

# BOOTLE STRAND SOCIAL VALUE

**June 2025**

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# Social Value Commitment

**K2 Architects** believe architecture has the power to shape not just buildings, but communities and lives. In a time of growing social and environmental responsibility, we hold ourselves accountable to the highest standards. As a Certified B Corporation, we are committed to embedding social value into everything we do, from early-stage engagement through to long-term impact.

Social value for us is not a checklist, but a mindset. It's reflected in the way we listen to communities, collaborate with local organisations, and design with purpose. Whether we're revitalising a public space or delivering community-focused buildings, we prioritise inclusive, sustainable solutions that create lasting benefits for all.

We know that social value is most powerful when it's rooted in real relationships. That's why we collaborate closely with local consultants, educators, and charities to create projects that reflect community aspirations.

Our work on the Bootle Strand Transformation demonstrates how we co-create opportunity, empowering young people, supporting grassroots organisations and driving skills development. These are not side initiatives; they are part of our core practice.



The project team, led by Director Mark Davies, is responsible for identifying Sefton specific social value opportunities. The team working on the project is committed to delivering these social value initiatives and getting involved with local people to make a positive impact in the community.

This report highlights the ways in which our work has made a meaningful difference in the lives of local people.

# SOCIAL VALUE DELIVERED



**4** WORK  
EXPERIENCE  
WEEKS



**150**  
SUPPORTED  
T LEVEL HOURS



**3**  
COLLEGE VISITS  
& EMPLOYER  
FAIRS



**140**  
VOLUNTEERING  
HOURS



**RAISED FOR  
LOCAL  
CHARITIES**



# Work Placements

**4 work  
experience  
placements,  
totaling 150  
hours.**

- We offered four students from Sefton week-long structured work experience placements designed for those wishing to pursue a career in architecture:
  - They shadowed architects in their daily activities,
  - and were set design tasks, with project presentation opportunities to enhance their experience and confidence.



# Apprentice Opportunities

**Our Southport College T-Level student has completed 150 hours of his industry placement.**

- James has already completed his Construction: Design, Surveying and Planning T-level.
- He is now getting real life industry experience, and putting to use the learning he has done throughout his qualification.
- He has expressed a strong interest in architecture as a career option.
- The aim of the placement is to enhance his technical skills, understanding and overall employability.

**We're committed to upskilling local students, boosting their skills and career prospects.**



# College Visits

## 3 College Visits & Employer' Fairs.

- March 2024 - In collaboration with Vinci and Avison Young, we supported the **Hugh Baird College STEAM Expo** to share information about pathways to careers in the construction industry.
  - With 670 young people attending from various schools in Sefton, many were keen to learn more about architecture, planning, project management and design.
- March 2025 - Alongside Vinci, AY, WSP and Atkins we presented at the **Hugh Baird College Green Skills Day**
  - The team delivered an industry-led workshop, focusing on our Bootle Strand Transformation project.
- March 2025 - To celebrate National Careers Week we attended **Liverpool College Careers Day**, with WSP and Avison Young.
  - We spoke to students wanting to pursue careers in architecture, construction, and professional services sectors.





