

Sparc Leisure Centre Social Impact Report

Date: July 2026



Alliance Leisure



Pool refurbishment
& thermal
improvements



March 2026



20 Weeks

As part of our commitment to delivering proportionate and meaningful social value, the UCB team on the Sparc Leisure Centre project contributed time, skills, and community engagement throughout the project's duration. This report summarises the social value activities delivered over the course of the project, covering education outreach, environmental and grounds volunteering, in-kind contributions, apprenticeship support, and local economic investment through supply chain spend.

Social Value Delivered (2025 TOMs)

E

NT8 / NT11

Education Outreach

£679.25

17 hrs across 3 sessions.

✓ Complete

L

NT18

Local Supply Chain

£161,209

16% of total project spend + local labour.

✓ Complete

D

NT28

In-Kind & Equipment

£2,200

Waste removal + equipment loans.

✓ Complete

A

NT10

Apprenticeships

5 apprentices

Weeks not recorded — not monetised.

✓ Complete

V

NT29

Volunteering — Grounds & Infrastructure

£6,350

7 activities across the site

✓ Complete

TOTAL SV DELIVERED

£170,438



NT8/NT 11 Education Outreach

About the Community College Bishop's Castle

The Community College in Bishop's Castle serves students across south-west Shropshire, providing education to young people in one of England's most rural areas. The college's annual Work Experience Programme helps Year 10 students develop practical employability skills in preparation for college courses and apprenticeships.

What we delivered

Over the course of the project, UCB delivered a mock interview session for Year 10 students, a construction careers event, and two Year 9 lessons on geometry in construction (including a supporting workbook) as part of the technology curriculum. CITB support was also arranged, giving the school access to apprenticeship guidance for interested students until November.

Universal Group

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Ref	Activity	Details	Hours	Proxy Value
NT11	Mock interview support	Mentoring / mock interviews, under-24s	5 hrs	£501.65
NT8	Year 10 Construction Careers Event	Careers talk / event, incl. prep	4 hrs	£59.20
NT8	Year 9 Geometry in Construction lessons (x2)	Curriculum support, incl. all prep; included a workbook	8 hrs	£118.40
—	CITB support	Available to the school for apprenticeship support until November	—	Recorded, not monetised

Proxy values applied per the current National TOMs framework: NT11 (mentoring/mock interviews, under-24s) £100.33 per hour; NT8 (school/college visits — careers talks, curriculum support, incl. prep time) £14.80 per staff hour.

NT28 In-Kind Donations & Equipment

About this activity

UCB is committed to supporting local community organisations in Bishop's Castle and the wider Shropshire area whose work aligns with the aims of the leisure centre refurbishment — promoting health, wellbeing and community connection for residents of all ages.

What we delivered

UCB arranged the removal and disposal of 20m³ of waste (2 skips) from the centre, and loaned fencing equipment to both the school and to Bishop's Castle Festival for the duration of their need

Activity	Details	Cost
Waste removal	20m ³ removed from the centre (2 skips), including gardener/trustee volunteer labour	£1,000
Fencing equipment loaned to school	Ongoing loan, until no longer needed	£500
Fencing equipment loaned to Bishop's Castle Festival	—	£700

NT29 Volunteering - Grounds, Infrastructure & Environment

About this activity

UCB provided volunteering time to support the Community College and Sparc Leisure Centre site, directly supporting the SpArC trustees and the Bishop's Castle community, helping to maintain and improve the environment for the benefit of all local residents.

What we delivered

The team carried out fence repairs to the communal gardens, addressed stream bank erosion with associated planting, supported the trustee volunteer group with general gardening, and installed a bird box. In addition, a new bridge was built over the stream in conjunction with school lessons, 30 metres of footpath were repaired, and an unsafe climbing wall at the side of the school was removed.



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Activity	Details	Labour	Cost
Fence repair	To communal gardens	1 man, ½ day	£300
Bank / stream erosion repairs	Included associated planting	—	£400
Trustee volunteer group gardening	Shrubs, plants, bark, stakes, watering cans, and other equipment	—	£1,000
Bird box installation	Including labour	—	£150
New bridge over stream	In conjunction with school lessons	2 men, 2 days	£2,000
Footpath repairs	30 metres	2 men, 2 days	£2,000
Removal of unsafe climbing wall	Located at side of school	2 men, half day	£500

About this activity

UCB is committed to understanding and reporting on the local economic value generated through this project, including spend with suppliers, subcontractors, and businesses within the Shropshire area. Where practicable, UCB prioritised sourcing materials and services from local businesses, stimulating the rural economy and reinforcing community-led regeneration in Bishop's Castle and the surrounding area.

What we delivered

Local spend across Universal Management Lodge, Sub-Contract Lodge, and Materials & Plant Hire totalled £140,209, representing 16% of total project spend. Local labour, principally through Martin Scaffolding Services Ltd and the site cleaner, totalled circa £21,000.

Category	Detail	Value
Local spend	Universal Management Lodge, Sub-Contract Lodge & Materials and Plant Hire	£140,209 (16% of total spend)
Local labour	Martin Scaffolding Services Ltd & Site Cleaner	circa £21,000

NT10 Apprenticeships

About this activity

Alongside social value delivery, the project provided a route for apprentices from UCB and several subcontractor partners to gain hands-on site experience across a range of trades.

What we delivered

Five apprentices from five different companies worked on site over the course of the project, ranging from full-time placements to occasional visits, gaining experience across quantity surveying, electrical, scaffolding, pool lining and roofing disciplines.



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Company	Apprentice / Role	Frequency
Universal Civils & Build	Joe Sumpton — Trainee QS	Full time
Hensall Mechanical Services Ltd	3 x electrical apprentices	Occasionally
Martin Scaffolding Services Ltd	1 x scaffold apprentice	Frequently
Poly Advisory Limited	1 x pool lining apprentice	During works
RP Roofing & Construction Ltd	1 x roofing apprentice	During works

NT10 (apprenticeships on the contract) is measured in no. of weeks at £176.80/week under the current National TOMs framework. Weeks on site were not recorded per apprentice, so this line is recorded by headcount only and excluded from the monetised SV total.

Community Voice

Feedback from the local community

"I don't know if you will get this information by other means, but people keep telling me how much they appreciate both the work of your team and their general demeanour around the place. Local people seem to have enjoyed having you all around and are even sad that you will shortly leave."



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