

# Bulletin

Places & Communities North

Friday 4th October 2019

## They say don't look back, look forward; but I'm all about the balance - so a bit of both from me in this edition...

Last time out for me in the Bulletin, 29<sup>th</sup> March was upon us and we were defo leaving the EU... that went well.

This time out, and we're witnessing another period of unprecedented political and constitutional scenes of comic genius.

And at the time of writing this, we appear to be no closer to a decent conclusion, so in the words of Forrest Gump; that's all I have to say about that.

A hugely important event relevant to us all, both at work and at home, took place in New York last week - the UN Climate Action Summit.

The Summit brought together governments, private sector, civil society, local authorities and other international organisations to develop ambitious solutions in six areas. These are:

- global transition to renewable energy

- sustainable infrastructures and cities
- sustainable agriculture
- management of forests and oceans
- adaptation to climate impacts
- alignment of public private finance with a net zero economy.

What we do as ENGIE is impacting on these action areas both directly and indirectly. As a business we are actively seeking to create and deliver solutions to make a positive impact. But when you see the scale of the task in front of us all, it can seem overwhelming, even for a business of our size and reach.

And if that's the case, how daunting does it appear from an individual's perspective?

I read a great article recently, that asked if individual action was pointless in the face of climate change; for which the



default answer for many people is 'yes'. Greta Thunberg thinks differently, and that by stopping flying, you reduce your carbon footprint and signal to people around you that the climate crisis is real, and this ultimately helps push political movement.

Prof Peter Singer of Princeton University (expert in practical ethics) thinks we should all take action and believes there is a very strong moral obligation to do so. He sees it as the greatest moral challenge of the 21st century.

He compares you failing to cut your emissions, with you taking a bulldozer to the crops of a subsistence farmer in Africa. If you did that, everyone would agree it was wrong, but the greenhouse gases you are responsible for have the same result.



The fact that the cause is invisible gases, and the effect may be felt in the distant future, shouldn't allow us to escape the moral obligation to act. And just because each of us may only play a minuscule part in the process, this doesn't remove our moral obligation.

Behavioural psychologist Prof Kelly Fielding of the Queensland University believes we look to others for guidance about how we should behave. But when

it comes to climate change, we aren't getting the cues we need from friends, family, government and business.

If people need cues from others before they change their behaviour, then perhaps all we need to do is start taking action and others will follow.

So maybe our actions are important, not because of their individual material effect on climate change, but because of the message they send to others.

The more action we all take, the less our climate will change and the more liveable the world will be for all.

As part of ENGIE, haven't we got an amazing opportunity to make a difference...

*Dave*

**Dave Parkes**  
Partnerships Director



## 60 seconds with... **Linda**

Name: **Linda Bulbeck**

Job Title: **Town Centre & Events Manager**

Where are you based? **Market Hall, Grimsby, North East Lincs**

My favourite TV series is... **Peaky Blinders and Madam Secretary**

My favourite place in the world is... **Naxos in Greece**

My greatest achievement is...

**Having three wonderful children who have grown into three exceptional adults**

If I won a million pounds, I would... **Spread the joy!!**

Something not many people know about me is... **I am the youngest of nine children**

I love working at ENGIE because... **I work with great people and the work is so varied.**

## ENGIE developments named among UK's best

**Two P&C North new build projects have been shortlisted for this year's prestigious Inside Housing Development Awards.**

Thomas Fields Care Centre in Buxton, Derbyshire, has been shortlisted in the 'Best older people's development' category.

The scheme, developed on behalf of Housing 21, features 53 two-bedroom extra care apartments and a 20-place specialist

residential care centre, as well as communal facilities for residents and their guests to enjoy.

ENGIE has also been named as a finalist in the 'Best partnership' category, for its work with Sigma Group and Sheffield Housing Company to create new mixed

tenure homes across the city, including sites at Manor Boot and East Hill, which are due to complete in 2020.

Winners will be announced at a ceremony in London on 27th November. Good luck to all involved!



# ENGIE's Tom named Wakefield's top apprentice

**Multi-skilled apprentice Tom Hall was crowned Apprentice of the Year at this year's Wakefield Excellence in Business Awards.**

Tom - who is in the second year of his apprenticeship, as part of ENGIE's partnership with Wakefield Council - beat off stiff competition from eight other finalists in his category to scoop the prize on the night.

Tom joined ENGIE after spending nine years in the Parachute Regiment. During his time in the Armed Forces, Tom suffered a brain injury, which saw him spend a year in hospital and another in rehab, before securing his apprenticeship.

ENGIE was also Highly Commended for CSR Initiative of the Year in recognition of its work on the Wakefield Partnership.



