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ALL MEMBERS MEMORANDUM No. 107 - 20

NEW CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS AND CONSTRUCTION SITES

Members have express concern that clients may shelve projects during this difficult period. Information from BuildUK (the main contractors trade association) shows that during the five weeks since the lockdown started, a total of 613 contracts have been awarded, which is a 22% reduction on the previous five-week period (789 contracts) and a 31% reduction on the same period last year (884 contracts). The value of contracts during the lockdown has increased, with a total of £10.4 billion being awarded compared to £8.4 billion in the five weeks prior to that. However, the lockdown period included a single award for a £2.2 billion infrastructure project, which is one of the largest ever.

Construction sites are continuing to reopen and BuildUK reported that almost 70% of their members sites are open in England and Wales. The majority are construction (81%) and infrastructure (78%) sites, but also include housing confirming that less than half of their housing sites (46%) are open for business. Productivity on construction and infrastructure sites is averaging 67%, with London construction sites proving to be a challenge at just 56% output being achieved.

Dr D. B. Moore
Chief Executive Officer
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