

arcpartnership



SOCIAL VALUE IMPACT REPORT 2020 – 2024

September 2024

Delivering real value, **together**

 Nottinghamshire
County Council

 **SCAPE**

Executive Summary

Arc Partnership is a unique joint venture company established in 2016 to deliver a range of property services for Nottinghamshire County Council.

This report presents the social value outcomes delivered between April 2020 and March 2024; the period covered by Arc Partnership's last business plan.

In line with the Social Value Act 2012, both the County Council and Arc Partnership as contracting authorities must demonstrate that additionality is created beyond the simple financial investment via public procurement. This additional social value must be created for the benefit of the local community, through social, economic and environmental enhancement.

Through a structured approach to measurement and benchmarking, we demonstrate that Arc Partnership has delivered more than £277 million in social value since 2020. This outcome is achieved compared to a contractual spend by the County Council of £162 million during the period 2020–2024; a social value return on investment of 170%.

This means that for every £1 invested by Nottinghamshire County Council, £1.70 of overall social value has been delivered for the local community and economy by Arc Partnership and



£276m
social value
since 2020.

170%
social return
on investment



2016/17

2017/18

2018/19

2019/20

2020/21

2021/22

2022/23

2023/24

2024/25

1. Introduction

Purpose

This report sets out the social value activity and impact delivered by Arc Partnership over a period that includes the span of its latest business plan (2020 – 2024).

This is an essential part of demonstrating the real value we deliver for our main client, Nottinghamshire County Council, and for the local community.

It has been created to demonstrate to the council and the wider public sector that when they procure through Arc Partnership, they can be confident that the legal requirements for addressing the additional social, economic and environmental benefits required by the Social Value Act 2013 will be suitably met or exceeded as a result.

The report also demonstrates Arc Partnership's compliance with this legislation, identifying how our approach to responsible procurement delivers real value for Nottinghamshire County Council through the actions of Arc Partnership and our local supply chain.

Looking ahead, this report seeks to provide confidence to the council that Arc Partnership will continue to make an active and positive contribution through social value to the local community, as we continue to build upon the strength of our long-term service delivery relationship.

About Arc Partnership

Arc Property Services Partnership Limited, trading as and subsequently referred to as Arc Partnership, is a Joint Venture Company formed by Nottinghamshire County Council and SCAPE on 1 June 2016. The company is responsible for delivery of services to the council through an exclusive 10-year Service Contract (2016–2026).

Under this contract, Arc Partnership delivers multi-disciplinary property design, consultancy, master planning, regeneration, project/programme management, emergency, reactive, compliance asset management and planned services on behalf of the council and the communities and people it represents.

From its inception in June 2016, until the 31st of March 2024, Nottinghamshire County Council has commissioned work worth more than £346m. A breakdown of Arc Partnership's activity is shown below:

Value Band	No. Projects	Value (£m)
£0–£50k	2,620	£21.04
£50–100k	211	£14.86
£100–250k	201	£32.26
£250–500k	76	£26.92
£500k–1M	83	£57.76
£1M–3M	40	£59.47
£3M+	16	£134.33
Total	3,251	£346.63

Local Spend (D2N2)
£291.88M (92%)
Calls to Arc Assist
46,383
Responsive repairs
47,581
Servicing visits
58,404

Before its formation, four drivers for change within the council were identified which Arc Partnership was set up to support. These were:

- **Mitigation of an expected reduction in Capital Spend from £45m in 2016/2017 to £25m in 2017/2018 and further reductions over subsequent years.**
- **Mitigation of a reduction in the Property Services establishment at an equivalent rate to its future income (circa 50% reduction in the current establishment over medium/long term at a redundancy cost of up to £1m).**
- **Mitigation of the loss of key skills to the council and an increasing reliance on specialist external expertise at a cost premium.**
- **Contribution to the development of the council's new Corporate Landlord Model.**

There were also several other key objectives set for Arc Partnership including but not limited to value for money, quality of output and customer excellence.

The overall vision is for Arc Partnership to support the council in the creation of an efficient, safe, and sustainable land and property portfolio that delivers more integrated, customer-focused services, value for money and supports regeneration and economic growth.

This report reflects on the delivery of the Arc Partnership Business Plan 2021–2024, which complements and directly supports several key strategies and plans within the council and is inextricably linked to delivery of The Nottinghamshire Plan 2021–2031: Healthy > Prosperous > Green.

The importance of delivering social value

Both Nottinghamshire County Council, and by virtue of the Service Agreement, Arc Partnership, are public contracting authorities, and as such have a legal obligation to conduct the procurement of goods and services using public money in accordance with specific regulations and law.

The Social Value Act (2012) requires public contracting authorities to consider the opportunities to create social, economic and environmental benefits alongside their core contractual expenditure.

The council is therefore required by law to consider the additionality secured alongside its expenditure on services delivered through Arc Partnership and its supply chain. It is also paramount that Arc Partnership applies the same level of consideration within its own supply chain procurement and management activity.