## Work begins on £4.5m homes

**ENGIE has begun work on a new development in Walker, Newcastle upon Tyne, on behalf of Places for People.**

The year-long project will see the site of a former primary school on Wharrier Street transformed into 36 modern new homes, perfect for families, first-time buyers and young professionals.

The project will also create economic benefit in the form of new jobs and a variety of work experience opportunities for local residents.



## Last chance to get on your bike!

**Cycle to Work scheme window closes today - sign up here.**



A banner for a survey. The background is a light blue and green gradient. At the top, there are several purple and white triangular flags with the year '2019' and the ENGIE logo. The text 'GET INVOLVED' is in white, 'SURVEY NOW LIVE!' is in large, bold, purple letters, and 'MAKE A DIFFERENCE' is in white. The ENGIE logo is in the bottom left, and the 'ENGIE me' logo is in the bottom right. The date '30 September - 18 October 2019' is in the bottom center. The background of the banner shows a top-down view of a crowd of people at an event.

2019 EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT SURVEY

GET INVOLVED

**SURVEY NOW LIVE!**

MAKE A DIFFERENCE



30 September - 18 October 2019



# ENGIE secures £40m Birmingham property services partnership extension

**Birmingham City Council has awarded ENGIE a two-year extension to continue providing a repairs and maintenance service to around 9,000 homes across the north of the city.**

The contract will see ENGIE retain responsibility for the maintenance, repairs, gas servicing and home improvements of the Council's housing stock in the area until April 2022.

ENGIE was awarded the original £160million contract in 2016.

Since then, the team has carried out more than 86,000 responsive repairs, in excess of 34,000 gas repairs, repaired 2000 void properties, and completed over 14,500 improvements, all whilst maintaining customer satisfaction scores of 100%.

The partnership has also seen the creation of apprenticeships for local people, while more than £22million has been spent with local suppliers and SME's to date.

**A huge well done to all involved!**

*"It's great to be involved with such a positive partnership, which showcases how collaborative working can make a difference to the lives of real people in the community. Throughout the project, ENGIE has worked tirelessly to find ways to make a positive impact on local people and provide the very best maintenance and property improvement service to the residents of Birmingham."*

Martin Smithurst  
COO - P&C North



## Manchester kids get a lesson in construction

**ENGIE joined forces with pupils, teachers and parents to hold a construction week at Newall Green Primary School in Whythenshawe.**

The team ran a range of fun activities and innovative workshops throughout the week to educate the students on health and safety, as well as the variety of careers available in the construction industry.

Teachers, parents and the local community also took part in adult-focused health and safety awareness sessions, including working at height and manual handling.

ENGIE is currently mid-way through a £7.3million housing development in the area, which will see the creation of 52 new family homes for housing provider Your Housing Group.





## Latest newbies join Northampton team

**Six new apprentices and trainees have joined ENGIE, as part of a £160million contract to carry out major regeneration work across Northampton.**

The latest recruits are combining academic learning with on-the-job training in a range of both site and office based roles, including admin, quantity surveying and site management.

The new apprentices have joined ENGIE to work on a borough-wide, long-term planned investment programme to council-owned homes, on behalf of Northampton Partnership Homes.

As part of the contract, the partnership has committed to creating more than 60 apprenticeships during the lifetime of the programme.

The programme includes landscaping and improvements to the inside and outside of council homes in Northampton, as well as the regeneration of neighbourhoods and community spaces.

*"I am pleased to have been given this chance to combine education with a job that provides me with so much room for progression. Everyone is really friendly which makes coming to work everyday so much more enjoyable. I am looking forward to seeing where it takes me in the future."*

Nick Englefield  
Trainee Quantity Surveyor

## Regen payroll team celebrates special week

**Staff from the payroll team at Wath organised a range of activities to mark National Payroll Week, which took place from 2nd to 6th September.**

The team produced informative posters about the importance of payroll and created a suggestion box for staff to propose improvements.

A bake-off was also held, as well as a payroll-themed quiz for staff in the office, raising a total of £45 for cancer charity Firefly.

National Payroll Week was created to raise the profile and awareness of payroll in the UK.



