

THE HUT, CASTLEFORD

FRAMEWORK: YORbuild - West region
LOT: 5
CLIENT: Wakefield District Council
CONTRACTOR: Caddick Construction
PROJECT VALUE: £4m
AREA: 14,572 sq ft
Start on site: July 2011
Completion: June 2012



THE PROJECT, a 2-storey youth, community and leisure centre in Airedale, Castleford, was funded by the Government's myspace initiative. It houses a ten pin bowling alley, sports and performance hall, changing rooms with showers, a cafe, plus conference and office facilities. Externally provision includes an outdoor gym, climbing wall, AstroTurf pitches and a multi-use games area.

EMPLOYMENT & SKILLS

In delivering The Hut, the Caddick team were able to get involved with local residents through community consultations and workshops to ensure that together they delivered a facility which truly benefits the area, not only delivering work placements designed to help people get back into employment, but delivering a building which will benefit the community for the long term.

Achieving this project through the YORbuild regional construction framework allowed us to excel in the provision of employment and skills opportunities to members of the local community who were able to get involved in all elements of the project; from conception and design, including innovative arts projects, to construction and ultimately to the management of the centre.

“ I'm really grateful for this second chance in life. I realise that it could be very difficult for me to get a job due to my circumstances but thanks to Caddick and YORbuild I am being given the opportunity to learn new skills and potentially gain a career in construction.”

Naseem,
Ex-offender work placement

LOCAL STUDENTS' CREATIVE INVOLVEMENT

Local young people were actively involved in the design and development of the project. As a finishing touch, local Art BTEc Level 2 Diploma students were invited to join international artist Jim Harper in painting a mural featuring local landmarks and symbols in the ten pin bowling alley as part of the launch of the project. This unique opportunity enabled them to work with a live brief, a necessary component for successful completion of their course.

LIFE CHANGING OPPORTUNITY

As part of Caddick Construction's commitment to delivering YORbuild's employment and skills plan, the company offered a life-changing employment opportunity to a young offender from Leeds, giving him the chance of a career in construction.

Naseem, who was serving a sentence at Wetherby Young Offenders' Institution was 17 at the time he began his 6-month placement, working on site four days a week.