The council's Procurement Strategy 2019–2023 sets out its vision for procurement and how, through its approach, it provides the best possible services for local people, improves the places in which its residents live, work and learn and delivers good value for money. This strategy includes three specific objectives in respect to maximising social value:

- **Create employment and training opportunities through contracts**
- **Ensure we retain as much of every pound we spend within Nottinghamshire**
- **Encourage a strong, diverse local market.**

SCAPE; the other shareholder of Arc Partnership, also procures in accordance with the Social Value Act, ensuring the facilitation and delivery of social value is a high priority within their suite of Gold Standard verified best practice frameworks and in doing so, supports clients like Nottinghamshire County Council and Arc Partnership with the maximisation of positive social and community impact.

Scope

This report considers all activity undertaken by Arc Partnership from 1st April 2020–31st March 2024. This scope of reporting has been selected as it includes the period in which the Arc Partnership Business Plan was being delivered against.

It also allows us to apply SCAPE's methodology for evaluating social value outcomes, implemented since 2020, as part of national benchmarking of social value. This allows us to take an objective look back at the outcomes we have created, while applying a rigorous methodology, and setting the outcomes delivered in the wider context of the performance of the UK construction sector.

During this period, Nottinghamshire County Council commissioned **£165.9m of activity** through Arc Partnership, including 1,908 instructions (including projects and maintenance orders).

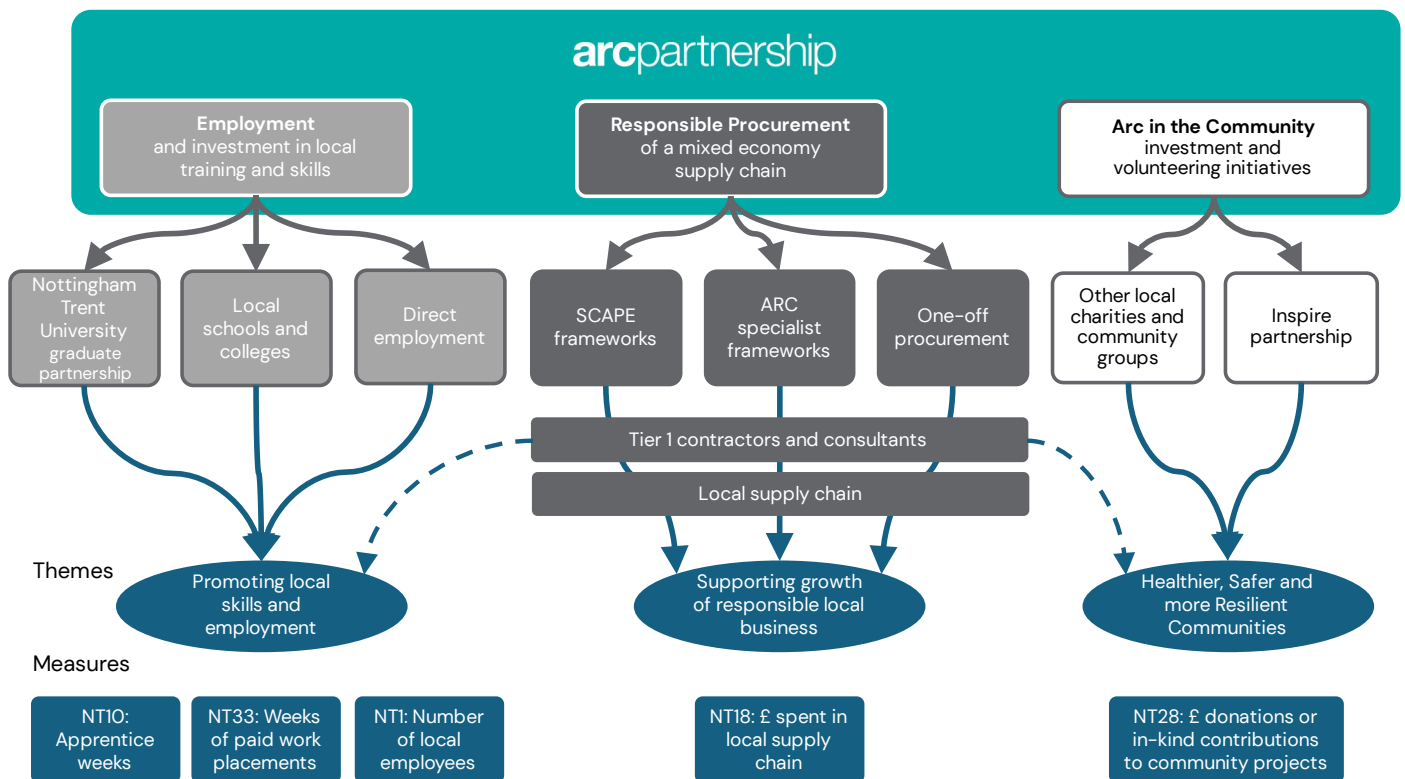
In the same period, Arc Partnership delivered **more than £3.8m** of third-party work for other clients, during which there was further opportunity to create social value.

2. Methodology

Arc Partnership benefits from support provided by the SCAPE Social Value and Performance team in analysing and reporting on social value delivery. We have applied the National TOM System (Themes, Outcomes, Measures) for social value management and measurement, in partnership with the Social Value Portal. These outcomes and measures are economic, social and environmental in nature and were developed collaboratively with members of the National Social Value Task Force, which included representatives from 40 institutions and spanned a period of 18 months.