# P&C North Quiz League!

Team Captains Mick Mills (Central), Andrew McIntosh (Northern), Brian Pettigrew (Scotland), Darin McKeown (Northern Ireland) and John Haynes (Services) will nominate someone from their teams each fortnight, with a trophy awarded to the winning team, so let's see how the contestants got on this time...

|                                    | Q1.<br>What is the national sport of Japan? | Q2.<br>Which nuts are used in marzipan? | Q3.<br>Which famous group was once known as The Quarrymen? | Q4.<br>Which country is the largest producer of olive oil? | Q5.<br>Plants receive the majority of their nutrients from which source? | Scores   |
|------------------------------------|---|---|--|--|--|----------|
| <b>Central</b><br>Rob Larkin       | Sumo wrestling ✓                            | Pass ✗                                  | The Beatles ✓  | Greece ✗   | Light ✓  | <b>3</b> |
| <b>Northern</b><br>Kim Tatschner   | Sumo wrestling ✓                            | Almonds ✓                               | The Beatles ✓  | Spain ✓  | Light ✓  | <b>5</b> |
| <b>Scotland</b><br>Martin Provan   | Sumo wrestling ✓                            | Almonds ✓                               | The Beatles ✓  | Italy ✗  | Light ✓  | <b>4</b> |
| <b>Services</b><br>Phil McConnell  | Sumo wrestling ✓                            | Almonds ✓                               | The Beatles ✓  | Italy ✗  | Light ✓  | <b>4</b> |
| <b>N. Ireland</b><br>Lloyd Larkham | Sumo wrestling ✓                            | Macadamia ✗                             | The Beatles ✓  | Italy ✗  | Light ✓  | <b>3</b> |

**Answers:** 1. Sumo wrestling 2. Almonds 3. The Beatles 4. Spain 5. Light

## League Table:

|              | =1 <sup>st</sup> | =1 <sup>st</sup> | =2 <sup>nd</sup> | =2 <sup>nd</sup> | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
|--------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Team</b>  | Scotland         | Northern         | Central          | Services         | N. Ireland      |
| <b>Score</b> | 34               | 34               | 31               | 31               | 19              |



**ENGIE**

Are you using **yammer**?

Part of Office 365, Yammer is an internal social networking service. Use it to help you communicate with other employees within the business.



View latest UK CEO Yammer updates

# ENGIE joins community safety street walk in the heart of Grimsby

**ENGIE Housing Officers in North East Lincolnshire joined forces with North East Lincolnshire Council and Humberside Police to visit residents living in Grimsby's West Marsh area as part of a multi-agency ward walk.**

The walks give residents the opportunity to discuss any matters of concern with their local representatives, as well as other public agencies.

Councillor John Fenty, deputy leader and portfolio holder for regeneration, skills and housing at North East Lincolnshire Council, attended the walk along with West Marsh ward Councillors, Councillor Gemma Sheridan and Councillor Karl Wilson.

During the walks officers gave out advice on household waste and recycling, anti-social behaviour and noise disturbance, housing related issues, reminding residents to check their smoke alarms and offered home fire safety advice as well as encouraging residents to sign up to police community alerts and

the Big Community Switch.

During the previous ward walk in Immingham, officers spotted several issues relating to standards in rented accommodation, and residents raised concerns of fly-tipping nearby.

*"These ward walks are a great idea, and give Council officers and officers from other agencies and our partner ENGIE the opportunity to get out and meet people in the community, and to listen to their concerns."*

Cllr Fenty



# ENGIE supports Glasgow Foundation Apprentices in Industry Challenge

**ENGIE joined forces with Glasgow Kelvin College to host the first Industry Challenge at the Auchinlea Road site last month.**

The aim is to provide work experience in a 'real' environment by setting Foundation Apprentices a challenge related to their studies.

Nineteen Civil Engineering Foundation Apprentices were set an exciting mono-blocking challenge.

The group were taught how to analyse project drawings and interpret them to locate multi utilities, house foundations, pathways, driveways and garden formation.

They then took a tour of the site, where they learned how

the 106-unit development is being built by ENGIE, on behalf of Glasgow Housing Association and Provanhall Housing Association.

Then it came for the students to put their skills to the test, dividing into teams to prepare their allocated area with sand, then lay the mono-block, ensuring their completed project was level and to a high quality.

The Industry Challenge was deemed a huge success by all involved - a fantastic insight into the construction industry.



**ENGIE is currently working with housing association Gentoo to prepare for a project that will see the introduction of more energy efficient heating systems in homes across Sunderland, improving the hot water and heating supply of hundreds of tenants.**

The project, entitled Core 364, will further improve customer safety by installing ground source heating systems and removing the gas supply from seven high-rise towers, involving 364 homes.

Underground pipes will be installed next to each tower block to extract low grade heat which will be transported up to a Kensa heat pump in each home to provide hot water and central heating as and when it is needed. With two thirds of the heating provided sourced from the ground for free, residents in the tower blocks will effectively only be paying for a third of their heating.

To prepare for this scheme, the

project team, which consists of colleagues from ENGIE and Gentoo, has completed a number of visits and workshops to ensure they are well informed and educated on the project and the technology that will be used.

### How does a ground source heating system work?

The ground source heat pump uses boreholes to extract freely available heat energy stored in the ground.

Experienced drillers using specialist rigs will drill boreholes vertically into the ground at a depth of 50-200 metres. This usually takes between 1-3 days per borehole.

