



## SECTOR PROFILE:

# WORCESTERSHIRE'S CONSTRUCTION SECTOR

## WHAT IS THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR?

Worcestershire's construction sector offers significant opportunities for the development of Worcestershire's economy. The construction sector operates nationwide and employs a wide range of highly skilled workers from all regions of the UK. This sector includes a diverse range of jobs, such as: construction contracting, products manufacturing and professional services. One of the global challenges to improving the construction sector focuses upon productivity, and the performance of the infrastructure and buildings they produce.

In response, the Industrial Strategy Construction Sector deal sets out an ambitious partnership between the industry and the government that aims to transform the sector's productivity through innovative digital technologies and a more highly skilled workforce. This will be achieved by investing £250 million into the sector and reforming the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) to become more strategic and focus on future skills needs, whilst encouraging the move to offsite manufacturing to strengthen local supply chains. Finally, they aim to establish the UK as a global leader by increasing exports of UK construction products and services, meaning it is highly likely that this sector will continue to grow and have job opportunities.



**15,000**  
PEOPLE  
EMPLOYED



**3,830**  
BUSINESSES



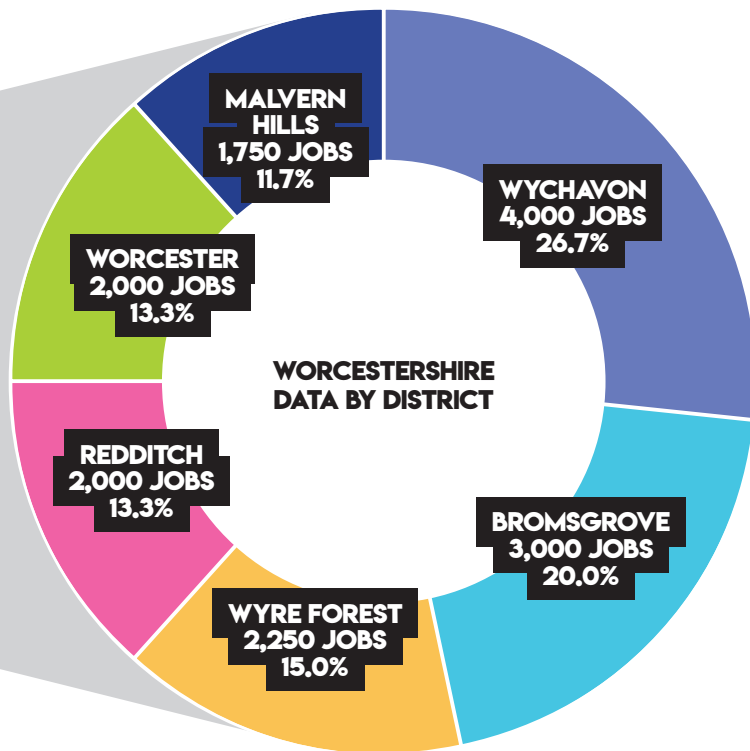
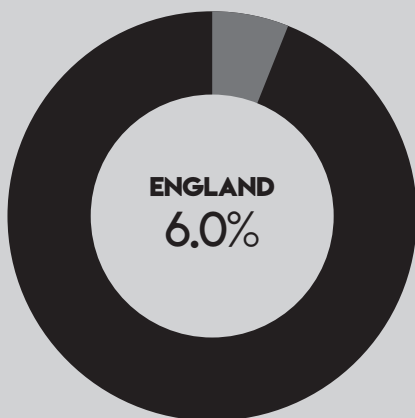
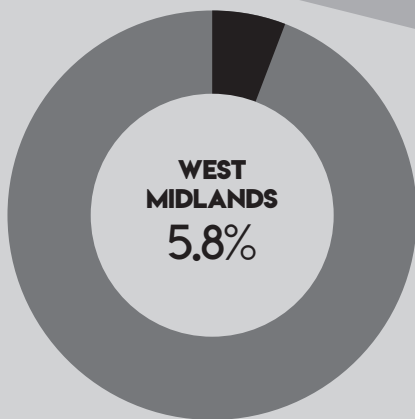
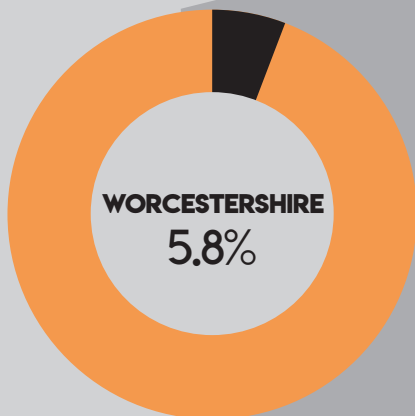
**£335M GVA\***  
GENERATED  
BY TOP 50  
BUSINESSES

\* GVA = Gross value added is an economic productivity metric that measures the contribution of a corporate subsidiary, company, or municipality to an economy, producer, sector, or region.

