

Welcome to the Acorn/Sacyr UK's new Velindre Cancer Centre (nVCC) project news update. Every quarter, we will tell you about project progress, what is going on within the community around the build, as well as initiatives that are taking place around the local communities connected with the project.



Culture

Acorn, the developer working on the new Velindre Cancer Centre (nVCC), and the Velindre University NHS Trust have come together to launch a community benefits scheme called Thrive Communities.

Thrive Communities will be available to all voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations operating across South East Wales and will offer either voluntary hours, grants or resources to successful applicants.

As part of its commitment to add social value to the new Velindre Cancer Centre build, the Thrive Communities initiative will be available throughout the life cycle of the project, and therefore ends in early 2027.

One hundred volunteer days will be available from Acorn staff, sub-contractors and its supply chain to successful applicants, as well as small grants of up to £1000, with 20 being awarded over the next two years.

Katie Hathaway, stakeholder and engagement manager at Sacyr UK, the contractor building the nVCC on behalf of Acorn, said of the scheme:

"Social value and giving back to our local communities is a key target for us during the build of the new Velindre Cancer Centre, and Thrive Communities further extends the reach and positive impact we can have on local voluntary and charitable groups."

And to apply for a Thrive Community grant, visit: newvelindre.info/documents/d/velindre/nvcc-thrive-communities_jun-2024

Nurture

It's been a bumper few months on site at the new Velindre Cancer Centre project, as both Sacyr UK, the contractor building the new facility, and its sub-contractors have

been working hard to create job opportunities for local people.

In partnership with Bridgend College, groundwork supply partners on the project Prichards has provided two college students with groundwork apprenticeships.

Prichards is also working with another organisation to offer opportunities for people who are long term unemployed. Partnering with Into Work Services, Prichards and Sacyr UK are mentoring and training people on employment skills, offering them CSCS qualifications (all those working on building sites in the UK require a CSCS card), as well as a variety of Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) certifications.



Thanks to this partnership, Into Work Services has provided career opportunities to those it has been training with Prichards on site at the nVCC. To date, Prichards has offered employment as banksmen to two people who have been long term unemployed. Both have completed more than six weeks in the job and are doing really well.

Elsewhere, Sacyr UK, the contractor building the nVCC, has created 16 new job opportunities in just one week on site at Whitchurch. Of those, 3 candidates who had been long term unemployed secured employment as on-site labourers, while another who had been out of a job for a long time, successfully applied for a role as a Chain Person with sub-contractor Harte Civils.

Hannah Jenkins, Workforce Development Coordinator at Sacyr

UK, said on the opportunities being created in recent weeks: "The collaboration and communication among the subcontractors and our CBT has been impressive during such a demanding time on the project, and I can only see this strengthening as time progresses."

Staff from Sacyr UK, the contractor building the new Velindre Cancer Centre (nVCC), donned their Christmas hats to help play Father Christmas as part of an initiative to help The ToyBox project.

The ToyBox project is an initiative that asks supporters to donate unwanted toys at drop off points, or organise their own donation drive, and then distribute the toys to children who might be going without this Christmas.

Future

In the past 9 months, here's what Acorn has managed to achieve:

- Donated 110 volunteer hours to local community groups and charities.
- Engaged and worked with 2016 pupils from local schools.
- Employed eight people who had been long term unemployed and fifty-one people who are from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- Created a bespoke GCSE course for local schools on construction.
- Made lots of plans to help and work with more community groups, charities and local organisations in 2025 – to be announced.

The next resident drop-in is scheduled for January, Wednesday 29th at the Noddfa building at 19 Park Road by the Velindre Cancer Centre rear car park, where members of the Acorn, Sacyr and Velindre team will be on hand to discuss progress on our works and answer any questions. These will take place every last Wednesday of the month for the duration of the construction programme.

For more information about the project, visit the website at: newvelindre.info