The National TOM System provides a simple, intelligible methodology and reporting standard to enable the consistent measurement and benchmarking of social value delivery across the UK and is endorsed and utilised by the Local Government Association among many other key stakeholders. Section 4 sets out the full list of measures used to analyse the delivery of social value within the National TOMs system (2022 version) for Arc Partnership. SCAPE has worked with Arc Partnership and the Social Value Portal to select suitable measures which reflect the local strategy and activity delivered over the period of this report.

The diagram below maps out the social value activity undertaken by Arc Partnership and captured in this report across three of the five Themes within the National TOM System and identifies some of the key measures we have used to measure and report the outcomes that have been achieved.



Arc Partnership then provided evidence of the social value activity delivered in line with each of these measures, which has been reviewed by the SCAPE team, independently validated by Social Value Portal and compiled into an overall profile of outcomes.

As well as calculating the social value delivered directly by Arc Partnership, SCAPE's responsible procurement approach and the performance measurement processes and governance within its frameworks also allows us to measure the social value delivered indirectly.

Any potential areas that could be double counted have been removed (the project level analysis of local spend and local labour for example is included in the overall calculation of local spend managed by Arc Partnership) and we have concentrated solely on the areas of added value delivered by SCAPE's delivery partners on Arc Partnership projects.

At this stage, we do not ask for supply chain social value reporting from our bespoke local frameworks and one-off procurement arrangements. This is an opportunity to enhance reporting in future.

Each measure within the National TOM System is accompanied by a financial proxy value; a multiplier supplied by Social Value Portal that can be used to calculate the financial benefit to society of each outcome delivered. The financial proxy values are derived from academic research and are regionally specific, reflecting variations in local economic output and demographics. We have applied the relevant local adjustments for the East Midlands region when calculating the social return on investment delivered by Arc Partnership.

By combining the financial benefits identified from all quantified measures, it is possible to identify the overall social return on investment linked to a project, a specific contract for service delivery or an overall annual social value output by a business. The total social return on investment figure has been calculated for the period covered by this report – 1st April 2020–31st March 2024.

As a national thought leader and a facilitator of best practice social value delivery, SCAPE has been conducting national benchmarking of social value in the construction sector since 2020. This provides important national context on the scope and scale of delivery of social value, including in Nottinghamshire and the East Midlands. We have compared the outcomes achieved by Arc Partnership against the wider picture of social value delivery across the UK that these reports provides both nationally and within the East Midlands.

3. Social value delivery: 2020–2024

Arc Partnership has delivered measurable social impact in three key thematic areas:

- **Promoting local skills and employment**
- **Supporting growth through responsible local business**
- **Delivering direct social impact through the Arc in the Community programme**

Over the following pages, the specific activity delivered within each of these areas is described in detail.

Promoting local skills and employment

During the four years covered by this report, Arc Partnership has delivered £9.57m of social value through direct employment of a skilled local workforce. We can identify a further £1.45m of local employment and training opportunities delivered indirectly through our SCAPE supply chain.

Arc Partnership is committed to developing and retaining local professional talent and making sure our teams have the best skills and expertise to bring forward innovative ideas and approaches that can drive improvements. This approach ensures long term succession for professional talent to support the Council's portfolio of buildings, but also ensure there is a route to career and professional development locally for aspiring young people.

Our responsible procurement approach has also indirectly secured a meaningful contribution through employment opportunities and investment in skills and training by our local supply chain partners.

These outcomes reflect our core business plan mission, to deliver real value, together. Partnership is at the heart of this success; with local higher education institutions, with schools, apprenticeship providers and local business.



