



**BRILLIANT
BUILDINGS**
INVESTING IN
DERBYSHIRE



WILLMOTT DIXON

SINCE 1852

Building a bright future

In Derbyshire, we're proud to have delivered care facilities, education buildings and community initiatives. Our local approach is one that works and we're here to stay.



Derbyshire is a county steeped in history but with a clear direction for its future – with many household business names calling the county home. From the Peak District National Park and quintessential market towns to a booming manufacturing sector and heart of the UK location, there is an abundance of pride and sense of place to be found.

Within the past ten years, we have undertaken significant schemes in the county including the £11 million University of Derby STEM Building, 315-place Bemrose School and three extra care facilities. Most recently we hosted, and were inspired by, a number of events where we brought together influential organisations from the public and private sectors to think about how we create towns and cities of the future here in Derbyshire.

As we know from progressive discussions in Chesterfield, our urban areas need a fundamental rethink to successfully incorporate a mix of retail, office, and leisure into their offering, effectively enticing people into the centres and keeping them there in order to thrive. The importance of the younger generation cannot be overlooked in this mission, providing education and training as well as a place they are proud to call home.

In Chesterfield, the conversations taking place are very encouraging, which is especially important at a time when local regeneration projects amounting to a value of more than £1 billion are in progress. Derbyshire will always be a region of interest and opportunity, so continuing to attract inward investment has great potential. But we remain focussed on ensuring that the stakeholders who live, work and play here are satisfied with both the local projects and the wider vision for the region – delivering impactful social value throughout the journey. Sharing the chance to contribute is also important, which is one of the reasons we work with local companies, with up to 60% of project spend done so within 35 miles.

Our purpose and motivation extend far beyond profit. We support local people with access to jobs, training and upskilling, helping to build communities alongside buildings.

Derbyshire has unique challenges that must be seen as opportunities, and we are excited to play our role in sustainably building brilliant buildings and lives.

Jenna Frudd
Relationships Manager, Willmott Dixon

BUILDING TOWNS AND CITIES OF THE FUTURE

We're helping customers to transform towns and cities up and down the country.

Take a look at our interactive map to find out how we're helping to build towns and cities of the future in the Midlands and beyond.

[Click here to find out more.](#)

Cover image Church of St Mary and All Saints, Chesterfield



For further information on our projects and expertise please visit: willmott Dixon.co.uk

Delivering for Derbyshire



1 University of Derby STEM Building

The 4,200 sq m facility for science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) studies was created to attract students and teaching staff from around the world. Combining functional space with infrastructure designed for the specific needs of users, a highlight is the accessible roof space providing new opportunities for sustainable energy teaching.



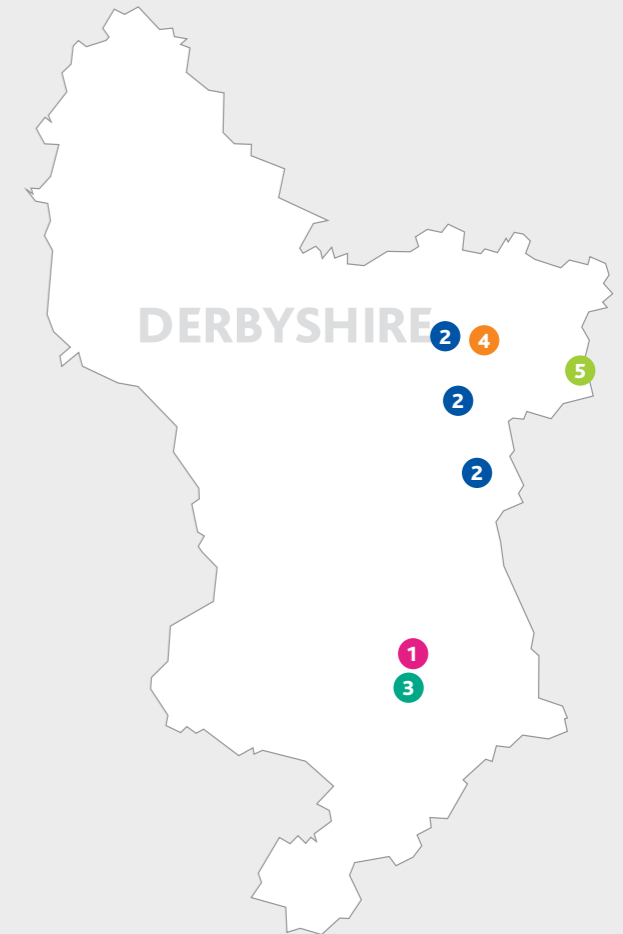
2 Extra care schemes

We worked with Derbyshire County Council's chosen partner, Chevin Housing Association, to build three extra care projects in Chesterfield, Alfreton and Clay Cross. Totalling £23 million, the scheme saw us deliver 197 highly specialised and affordable apartments for the over 55s, with 24/7 on site care available.



