

# Manchester Framework One Away Days

As previously announced we have recently been appointed, subject to contract, as one of Manchester's 5 constructor partners to deliver construction projects through Framework One. The scale of our works will cover the range of £500K to £10m+, with the first schemes likely to be issued shortly after contracts are signed. Manchester's officers have now indicated that GBBS are likely to receive £12 to 14m work within the next 15 months.

The other constructor partners are Cruden, Bramall, Wilmott Dixon and Parkinson. Parkinson is appointed in the band £500K to £4m, with the other 3 being of similar status to us. In addition to the above £12-14m, there will also be the opportunity to tender for a further £10m office refurbishment scheme. This tender will be restricted to the 4 eligible Framework One partners.

To introduce the constructor partners and to generate the essential spirit of Partnering and team-working, Manchester organised two away-days at their outdoor centre on Lake Windermere in the Lake District on 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> February. Each constructor partner fielded 3 staff and an Architect. Manchester sent around 20 people taking the total to 40.

The two days were a mix of facilitated outdoor challenges in team-working and problem solving with, unknown at the time, observers taking notes. The first day was spent in 4 teams of 10 and the second day in 2 larger teams of 20. Between us we climbed shear walls, built and rowed rafts, climbed rocks, debated the Framework, transported water across a field [without a bucket], ferried a rolling golf ball around a 100 metre track [off the ground], orienteered, debated the framework, devised methods of allowing eggs to freefall 15 metres without cracking, launched eggs over 20 metres without cracking and shared a grand evening meal that included a few bottles of wine. In summary it was a superb exercise in team building, fun, sharing information and getting to know people quickly.



Manchester, like many public sector clients, understands that contractors such as us are capable of more than delivering buildings; they want us to deliver added-value in the form of social projects, local employment, local training including apprentices and to really engage with local communities in order to leave a positive legacy. Our experiences on HIF, Cheshire and in the NE are examples of this added-value and over the next four years we shall be becoming deeply involved in such activities and initiatives.

Ghyll Head Centre is available to all for events and courses and Manchester City Council would like us to use it more. Contact Steve Longhurst or Paul Hill for further information.