# WHAT DOES THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR LOOK LIKE IN WORCESTERSHIRE?

The graphs below highlight the number of jobs in the construction sector across Worcestershire, in comparison to the West Midlands and England. The table also highlights the importance of the construction industry in providing employment for Worcestershire residents, and the distributions of these roles by individual districts to show which areas employ the most individuals into Construction job roles.

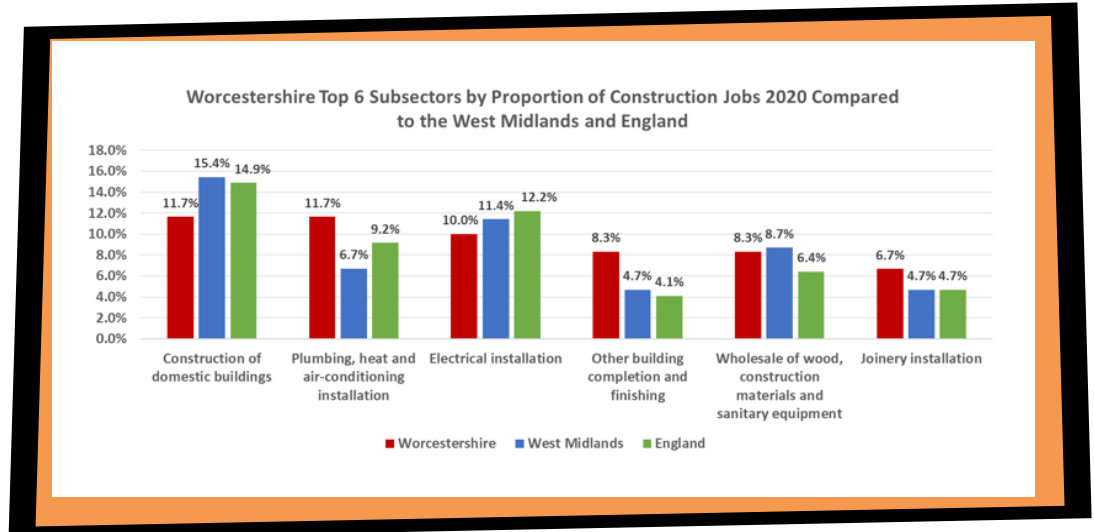
## CONSTRUCTION JOBS AS A % OF TOTAL WORKFORCE



## KEY FACTS:

➤ Currently there are 3,830 businesses and 15,000 people employed in Worcestershire's Construction sector.

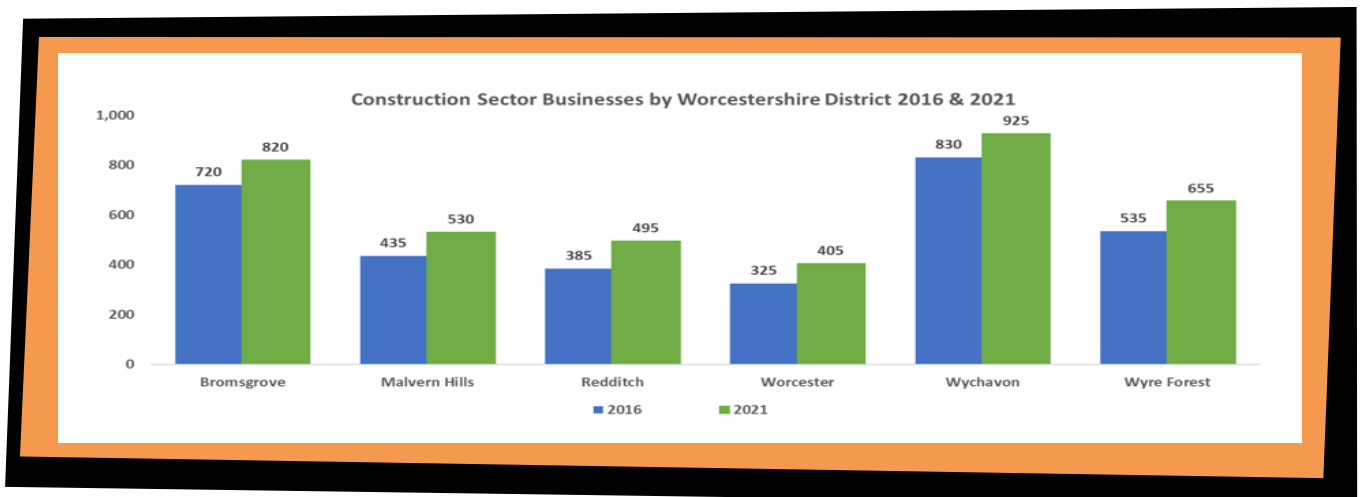
➤ The highest proportion of Construction employment in Worcestershire is in construction of domestic buildings and plumbing, heat & air conditioning installation subsectors, both with 11.7%.