3 Bemrose School

Using our standardised design to benefit from assured quality, speed and design reliability, Bemrose School was completed to meet tight project timescales and high levels of efficiency. The 315-place school benefits from a versatile layout and a central 'learning zone' that acts as the heart of the building.



4 Helping to protect frontline workers during Covid-19

When PPE shortages were rife soon after the Covid-19 outbreak, we 3D printed face masks for frontline workers who were struggling to access supplies. In total, we printed 500 masks, with the first batch of 100 going to Meadowview nursing home in Chesterfield.



5 Inspiring the next generation

We delivered sessions about the careers available in digital construction and the types of technology we use to Year 10 students from Shirebrook Academy.

Having a stake in the future



Derbyshire has a complex geography and a wide range of stakeholders with a vested interest in making the region's towns and cities fit for the future. With this in mind, in 2022 we hosted two roundtable events in Chesterfield to understand the challenges and opportunities in the county's towns and cities.

With regeneration projects worth more than £1 billion in progress, and many more opportunities on the horizon, the two discussions focused on Chesterfield as a real-life case study, exploring its journey to becoming a destination to live, work and socialise.

Discussing how Chesterfield needs to adapt and develop to keep up with social and cultural evolution, representatives included University of Derby, Marketing Derby, Staveley Town Deal, Destination Chesterfield, Bond Bryan, Turner & Townsend, DLP Planning, Harworth Group and more.

A range of topics were explored, including:

- The need for towns and cities to build a unique selling point
- Placemaking and incorporating a mix of retail, office and leisure
- The key challenges facing town centres such as the declining retail sector and how existing commercial spaces may need to be repurposed to revitalise high streets
- How hybrid and in-office working will impact town centre spaces
- Understanding the next generation and how to attract and retain young people in towns and cities
- How to attract funding that supports the longevity of a vision

Read the key takeaways from some of the attendees:

"There are towns and cities across the country that have rich history and potential waiting to be unlocked – and this is particularly true in Derbyshire. Chesterfield is a prime example of a 'hidden gem' town – it's incredibly welcoming and you have no shortage of forward-thinking individuals. The key is bringing together the public and private sectors to combine different areas of expertise and create opportunities for regenerative development to flourish.

"It's vital that businesses in Derbyshire, both big and small, play an active role in promoting the careers available here and the opportunity to lead a fulfilling lifestyle. While we have been active in the county for many years, we understand the importance of maintaining our relationship with the various communities and continuing to look forward with optimism and open minds to new ideas."

Jerry Major
Regional Framework Manager
Willmott Dixon

"When thinking about the new role that offices have to play, it's really important to consider how they sit within the town centre and whether that is a space people want to be in.

"If people want to be in the office, this creates a huge ripple effect across the town, as people are already out of their homes and much more willing to engage with the spaces in the town centre."

Rebekah Bacon
Land and Partnerships Manager
Pulse Developments

"The impetus for change needs to come from education and understanding how we can target the young people of the town to engage in this mission. It's not just about developing the right skills through modern methods of education, but also about talking to young people in a language that inspires them – the reality is that they're not reading the Derbyshire Times, they're on TikTok."

Spencer Ryan-Prewett
Lecturer in Business and Management
University of Derby

"Effective collaboration can ensure that the potential benefits of the many regeneration sites are maximised. The public and private sector working together ensures developments keep moving forward while different sources of funding are available to gain.

"More relationships need to be formed so that it is not a small market competing for work, because there is so much potential here that we must all help to realise."

Ivan Fomin
Managing Director, MSE Hiller
Chair of Staveley Town Deal

WATCH THE HIGHLIGHTS



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BRILLIANT BUILDINGS

INVESTING IN DERBYSHIRE

Willmott Dixon is a privately-owned contracting and interior fit-out group. Founded in 1852, we are family-run and dedicated to leaving a positive legacy in our communities and environment. Being a large company means we can create a huge and lasting positive impact on our society. This is not only done through what we build and maintain; it's achieved through the fantastic efforts of our people who make a major contribution to enhancing their local communities.

willmott Dixon.co.uk

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We'd like to hear from you...

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CHESTERFIELD
CHAMPIONS

