



London Bridge Best Practice



Case Study Title: Prince's Trust – 'World of Work'

Month/Year: 13th November 2015

Key Benefits

- ✓ Enhancing the aspirations and opportunities of young people
- ✓ Participants gained insight to the opportunities available within the Construction Industry
- ✓ Positive promotion of The London Bridge Project through community engagement

Objectives and Targets

- ✓ Sustainable Delivery Statement – Target to produce Employment, Skills & Training.
- ✓ Taster day for Under-represented Groups

Overview

As part of Costain's ongoing partnership with the Prince's Trust, the London Bridge Redevelopment Scheme (LBRS) hosted a Prince's Trust Team Programme, 'World of Work', on Friday 13th November 2015 with the central Eltham Youth Project team. The Team programme is a 12 week personal development course aimed at young people aged 16 to 25. During this programme the young people are offered work experience, qualifications and a residential week providing opportunities to improve their confidence and preparing them for the work place.

The 'World of Work' Programme specifically looks at giving young people an insight into the construction industry and the range of job opportunities that exist in modern construction.

Events held

12 young persons between the ages of 16 to 25 years, partook in the programme where six were male and six were female.

The day started with the group meeting our Costain Volunteers: Amy Nott (Project Skills Co-Ordinator), Graham Dean (Community Relations/Security Manager), Emily Castle (Trainee SHE Advisor), Padraig Ryan (Senior Engineer)

As an ice breaker and to determine the level of interest, we set an activity where each person in turn would introduce themselves and then share their career aspirations. The responses ranged from being an undertaker to a train driver, however none of the group had thought about a career in the construction industry.



After Introductions Amy gave a video fly through, introducing them to the project and the vision we have at London Bridge. The fly through video was a great way of capturing their attention and giving them an understanding of what the LBRS is all about. After the video, the group flooded the Costain Volunteers with questions regarding the project as a whole.

Graham delivered an interactive presentation highlighting what careers exist within the construction industry. The presentation focussed on showing how there are a huge variety of roles within the industry and not just the stereotypical engineering and labourer roles. The presentation also looked at the changing face of construction and how more women and other diverse groups are getting careers in construction. Following the presentation an open discussion was held.

After this the group were taken on a site tour which was very popular. This gave the group a greater understanding on how a construction project operates and the challenges it faces.



Once back in the offices the group were given a final talk by two of the Costain volunteers on how they got into the construction industry. Both had no direct construction related qualifications and so this talk was really relatable for the group.

The reward at the end of the day when the group re-shared their aspirations was that...

Now, half the group now want to explore a career in construction!