

## **Item 4 – Reports from LHC Business Operations**

### **Board Report from Consortium Procurement Construction (CPC): 2020-21**

**Gary Cawley, CPC Director**

**CPC was established in August 2019 with the ambition to work together with the public sector across the North of England to deliver better buildings and homes that enhance our local communities.**

The coronavirus pandemic has emphasised the relevance of some of CPC's key activities and concentrated our minds on how we work together in a collaborative manner to accelerate the pace of change in our industry, delivering real and sustainable social value for our local communities. CPC has been operating for just over 18 months and we are now seeing a real momentum in the North of England around levelling up standards and finding innovative ways to tackle carbon reduction and housing challenges, decent standard homes and climate change is a top priority for our social landlords.

### **CPC a unique part of the LHC group**

Born in 2019, we've grown out of a collaboration between LHC and the Northern Housing Consortium (NHC), existing to serve members of both organisations and the wider social housing sector across the North of England and the Midlands. That means that our clients and suppliers get the best of both worlds when they work through us – the expert, technical knowledge of LHC, which has more than 50 years of procurement experience, and the local knowledge and understanding of NHC, which acts as the political voice of the housing sector in the North.

### **Our Performance**

The last year has been a challenging period for us all however CPC has seen its income increase to £649,198 up from the previous year figures of £436,368, which is a 33% increase. Over the last 12 months we have also established a strong pipeline of new leads and opportunities based on a strengthening relationship with our clients and Approved Companies which creates high levels of confidence that our rapid growth will continue into the future.

### **Our People**

When founding a new organisation, bringing a completely new team onboard is the most important aspect, so it has to be done right – to get the right people mix with the right skills, and make sure they are ready to hit the ground running. The pandemic has made this a tricky task – some of our team joined just as the first lockdown was announced, meaning they have had no time at all in the office, while others have been recruited in the midst of the stay-at-home decree and have never met their teammates face to face. And yet, CPC has thrived in its first 18 months, and it's all thanks to our amazing team.

### **Our Projects**

We have completed several significant projects during 2020-21 which includes Helping Sheffield City council successfully use Modern Methods of Construction to accelerate its new house-building programme using our Offsite Construction of New Homes (NH2) framework. Supporting Middlesbrough council to create an attractive, inspiring workspace for the Boho campus in the commercial quarter for the town's digital media and technology sector using our Modular Build (MB1) Framework, helping university of Warwick to create a new state-of-the-art Degree Apprentice Centre for students, which consisted of a three-storey building with an IT Teaching Lab, small amount of meeting rooms using CPC's Schools and Community Buildings (SCB2) framework.

## Conclusions

Looking to the future, our collaborative working outlook doesn't stop at our existing partnerships, within just the past few weeks, CPC, along with NHC, has announced that we're to become key partners in NEECCo – the North East England Climate Coalition – which is seeking to make the region England's greenest. Housing providers have a huge part to play in helping the country to become net zero by 2050 – it's estimated that over a third of greenhouse gas emissions come from the country's buildings, with most of those being domestic. It's a heavy challenge, particularly in the face of the other pressing issues of having to provide new homes and meet forthcoming safety standards but CPC are ready to play our part.