£9.57m
social value
through
employment
and skills



113 weeks

of apprenticeship placements



77 weeks

of graduate and other work placements



95%

of our team of 94 staff live locally

Direct employment

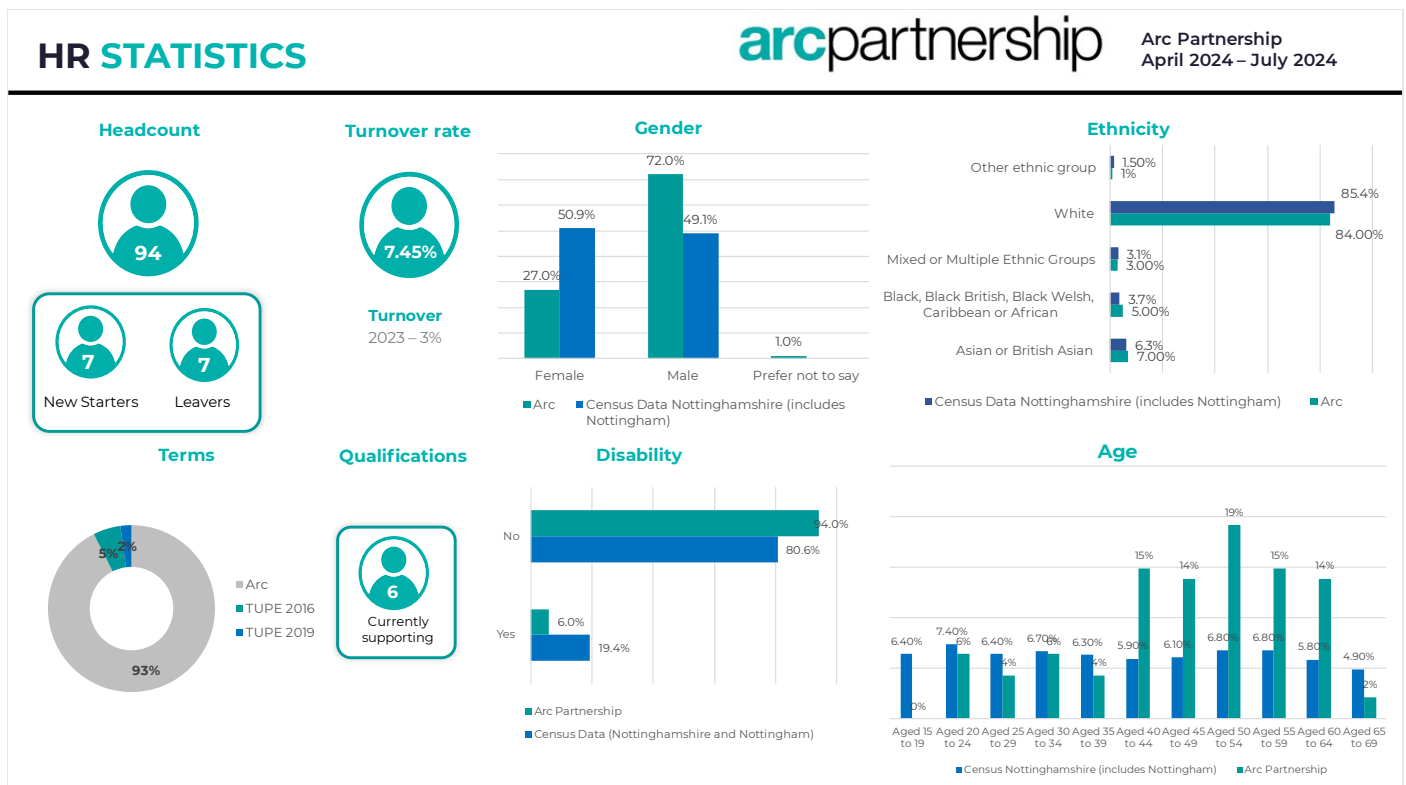
At the start of its journey in 2016, Arc Partnership inherited 72 FTE staff from the council by TUPE transfer alongside more than £1.2m of annual spend on consultancy and agency employees.

Whilst our workforce strength of establishment is naturally influenced by the scale of ongoing investment from the council, we are pleased to have been able to take control of our workforce planning; complementing the council’s investment with third party business growth and ensuring a level of continuity of work that has enabled us to insource and grow our team.

Providing the council with direct access to a local, skilled, professional workforce is one of Arc Partnership’s founding principles, and we are proud that today **95% of our team of 94 employees live locally**. We are also an inclusive employer, with 7.5% of our staff also having a registered disability.

Arc Partnership ensures accountability to the council through transparent workforce reporting to its Board of Directors, as well as providing the council with the opportunity to take part in recruitment to senior positions within the business.

Below is the latest snapshot of Arc Partnership’s workforce statistics at Q1 2024:



As part of our responsible supply chain procurement approach, we are also able to analyse the locally employed workforce within our supply chains for the projects procured through the SCAPE frameworks. Over this reporting period, 42 local jobs were created indirectly through project procurement, with 51% of the labour workforce on employed locally.



Graduate employment and development

In 2022, Arc Partnership established a strategic partnership with Nottingham Trent University (NTU) designed to develop career pathways for growing local talent. During this reporting period, Arc Partnership has employed four graduates through targeted recruitment from the University.

The scheme saw the first full-time paid work placement in 2022/23, with the successful graduate joining Arc Partnership in employment in September 2024. A second student has followed, also expected to join the business in full-time employment in September 2025.

Our partnership with NTU enables us to explore areas of mutual benefit and take a collaborative approach to sharing knowledge in response to shared challenges. We have worked with research groups from the University’s School of Architecture, Design and the Built Environment and shared learning from the EnergiSprong approach used by NTU in its Remourban EU Project; a scheme that explored the retrofitting of residential properties in Nottingham.

“Working closely with Arc Partnership presents a unique opportunity for our students to gain first-hand experience of working in industry....it also enables our students to provide potential solutions for businesses which may not have been considered before, helping shape the sector of tomorrow in new and innovative ways.”

Andrew Knight, Executive Dean, Nottingham Trent University said:

In 2023, the partnership secured the prestigious Construction News Workforce Award for Graduate Programme of the Year. Up against large, national companies, the judges commented that the Arc Partnership and NTU strategic alliance demonstrated “stand out from the crowd, partnership working, effective strategy, local focus, and achieving results.”

