

Home
About us
Levy
Grants
Funding

News & Events
Employer support
Research
Standards and Qualifications
Health & Safety and other topics

CITB Apprenticeships
Cards and testing
Training & Courses
Publications
Awards & Accreditation

[Home](#) > [Funding](#) > [How our funding helps industry](#) > [Case studies](#) > **McCarrick Construction - "CITB funding saved us money and improved skills"**

▼ **Case studies**

- ▶ ATLAS training hits new heights with funding boost
- ▶ Scottish housebuilders team up to change the industry
- ▶ B4Box beats skills shortage and unemployment
- ▶ Structural Timber Association - "CITB funding was essential for us"
- ▶ Skippy Construction - "Qualified staff will help my business expand"
- ▶ R. Walker & Sons - "Applying for funding was dead easy and straightforward"
- ▶ **McCarrick Construction - "CITB funding saved us money and improved skills"**
- ▶ Maple Aion: how it won funding to develop skills for a major project
- ▶ Precision Geomatics Limited - "CITB funding brought a lot of positives"
- ▶ Supply Chain School - rising to the sustainability challenge
- ▶ M.B. Roche & Sons Ltd - "Since training, work is much faster"
- ▶ CITB-funded Right to Work films will uphold the reputation of the industry
- ▶ CITB-funding helped us train and influence on carbon reduction
- ▶ CITB-funded training "a huge step forward" for Hire Association Europe
- ▶ Energy & Utility Skills: new training film

McCarrick Construction

"CITB funding saved us money and improved skills"

CITB funding has led to a trio of benefits for McCarrick Construction.

The simple process of applying for approximately £900 to upskill their plumber, Alan Welsh:

- will save the company £500 a year;
- ensures McCarrick Construction has an even wider range of expertise to offer its clients;
- has led to the company training an apprentice who is now learning new skills from Alan.

"We learnt about CITB funding at a construction event in Gateshead," says Matthew McCarrick, Director of the Chester le Street business which is now in its 63rd year.

"I was talking to CITB's Mark David about ways of encouraging young people into construction when he asked if I was aware of CITB funding. The opportunities Mark mentioned sounded promising, I thought they would sit well in our long-term development plan, so I applied for funding to upskill Alan."

The prime aim of funding, a process Matthew says was quick and straightforward, was to enable the firm to carry out gas installations for their housing projects rather than continually outsourcing this type of work.

Matthew says funding will also save McCarrick Construction an estimated £500 a year and enable the firm, which employs 31 people, to offer an enhanced service to existing and future clients.

"Alan is certified 'gas safe' now," says Matthew. "He now has an apprentice from New College in Durham working with him which will help ensure continuity and consistency of skills for our long-term plan."

"Alan is in his late 50s, the apprentice is in his 20s, so in one way CITB funding has provided an altruistic way of transferring skills down the line."

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