

# OBR Construction

Case Study NWCP2



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Project: Pwllheli Police Station  
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## Community Benefit Case Study Pwllheli Police Station

Awarded the contract on the 16<sup>th</sup> January with an original duration of 6 months, the project started well but we ran into the COVID lockdown that halted all work on site.

With this being a tight site within minimal space indoors, we had to take our time in re-authoring all our working procedures and implementing a safe system of work. One of the main risks identified was the number of operatives from various contractors on site – which we had to limit.

This has been a challenge since the return to site to achieve good progress on site while also keeping social distance and a safe workplace.

This has impacted on our ability to offer work experience and create new jobs in the magnitude we had hoped, but we have still been able to reach our baseline target.

OBR Construction is a firm based in Anglesey and we employ over 50 directly employed operatives on full-time contracts. This allows our projects to pull in resources from our pool as and when required which allows us to employ on continual bases. This project has significantly helped us to employ an additional 6 apprentices since its start date and we continually look to further our continual learning programme within our workforce.

Our office is based close to Coleg Menai Llandrillo who have a construction course that train a multitude of trades and academic courses. We pull from the excellent recourse to continually expand our company with young and enthusiastic operatives.

To date, in 2020 we have employed:

- 1 Trainee Qs who we are sending to university on a 5-year 1-day undergraduate course
- 2 Joiners who begin their NVQ lv 2 courses
- 1 Labourer who was listed as unemployed in the job centre
- 1 Plasterer apprentice studying his NVQ lv2
- 1 x Roofer apprentice
- 1 x Civils apprentice

We have also recruited experienced operatives along with the above as part of our everyday business.

As part of our ISO9001 system, we continually train all our workforce and have further certified or renewed their training needs.

Engaging with the community has been difficult during this project due to the COVID restrictions and lockdowns. But we have invested in other social value initiatives by sponsorship of local youth teams and supplying a local food bank with food from company contributions.



### Lessons Learnt

Throughout this project we have had to adapt to the ever-changing regulations and advice given on the COVID protocols. We have learned that brainstorming with all our supply chain over teams or zoom allows us to discuss possible solutions with them and quickly agree on working methods. This saves having to discuss over many emails. Familiarising our management team with the technology required was something we had to undertake, and we will try and be proactive from this project onwards in not neglecting technology training for our management team and particularly site managers and supervisors.

