



CREATING AND CARING FOR INSPIRATIONAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN BSF

Balfour Beatty Education has been awarded the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme and ICT schools contract for Blackburn with Darwen and Bolton Councils.

The project involves the delivery of a major capital investment programme over a number of phases comprising the extensive building, remodelling and operation of eight schools in Blackburn with Darwen by 2014.

Balfour Beatty
Education



Capex	£120 million (indicative)
Pupils	20,000
Financial Close	12 th January 2010
Facilities	Eight BSF schools and two ICT only schools in Blackburn with Darwen. Including one Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) and one Special Educational Needs (SEN) School. Plus 12 Bolton ICT only schools.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Balfour Beatty has invested equity of £2.6 million into the 25 year PPP concession for the delivery of the first school, Pleckgate High School. Construction work on Pleckgate High School started in January 2010; and on Darwen Vale High School in August 2010. Financial Close has also been reached on the two non-sample schools, Witton Park and New East Blackburn; and construction commenced in January 2011. Balfour Beatty has invested a further £3.6 million equity into these non-sample schools.

KEY FACTS

- Blackburn with Darwen Council, Bolton Council, Balfour Beatty Education and Partnerships for Schools have formed a Local Education Partnership (LEP), Shine, to deliver the BSF programme.
- All construction and facilities management will be carried out by Balfour Beatty. ICT services across all the schools will be delivered in conjunction with Northgate Managed Services, a leading supplier of ICT services and solutions to the UK education sector.
- As part of Balfour Beatty's commitment to the local community, it has pledged to target between 40% and 60% of employment on the schools' sites to local people and to engage local businesses as part of the supply chain.
- Balfour Beatty will also invest in the education and skills base of the local area. The project will offer over 13,230 (indicative) apprenticeship weeks to local residents and employers, in addition to mentoring and work placements, ensuring a lasting skills legacy for the local area.
- In Blackburn with Darwen, eight schools will receive brand new or remodelled buildings by 2014. Construction work started at Pleckgate High School in January 2010 and at Darwen Vale High School in August 2010.
- The schools and their state-of-the-art facilities will not just be available to students and young people, but to the whole community, including leisure and learning, sports and ICT provision.
- The programme will help to create over 300 new jobs and apprenticeships, help to create sustained growth in the economy and future prosperity and help tackle local unemployment by developing a skills base within the area.
- Additional services for both authorities are being procured through the LEP such as the Primary Capital Programme.



*"Together, this LEP will deliver these incredible plans and **realise our vision of transforming education for generations** of students in Blackburn with Darwen as well as for families and communities in the area."*

Chris Thayne, Councillor, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council's Executive Member for Children's Services