



Sefton Council works Social Impact Newsletter

January 2025

Maisie O'Garra
Social Impact Advisor
Balfour Beatty

Meet the Team

MEET MAISIE

Maisie is the Social Impact Advisor for all of the Sefton Council schemes.

Maisie started working for Balfour Beatty in 2017 and started her career with us as a Trainee Civil Engineer and successfully achieved a first class honours degree in BEng Civil Engineering in 2021. In 2024 Maisie decided to change her career path into the Social Impact team and has really taken pride in her work.

We have been supporting the community during the preconstruction phase of the schemes and now we are progressing into construction we are excited to have even more impact in the local area.

Maisie has made it her priority to create a lasting impact in the local area given she is a resident herself living just outside of Southport, she is passionate about making a difference in her community. She has engaged with local schools, colleges, charitable organisations and businesses local to the works we are carrying out and is the main contact for any queries.

Over the three schemes the team have weekly meetings with Sefton Council where Social Value is treated equally to all other meeting topics such as design, engineering, programme and commercial. During these weekly updates we discuss events that have taken place and cover any communications/complaints or engagement we have had and discuss what is planned going forward.

Maisie is looking forward to continuing her role as the projects progress into the construction phase and is going to have as much impact on the Sefton community as possible.

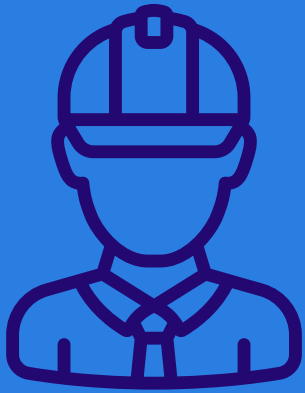


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Balfour Beatty's impact so far..



2

Work placements
secured

16 hours
volunteering
within the
local
community

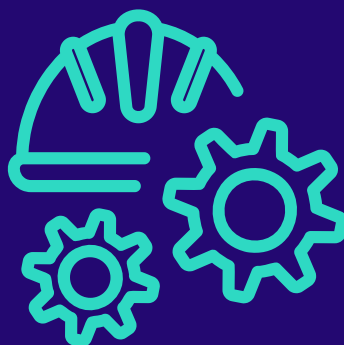
22 Hours
engaging with
schools



75 students
engaged in
workshops,
careers talks
or
curriculum
support

23

Students provided
with a 1:1 mock
interview with
industry feedback



145
Christmas
presents
donated

Sefton social impact targets

NT Ref	TOM description	SMC Target	LTDS Target	SEAC Target	Overall Sefton Target	Completed in pre-con	
						Hours completed	Numbers engaged
NT8	No. staff hours spent on local school and college visits supporting pupils e.g deliver career talks, curriculum support, literacy support (including preparation time)	30 hours	15 hours	45 hours	90 hours	22 Hours	75
NT10	No of apprenticeships on the contract that have either been completed during the year, or that will be supported by the organisation to completion in the following years – Level 2, 3 or 4+	10 weeks	N/A	20 weeks	30 weeks		
NT11	No. hours of 'support into work' assistance provided to unemployed people through career mentoring including mock interviews, career guidance and CV advice	20 hours	7 hours	30 hours	57 hours	16 Hours	23
NT12	No. of weeks spent on meaningful work placements or pre-employment course; 1-6 weeks student placements (unpaid)	6 weeks	3 weeks	6 weeks	15 weeks	Aquired two work placements who start in Jan	2
NT28	Donations and/or in-kind contributions to specific local community projects (£ & materials)	N/A	£1,000	N/A	£1,000	Christmas donations for 145 children at Netherton community centre	
NT29	No. of hours volunteering time provided to support local community projects	48 hours	45 hours	60 hours	153 hours	16 Hours	

We help build new futures

HUGH BAIRD COLLEGE INSIGHT DAY

The day began with a presentation about Balfour Beatty, introducing the various roles within our company, and then we focused on the local schemes we are currently working on. After the presentation, the students participated in a hands-on activity where they acted as the planning team for a construction company tasked with building a new school. Their challenge was to develop a programme of works, ensuring all the tasks were completed in the right sequence and within the 47-week construction schedule.

It was fantastic to see the students collaborate so effectively, using their problem-solving skills to develop their plans. The activity provided a valuable insight into the skillset of potential future work placement students across the Sefton schemes, and it was encouraging to witness their enthusiasm and teamwork. This experience will undoubtedly be beneficial for their development as they move forward in their careers.

As part of the Sefton Maritime Corridor scheme, we are offering T Level students from the Construction and the Built Environment course the opportunity to carry out their 45 week work placement with us. Their course covers three key areas: Design, Onsite Construction, and Engineering. These topics align perfectly with the Civil Engineering roles we offer, making this work placement opportunity a great fit for students looking to build a future career in the industry.



HILLSIDE HIGH SCHOOL MOCK INTERVIEWS

Hillside high School organized mock interviews for their Year 10 students, providing them with an excellent opportunity to practice interview skills in preparation for their upcoming GCSEs, university applications, and apprenticeships. The event aimed to enhance the students' confidence and equip them with valuable experience.

We had the privilege of attending and conducting 10 interviews with the students, all of whom were impressively prepared. After each interview, we provided constructive feedback, helping the students identify areas for improvement. We look forward to participating in more events like this one to further support young people in developing their skills and boosting their confidence.



We Deliver long lasting social benefits for the communities we operate in

SIGNING THE SEFTON CARE CHARTER

Following a meeting with Stephen Watson – Executive Director (Place) We were introduced to the Sefton Care Charter, which we are proud to have now signed. We are proud to showcase our support to young people who have experience of the care system and show our dedication to supporting the Sefton community. During this meeting, Stephen also highlighted the work of Sefton@Work, who hosted an event for #CareLeaversWeek which we were fortunate to be a part of. Sefton Council places great emphasis on offering care leavers meaningful opportunities, and we are grateful to be part of this initiative.