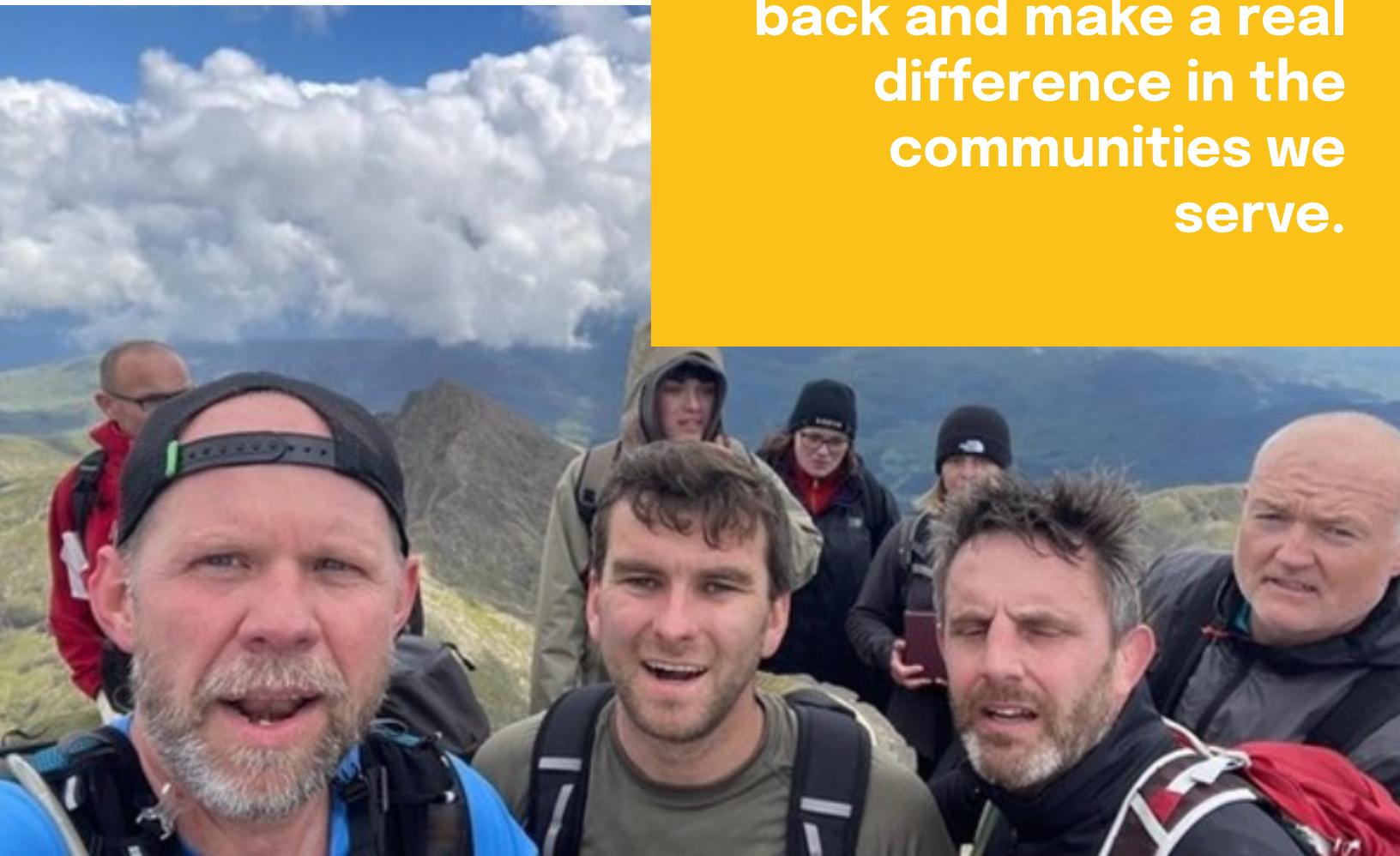
# Volunteering

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**We spent 140 hours volunteering and fundraising for various local charities.**

- An amazing effort by the team completing the **3 peaks challenge** in under 24 hours, raising money for Crosby St. Mary's under 16s Rugby Team.
- Director, Mark Davies, co-organised a **fundraising event** for Sean's Place and Crosby St. Mary's U16s Rugby Team. Director, Kevin Horton and Financial Manager, Heather Kenyon hosted the quiz on the night.
- In addition, Director, Mark Davies, volunteers up to 4 hours per week to **coach Crosby's junior rugby team**.

**We're proud to give back and make a real difference in the communities we serve.**

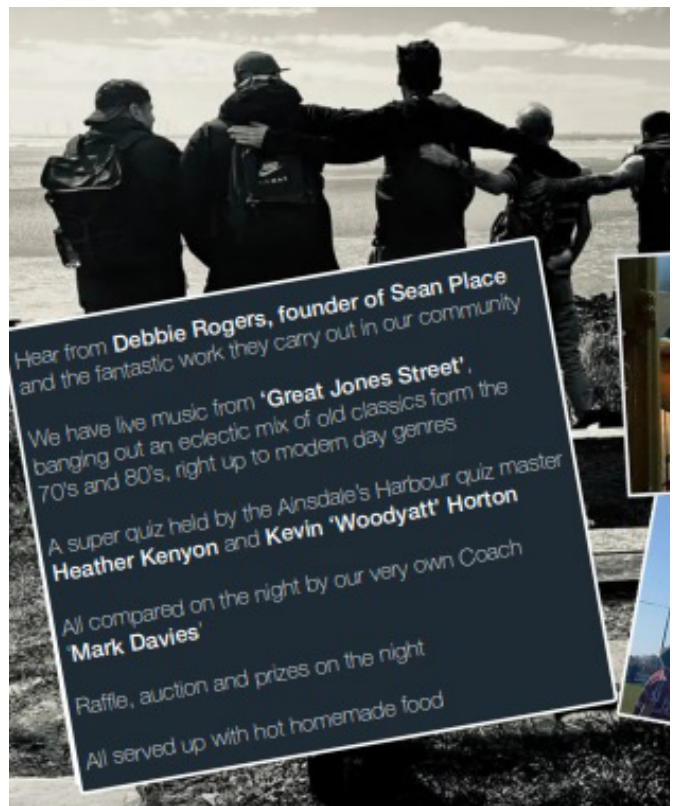




# Donations

Nearly £10k  
donated or  
raised for local  
charities.

- **Crosby St. Mary's under 16s grassroots rugby team.**
  - We have raised over £6,000 to date through continuous fundraising, supporting the junior team in purchasing new kit and covering travel costs for matches further afield, ensuring all kids have the opportunity to participate.
- **Sean's Place mental health charity based in Bootle.**
  - Our recent partnership with Sean's Place has already generated nearly £3,500 in donations from our network, contributing to vital mental health support within the community.
- **Y Kids children's charity based in Bootle.**
  - We've provided smaller, in-kind donations to support the charity's ongoing work with local children and families.



# Looking Ahead



## **Work Placements**

We will continue to offer work experience placements, helping more young people in Sefton gain valuable skills.



## **Apprenticeship Opportunities**

Our T Level student from Southport College, will be with us until July 2025. During this time, he will complete an additional 150 hours, enhancing his professional development.



## **College Visits**

We have offered our time to Hugh Baird College to attend design critique sessions for their students, tailored specifically to the Bootle Strand transformation project.



## **Volunteering & Donations**

In July, we'll complete a 50-mile bike ride to raise funds for Sean's Place mental health charity and Crosby St. Mary's U16s rugby team. We'll be providing pro-bono architectural services to support Sean's Place's expansion in Bootle and applying for a 'Youth Empowerment Scheme' grant to upgrade the youth rugby team's field.



## **Environmental Initiatives**

We will actively seek out environmental and sustainability programs across Sefton to support and contribute to.



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