



# ANNUAL REPORT

LITE 2021-2022

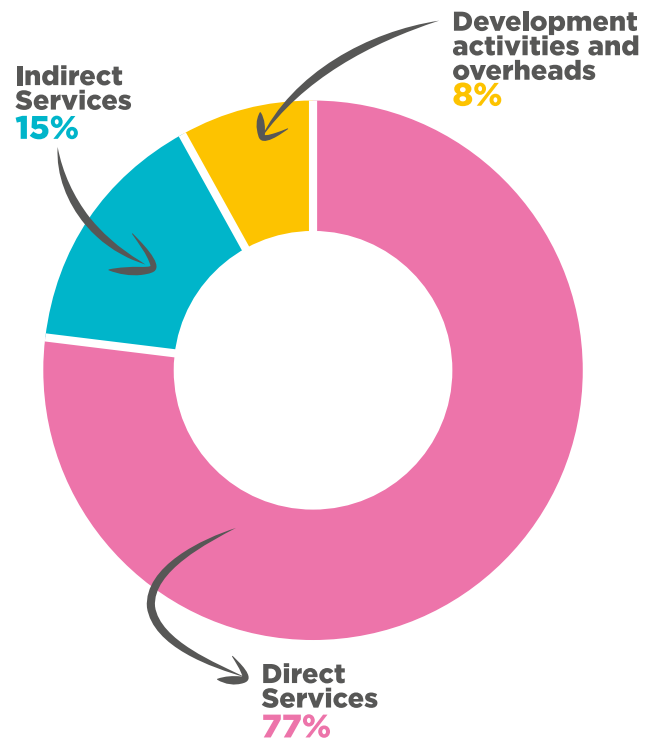


Throughout 2021-2022 the construction industry encountered many uncertainties, including Brexit, the impact of COVID restrictions and political issues. CITB NI, registered employers and their workforce adapted to the challenges that arose within the year.

The sector has remained buoyant and the activity levels within the sector have been strong with both Grant support to the industry and Levy income maintained at levels seen in previous years.

During 2021-2022 year CITB NI returned 92% of the value of Levy raised to the industry in direct or indirect services.

## Value for Levy 2021-22

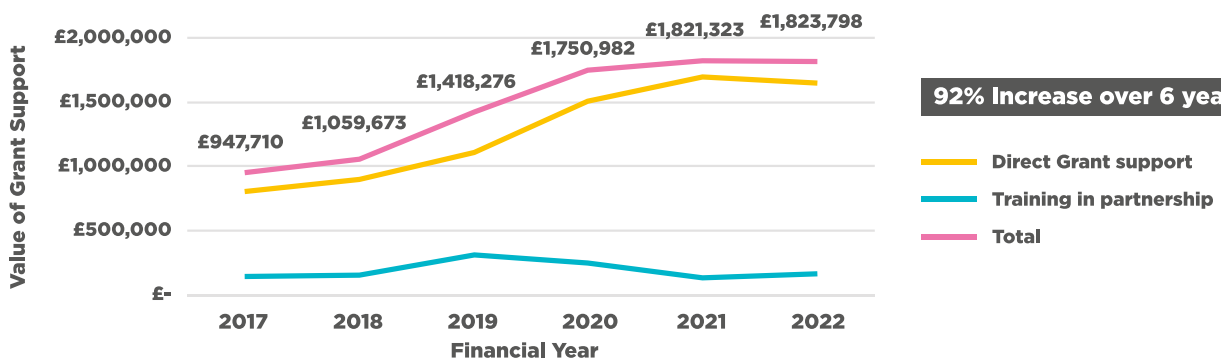


## GRANTS

The benefit to industry in terms of direct support for 2021-22 was £1.89 million.

Over the last six years CITB NI has been able to increase the support made available for training. This is in parallel with maintaining the levy rate at 0.55% and the careful use of reserves to fund this additional expenditure.