As our projects progress and are fully operational, we would love to welcome any care leavers for site visits. This would provide them with a chance to learn more about what we do in the industry and, hopefully, help them explore potential career paths. We're excited about the impact this could have on their future choices



SOUTHPORT COMMUNITY CENTRE VOLUNTEERING

We recently attended a volunteer taster day at the Southport Community Centre, organised by Sefton4Good. The day involved carrying out garden maintenance and general tidying up of the centre's gardens, followed by painting and decorating the porch entrance to give the space a much-needed freshen up. It was a rewarding experience to be part of an event that helped improve the local community environment. As more works will need carrying out to refresh the look of the community centre it would be amazing if these events took place more frequently so we can get involved.

We hope the improvements will allow local residents to enjoy the communal gardens more and appreciate the refreshed look of the centre. We're excited to continue getting involved in more volunteering sessions throughout our time on the Sefton schemes, contributing to the community in meaningful ways



We take a holistic approach to social impact meeting the needs of each community

SUPPORTING THE NEEDS OF NETHERTON NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

The Sefton Maritime Corridor project team has dedicated significant effort to engage subcontractors in a meaningful Christmas present donation drive for the Netherton Neighbourhood Centre. We consulted with Marie Savin (Centre Manager) and the team about the needs of the children they serve. They provided us with a list of items that would be particularly beneficial for families who may struggle to provide gifts during the holiday season. We believe this centre is a vital resource for many families in crisis, providing essential support to those in need. To ensure our contributions were both thoughtful and impactful.

We are proud to share that all the subcontractors involved in the scheme—Hollingsworth, Speedy Hire, Town and Country Fencing, WT Jenkins, Huyton Asphalt, and Nexus—generously contributed gifts. We recently delivered these donations to the centre, where the staff expressed heartfelt appreciation for our collective efforts. We look forward to continuing our support for this wonderful cause as we progress with our work on the Sefton Maritime Corridor project. Together, we can make a difference in our community and bring joy to those who truly need it.



NETHERTON PARK PUBLIC DROP IN SESSION

The Sefton Maritime corridor team hosted a drop-in session in partnership with Sefton Council, giving local residents the chance to learn more about the scheme and ask any questions they may have. We distributed leaflets and provided detailed information about the project to ensure the community is well-informed.

The session took place at Netherton Park Neighbourhood Centre, a key community hub located within a large housing estate near where the scheme will be implemented. The centre plays a central role for people of all ages. Operated by volunteers, it is a charity that greatly contributes to the local community, and we are excited to collaborate with them throughout the duration of the Sefton Maritime Corridor scheme to support this valuable cause.



We tailor to the diverse needs of the communities we work in

FRIENDS OF WATERLOO GARDENING

Two members of the Sefton Team had the opportunity to take part in a full day of volunteering with Sefton4Good working alongside the Friends of Waterloo seafront gardens charitable organisation. This organisation, which is run entirely by volunteers, is dedicated to maintaining and caring for four public gardens along the Sefton seafront. The volunteers work tirelessly every week to ensure the areas are kept well maintained and inviting for everyone.

On the day of our event. A group of 15 volunteers came together to transform Adelaide Gardens. Tasks included removing weeds and grass from the paving stones, cutting back overgrown bracken and ivy, litter picking in the flower beds, and carrying bags of vegetation to the disposal area. It was a rewarding experience to contribute to the upkeep of such a beautiful public space.



SOUTHPORT MARKET DROP IN SESSION

The team from Les Transformations de Southport recently hosted a public drop-in session, inviting local residents and business owners to ask any questions they had about the LTDS scheme. Several local business owners attended to inquire about how the works might impact their operations. We reassured them that we are committed to supporting their businesses throughout the construction phase. Additionally, we explained that the works are designed to enhance the area and attract more visitors, benefitting their businesses in the long run. To further support them we've offered to promote their businesses on our construction fencing, ensuring that people know where to find them during the works. We are dedicated to making sure the local community and businesses feel supported and informed throughout the project.



We communicate to make a lasting impact

SOUTHPORT MARKET ENGAGEMENT

As Southport Market is one of our key stakeholders, we have worked closely with them to address their needs and concerns. For example, Denise Ryder – market manager raised concerns that the construction work visible from the windows could discourage customers from visiting. In response, we've arranged for the installation of a dot adhesive film to go on the windows that will block the construction view whilst still allowing natural light to enter. The film will feature a design that visualises the completed project, offering a glimpse of the future development.

Additionally, we've installed a digital totem inside the market to provide both customers and local residents with more information about our scheme. This totem also serves as an easy point of contact for anyone wishing to reach out to us directly.

We look forward to carrying out more local engagement as the schemes progress into construction and we hope that our business has had an impact on the community of Sefton so far.



BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT

For the Les Transformations de Southport scheme we have made it our priority to ensure all local businesses have the confidence they need that our works won't affect them in a negative manner and that we will help them in any way that we can. Our Social Value Advisor carried out a door to door drop in session to all the local businesses to introduce herself personally and ask if they have any queries.



ORGANISATIONS ENGAGED WITH:

- Netherton Community Centre
- Southport Market
- Sefton@work
- Southport Community Centre
- Local business
- Sefton NEET prevention team
- Birkdale Community Centre
- Sefton4Good
- Meols Cop Youth Centre
- Green Sefton



Sefton Council



Balfour Beatty



SCAPE