange a meeting to discuss how we can work with your LEP or local authority.

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