

DM HABENS THE BUILDER LTD

SOCIAL VALUE ANNUAL REPORT



Our Approach

At DM Habens, our approach to social value is rooted in a clear commitment to making a positive and lasting impact wherever we operate.

To ensure our efforts are focused and meaningful, we prioritise three key areas within our social value strategy: environmental responsibility, education and upskilling, and community engagement. By aligning our activities to these core pillars, we are able to deliver targeted initiatives that create real benefits, both during project delivery and long after completion.



Communities



**Environmental
Responsibility**



Education & Upskilling

Environmental Responsibility

We are committed to reducing our environmental impact while actively contributing to the protection and improvement of our local surroundings.

Sustainable Practices

Across all sites, we continue to promote waste reduction, recycling, and responsible material use.

Electric Vehicle Initiative

We are progressively introducing electric vehicles into our fleet to reduce carbon emissions and promote more sustainable transport across our operations.

Beach Litter Clean Campaigns

We are in the process of launching a beach clean initiatives in aid of Surfers Against Sewage, helping to protect marine environments and raise awareness of plastic pollution.

Environmental Responsibility

As an ISO14001 accredited company, our sustainability commitments across all of our projects include:

Low-Carbon Site Operations

- Use of low-emission plant and electric vehicles.
- Carbon offsetting for unavoidable emissions (e.g., tree planting with local partners).

Waste Reduction and Circular Practices

- Minimum 90% construction waste diversion from landfill.
- Use of digital documents wherever possible to reduce paper consumption.

Sustainable Materials & Low-Impact Procurement

- Specify FSC-certified timber for temporary works and hoardings.
- Purchase locally sourced materials to reduce transport miles and support Hampshire-based suppliers.

Education & Upskilling

We recognise the importance of investing in people and developing the future workforce.

Apprenticeships & Career Development

Presentations are communication tools that can be used as lectures.

Careers Engagement

Presentations are communication tools that can be used as lectures.

Mental Health Education

Presentations are communication tools that can be used as lectures.



Education & Upskilling

We recognise that our people are at the heart of our success. Investing in education, skills, and career development is not only essential for the sustainability of our business but also for the growth of the wider construction industry. Our focus is on creating clear pathways for individuals to enter, develop, and thrive in the sector.

Apprenticeships & Career Development

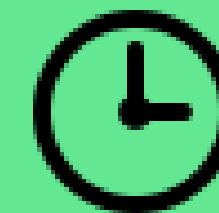
We actively support apprenticeship programmes across multiple trades, including carpentry, bricklaying, and site management. Our approach ensures that apprentices receive structured, hands-on experience on live projects while gaining essential technical skills.

Key elements include:

- **Structured On-Site Learning:** Apprentices are mentored by experienced professionals to gain practical, real-world experience.
- **Long-Term Career Pathways:** Beyond training, we provide guidance and opportunities for progression within the business, helping individuals transition from apprenticeships into full-time roles.
- **Industry Partnerships:** We collaborate with local training providers and colleges to ensure that skills development meets current industry needs, enhancing employability and expertise.



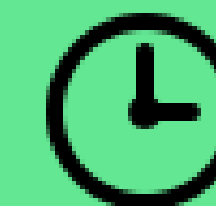
**4 Apprentices Supported During
2025/2026**



**6,000 Apprenticeship Training
Hours**



**10 Existing Site Managers
Completed NVQ Level 6 & 7
Qualifications**



**3,600 hours of Career
Development**

Inspiring the Next Generation

Education and upskilling are not limited to those already in the industry. DM Habens actively engages with students and young people to showcase the diverse opportunities available in construction.

Our careers engagement activities include:

- **Careers Days & Site Visits:** We attend local careers events, providing interactive presentations about the construction sector and potential career paths.
- **Project Insights:** Students and young people are offered the chance to visit live sites, gaining a tangible understanding of day-to-day operations, site safety, and practical applications of classroom learning.
- **Promoting Opportunities:** We work to challenge stereotypes and encourage a wide range of individuals, including those from underrepresented groups, to consider careers in construction

