

Appendix 2 – Selkirk Flood Protection Scheme Case Study



Background

The Selkirk Flood Protection Scheme is a major civil engineering project to provide flood protection to over 700 properties in Selkirk. The Scheme is estimated to have a capital value of approximately £20 million.

Service

A contractor was required to be engaged to construct a network of embankments and flood defence walls, together with a series of replacement bridges at key locations throughout the town. The contract also included substantial environmental enhancement and improvements to Selkirk's core path network.

Contract

The Council's Procurement Service undertook a major procurement exercise during 2014 resulting in a RJ McLeod (Contractors) Ltd being awarded the contract. The contract is expected to complete by December 2016.

A requirement for the delivery of community benefit is included stating the Council's commitment to maximising added value from the contract.

The community benefit clause within the contract included the following requirements;

- Create 8 new jobs;
- Deliver 3 new apprenticeships;
- Support 2 existing apprentices;
- Complete 2 apprenticeships;
- Provide 5 work placement opportunities;
- Provide SVQ & other training opportunities for 19 people; and
- Deliver 5 Curriculum Support activities

Added Value

Work started on the contract in January 2015. RJ McLeod is being directly supported by the Community Benefit Coordinator to ensure delivery through a robust community benefits plan.

To date the project has delivered;

- 14 employment opportunities for local people;;
- 1 new apprentice civil engineer;
- 1 existing apprentice is working on the project;
- 2 further jobs are being advertised through local employment agencies;
- 1 young person has undertaken a period of work experience;
- 4 employees have undertaken development training;
- 6 community events;
- 5 local projects have been provided with support;
- 2 local groups/ projects have been provided with sponsorship; and
- Positive relationships have been developed with Borders College and Selkirk High School