

Your bitesize construction bulletin

June 2025

Plans to prove how firms boost local jobs

Market conditions and challenges

What is it?

Firms bidding for major infrastructure projects may have to prove how they will boost local jobs and skills.

What should I know?

- This includes companies bidding for large public contracts e.g. roads, railways, and hospitals.
- Companies may be asked to show plans for apprenticeships, T-level industry placements, opportunities for care leavers, or how they will help people get jobs and stay in work in the local area.



Swipe for more 

Flood defence programme launched

Market conditions and challenges

What is it?

The government has pledged £7.9bn for a major flood defence programme to protect hundreds of thousands of homes and businesses over the next decade.

What should I know?

- The government claims this is the largest flood defence investment programme in the UK's history.
- Funding covers both traditional flood barriers as well as natural solutions like wetland restorations.
- £4.2bn has been allocated for the first three years.



Landmark Manchester towers revised

Housebuilding and regulations

What is it?

Revised plans for a major redevelopment in Manchester have been submitted following changes in economic conditions.

What should I know?

- The updated scheme features three towers, which doubles the number of homes to 800 flats. It also includes an 18-storey commercial office block.
- The new layouts prioritise dual-aspect flats with better ventilation and views of the city and river. And the office building has been designed to Net Zero Carbon standards.



Keep swiping 

HS2 delayed beyond 2033

Market conditions and challenges

What is it?

The Transport Secretary Heidi Alexander has confirmed that the HS2 high-speed railway project will be delayed past 2033.

What should I know?

- She has called out years of mismanagement, scope changes and ineffective contracts which has cost taxpayer billions and led to the projects postponement.
- Phase One from London to Birmingham is confirmed to go ahead but no new deadline past 2033 has been set.



Funding for affordable homes

Housebuilding and regulations

What is it?

Announced in the spending review, the Chancellor Rachel Reeves confirmed £39bn over 10 years for affordable homes grants.

What should I know?

- It's been called the most ambitious affordable housing programme in decades.
- Funding will go to local authorities, housing associations and private developers to deliver new homes.
- The number of homes that the funding will deliver and how it will be distributed has not been confirmed.



You're all caught up!