

Construction Youth Trust  
Mobile Classroom Programme:  
Delivering vocational training  
in the heart of deprived  
communities

**Adeeb Ahsan** BEng (Civ.Eng.) MA  
**North-West Regional  
Manager**



# Who we are

We were founded in 1961 and recently celebrated our 50<sup>th</sup> year supporting young people.

We work with young people aged 14-30.

We work with young people from disadvantaged backgrounds with low employment prospects, predominantly NEET's.

We help them access training, education and employment opportunities in the construction industry.



*"I'm now planning to start a civil engineering course. Construction Youth Trust helped me find out about courses and funding, it's as if all these doors have been opened for me." Vicki, Newport*



# What we do

We provide :

- Free courses that provide practical work experience and careers advice.
- Free OCN accredited courses in construction skills.
- Careers guidance.
- Introductions for young people to employers.



*"Finding out who you are and what you want to do takes work - but it's worth it I feel positive about the future now."*

Naomi, Sheffield





# Mobile Classroom Outreach Programme

- What is the Mobile Classroom?
  - A fully equipped construction van with the ability to deliver construction courses directly in the heart of communities.
  - Ability to deliver courses for up to 8 young people per course, with up to 4 courses running at any given time.
  - Ability to deliver accredited and taster courses, providing young people with the skills to progress into ETE.
  - Ability to provide great flexibility through tailored courses to suit each organisation.



*"We're delighted to be supporting Construction Youth Trust in this very important endeavour - the mobility factor of this classroom gives more young people the opportunity to try things out that they may not otherwise have been able to"*

Sarah Barrett, Mears



# Mobile Classroom

- Who Benefits?

- Young people not in education, employment or training (NEET). Entry Level.
- Significant increase in NEET numbers in England from 664,000 in 2001 to just under 1 million by the end of 2011.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Local communities - areas of high deprivation and low skills/educational achievement.
- Local organisations – benefit from helping disadvantaged young people to achieve a positive outcome.
- Local economy – benefits from reducing unemployment, crime, and tax burden.



*“The parents found Lee to be a fantastic tutor. Two of the young mums have now signed up to a painting and decorating course at college”*

**Gingerbread**



1. Department for Education, (2011), NEET Statistics, Quarterly Briefing, [online] available at: <http://www.education.gov.uk/researchandstatistics/statistics/a0202439/neet-statistics-quarterly-brief-quarter-4-2011>

2. The North-West accounts for some 16% of the national total, ibid.

# Mobile Classroom

- Who can utilise the Mobile Classroom?

- Housing Associations, Housing Contractors, Principal Contractors

As part of integrated services or community development programmes.

- Local Authorities

Integrated into development contracts, regeneration programmes, or provision through education and NEET services

- Community groups and charities

To assist in the development of existing programmes through tailored courses to suit particular groups.



"We consider the concept of the mobile classroom is an excellent one - it enables us, with Construction Youth Trust, to take the message about the exciting careers available in construction right into the heart of the communities we serve"

Tony Ellender, Balfour Beatty



# Mobile Classroom

## 2012/2013 – Headline Figures

- 250 NEET people accessed training and advice through the Mobile Classroom.
- 30 young people gained Entry Level 3 OCN and Level 1 OCN qualifications .
- 20 people went on to further employment, training or education.
- 80% of course participants said they felt more confident in being able to secure employment.
- 85% course completion rate.
- 21% of course participants were women.
- 15% of course participants were from BME communities.
- The Programme engaged with over 30 different community organisations across the North-West.



“The Construction Youth Trust course was great, it gave me the confidence to sign up for college”  
Rebecca (Gingerbread)





# Mobile Classroom

## Sale West and Ashton Partnership

### Case Study

SWAP (IV, TMBC, JCP, Police, NAS etc.)  
Commissioned CYT to deliver an 8-week OCN accredited course to a group of young NEET people living in the Sale West area.

- We publicised the course and ran 3 taster sessions to recruit course participants.
- 6 young people started a level 1 OCN in carpentry & joinery at Sale West Youth Centre.
- All participants undertook CSCS training.
- Attended construction careers presentation.
- Participants to attend upcoming site visit at Coronation Street development.
- Trainees will progress onto work placements and further opportunities in the industry.



"They were eager to learn and picked up what they were taught easily. The lads said that the sessions would help them when they moved into their own homes"

Chapter 1 (charity)





# Mobile Classroom

## Sale West and Ashton Partnership

### Case Study Continued

#### Outcomes

- 5 out of 6 trainees completed course and gained OCN Level 1 qualification in Carpentry & Joinery.
- Programme encouraged wider community participation involving Sale West Youth Centre, Irwell Valley HA, Sale West Community Urban Trust, Manor High School, Sale, Trafford Council and Mace Construction.
- Trainees with enhanced further education and employment prospects.
- Trainees, particularly long term unemployed boosted in confidence and encouraged to seek further opportunities.



"I enjoyed gaining new skills that will help me in the future"

Lee (SWAP Trainee)



# Benefits to organisations

- Demonstrate CSR to stakeholders.
- Demonstrate commitment to local communities.
- Brings together a wide range of community stakeholders.
- Inspire and motivate staff through volunteering and commissioning.
- Discover hidden talent.



*"It is essential that we invest in our young people and engage and excite them about the built environment"*

Vinci Plc



# Organisations committed to programme

- Manchester City Council
- Trafford Council
- Manchester Youth Offending Services
- Wigan, Rochdale and Stockport YOS
- Balfour Beatty
- GB-Building Solutions
- Trafford Housing Trust
- Stockport Homes
- Twin Valley Homes
- Sale West and Ashton Partnership
- Chapter 1
- St. John's
- Trafford Compass
- Gingerbread
- Barnados



*"It is essential that we invest in our young people and engage and excite them about the built environment"*

Vinci Plc

 **Construction** Youth Trust





# Thank You

Adeeb Ahsan BEng (Civ. Eng.) MA

North West Regional Manager

**Construction Youth Trust**

Ducie House

Unit 229, 2nd Floor

37 Ducie Street

Manchester

M1 2JW

T: 0161 236 6417

E: [adeeb.ahsan@cytrust.org.uk](mailto:adeeb.ahsan@cytrust.org.uk)

[www.constructionyouth.org.uk](http://www.constructionyouth.org.uk)

