

Welcome to the latest Acorn/Sacyr UK 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 community connected with the project.

Culture

The new Velindre Cancer Centre (nVCC) has welcomed four new members to its Acorn Ambassadors board, strengthening links between the project and communities across Cardiff and the surrounding region.

The Acorn Ambassador scheme supports and advises on the project's community benefit programme. Ambassadors update residents, attend community events to raise awareness of social value initiatives, and advocate for the development locally.



New members include charity fundraiser and businessman Lindsay Doyle; Meg Uppington, a musician, student, and technical engineer at Diff Radio; Matt Cutrupi, Diff Radio manager and business owner; and Velindre fundraiser and Edie & Ludlow Marketing Agency Director, Alexandra Otley.



Sacyr UK received the New Employer Partner of the Year award at the ACT Training Awards, recognising its commitment to staff development through upskilling and training.

The award recognises employers who have gone above and beyond to invest in their staff, through upskilling and training efforts. The company has also been shortlisted for the MIPIM Best New Development award.

This is a sponsored feature

Nurture

National Apprenticeship Week celebrates the positive impact apprenticeships make to individuals, businesses, and the wider economy. Six months after Sacyr UK & Ireland welcomed four new apprentices to the Velindre project, they have embedded well within the team and are nearing the end of their probation periods.

Mechanical & Engineering apprentice Ollie said he is proud of how much he has progressed, now taking on more independent work. Technical Design Apprentice Lucy described the opportunity to work on a meaningful real-life project as invaluable, while Community Benefits Apprentice Sam said each day brings new and interesting challenges and it is rewarding to be part of building something positive. Apprentice Faith is currently on maternity leave after welcoming a healthy baby girl.

Sacyr also supported local charity The Toybox Project in the lead-up to Christmas, helping sort and organise donated toys for families experiencing financial hardship. More than three bins of toys were restocked for distribution, with SGM Waste Management removing broken items. The team later partnered with Cardiff-based cancer charity Ray of Light to sell nature photo calendars on site, raising over £100.



To mark World Cancer Day, the Velindre team also hosted a public crafting workshop to create ribbon badges, raising funds for Velindre Cancer Service while bringing the community together.

Future

Sacyr UK's Community and Workplace Development team attended the Purple Tuesday job fair at St David's Centre in Cardiff to support people with disabilities into employment.

Hannah Jenkins and Katie Hathaway were joined by Dan Biddle, Director of Nationwide Access Consultants, where they engaged with shoppers and introduced them to career opportunities in construction.

Dan began his career as a construction manager before being seriously injured in the 2005 London terrorist attacks. He has since rebuilt his life and retrained as an access consultant. Dan works tirelessly to ensure access to career opportunities for people with disabilities through his company, National Diversity Employment and Advisory Service (NDEAS).



Sacyr UK will soon launch an initiative through its Disability Access Employment Academy, in partnership with Nationwide Access Consultants, aimed at supporting disabled people into work and providing an inclusive employment environment. Katie Hathaway said attending the Purple Tuesday jobs fair helped develop a stronger understanding of how collaboration can support disabled people.

The next resident drop-in session will take place on Wednesday 25 March 2026 from 6pm to 7pm at the Noddfa building on Park Road, near the Velindre Cancer Centre rear car park. Members of the Sacyr and Velindre teams will be available to discuss project progress.

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