

SFT OUTCOMES

2023

Strategic support to the CLF sees publication of Scottish Construction Accord

PRIMARY OUTCOME

SECONDARY

OUR CORPORATE PRIORITIES

06

INNOVATIVE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY WITH INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY, QUALITY AND FAIR WORK



NET ZERO



SUSTAINABLE PLACES



INCLUSIVE GROWTH

For quite some time, the construction industry has been beset with problems that have led to it having a less than favourable reputation. Issues such as a widening skills gap, poor quality of construction and ineffective procurement practices have all led to it being viewed negatively and one that wouldn't attract the workforce it needs for the future

In looking to turn around the reputation of the industry, in 2019 representatives from Scotland's construction sector together with Scottish Government established the Construction Leadership Forum (CLF). Its aim, to spearhead the development and implement of an action plan of improvements across the sector to help create a thriving and high-performing construction sector in Scotland.

As a centre of infrastructure expertise, our Chief Executive together with our Construction Industry and Delivery director and members of our Improving Project Delivery and Infrastructure Technology teams provide strategic insight to the CLF.

Central to the CLF's goal of improving the construction sector has been the establishment of a Scottish Construction Accord – to create a shared vision for industry and the public sector which embeds key principles such as fair work, diversity and inclusion and enables the change that is needed to improve outcomes for businesses and their employees, as well as for the public sector and in turn the economy, wider society and the environment.

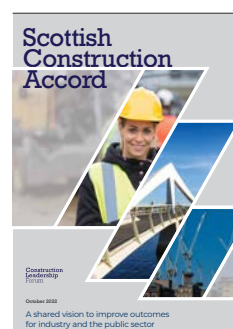
In July 2022, a draft Construction Accord was put out for consultation and in October 2022, the CLF published its Scottish Construction Accord, which was developed by our team alongside representation from Construction Scotland.

The launch of The Construction Accord commits industry to improving construction delivery through a detailed transformation programme.

At the launch, the then Business Minister Ivan McKee and chair of the CLF, said: *"The construction sector is vital for Scotland's economy, employing more than 130,000 people and playing a key role in delivering Scotland's just transition to net zero.*

"This industry-wide Accord contains a real commitment to ensuring construction remains a valuable contributor to the economy, while delivering change aligned with our National Strategy for Economic Transformation. As a major investor in infrastructure, the Scottish Government has a strategic and important role to play in ensuring the industry is fit for the future.

"The Construction Accord heralds a new shared commitment from industry and the public sector to work together to transform the construction sector, for the good of the industry, the economy and the country."



**Scottish
Construction
Accord**



Ron Fraser, Chair of Construction Scotland Industry Leadership Group and co-chair of the CLF's Transformation subgroup, said: *"The construction sector encompasses the design, manufacture, construction and maintenance of the built environment that supports us all and offers an incredibly varied, satisfying and rewarding career to people of many different backgrounds and talents.*

"Those who work in it know that it could achieve much more for all its stakeholders if some things were done differently - not least the ways in which we do business together - and the Accord is an opportunity for the

industry, its public sector customers and the Scottish Government, to work together to discuss and agree the nature of those changes and to see them through to implementation."

The publication of the Scottish Construction Accord has paved the way for the development of a Transformation Action Plan where ten priority areas have been identified.

Taking responsibility for delivery of those priority areas, the CLF has appointed co-chairs and they are working on developing a Transformation Action Plan to be published in late 2023.