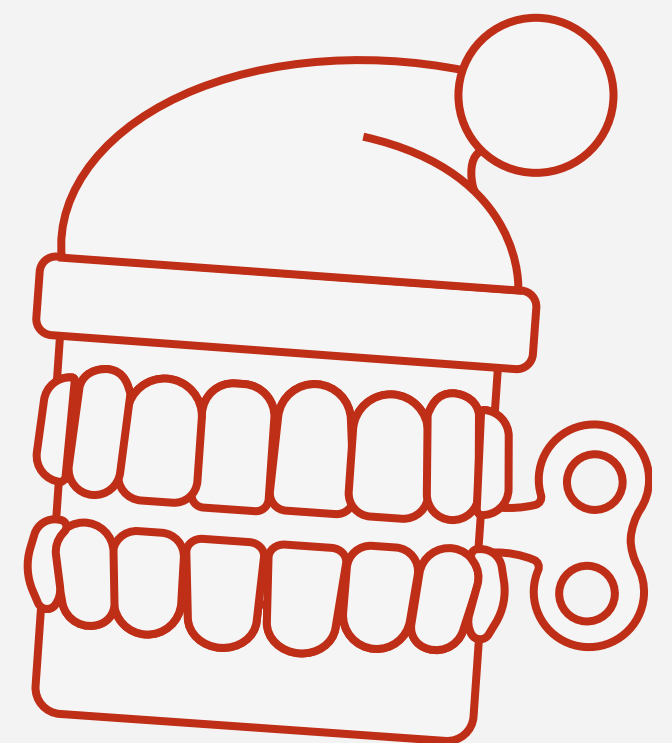


Your bitesize construction bulletin



December 2025



New hydrogen-based cleaning technology

What is it?

Balfour Beatty has become the first UK infrastructure firm to use hydrogen-based engine-cleaning technology on rail-mounted plant.

What should I know?

- A year-long trial simulation on a compact tamping machine produced a 15.8% reduction in emissions, which led to a full rollout across the fleet.
- The Engine Carbon Clean (ECC) technology uses on-demand hydrogen injection to clean internal engine carbon deposits from combustion engines, improving fuel efficiency and lowering CO₂, NO_x and other emissions.



CHIC's building materials supply framework

What is it?

The Communities and Housing Investment Consortium (CHIC) has begun procurement for a £1.94bn framework to supply building materials to its members and public sector partners.

What should I know?

- The eight-year framework will run from May 2026 to April 2034, covering the supply and delivery of materials in 12 lots. The largest, retrofit materials, is valued at £984m.
- The contract will be available to CHIC members' directly managed workforces and external contractors delivering responsive repairs, void maintenance, planned works, retrofit schemes and compliance work.

**Market conditions
and challenges**



CITB to cut training grants and funding amid rising demand

What is it?

CITB announced cuts to several training grants and funding streams for popular courses.

What should I know?

- A minority of short courses will still be funded by grants, with the main replacement being the Employer Networks. Level 7 qualification funding and attendance grants are being removed.
- The scope of what the Employer Networks funds will also change.
- Cuts are controversial and many are making calls to scrap the CITB.

**Market conditions
and challenges**



DfE's school rebuilding programme

What is it?

The Department for Education has selected major and regional contractors for its eight-year, £15bn school rebuilding programme.

What should I know?

- Delivery is split between national firms handling £12m+ major projects and Tier Two contractors taking on lower-value regional school jobs.
- The line-up confirms long-standing DfE builders as well as several new firms.
- The lower-value project bands delivered the biggest shake-up, with newcomers Guildmore, Meldrum Construction, Neilcott Construction and Speller Metcalfe securing spots.

**Housebuilding
and regulations**



**You're all
caught up!**

