

ST HELENS COMMUNITY FIRE STATION

Making Merseyside a safer, stronger, healthier community



CLIENT: Merseyside
Fire & Rescue
Authority (MFRA)
LOCATION: St Helens
CONSTRUCTION
VALUE: £7.7m
CONTRACTOR: Wates
START - FINISH DATE:
August 2019 - October
2020
SECTOR: Blue Light
FORM OF CONTRACT:
JCT
DELIVERY TYPE:
Design and Build

A design and build and environmental improvement project which saw the remediation of a former glass manufacturing site and former coal colliery now home to a New build Community Fire Station which was the last in the batch of three fire stations for Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service.

For St Helens Community Fire Station, the health, safety and wellbeing of our customer, everyone working on the project and the wider public has always been our top priority. St Helen's was delivered during the pandemic which presented major challenges, but it brought to the fore the importance of working as a team. Everyone working on St Helens were empowered to take ownership, be heard, support each other setting a safe culture across the wider team.

The station was delivered ahead of programme with 100% Client Satisfaction with 532 number of personnel on site and 92,063 total hours worked the project with no incidents or injury throughout the full duration.

St Helens is a beacon of how a team worked together for a better future. By working hard, the team created something to look back on as an example of everyone coming together in support of each other.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Situated on Violet Way at the site of the former Pilkington glass factory, the two-storey, three-bay building contains 10,000 sq ft, incorporating a training tower, community and prevention rooms, lecture rooms and a full fittings, furnishings and equipment fit-out.



KEY KPIs:

- 100% Client Satisfaction (Completion)
- £5m spent with SME's within 50 miles of the site
- 385 apprenticeship weeks against a target of 66
- 31 training weeks against a target of 14
- 1,698 hours invested by staff in education activities
- 10 Community activities
- 6 Education Activities
- 4 Work Placements
- 4 Employment Support



The project has seen the demolition, bulk excavation and ground re-engineering of the former Pilkington's glass manufacturing facility and previously a coal mining colliery. A heavily contaminated site requiring extensive remediation and ground engineering.

Staffed 24/7, the station is now home to 38 firefighters and three fire engines, enabling Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service to maintain some of the fastest response times in the country.

Elsewhere, the contractor also focused on ensuring the project delivered community benefits too, such as providing 385 apprenticeship weeks, four work placements, and spending £5m with SMEs within 50 miles.

"This fit-for-purpose station means we are able to continue providing the best possible service to the people of St Helens, while also providing our firefighters with the facilities they rightly deserve. This development would not have been possible had it not been for Wates Construction. They have been exceptional and have gone above and beyond to ensure the station was ready to go operational on time, in spite of the challenges we have faced as a result of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic."

PHIL GARRIGAN, CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

"The project has been extremely well managed and constructed on a difficult brownfield site with a number of challenging ground conditions due to the historical industrial use of the site. To deliver the station ahead of programme during the Covid-19 pandemic is testimony to the commitment and dedication of the whole project and construction team. The quality and finish at handover is exceptional."

STEWART WOODS, HEAD OF ESTATES



For more information please contact the NWCH Management Team:
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