



Social Value Impact Report 2025-26



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Foreword

I'm delighted to share our 2025-26 Social Value Impact Report showcasing the fantastic work of Berneslai Homes and our partners to bring social and environmental benefits to local people and communities during the year.

The report demonstrates how we're making a real difference locally by investing in people, skills, and communities, delivering social value through education, employment, support, and other community initiatives.

I hope you'll enjoy reading about our key achievements as we work together to make Barnsley the place of possibilities.



Steve Feast, Chief Executive



Target 1: Visits by students to support their learning

Case study: Primary Schools Enterprise Challenge

We're a proud supporter of this annual initiative that interacts with all participating primary schools in Barnsley encouraging students to get involved in design and enterprise.

During 2025, over 100 teams from primary schools across Yorkshire came together to participate in early rounds for a coveted place in the grand final at the Metrodome Leisure Complex. Four Berneslai Homes colleagues sat on the judging panel.

Each year has a different theme and the young people have to develop a product, brand, and marketing ideas in their small groups. The product this year was a sensory room for their school that would benefit SEND pupils, with the winning design being implemented.

We also sponsored and presented 3 awards:

- Most Enterprising Key Stage One boy
- Most Enterprising Key Stage One girl
- Most Enterprising Idea



Berneslai Homes Work Inspiration Day

7 July 2025

15 secondary school students
attended for 2.5 hours,
working with teams on
different tasks to understand
careers in housing.



50+ students ✓

Target 2: Activities supporting local voluntary organisations

Barnsley Hospice repairs and maintenance

24/06/25 Dave Shepherd -
electrical work at Barnsley Hospice
1 day 8 hours

16/09/25 Jason Senior - helped
decorate the new Barnsley
Hospice café at Mapplewell
Village Hall 2 days work



Before



After



Barnsley Pride

- Event sponsorship and hosted a stall with 5 volunteers



Supporting other groups

Barnsley College Construction
Partnership event

BAAS 2x £500 donations to
Alzheimer's Research UK and
Cancer Research UK

Macmillan Coffee Morning
held at Cudworth
Community Centre raised
£355

Electrical work completed at
Shaw Lane Men in Sheds

80+ hours

Case study: Supporting our chosen charity Barnsley Hospice



In April 2025, Berneslai Homes colleagues chose Barnsley Hospice as our charity of the year for 2025-26. Between April and December 2025, we've raised £8,432.86 through a range of fundraising activities and partnership donations.

Our activities have been many and varied, enabling many different colleagues to get involved in practical ways as well as fundraising.

- Easter chocolate bouquet hosted at Gateway £100
- Barnsley Hospice Walk Saturday 7 June and Barnsley 10k Sunday 29 June £1,846 (Just Giving)
- Match funding from Wider Wallet £100
- Donation in lieu of gift to Cllr Sarah Tattersall £100
- Fantasy football league £95
- Lettings team fuddle and raffle £79
- Gateway Plaza tuck shop £248.16
- Christmas quiz and raffle £264
- Elf Run £161
- Accumulator Challenge £289.52

Additionally, partner organisations have kindly donated on behalf of Berneslai Homes: BAAS (£2,500) CMSG (£50) Kingfisher Windows (£2,600).



Some of our 7 runners completing the 10k!





10 colleagues and family completed the Hospice Walk



2 colleagues gave practical support on site



Many colleagues joined the Christmas quiz and raffle!



8 colleagues completed the Barnsley 10k run

Target 3: Local Barnsley supply chain

Activities supporting local SMEs*



Job and careers fairs

Barnsley College
Darton Academy
Horizon College
Kirk Balk
Metrodome Leisure Complex
Netherwood
Penistone Grammar School
Trinity St Edwards

Mock Interviews

Darton
Hemsworth
Holy Trinity
Netherwood
Penistone Grammar School
Shafton

Special events

STEM drop down day
Trinity St Edwards

Trade chat at Barnsley
College



50+ hours 

*Includes schools and colleges

Better Barnsley Bond

The Property Services Repairs Team have had a PRIP contractual obligation to the Barnsley Better bond since 2020. It's a local community grant program funded by construction partners to support training, employment, and local initiatives. Berneslai Homes contributes £100k on an annual basis along with our construction partner Wates contributing £50k.