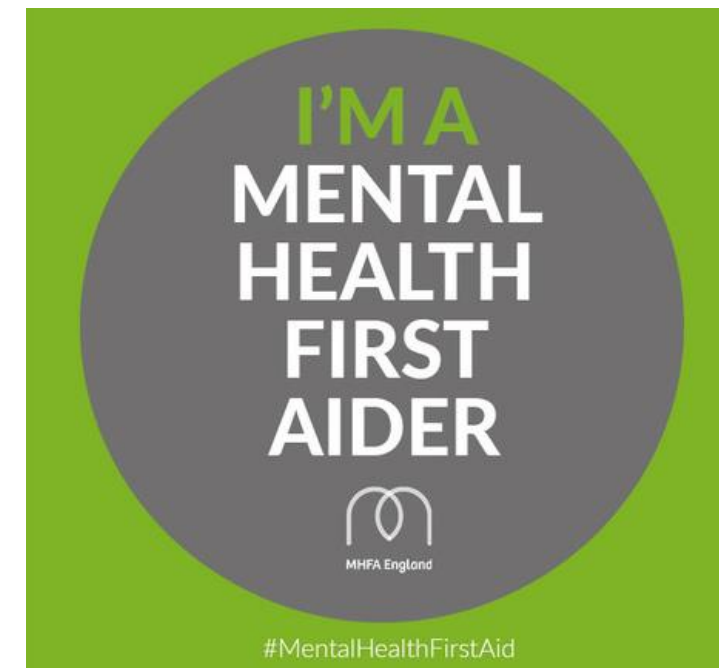


Mental Health Education

We understand that education and upskilling go hand in hand with personal wellbeing. Mental health is a critical aspect of our workforce strategy, ensuring that everyone on our sites can work safely, confidently, and productively.

Key initiatives include:

- Mental Health Awareness Training: Courses delivered to all staff to improve understanding of mental health, recognise signs and promote supportive behaviours.
- Qualified Mental Health First Aiders: Staff trained to provide immediate support and guidance, ensuring early intervention when needed.
- On-Site Wellbeing Initiatives: Regular toolbox talks, site visits, and visible campaigns reinforce mental health awareness, creating a culture where wellbeing is openly discussed and supported.
- Workforce Engagement: Ongoing discussions and community walks to fundraise and raise awareness for The Lighthouse Club.



Communities

We are proud to support the communities in which we work through charitable initiatives and meaningful engagement.

Charitable Acts

- Donations to local food banks to support vulnerable individuals and families
- Participation in Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children
- Ongoing support for community-based initiatives and causes



Engaging and Supporting Our Local Communities

Our community engagement activities aim to foster awareness, participation, and positive change across a range of social issues.

Talks and Discussions

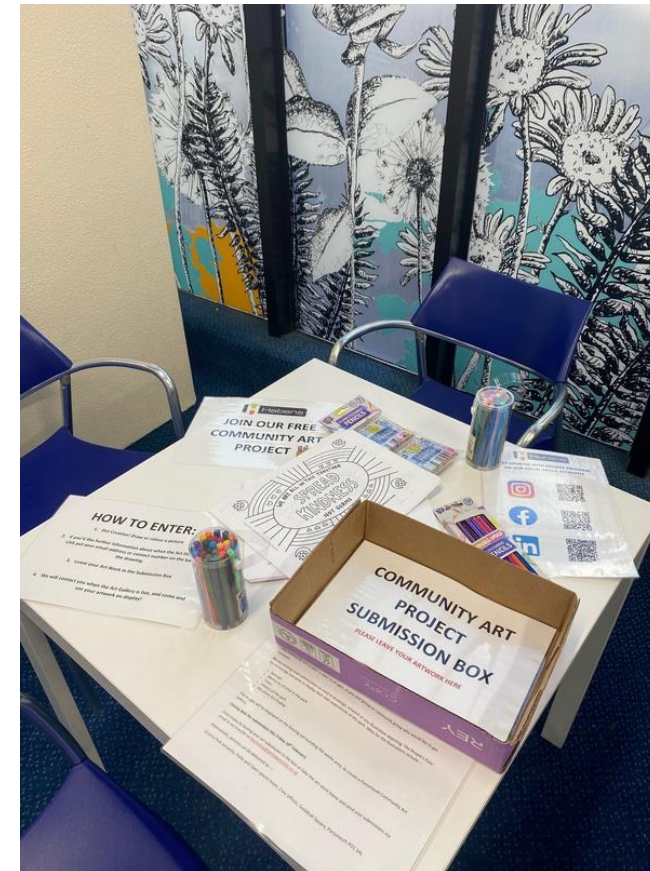
We organise talks and discussions to inform, inspire, and support local residents and stakeholders. These include:

- Community Awareness Sessions: Covering topics such as sustainability, health and safety, and construction careers.
- Local Consultation Meetings: Engaging residents in project planning to ensure that developments meet community needs.

Awareness Campaigns

Beyond formal talks, we deliver campaigns designed to highlight important social and environmental issues:

- Raising awareness about mental health, wellbeing, and safety on and off site.
- Supporting environmental initiatives, including local clean-ups and sustainable practices.
- Encouraging young people's participation in community activities and decision-making processes.



