

Birmingham Construction Partnership

OGC Case Study

The first construction collaboration of its kind in the UK

OGC and LGTF are in collaboration to showcase best practice exemplar projects in local government. Birmingham Construction Partnership has been chosen as an example of the benefits that partnering and best practice can bring. This is the first of a series of case studies where best practice principles have been demonstrated. A vibrant area where regeneration thrives, Birmingham has a comprehensive programme of construction, maintenance and refurbishment planned for the next five years and beyond.

Historically, in common with many other authorities around the UK, Birmingham City Council based much of its construction tendering on lowest price.

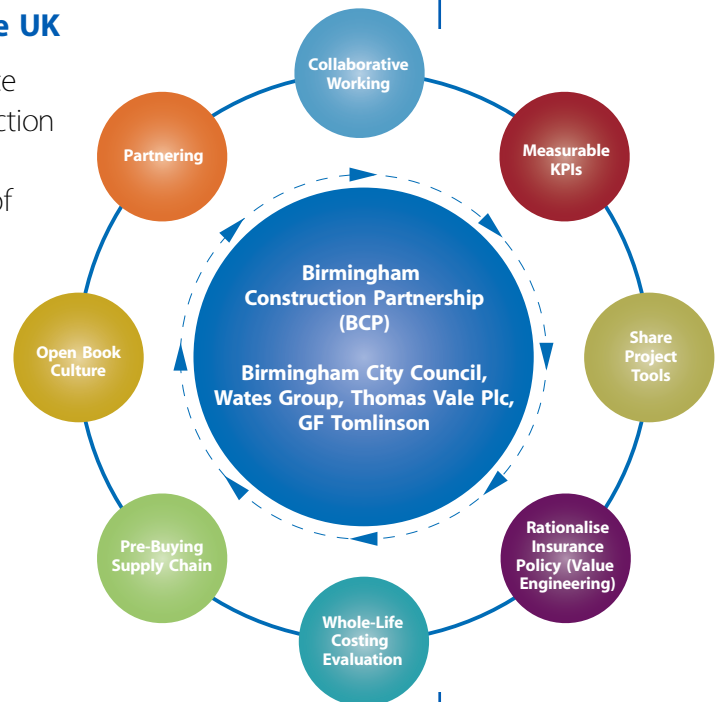
Against the backdrop of *Rethinking Construction* and *Achieving Excellence in Construction*, the Government's report and initiatives into improving construction provision and procurement in the UK, Birmingham City Council founded the Birmingham Construction Partnership – a unique collaboration of contractors, design and specialist supply chains, tasked with delivering every project in the city with a budget of more than £100,000.

The Partnership aims to deliver construction projects to time and to budget, with less defects and accidents on site. Benefits for Birmingham include maximising construction spend, modernising the authority's procurement process and delivering best value from improved predictability.

Measuring Unparalleled Success...

Key principles form the cornerstone of Birmingham Construction Partnership's approach:

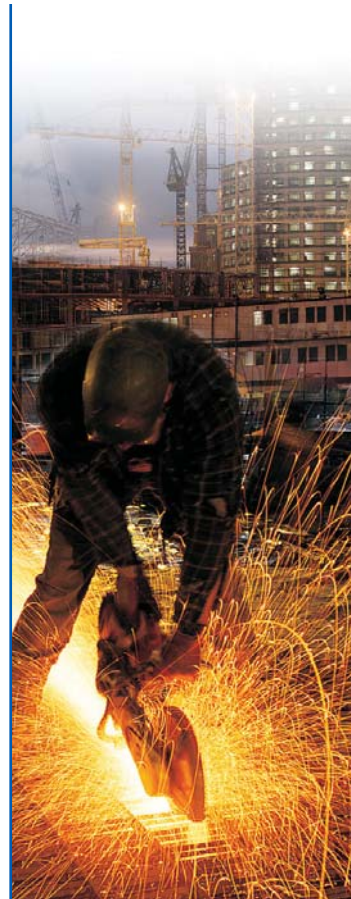
- Project teams are created, then used and reused on a variety of projects. **Benefit:** shared learnings mean greater efficiencies project to project
- Work is allocated effectively, without the need for repeat tendering and procurement processes. **Benefit:** focus is on delivery of pipeline projects – contractor investment is in training and innovation rather than winning tenders



- An open book environment on cost has been developed. **Benefit:** transparency removes the likelihood of financial dispute, and gives client and contractor greater control over budgets
- A true partnering approach has been developed. **Benefit:** construction projects are aligned to Birmingham's corporate objectives of sustainability, whole life costing, best value, local employment, training, and strategic alliances

"The Birmingham Construction Partnership represents the future of local authority construction procurement. It is innovative, effective, and is bringing real benefit to not only Birmingham City Council but also to the construction partners and ultimately the people of Birmingham."

Tim Byles, Local Government Taskforce





- Reputable and safety conscious contractor partners have been selected. **Benefit:** no reported incidents regarding BCP on any Partnership contract. There are no contract claims and litigation cases either. Not even one case being mentioned since the formation of the BCP.

“The Partnership is based on solid but simple principles. It is the first of its kind in the UK, but most contractors, supply chains and many clients are well versed in the principles that lie behind the Birmingham Construction Partnership.”

Tony Hyde, Managing Director, Thomas Vale

Achievements

More than a year in, the Birmingham Construction Partnership has delivered:

- **52%** improvement in projects delivered to time
- **29%** improvement in projects delivered to budget

It is now an exemplar of the partnership approach, with every project outperforming industry average significantly.

“The Birmingham Construction Partnership has delivered real and measurable benefits. By achieving greater efficiency, better predictability and a focus on best practice and best value, we are delivering a better product to the communities we serve.”

Steve Vickers, General Manager, Birmingham City Council

Measure	BCP	National average
Rethinking construction Adoption of ‘best practice’ principles	78%	20%
Client satisfaction	81%	79%
Time predictability Percentage of projects delivered within 5% of target	62%	60%
Cost predictability Percentage of projects delivered within 5% of target	62%	29%
Defects Percentage of projects achieving zero or minimal defects	91%	70%

BCP results compared to the industry average, as per the National Key Performance Indicators on best practice, client satisfaction, time, cost and defects.

Contacts

How does your project measure up?

To share your successes please contact:

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