

# Construction in the Heart of the South West 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 Heart of the South West 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 Heart of the South West 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.



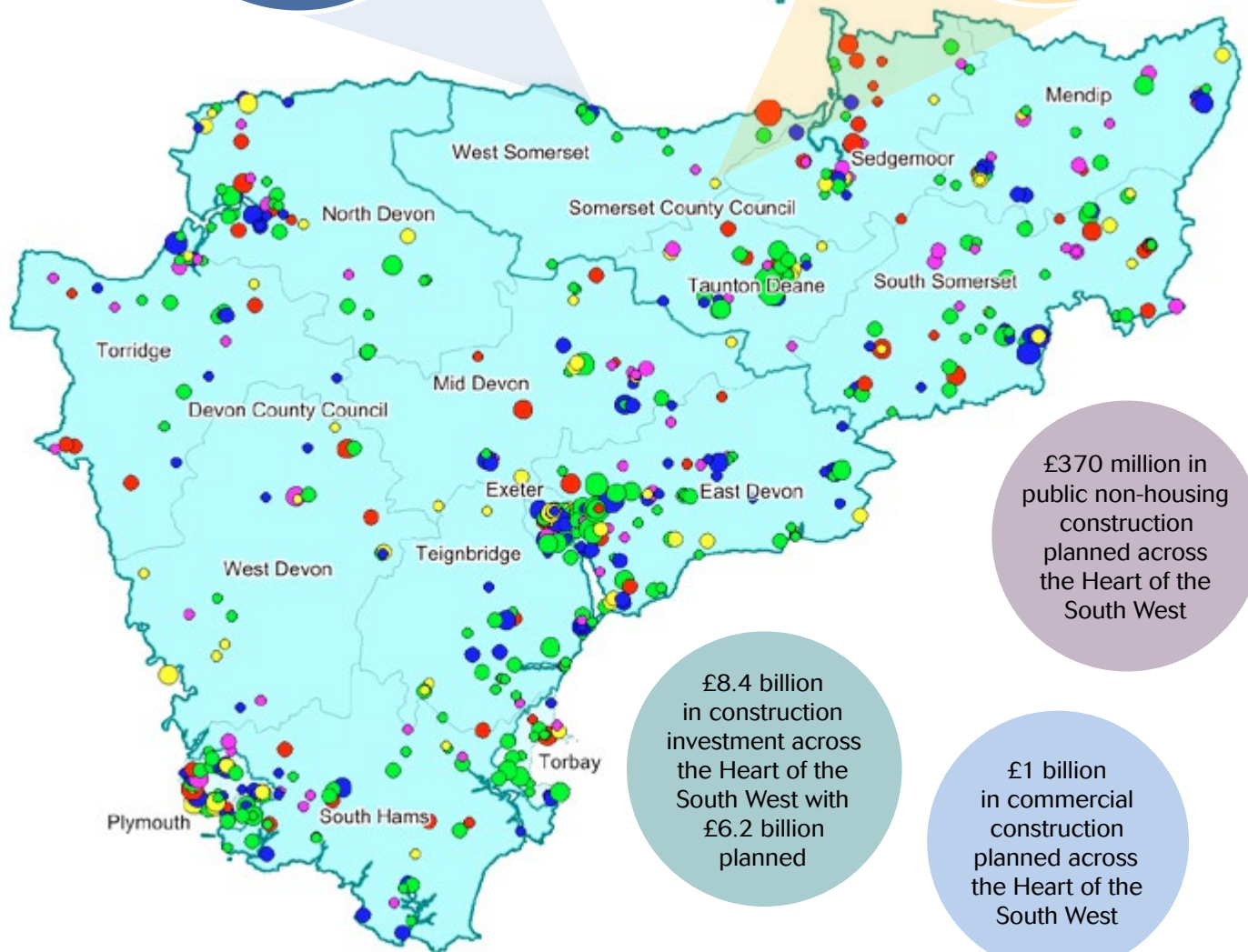
If you want to deliver growth in your area, we can help, contact **Leif Tarry, Partnership Manager** on **07554 416579** or **[leif.tarry@citb.co.uk](mailto:leif.tarry@citb.co.uk)**



In the Heart of the South West LEP area, there are 8,740 construction businesses and 64,700 construction jobs.

£2.9 billion in new infrastructure projects planned across the Heart of the South West, including electrical power supply in West Somerset valued at £600 million

£1.8 billion in new housing planned across the Heart of the South West, including 2,000 houses in Somerset valued at £150 million



£370 million in public non-housing construction planned across the Heart of the South West

£8.4 billion in construction investment across the Heart of the South West with £6.2 billion planned

£1 billion in commercial construction planned across the Heart of the South West

**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

# Heart of the South West (HotSW) LEP Construction Skills Strategy

**A strategy setting out the construction skills needed for local employers across Devon and Somerset has been developed by CITB and HotSW LEP.**

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

The strategy made suggestions for the future 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 was also developed using the new Construction Skills Strategy. The key themes identified 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 have been 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: "Excellent cooperation between the LEP, CITB employers and stakeholders has already led to positive actions in the LEP area.

"Initiatives such as 'Building Plymouth', and the embedding of employment and skills into local authority projects will showcase construction and promote the industry as a positive career choice."



## 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)  
[citb.co.uk/csn](http://citb.co.uk/csn)  
[citb.co.uk/funding](http://citb.co.uk/funding)  
[goconstruct.org](http://goconstruct.org)

## Follow us on

 Twitter  
[@CITB\\_UK](https://twitter.com/CITB_UK)  
 Facebook  
[facebook.com/citb.uk](https://facebook.com/citb.uk)  
 LinkedIn  
[linkedin.com/company/citb](https://linkedin.com/company/citb)

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

