

Groundbreaking Ceremony Commences World-Class Development in Wigan



The official groundbreaking ceremony for Wigan Boys and Girls Club.

Tolent (Central West) have commenced work on Wigan Boys and Girls Club, a new world-class youth centre which is the latest in a series of North West Youth Zone Projects set up by the newly established charity, OnSide.

The official groundbreaking ceremony was attended by OnSide patrons Martin Ainscough and Dave Whelan, the Youth Committee of the Wigan Youth Zone, local councillors, representatives from Austin-Smith:Lord architects and Tolent's commercial manager, Peter Richardson. Due for completion in the summer of 2012, the 3,400-square metre development at Mesnes Field will provide recreational facilities, sport, music and art studios, a climbing wall, all-weather pitches and improved green public spaces.

Wigan Boys and Girls Club will be the second North West Youth Zone Project built by Tolent Construction and is OnSide's first youth centre to be largely funded by private sector money. The scheme is the brainchild of owner and chairman of Wigan Athletic Football Club, Dave Whelan, who has with Martin and Bill Ainscough, donated over half of the £6.5m costs.

'Tolent Construction are proud to be involved in such an important community project with this striking new accommodation at Wigan Boys and Girls Club,' said Tolent's Peter Richardson. 'With the backing of Wigan Council and the local business community, it will offer the young people of Wigan a huge range of positive activities together with access to targeted advice, guidance and support.'

'We are building the facility in tandem with another North West Youth Zone Project in Harpurhey, Manchester, which is on target for completion this autumn. Considering the riots which happened at various cities and towns over the summer, these types of facilities are more beneficial than ever for our local communities. Tolent are delighted to be doing our bit.'

