

All the Focus news Winter 2020

WELCOME

Welcome to the Winter 2020 edition of IN FOCUS the quarterly Newsletter from Focus Consultants

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www.focus-consultants.co.uk

FOCUS CONSULTANTS' RESEARCH CALCULATES SIGNIFICANT ROI FOR LLEP INVESTMENT



Focus Consultants have calculated that the £126 million invested in Leicester and Leicestershire through the Local Growth Fund Programme could bring huge economic benefits to the area. The East Midlands-based company estimates that the potential Return on Investment generated through the Leicester and Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership Limited (LLEP) investment for the local economy could be over £28 for every £1 invested by the Enterprise Partnership. This equates to a total impact of £3.5 billion.

Focus was appointed by the LLEP to undertake a Mid Term Evaluation of their Local Growth Fund which aims to drive growth across the area by providing additional funding and leveraging investment to kickstart new homes and space for businesses, support high quality skills and training facilities, and deliver key transport improvements across the city and county.

As part of the evaluation, Focus's experienced Economic Development Team analysed the impact and value for money of 20 of Leicester and Leicestershire's flagship regeneration projects, such as Leicester Waterside, MIRA Technology Institute, Melton Livestock Market, Leicester Space Park and various transport infrastructure investment across the city and county including the A511 Corridor around Coalville. Focus calculated the potential return on investment generated through the LLEP's Local Growth Fund could be over £28 for the local economy for every £1 invested.



Heather Frecklington, Partner of Focus Consultants said:

"This has been a really interesting study for Focus Consultants as there haven't been many evaluations of the Local Growth Fund across the country to date and it's great to start understanding the impact of such a major investment. The diversity and quality of projects across Leicester and Leicestershire has been really impressive and it's been fascinating to get to know the projects better."

Helen Miller, Head of Programmes at the LLEP said: "The purpose of the Local Growth Fund is to drive growth across Leicester and Leicestershire. We have invested £126m in 20 projects across 4 themes including enhancing transport connectivity, investing in skills infrastructure and business support, extending the availability of superfast broadband and investing in flood risk management. The LGF evaluation is a valuable piece of work for the LLEP. We appreciate the hard-work, diligent approach and timely manner in which the team at Focus worked on this."

For more information, please contact Heather Frecklington on 0115 976 5050

QUANTITY SURVEYING TEAM AT FOCUS CONSULTANTS WORKING AT STAUNTON COUNTRY PARK IN HAMPSHIRE



Work is underway on site for a £4 million project which will restore and rejuvenate an historically important parkland.

Focus Consultants has been appointed as quantity surveyor on the *Staunton Country Park: A Regency Landscape Revealed* project to provide cost management and advice from the initial stages of the scheme through to completion.

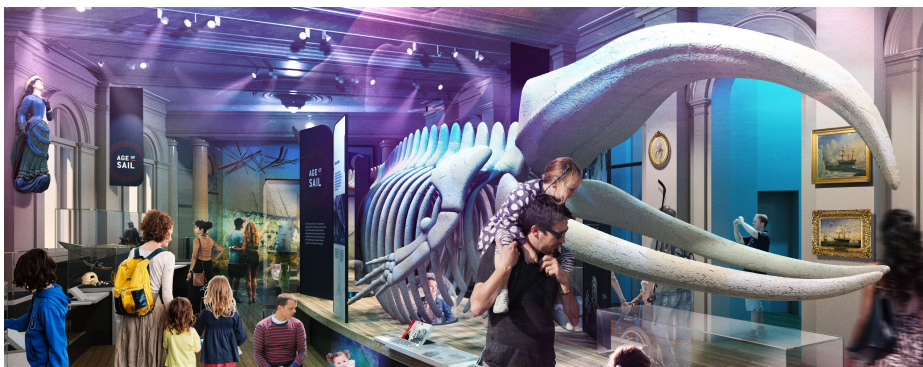
The scheme is being undertaken by Hampshire County Council at the parkland which formed part of Sir George Staunton's estate in Havant, Hampshire. It involves a range of improvement work, including the transformation of a Victorian coach house and stable block to provide a visitor welcome and orientation centre, and the restoration of the 200-year-old Regency landscape.

"The *Staunton Country Park: A Regency Landscape Revealed* is an exciting project to restore and rejuvenate an historic park, and Focus Consultants is very pleased to be involved," said Keith Butler, partner at Focus Consultants.

The project is being funded thanks to a £950,000 investment from Hampshire County Council, along with £2.85 million from the National Lottery Heritage Fund and Big Lottery Fund.

For more information please contact Keith Butler on 0115 976 5050

FOCUS CONSULTANTS APPOINTED ON MULTI-MILLION POUND SCHEME CENTRED ON HULL'S MARITIME HISTORY



Focus Consultants have been awarded the role of NEC contract administrator on the major development, which has just been awarded £13.6m from The National Lottery Heritage Fund, that aims to boost Hull's rich maritime heritage.

The £27.4m heritage-led regeneration scheme affects the entire city, creating a new sense of place, identity and belonging, and will include exciting changes at the Grade II* Hull Maritime Museum, the Dock Office Chambers, the North End Shipyard and two historic vessels, the *Arctic Corsair* and *S purn Lightship*.

Hull City Council is putting forward £10m of match funding, along with a further £4.3m for the redevelopment of Queens Gardens, once the world's largest dock, which will connect the three key sites involved in the development. Focus has been appointed on the scheme by Purcell, the conservation architects and heritage consultants for the project.

