

Case Study



Work Experience Placements

Perth Transport Futures Project – Phase One A9/A85 Junction Improvement and Link Road to Bertha Park

Kevin (top) - *“I’m enjoying working for Balfour Beatty, providing for my family and feel I can now do anything I want. We can go out for dinner at the weekends, we don’t have to worry or get down about Birthdays coming up. I learn something new every day and Jim Barr has been a font of knowledge, explaining things properly and setting a high standard that I now work to.”*

Alan (bottom) – *“Working for Balfour Beatty has turned my life round in a good way, I’m enjoying it and no longer sit around feeling depressed, frustrated or bored. I’m earning good money and learning to stick in and work safely. I’m going on holiday to Bulgaria soon and plan to start my driving lessons when I return thanks to this program”*

The Beginning – March 13 2017

As part of the SCAPE framework requirements for our A9/A85 Junction Improvements and Link Road to Bertha Park Phase 1 Project and Almondbank Flood Prevention Scheme, ten unemployed people received six weeks on and offsite training in conjunction with JB Safesite Training. On the first week they were given a full induction, Plant and People interface briefings, a site tour highlighting potential dangers and also the Making Safety Personal 1 training presentation from Brian Hume. They were then teamed up with Balfour Beatty Operatives, giving them the opportunity to learn, prove themselves and potentially gain employment at the end of the six weeks. There was nothing to lose but a great deal to gain!

The Journey – April 28 2017

Of the ten unemployed people that started the work experience placement, six made it to the end of the process. One started on the Almondbank project and four at the A9 / A85 Project. All now have their CSCS card and have received certificates in elementary Health and Safety, Working at Height Awareness, Safe use of Abrasive Wheels, Safe Moving and Handling, Emergency First Aid, Fire Safety Awareness and use of CAT detectors for underground cabling work. All the lads live within a couple of miles of the site which is a big bonus for the local Community and helps Balfour Beatty keep staff travel miles to the sites at a minimum. Ewan Begg

from JB SafeSite Training had approached Balfour Beatty a the start of the project through Perth and Kinross Council and it looked like a “Win Win” from the start. A key to this scheme being a success was the emphasis on safety and the “shadowing” of key Balfour Beatty gangers. Feedback and interviews were carried out throughout the six weeks resulting in six full time paid jobs. The A9/A85 project gained Kyle a chainlad, Jordan joined the concrete squad, Kevin became a general operative and Alan joined the materials testing team as a trainee lab assistant. Darren joined the Almondbank general operative team.

The Result – June 13 2017

Two of the operatives that gained full time employment were interviewed (quoted above) by their site Manager Ken Brown and Lynne Mailer from Community Benefits. It was encouraging at how their lives have turned around since being unemployed in March 2017. Kevin and Alan both are enjoying their roles and Ken Brown see’s a future for them with Balfour Beatty. It has been a very postive experience all round. Good Luck with your new future lads! Carpe Diem!

For more information

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