A loop of pipe is inserted into

a borehole to extract heat from the ground. The average diameter of a borehole is roughly the size of a dinner plate.

The borehole is connected to the ground source heat pump installed in each property via a trench, supported by plumbing and electrical work throughout the property.

Work to the first two towers - Dock and Church Street - has now commenced, with remedial work already progressing throughout the building. The first borehole drilling at the site is expected to begin on 7th October, with all other sites following soon after, in line with the project programme.



## ENGIE supports The Dinner for The Dinner

**ENGIE sponsored this year's The Dinner for The Dinner event, which took place in Leeds.**

The purpose of the event is to raise funds to host a magical Christmas Day meal - run by volunteers - for 50 care leavers and their children, which will see guests fed, watered and receive a gift worth £150.

The aim is to support young people, aged between 18 and 25, who are leaving the care system, as their first

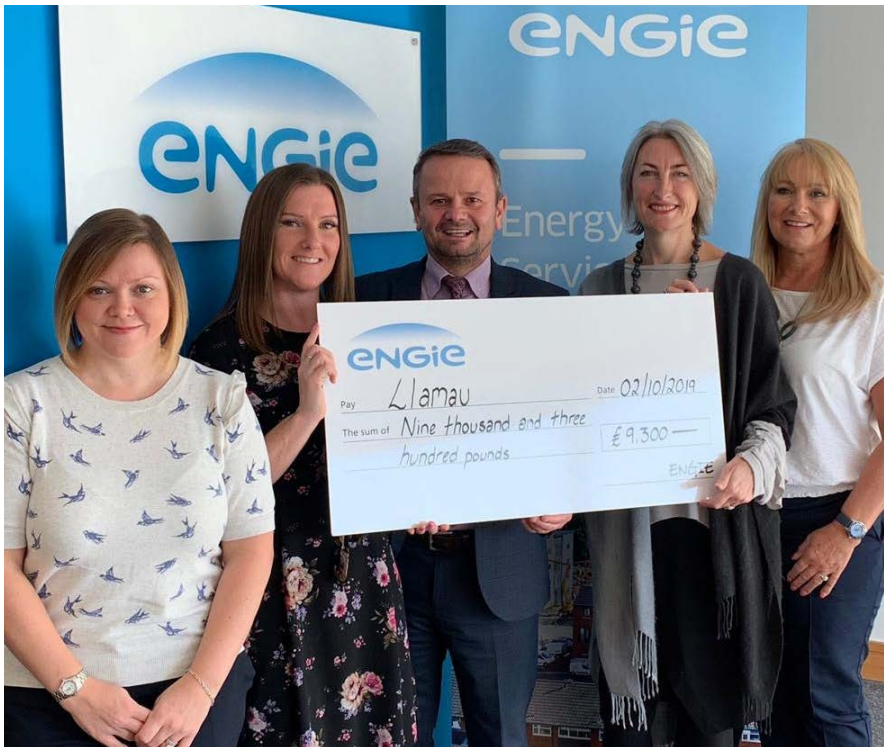
independent Christmas is often the most difficult.

Many have very negative memories of past Christmases, and there is nobody for them to share experiences and memories with.

A fantastic £7,000 was raised on the night!







## South Wales charity dinner is a roaring success

**A formal charity dinner and dance organised and supported by ENGIE staff has raised almost £10,000 for a local charity.**

ENGIE's Jayne Jenkins and Claire Edwards pulled out all the stops to arrange the charity event, raising funds for Welsh homelessness charity Llamau.

Representatives from the charity - which supports young homeless people and vulnerable women in the local area - were pleased to be in attendance at the event that saw thousands of pounds raised through, amongst other

things, an auction and raffle with prizes donated by staff, subcontractors and suppliers.

ENGIE staff also attended the dinner held at St David's Hotel in Cardiff Bay.

It was also announced that ENGIE will partner with Llamau over the next two years.

**Well done ladies and to all involved!**

*"It's amazing to see the hard work of our staff pay off at an event like this.*

*"The guests have enjoyed food, drink and dancing all in the name of this amazing cause."*

Nick Jenkins  
Regional Director

## Wakefield Partnership shortlisted for national energy award

**ENGIE has been named as a finalist at the Green Energy Awards 2019.**

ENGIE has been named in the final four of the Local Energy Leadership category, in recognition of its work in partnership with Wakefield Council, to help the council in its ambition to become carbon neutral by 2030.

The awards are a leading national celebration of the innovative technologies, pioneering companies and inspiring individuals shaking up the energy system.

Winners will be announced at a ceremony in November.



## Get in touch!

If you have any staff news that you would like to put forward for the Bulletin, please get in touch with the Places & Communities North Communications team:

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