For more information please contact Mike Lee on 0115 976 5050

THE FUTURE HOMES STANDARD: TECHNICAL BULLETIN FROM FOCUS CONSULTANTS



Following their commitment in the Clean Growth Strategy, the Government has finally released the consultation on the next Part L & F. The suggested approach includes supporting the UK's net zero greenhouse emissions target for 2050 by looking to decarbonise our homes.

This bulletin series to inform our clients of the main changes set out in the consultation document in respect of Approved Document Part L and the anticipated impact on the way we will build homes as we head to 2025.



Our experts have put together a bulletin setting out the main changes proposed in the consultation document in respect of Approved Document Part L – which includes an approach to support the UK's net zero greenhouse emissions target for 2050 by looking to decarbonize our homes.

The bulletin identifies from within the consultation how the government hopes to reduce CO2 emissions, future proof, improve air tightness and overall build quality compliance to safeguard building performance.

Focus is running a series of seminars about the proposals for clients.

If you'd like an update, please get in touch with Focus partner Jason Redfearn to arrange a seminar on 0115 976 5050



Jason Redfearn, Partner

**For more information,
please contact Jason
Redfearn on 0115 976
5050 or email**

enquiries@focus-consultants.com

FOCUS CONSULTANTS DELIVERS ITS 5,000TH AIR PRESSURE TEST

Five years after launching a service to provide air testing for new and refurbished buildings, Focus Consultants has marked its 5,000th air pressure test.

Since Focus set up the offer in 2014, demand has increase year on year, and from what started as a service specifically for the East and West Midlands region, it now operates on a national scale to service clients all over the country.

Air Pressure Testing, a service offered under the Focus' ASSESS 'On-Site Testing' division, provides both testing and advice on residential and commercial buildings of all sizes.

Jason Redfearn, Managing Partner at Nottingham-based Focus Consultants and overseer of Focus ASSESS, said:

"It truly is wonderful to see the service grow from its humble beginnings five years ago. We've accomplished a great deal in that time and this latest milestone is testament to the good work carried out by all our engineers, day in, day out."



FOCUS CONSULTANTS COMPLETES ROLE AT AUCKLAND CASTLE

Focus Consultants has completed a project management role for a major conservation scheme at Auckland Castle, the former home of the Prince Bishops of Durham.

The 900-year-old Castle has just re-opened as part of The Auckland Project visitor destination following a three-year conservation project. It uses art, architecture and historic interior design, combined with interactive animation, soundscapes and audio-visual displays, to tell the untold stories of power and faith from some of the most influential men in British history.

"This has been a rewarding and high-profile project to work on and we have been thrilled to see how well received the conservation project at Auckland Castle has been," said Focus partner Eleanor Clarke

"Auckland Castle has a fascinating history stretching back over 900 years and Focus Consultants was very proud to have overseen this important conservation scheme which opens up more of the Castle to the public and also helps to safeguard it for future generations. The Castle is a key part of The Auckland Project regeneration charity and visitor destination, which takes in various attractions and locations in this part of County Durham."



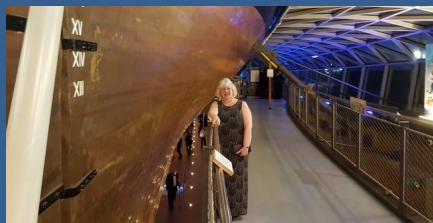
Eleanor Clarke, Partner

**For more information,
please contact Eleanor
Clarke on 0115 976 5050
or email**

enquiries@focus-consultants.com



KEEP DANCING!



We're shining a spotlight on some of the favourite pastimes enjoyed by members of the Focus Consultants team. When Accounts Manager Caroline's not crunching numbers in the accounts department, she can be found having a great time on a dance floor somewhere in the UK at least 3 times a week! Having done various different styles of dance over the last 25 years (not Ballroom though) it wasn't until she discovered the partner led dance known as CeroC in 2011, that her passion for dance really took off. A fusion of the dance styles Salsa, Tango and Jive, it is taught at class nights during the week all over the country.

2019 was a particularly interesting year for dance experiences for Caroline as she found herself dancing in some wonderful places such as; The Cutty Sark, Herstmonceux Castle and even the O2 arena!



CHRISTMAS CHARITY DONATION



Every year Focus Consultants donates to a charity in lieu of sending Christmas cards to Clients. 2019's Charity was the NSPCC to help give a voice to children when no one is listening.

NEW STAFF AT FOCUS

A Warm welcome to our new staff members:

Sam Bevin, who joined the Leicester Team as an Associate

Jasmine Chell, who joined the Nottingham Team as an Cultural Services Graduate

Sofia Magarinos, who has joined the Nottingham Energy Team on a 3-month work experience.

FOCUS CONSULTANTS HELPS THE LOCAL FOOD BANK

Staff at Focus Consultants helped donate vital supplies for The Trussell Trust, to help local people in Arnold. The Trussell Trust, who runs 400 UK food banks, said more than 1.8 million emergency food handouts were given this year, an astonishing 436,938 of them to children.

To help end hunger, please visit <https://www.trusselltrust.org/> to learn more about ending hunger and poverty in the UK.



LONDON MARATHON



Focus Partner Eleanor Clarke, is set to run the London Marathon on the 26th April 2020. She will be running on behalf of the NSPCC. Good Luck Ellie!

If you would like to show your support, please donate to:
<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/EleanorClarke9> Thank You.

DATES FOR THE DIARY



We are attending MIPIIM – The World's leading property market event in the 10th – 13th March at Palais des festivals, Cannes, France.

To book an appointment, please contact us at enquiries@focus-consultants.com or call 0203 096 9717