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GROWTH

SFT Outcomes 2021/22

Demonstrating progress with impact

PRIMARY OUTCOME

06

**INNOVATIVE CONSTRUCTION
INDUSTRY WITH INCREASED
PRODUCTIVITY, HIGH-QUALITY
AND FAIR WORK**

SECONDARY OUTCOMES

05



Supporting a common construction quality approach to getting it right first time



Just as the approach to health and safety on construction sites has been transformed over recent years, so too must the approach to the quality of construction.

Following recent high-profile construction defects on public sector owned properties, confidence in the construction industry has waned.

To address concerns, the Improving Delivery Team at SFT and Scottish Government established the Construction

Quality Assurance Initiative (CQAI), with the objective to come alongside projects to encourage a collaborative dialogue between clients, delivery partners, designers, contractors and sub-contractors about achieving a compliant, high-quality outcome.

For the construction of the £60m Winchburgh Schools project (two secondary schools, a primary and a sports centre) for West Lothian Council, hub South East, Morrison Construction

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and the Council were determined to build on lessons learned on the CQAI projects and on previously built high-quality school projects – with the award-winning West Calder High School setting the benchmark for the level of quality the Council expected.

SFT's Improving Delivery Team supported the quality approaches, acting as a critical friend and shared lessons learned from other projects across the country.

Lessons learned on previous projects across the West Lothian Council area were also used to develop the approach to the management of quality to reduce the level of error during the construction phases to ensure a better building.

It was important to the Council that it build on the success of West Calder High School, with a shared determination to get it right first time.

Examples of this are the high level of collaboration between the Council and the contractor, attending monthly quality meetings, enhanced scopes of service for the design team to contribute during the construction phase and an increased focus on quality with the supply chain.

The Council's representatives, Technical Advisor and Clerks of Works were all very complimentary of the approach and of the outcome, with the buildings handed over early and with no snags.

Ultimately, through this quality led approach, the Winchburgh Schools project will provide a high-quality learning environment for staff and pupils and provide safe, resilient schools that will support ongoing maintenance, operation and a reduced carbon footprint.

Scott Brown, Projects Director at hub South East, said: *"In terms of quality, the results on the Winchburgh Schools project are testament to the benefits of the long-term successful partnership between Hub South East, Morrison Construction and West Lothian Council. The continuity of personnel, exemplary collaboration and determination to take on board lessons learned, has resulted in a first-class outcome for the Council, as well as the staff and students who will work, teach and learn in the new facilities."*

Partners

- West Lothian Council
- Hub South East
- Morrison Construction