### Direct Grant Support to Industry



## TRAINING IN PARTNERSHIP

CITB NI supports training that the industry has identified as important to development, innovation and productivity. These interventions continue to target areas identified by the industry representative bodies or through employer engagement as critical in dealing with the current economic climate and for the future growth of the industry.

In total, 327 participants benefited from the wide range of Training in Partnership programmes.

**A total of**

**10**

**Training in Partnership interventions**

**were supported in 2021-22 with**

**6 programmes**

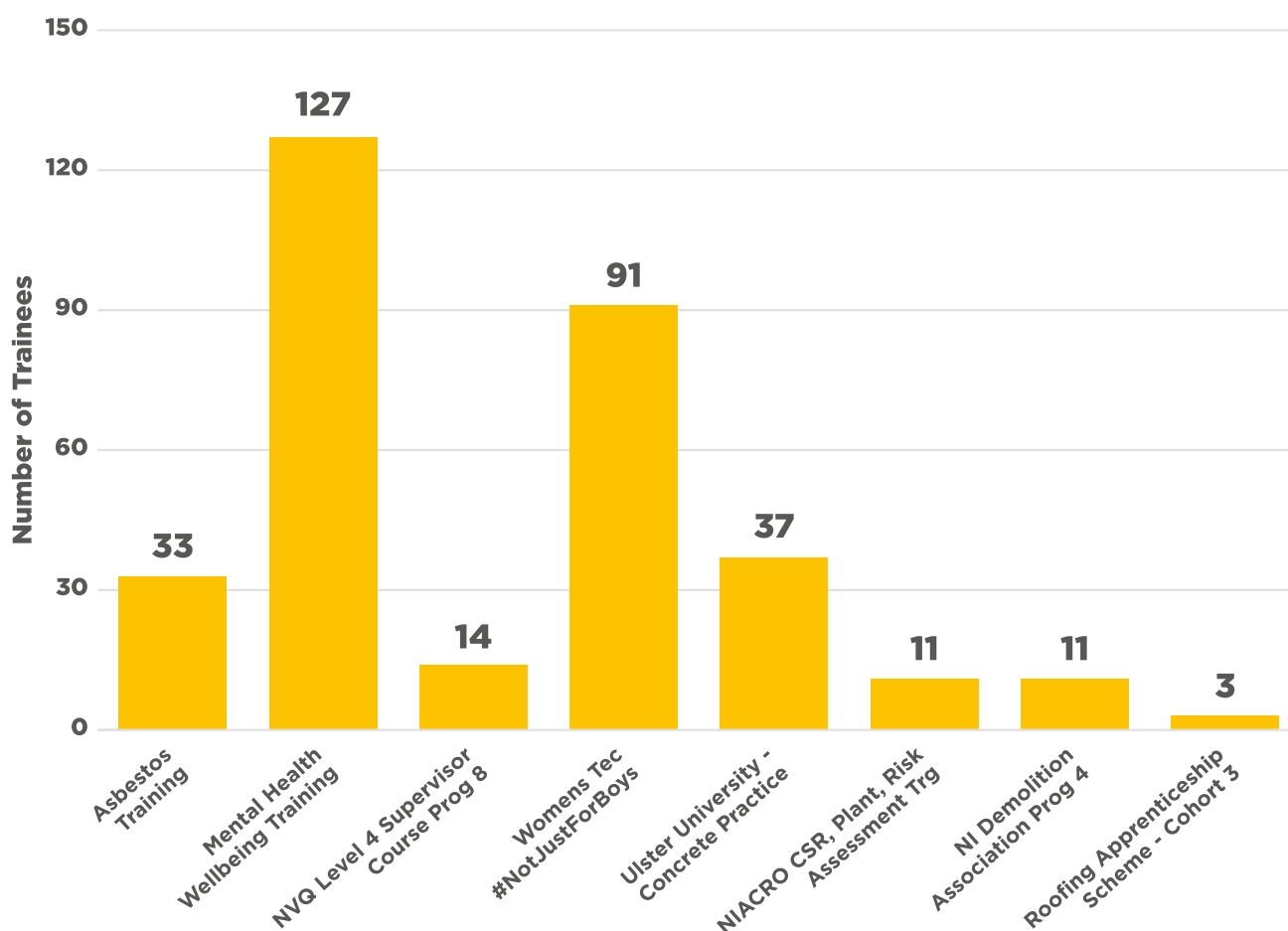
**concluding and**

**4 spanning into the**

**2022-23 training year.**



**2021-22 Training in Partnership Projects**



## **MOBILE TRAINING UNIT (MTU)**

The MTU continued to be off-road for 11 out of 12 months of 2021-22 due to the pandemic restrictions, however, online training was delivered in a remote live classroom environment with a CITB NI Trainer.



A total of  
**1146**

individuals received  
online training  
which was a year-  
on-year **increase of  
738 trainees.**

The MTU returned to face-to-face training in August 2022 and will continue into the new training year to deliver hybrid options to the industry, face-to-face via the MTU or live online training with the CITB NI Trainer.







## **SCAFFOLDING TRAINING**

CITB NI remains the only facility in Northern Ireland able to provide the Construction Industry Scaffolders Record Scheme (CISRS).

**153** individuals  
received accredited training  
through the Construction Industry  
Scaffolders Record Scheme (CISRS).



**16**  
employer engagement  
webinars were held  
during the year with **176**  
**employers** in attendance.

## **INDUSTRY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

**Each included a business improvement workshop or session on topical areas such as Digital and Social Media Marketing, Quality Control and Construction Law Update.**

During the year CITB NI was successful in obtaining funding from the Covid Recovery Employment and Skills Initiative (CRESI) towards the cost of employing a Heritage project manager for three years. This role will focus on identifying heritage training needs and developing and delivering training initiatives to address these.

