



From construction site to college: how one construction project changed a young carer's future.

When Manners arrived on site at Daisy Lane in Ormesby, Middlesbrough, the goal was clear: revamp a vital local community facility.

However the project was also about to do much more than that, including helping transform a young person's future.

Through the NEPO Construction Works solution, Manners was appointed to deliver the £891,000 refurbishment of the Daisy Lane single access facility on behalf of Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council.

But alongside the bricks, mortar and building improvements sat another

ambition; delivering social value with a focus on the local community and inspiring the next generation of construction workers - an industry which faces a significant skills gap in the North East

Engaging with local partners, Manners and the supply chain committed to offering work placements to three construction students from Redcar & Cleveland College.

With one of the partners, local charity Groundwork, it created a work placement on the Allotment Regeneration project - and that's where Grace's story begins.



One of the college's carpentry and joinery level 3 students and also a young carer, Grace was given guidance and mentoring throughout the project and using timber from the main Daisy Lane regeneration, built planters for the Groundworks allotment site.

Working alongside experienced tradespeople, she learned new techniques, gained confidence and discovered just how rewarding it can be to create something with your own hands.

Before long, she was taking on more detailed joinery work, supporting the site manager and building skills that simply can't be taught from a textbook.

Balancing responsibilities alongside her studies wasn't always easy, but she always arrived ready to learn and eager to get involved.

By the end of the placement, Grace

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I'm loving being here. Everyone is so nice to work with and it's great to actually be making something. I'm proud of what I've been able to do.

Grace

had decided to continue developing her trade skills by returning to college to study plastering; a decision inspired by the confidence and encouragement she gained on site.

Over 310 hours of work experience were gained via the three work placements, which included Harvey and George learning new skills in plumbing and electrics by working at the Daisy Lane site.

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It's been great working with Manners and thank you for helping us start off the community garden refurb. I know the local group will really enjoy planting up these planters and enjoying having them in the garden soon.

**Rhys, Plant Operator,
Groundwork**



Investing in the local community and future

Manners ensured that materials and subcontractors were sourced locally, within ten miles of the project, putting £310,000 back into the local economy.

The impact of the project was not only tangible to the local community but also left a lasting impression on Manners as a company, making a future commitment to ensure social value was considered as an objective in all future projects, regardless of client, value and duration.

Over the last 16 months and outside of client projects, Manners has delivered, an additional:

£4,000 to local charities via donations and staff fundraising events

475 hours of work experience and employment support to local schools and college students

50 hours of skill sharing offered



Manners, based in Bishop Auckland, is believed to be the oldest family-owned construction company in the North East. With its 165-year heritage, the company is now in its 5th generation of family-owned leadership and has an outstanding breadth and depth of knowledge and experience. It has five divisions: construction, specialist joinery, fire doors, small works and mechanical.



The single most positive outcome from being involved with NEPO has been the increased focus on delivering social value outcomes for the business and clients.

Nicola Coulthard,
HR, Compliance and Social
Value Lead, Manners