Supporting Those in Need

Habens actively supports a wide range of initiatives that improve the lives of local residents, particularly the most vulnerable.

Key contributions during 2025/2026 include:

- **Food Bank Donations:** Providing essential groceries and supplies to families and individuals experiencing hardship.
- **LGBT and Autism Books Donations:** books and hands-on resources to support adults with autism and learning disabilities in accessing inclusive and engaging sex education.
- **Winter Coat Donations:** Ensuring vulnerable members of the community stay warm during colder months.
- **Grassroots Football Support:** Supplying football kits to local children's teams, promoting physical activity, teamwork, and inclusion.
- **Christmas Gift Donations:** Partnering with local organisations such as City of Sanctuary, URBOND, The Parenting Network and Spark Community Space to provide gifts for children and families during the festive season.



Example Case Study:

Victoria Park

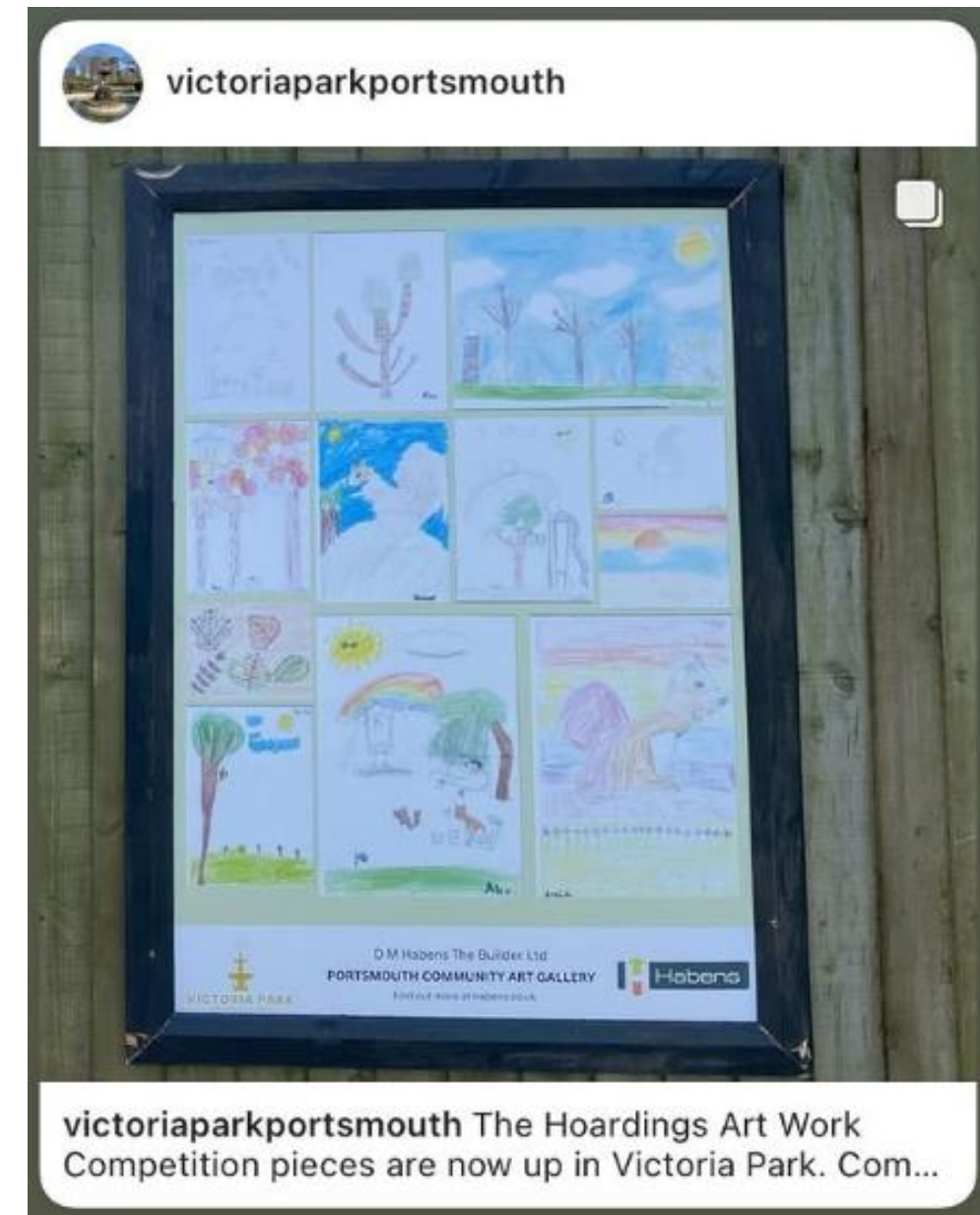
During our works at Victoria Park, affectionately known as The People's Park, we aimed to foster a strong sense of community and celebrate the park's history, nature, and heritage. Recognising that construction works can disrupt the enjoyment of public spaces, we sought creative ways to involve local residents and ensure the park remained a vibrant place for everyone.