## CAREERS PROMOTION

The Adopt a School programme was relaunched to post primary schools and CITB NI registered employers across Northern Ireland to provide an opportunity for employers to pair with schools to promote construction careers. Registrations are ongoing and to date CITB NI has supported the GCSE in Construction and the Built Environment since its inception in 2005. Having developed a complete text guide and workbook, each year CITB NI provide 25 free copies to every school delivering the GCSE qualification.

To encourage students to continue their route into construction for the second year running the **£1,000 CITB NI Built Environment Student Bursary Award** was awarded to twelve students who commenced and completed their first year of a full-time 3rd level Built Environment related construction qualification with a Northern Ireland training provider.

There are

53

schools offering the GCSE in Construction qualification across Northern Ireland and to date **over 10,000 students** have achieved the qualification.

62

schools have registered along with **30 employers**.



## **SKILLBUILD NI**

The SkillBuild NI Final was held at CITB NI on Wed 4th May 2022. **98 students competed across a range of 11 trade areas** which included plumbing, electrical and fire and security competitions.

15

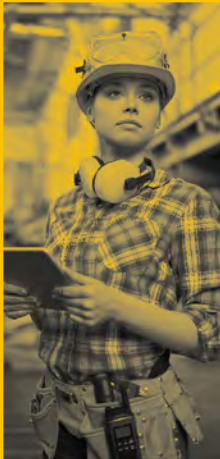
students

attended the WorldSkills UK Live final in Edinburgh College in November 2022

## **WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION NETWORK**

CITB NI continued to support women in the construction industry by maintaining the Women in Construction Network Website events and continuing as a Corporate Member of Women in Business offering access to the mentoring programme.