Early career opportunities and apprenticeships

Responsible procurement by the council and Arc Partnership has prioritised the opportunity for vocational training and targeted apprenticeship opportunities delivered in partnership with local colleges and businesses. Arc Partnership has delivered or enabled a total of 246 apprenticeships weeks through its construction sites, of which 104 weeks were delivered directly, with the remainder delivered through the SCAPE frameworks.

Inspiring the next generation

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Arc Partnership worked with SCAPE and the D2N2 LEP to design two digital work experience taster programmes; Learning in Lockdown was a national programme that was supported locally by Arc Partnership.

The success of this inspired the development of Unlocking Construction; a bespoke programme developed specifically for the D2N2 region.

Through these initiatives we engaged more than 1,500+ secondary school students who otherwise who have missed out on work experience due to a lack of access to construction sites and created **more than £5,000** in social value.

Arc Partnership's contributions went beyond just investment in the programmes, and our team also:

- Contributed volunteering hours to the virtual programmes, engaging directly with and providing technical knowledge, expertise and guidance to students.
- Evaluated students' portfolios of work and selected the best projects for awards.
- Placed students for a further week of in-person work experience and work taster days.

Since the pandemic restrictions were lifted, through the efforts of our own staff and those of our supply chain partners, we have been able to offer more than 420 hours of guided site visits to construction sites in the region for local schools, providing young people with their first taste of the exciting world of construction.



Supporting responsible growth of local business

During the four years covered by this report, Arc Partnership spent more than £168m with the specialist supply chain required to meet the County Council and our other clients' needs; putting a focus on channelling our expenditure during service delivery into the local economy.



£168m
supply chain spend

Local expenditure is a critical success factor for Arc Partnership. This is reflected in our approach to supply chain procurement, which utilises a mixed economy approach to building our supply chain.

In our Service Agreement with the Council, we have a key performance indicator (KPI) to deliver locally, with a target of 90% of expenditure maintained within the D2N2 region. Over the 4 years covered by this report, we have bettered this target, delivering 92% of our expenditure locally.

Through responsible procurement, over the period of this report we have let contracts worth over £212m to businesses within the local economy



92%

of supply chain spend
with suppliers based
in the D2N2 region

Responsible procurement and a mixed economy approach to delivery

Arc Partnership delivers a mixed economy approach to procurement, which features:

- Direct delivery by our in-house employed staff,
- Delivery through bespoke frameworks procured for Arc Partnership using local businesses,
- Construction and consultancy partners procured through SCAPE’s public sector frameworks and
- Open tendering in specific situations where it represents value for money.

Arc Partnership is committed to working collaboratively at all levels of the supply chain to drive the delivery of local economic benefit and social value at all stages of the procurement lifecycle. Arc Partnership currently engages 45 SMEs, 87% of which are based within the D2N2 area and nine tier 1 construction partners through the SCAPE frameworks, 100% of which are based within the D2N2 area. This represents £283m of local spend since 1st June 2016 and £156m in the four years covered by this report. In practice, what this means is a commitment to collaborative action at all stages of the procurement and contract management lifecycle including:

- During specification and tendering to design contracts that are accessible to local suppliers and SMEs.
- Engaging the market during pre-procurement stages through meet the buyer events to share expectations for service delivery and set out sustainability and social value requirements.
- During contract delivery to ensure local suppliers are paid on time and taking opportunities to collaborate on social value delivery.
- Working with other buyers from the local market, including tier 1 supply chain partners through SCAPE to plan and deliver shared social value activity.

Below are just a selection of the local and national brands with whom we work:



The value created for the council through supply chain partnerships

The value of our mixed economy approach is best illustrated through a closer look at three of our supply chain partnerships, and the value created through each of these.

Lukes & Godwin – Electrical contractors and engineers

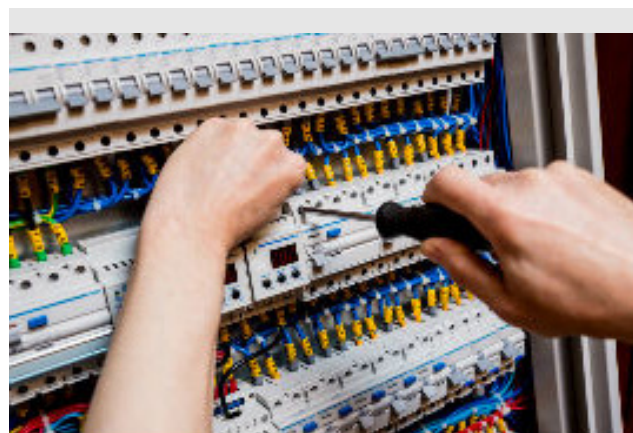
Mansfield based Lukes & Godwin are a great demonstration of Arc Partnership’s commitment to procure from high quality, local specialist service providers.

4,320
Reactive
repairs
2020 – 2024

Delivering a range of electrical engineering services, the team at Lukes & Godwin work as part of our managed supply chain framework for Planned Preventative Maintenance and Reactive Repairs, but also as part of our subcontractor supply chain for our own in-house contractor.

90% of the staff at Lukes and Godwin live in Nottinghamshire and their team know the Council’s estate as well as the team at NCC and Arc Partnership.