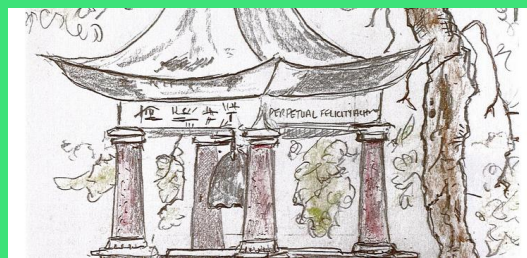
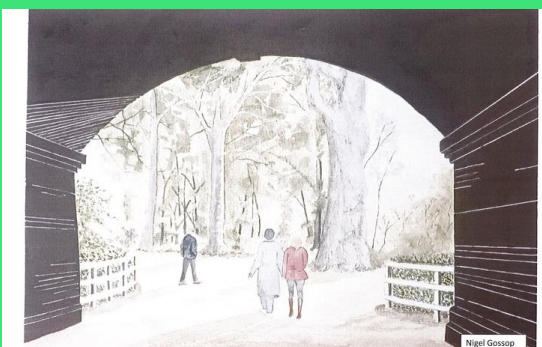
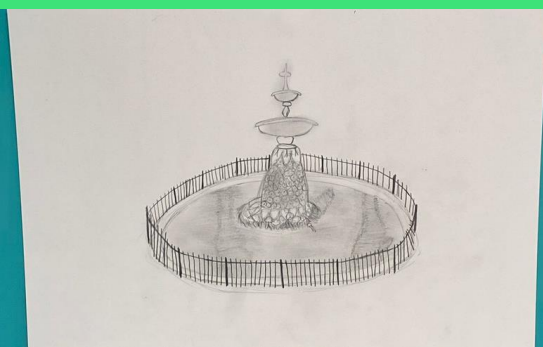
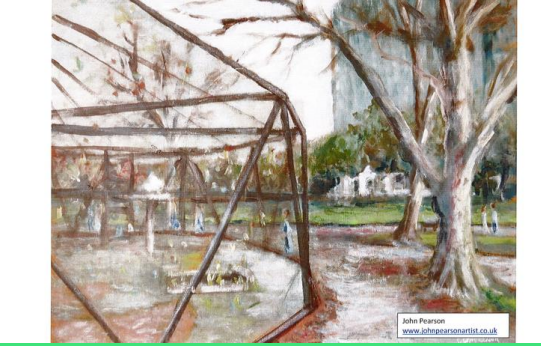
We launched a Community Hoarding Art Competition to encourage artistic expression from people of all ages and backgrounds. The competition invited participants to create artworks inspired by:

- The nature and wildlife of the park
- Its landscape and recreational spaces
- The history and heritage that make Victoria Park special

The initiative was coordinated by our Compliance Admin team in liaison with Portsmouth Council during the project mobilisation stage. The competition was promoted through an online platform via the DM Habens website, blog, and social media channels to reach a wide audience.

The project successfully engaged a diverse range of local residents, from children to adults, fostering pride and ownership in the park, and selected entries were displayed around the hoarding surrounding the construction site, bringing color, creativity, and local identity to the park during the works. The competition not only celebrated the park's unique heritage but also created lasting memories for participants and visitors, demonstrating that construction projects can enhance community spaces rather than detract from them.





Our Commitment



Our Commitment

At Habens, we are proud to demonstrate our ongoing commitment to supporting both our workforce and the communities in which we operate. Social value is at the heart of everything we do, and we strive to create lasting, positive impact through education, environmental responsibility, and community engagement.

Our efforts are formally recognised through:

- Silver Armed Forces Covenant Award – supporting veterans and reservists in the workplace
- Disability Confident Employer Accreditation – demonstrating inclusive recruitment and workplace practices
- Signatory of the Building Mental Health Charter – committing to mental health awareness and support across our operations

Looking Forward

DM Habens remains committed to embedding social value into every project, ensuring that our work not only delivers high-quality construction but also strengthens communities, protects the environment, and empowers our workforce. We will continue to build on our achievements, set ambitious goals, and maintain the highest standards of social responsibility.