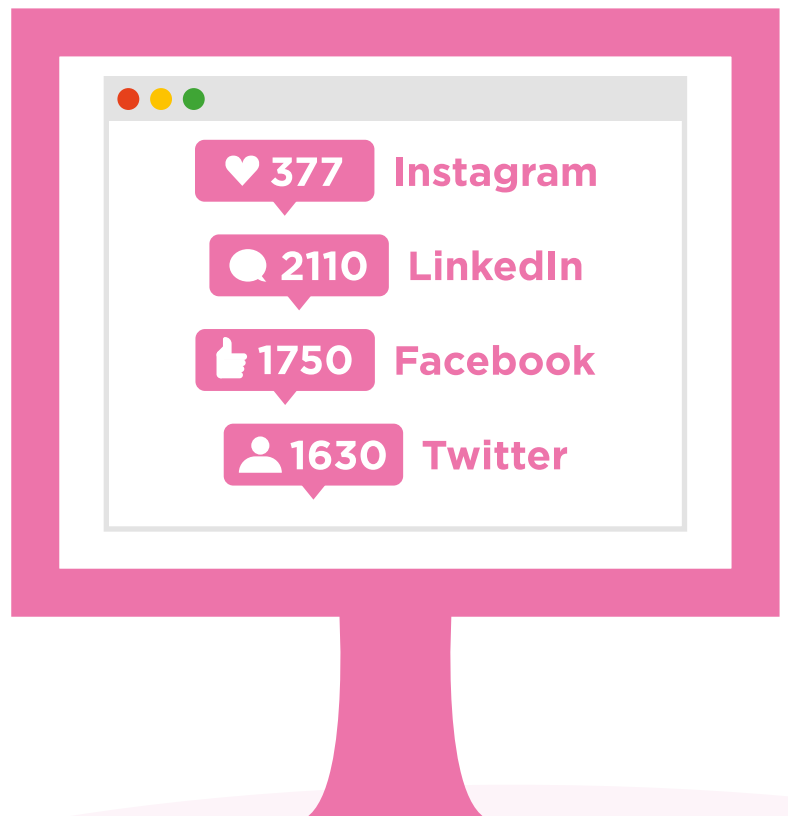
**The April 2022 WIC Summit had 150 in attendance.** It was a full day of inspirational stories, business advice and career development for women currently working in the construction industry, those thinking of joining and for employers who support diversity or best practice in the industry. It also provided thought-provoking tips on career management, showcased role models, and provided an opportunity to expand professional networks.



## **MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS**

The CITB NI website was regularly updated during the year and along with email, SMS texting and social media was used to engage with registered employers, industry, stakeholders, and others. CITB NI has a strong social media following with increased followers on all channels. At the end of the training year the follower totals were **1750 Facebook, 1630 Twitter, 2110 LinkedIn and 377 Instagram**. There was an average of **4854 monthly visitors to the CITB NI website throughout the year**.

Several press releases were developed and sent to local and trade press which generated **128 press clippings to a total PR value of £94,472** and contributed to employer and industry awareness of CITB NI services.



## **RESEARCH**

**CITB NI has contributed to several important pieces of research throughout the year which included:**

- The Construction Skills Network (CSN) produced accurate and up-to-date Labour Market Intelligence (LMI) for the Northern Ireland construction industry.
- 2022 Stakeholder Survey of 45 CITB NI stakeholders
- The 2022 Employer Tracking Survey of 100 CITB NI registered employers
- The 2022 Workforce Mobility and Skills report
- Ad-hoc research work was ongoing during the year to look at the skills requirements for Green / Retrofit roles.

## **STANDARDS AND QUALIFICATIONS**

**CITB NI continued to facilitate the development of new Northern Ireland Apprenticeship Frameworks by Chairing the Built Environment Sector Partnership (BESP).**

CITB NI updated the current Apprenticeship frameworks for the Department for the Economy (DfE). Development continued the plant training standard for the construction industry in Northern Ireland in order to set the standard for training Plant Operators, Plant Instructors and provide advice and guidance for the management of plant on site.

## **OVERVIEW**

CITB NI looks forward to meeting fresh challenges. The Net Zero Carbon approach to the built environment means that our future and current workforce will need to develop new skills and competencies to enhance their traditional ones. New governmental direction in the form of refreshed policies and strategies such as the 10x Economy document, Skills Strategy, Housing Supply Strategy and Energy Strategy, mean that CITB NI will need strong direction for industry and its stakeholders.