The business has a real commitment to developing local skills, delivering on the job training for both apprentices and mature students within the business. A great example of this is delivering the technical skills to enable the team to design and install electric vehicle charging points at Council buildings.



“Working with Arc Partnership has been hugely beneficial for our business; we can build on a stable base of at least £0.5m a year of work for the Council, supporting other defence and public sector clients in the region and delivering our long-term growth objectives.”

Steve Middleton, Owner and Managing Director,
Lukes & Godwin

Gleeds Management Services – strategic advisory support

Gleeds Management Services Limited are a valued and strategic partner, appointed through the SCAPE Consultancy Framework by Arc Partnership and working with us since our inception in 2016. Operating from their long-standing Nottinghamshire office, Gleeds provide Arc Partnership with supplementary capacity to support our in-house specialists, providing project management, cost management and general technical consultancy services when required across our broad range of service and project types, demonstrating the broad range of capabilities that Gleeds have to offer.

“We are proud that we have supported the local delivery of major projects and programmes of work across Nottinghamshire on behalf of Nottinghamshire County Council and its Communities.

We have also been committed to delivering additional support in social value outputs within the community in partnership with Arc. We recognise the benefits derived for Gleeds as a local company from our relationship with Arc Partnership and Nottinghamshire County Council, but that it is also important that we give back both in terms of local employment, through our relationship with the local universities and through a number of charities across the county. A good example is our long standing relationship with the Switch-Up Charity, which through its core supporting activities and its support programmes, provides tangible support in terms of education, training and employment to some of the most disadvantaged young people across Nottinghamshire.

We look forward to continuing our relationship with Arc Partnership for years to come.”

David Ford, Director
Gleeds





Morgan Sindall – Intelligent solutions, creating value together

Morgan Sindall is one of the UK's leading tier 1 contractors, procured to deliver a range of larger projects designed and project managed by Arc Partnership through the SCAPE construction frameworks. Rosecliffe Spencer Academy, and the new Chapel Lanne primary school in Bingham are two examples of work delivered for Arc Partnership, which together represent nearly £16m of investment.

The SCAPE frameworks mandate social value delivery, ensuring that Morgan Sindall maximises local supply chain spend and local labour. On the Chapel Lane project, 75% of the contract value was delivered by local suppliers and more than £3m in social value was created.

The real value of the relationship created between Morgan Sindall and Arc Partnership is in the reciprocal learning and continuous improvement it facilitates. Through this collaborative working, Morgan Sindall has provided significant support to Arc Partnership, developing new working methods that improve the delivery of service. Using SCAPE's BIM delivery pathways, Arc Partnership was able to source expertise from Morgan Sindall in digital construction to help develop people, processes and systems for design and achieve our ISO 19650 (2) certification. Our next step on this journey is embedding effective carbon accounting for projects using tried and tested approach Morgan Sindall have piloted.

“The projects we have delivered for Nottinghamshire, with Arc as design partner are fantastic. Our local teams have built a really close and trusted relationship, learning and challenging one another with each project. It's a true partnership; we were initially delighted to be able to share some of our expertise in digital and sustainability skills and process with the team at Arc, and now we learn and develop together to continuously improve the way we deliver assets for our local communities.”

Sean Bowles, Morgan Sindall
Managing Director (Central and West).



Arc in the Community

Supporting a healthier, safer and more resilient local community

Arc Partnership as a business and our passionate workforce have a strong relationship with the charity sector in the region, which together with our public sector and supply chain partnerships enables us to provide both business and personal donations, sponsorship and volunteering time to causes that deliver a tangible community legacy in Nottinghamshire and the wider D2N2 region.



£87.7k
Donated to local
good causes

Under the banner of *Arc in the Community*, Arc Partnership has given a total of £87,722 since 2020 in financial contributions and equivalent contributions of staff time to local good causes.

Our collaboration with Inspire Culture Learning and Libraries ensures that we prioritise the needs of the residents of the Nottinghamshire community working closely with the Council's community owned supplier for these services.

Working alongside SCAPE Group, our team also fundraise for our annual chosen charities.



Promoting literacy and the arts in partnership with Inspire

Sponsorship from Arc Partnership is supporting the work of Inspire Culture, Learning and Libraries in promoting literacy and participation in the arts by children, young people and schools.

Inspire have chosen projects that will have an impact on participants' lives, employability and attainment, underpinning Arc Partnership's ongoing commitment to supporting children and young people in the region.

InspiRead

Launched as a virtual book award in 2020 by The Education Library Service, this book award runs annually in the summer term to encourage primary school children to read for pleasure. Librarians pick their favourite children's books which have been published within the last year – then it's over to young readers to read and vote for their favourites. Schools get involved too and can borrow shortlisted books from the Education Library Service. Voting has just closed for 2024, and with the help of Arc sponsorship the awards got over 2,000 votes from young readers, school pupils and families.

Summer Reading Challenge

Presented by The Reading Agency and delivered in partnership with libraries since 1999, the Summer Reading Challenge is the UK's biggest annual reading promotion for children aged 4 to 11. Combining free access to books with fun creative activities is at the heart of the challenge. Marvellous Makers launched on 6th July in Inspire Libraries and nationally.