➤ Whilst the proportion of jobs for construction of domestic buildings

is lower for Worcestershire than both the regional and England average, the proportion for plumbing, heat & air conditioning installation jobs is higher for Worcestershire than for both the West Midlands and England.

➤ Construction accounts for 13.1% of total businesses in Worcestershire compared to 14.1% for England and 13.3% for the West Midlands.



➤ Districts with the strongest growth in enterprise numbers from 2016 to 2021 are Redditch (28.6%), Worcester (24.6%) and Wyre Forest (22.2%).

➤ The top 3 Construction subsectors in Worcestershire are: Electrical installation, Development of building projects and Plumbing, heating and air-conditioning installation.

➤ The largest proportion of Worcestershire's businesses are micro businesses employing 0-9 people (94.6%). Small businesses employing 10-49 people account for 4.8% of businesses, medium-sized businesses employing 50-249 people account for 0.4%, whilst large businesses employing 250+ people account for just 0.1%.

# TOP WORCESTERSHIRE CONSTRUCTION EMPLOYERS

## GRAFTON MERCHANTING GB LIMITED

BROMSGROVE

Largest independent builders' merchant, supplying building materials to trade and DIY customers across the UK.

[Website](#)

## HEALY'S CIVIL ENGINEERING LIMITED

REDDITCH

Provider of groundworks and civil engineering services across the Midlands and to some of the nation's largest housing developers.

[Website](#)

## LIONCOURT HOMES LIMITED

WORCESTER

Development and construction of new homes throughout central England.

[Website](#)

## COMPCO FIRE SYSTEMS LIMITED

WORCESTER

Designer and installer of fire protection systems for buildings and homes.

[Website](#)

## SPELLER METCALFE LIMITED

MALVERN HILLS

Construction contractor and developer of building projects.

[Website](#)

## GT ACCESS LIMITED

BROMSGROVE

Access company, hiring, selling, training, and providing service plans for access equipment.

[Website](#)

## JET PLANT HIRE LIMITED

WYCHAVON

Deliver an enhanced road planing service for sustainable road planing across the UK.

[Website](#)

## WHITING LANDSCAPE LIMITED

BROMSGROVE

Modern landscaping in the commercial sector.

[Website](#)

## BARRIE BEARD LIMITED

BROMSGROVE

Electrical contractor in the commercial and domestic sectors.

[Website](#)

# MADE IN WORCS

- > **Grafton Merchanting GB Limited** is the UK merchanting division of **Grafton Group plc** based in the Republic of Ireland. Trading as Buildbase, Electricbase, Frontline Bathrooms, Selco Builders Warehouse and several other UK based divisions, the company is one of the 3 largest builders' merchant organisations in the UK with turnover of £933m in 2019.
- > **Speller Metcalfe** has their headquarters in Malvern and are a multi-sector construction specialist serving sectors including commercial & industrial, education, healthcare, heritage, retail, and sports & leisure. The Living division also services the residential market including the affordable homes, apartments & student accommodation, extra care & over 55s and private homes sectors.
- > Worcestershire is home to a number of construction companies specializing in new housebuilding including **Lioncourt Homes**, **Beech Grove Homes Limited** (a division of **Sanctuary Housing Group**) and **B S Inc Limited**.
- > Groundworks and civil engineering feature prominently in the top 50 Worcestershire construction businesses, such as **Healy's Civil Engineering Limited, Hannafin Holdings Limited, R M Contractors, Montel Civil Engineering** and **West Point Construction**.
- > Several specialist Worcestershire plant and access hire companies compete successfully in a market dominated by larger national organisations, without which the construction sector would struggle to cope. These include **G T Access Hire Limited, Jet Plant Hire Limited, Ladybird Crane Hire Limited** and **Platform Hire Limited**.

## FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

- > The latest **Construction Skills Network (CSN) Report 2021-2025** forecasts that construction output in the West Midlands will grow by an annual average of 4.8% to 2025. This compares with forecasts of 4.4% for England and 4.3% for the UK. Key drivers for growth will be private sector housing and infrastructure (particularly HS2).
- > The Government's "**Build Back Better**" puts forward plans for investment in infrastructure and skills as well as the levelling up initiative which should provide impetus for construction in future years.
- > **Digital technologies** and **Modern Methods of Construction (MMC)** have the potential to transform construction products and processes such as 3D printed components, whilst offsite manufacturing of construction components such as roofs and bathroom pods have produced cost savings for materials.
- > In addition, adoption of the **Building Information Modelling (BIM)** framework and systems should benefit the whole construction process from initial design to operation and maintenance of completed buildings.
- > Estimates by the **Construction Skills Network (CSN)** show an Annual Recruitment Requirement (ARR) of 5,000 construction workers for the West Midlands region between 2021 and 2025.