An Inspired Christmas Concert 2024

Looking ahead, Arc Partnership will be the official sponsor of the annual showcase at Nottingham's Theatre Royal and Concert Hall in December. The concert is a culmination of months of work by Inspire Music, Nottinghamshire Music Hub and the National Youth Choirs of Great Britain with schools and choirs across the county. The sponsorship also makes it possible for the Inspire Youth Arts and Music teams to develop a programme to support young artists and music ensembles.

I'm delighted Arc chose to sponsor these projects that will enrich the learning experience of young people. It's a fantastic collaboration to promote reading, music and the arts to young people and testament to the value the organisation places on our culture, learning and library services..."

CLlr Scott Carlton, Nottinghamshire County Council

Celebrating and supporting military commitment and service

Since 2023, Arc Partnership, alongside Via East Midlands and SCAPE, has been the main sponsor of the Boots and Berets Awards. This showpiece event was launched in 2023 by the council to celebrate the tireless dedication, commitment and service within the Armed Forces' community across Nottinghamshire. It is the first of its kind as a local authority convened event and demonstrates how the council is leading the way.



Delivering Christmas cheer



Arc Partnership has an ongoing commitment to organising and sponsoring the annual Christmas lights switch on at County Hall. Positioned at the front of the Hall for everyone travelling over Trent Bridge into Nottingham to see and enjoy, the 10m tall, energy efficient Christmas tree is the centrepiece. As part of the celebration, the event also features a children's Christmas concert delivered in partnership with Inspire.

Supporting vulnerable young people through donations to Switch Up

Arc Partnership has made regular donations to support fundraising for Switch Up, a charity introduced to us by SCAPE's consultancy partner Gleeds (part of Perfect Circle).

Switch Up exists to empower Nottinghamshire's young people, children and young adults to break the cycle of offending and reoffending. It uses tried and tested mentoring techniques along with physical training to engage them in positive activity and to steer them away from crime and gang-criminality, helping to improve the safety and prosperity of the local community.

"In recent years, funding cuts to youth services have had a devastating impact on communities. Coupled with the Covid-19 pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis, we are more reliant on finding and partnering with organisations that share similar values to our own.

"The Nottingham business community has stood firm for Switch Up and enabled us to keep the lights on and to keep supporting young people in Nottingham.

Marcellus Baz, Founder, Switch Up



Donating £35,000 in services to Treetops Hospice

In 2022, we were delighted to have worked with our partners, G F Tomlinson and Perfect Circle to donate more than £35,000 in services to end-of-life charity partner Treetops Hospice.

Treetops Hospice, which provides care and support to more than 3,000 local people every year, was selected for support by GF Tomlinson as part of their own programme of local social value delivery through the SCAPE RCF construction frameworks.

The collaborative team assembled to support the hospice featured GF Tomlinson, Arc Partnership and built environment consultancy Pick Everard – operating under Perfect Circle’s SCAPE consultancy framework. The partners provided pro-bono professional advice and services to aid in Treetops’ aims to improve its estate, including staff offices and external landscaping at its main site in Risley, Derbyshire. Arc Partnership specifically provided architecture, mechanical and electrical design advice.

Together, the team provided over 325 hours of time and expertise to the hospice, equating to £35,000, and is the equivalent cost for Treetops Hospice to do one of the following:

- provide an at-home nursing service for five weeks
- allow for nurses to be at the bedside of 324 terminally ill people
- allow for roaming nurses to respond to 515 calls for help during the night
- allow for its counsellors to be there for more than 90 children when someone close to them passes away

“We face challenging financial times...It’s going to be tough. The support and technical information provided by G F Tomlinson and their partners will help us to apply for funding to undertake major and much-needed maintenance projects..and to keep the hospice in an excellent state of repair for all our patients..”

Julie Heath, Chief Executive Officer, Treetops.”

Corporate fundraising

Operating as part of SCAPE Group, the team at Arc Partnership makes an active contribution to the Group’s charity fundraising initiatives, through individual and group participation in the annual programme of charity events.

Since 2020, SCAPE Group has raised **more than £80,000** for charity. Normally one or two charities per year are selected through staff nominations, however, a longer period for engaging with charities was maintained during COVID-19.



The fundraising programme includes regular corporately organised events, which bring staff together and create friendly competition. Events include an annual quiz night, a golf day, a five a side football tournament, a cake baking competition and sale. The team also make personal fundraising contributions, with staff being sponsored to complete sporting feats and challenges!

The charities and their missions are set out below against the total amount raised through SCAPE Group. A pro-rata proportion of these annual fundraising efforts has been included in the assessment of Arc Partnership’s overall social value activity.

Period	Charity	Amount raised
2020 – 2022	Motor Neurone Disease Association – Funding and promoting research that leads to new understanding and treatments for MND	£ 22,675
	Teenage Cancer Trust – Making sure every young person facing cancer gets specialised nursing care and support, which puts them in the best possible place, physically, mentally and emotionally, for their cancer treatment and beyond	
2023	MS Society Funding research into a cure for Multiple Sclerosis	£ 36,254
2024	Footprints – A Nottingham-based charity which supports children across the East Midlands living with mobility and communication difficulties, empowering them and their families.	£21,476 (to date)
	PASIC – A charity which supports children and young people with cancer. Its aim is to ensure that no East Midlands family faces childhood cancer alone.	
Total:		£80,405

4. Measurable outcomes and analysis

The following tables set out the measured social value outcomes delivered, and the equivalent financial value of the activity undertaken when applying the relevant proxy multipliers supplied by Social Value Portal.

Social value outcomes delivered directly by Arc Partnership 01/04/20–31/03/24

Ref	Measure	Units	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2020–2024 Total Social Value (£)
NT1	No. of direct local employees (FTE) hired or retained on the contract (No. people FTE)	No. people FTE	76.1	72.3	74.1	80.3	£9.47m
NT2	Percentage of local employees (FTE) on contract (%)	%	95.2%	95.3%	95.6%	93.6%	94.93%
NT6	No. of disabled employees (FTE) hired on the contract (No. people FTE)	No. people FTE	0	0	0	3	£49.8k
NT10	No. of weeks of apprenticeships on the contract – Level 2, 3 or 4+ (No. weeks)	No. weeks	52	52	9	0	£28.5k
NT13	Meaningful work placements (6+) paying Minimum or National Living wage (No. weeks)	No. weeks	12	0	9	56	£15.0k
RE14	£ invested in employment taster days (project related sector or industry) (£ invested including staff time)	£ value incl staff time	£2.5k	£2.5k	0	0	£5.0k
NT18	Total amount spent in local supply chain through the contract (£)	£	£27.3m	£41.4m	£44.8m	£42.3m	£266.4m
NT28	Donations or in-kind contributions to local community projects (£ & materials) (£ value)	£ value	£21.8k	£15.3k	£11.9k	£38.6k	£87.7k
Total direct social return on investment managed by Arc Partnership							£276.08m

Indirect social value outcomes delivered for Arc Partnership via SCAPE's delivery partners

Ref	Measure	Units	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2020-2024 Total Social Value (£)
NT1	No. of direct local employees (FTE) hired or retained on the contract (No. people FTE)	No. people FTE	27.63	4.73	6	2.7	[£1.28m]*
NT2	Percentage of local employees (FTE) on contract (%)	%	67.0%	52.0%		35.0%	51%
NT8	No. of staff hours spent on local school and college visits (inc. prep. Time) (No. staff hours)	No. staff hours	384		32	4	£7.1k
NT10	No. of weeks of apprenticeships on the contract - Level 2, 3 or 4+ (No. weeks)	No. weeks	76	14	47	4	£35.5k
NT13	Meaningful work placements paying Minimum or National Living wage (6+ weeks) (No. weeks)	No. weeks	9.4				£1.8k
NT15	Provision of expert business advice to VCSEs and MSMEs (No. staff expert hours)	No. staff expert hours	7	2			£0.9k
NT19	Total amount (£) spent through contract with LOCAL micro, small and medium enterprises	£ value	£3.04m	£105.98m		£540.76m	[£3.69m]*
NT20	No attendee hours dedicated to improving staff wellbeing and reducing absenteeism due to ill health.	No. hours	488	192			£66.5k
NT24	Investment in initiatives aimed at reducing crime	£ value incl staff time	£99.7k				£99.7k
NT28	Donations or in-kind contributions to local community projects (£ & materials) (£ value)	£ value	£0.7k			£0.5k	£1.2k
NT29	Volunteer time given to support local community projects	No. hours	41			15	£0.9k
Total indirect social return on investment from SCAPE projects							£5.19m
Net indirect social return (less double counting of local spend*)							£0.26m

Summary – Whole business outcomes:

National TOM System Theme	Social Value Created (£ equivalent)		
	Direct	Indirect	2020–2024 Total Social Value (£)
Promoting local skills and employment	£9.57m	n/a	£9.57m
Supporting growth of responsible local businesses	£266.42m	n/a	£266.42m
Creating healthier, safer and more resilient communities	£0.09m	£0.17m	£0.26m
Total social value created			£276.24m
Total amount invoiced under contract with Nottinghamshire County Council			£162.21m
Total social value as a percentage of contract			170%

Performance and benchmarking

The data collated for this report demonstrates a social value return on investment delivered by Arc Partnership of 170% over the period of the last business plan.

This means that for every £1 invested by Nottinghamshire County Council, **£1.70** of overall social value has been delivered for the local community and economy by Arc Partnership and its supply chain.

This compares favourably with the industry benchmarking for the construction sector conducted by SCAPE. The latest UK-wide annual report (which considers contracts completed during 2023–24, and addresses just over 10% of all public sector construction contracts let in the UK) identifies that while there are consistent year-on-year improvements in the average social return on investment for construction projects, the average for the UK sample was just 23.6% social return on investment.

Nationally, only 5 of the 328 public sector contracts analysed in the latest report delivered a social return on investment higher than that returned by Arc Partnership during the period covered by this report.

This objectively places the social value delivery by Arc Partnership among the top 2% for overall performance in the UK.