Administered by Barnsley Council, it provides grants up to £5,000 to help local organisations, charities, and community groups deliver projects that benefit the borough. A panel considers applications that are linked to Barnsley 2030 priorities.

John, who sits on the panel, said: "We receive applications from many diverse groups, and it feels fantastic to be able to help them. The panel gets a real insight into how many different groups are here in Barnsley delivering brilliant initiatives to local communities."

"A lot of these groups rely on volunteer members and donations, and knowing that the grants will help a community group, charity, or a local organisation that is helping local people is an amazing feeling. It's wonderful that Berneslai Homes and partners are committed to giving something back to our local communities, and everyone who works here can feel proud to be a part of that."



SCAN ME



John Lees,
Head of Operational Delivery



Barnsley – the place
of possibilities.



Targets 4 + 5: Local work experience placements*

11 T-Level placements

During 2025-26 in partnership with Barnsley College, we hosted 11 T-Level student placements.

Each student works towards a total of 315 hours on placement, based in the office doing business admin, or out with trades including bricklaying, joinery, and plumbing.

5 students fully completed their placement during this year = 1,575 hours!

30+ placements

*During 2025-26 we had separate targets for under 18s and over 18s undertaking work experience placements with us.

20

Work experience placements

We hosted 20 work experience placements completing 220 hours in a number of areas within property services including electrical, stores, gas, plastering, and more!



Target 6: Apprenticeship placements



Berneslai Homes apprentices

During 2025-26 we've hosted 25 apprentices across a range of roles including admin, procurement, quantity surveying, Stores (stock control), gas engineering, and much more!

We shared case studies on Community Refurbishment Scheme apprentices as part of National Apprenticeship Week. They are supported to complete an 18-month groundworks qualification.

Apprentice swap scheme with Barnsley Council

Berneslai Homes and Barnsley Council launched a month-long apprentice swap, giving electrical apprentices a unique opportunity to broaden their experience and deepen their understanding of the sector.

Seth, an Electrical Apprentice at Berneslai Homes, said: "We've been working on a lot of different systems, beyond what we normally do, so we're gaining some valuable experience working at Barnsley Golf Club, wiring up a new fire alarm system."

20+ placements



Case study: Working with EN:Able Futures

Hannah Norton - Apprenticeship Manager, EN:Able Futures

"Berneslai Homes partnered with us to offer six opportunities for displaced electrical apprentices to join the Berneslai Homes team and achieve their qualifications.

"They offered varied, alternating roles with industry professional mentors to help them succeed. EN:Able Futures underpinned these quality placements on the Flexi-Job Apprenticeship model with academic, professional, and wrap-around pastoral support, ensuring work was aligned with qualification knowledge, skill, and behaviour criteria to aid successful completions.

"This programme offered a real lifeline to a group of our future electricians who had been forced into unemployment and faced uncertainty around whether they would get the opportunity to complete.

"It's been an absolute pleasure working with the apprentices and the supervisors at Berneslai who go the extra mile to give them the best possible experience which will set them up for a thriving future in their chosen industry."

Nathan - Apprentice Electrician

My placement has been a valuable experience - I've gained skills from doing a variety of work, such as testing, fault finding, general repairs, and some install work.

I've learned a lot of good things from everyone who I've worked with and they're always there to help or give advice. Overall, it's been beneficial to strengthen my skills further from college and get used to liaising with other trades and tenants.



Target 7: Group activities and sponsorships supporting local organisations

- Berneslai Homes colleagues and partners
- have undertaken a wide range of activities to support local groups including ASB Awareness Week, Crown Avenue litter pick, Churchfields gardening, Saville Court clean up day, Tea in the Park, estate walkabouts across the borough, supporting Winter Wellbeing events and much, much more!

Cockerham Lane clean-up day

Removed numerous abandoned cars and fly-tipping
Started investigating three homes with reports of ASB and drug-related issues
Cleared moss and car parts from the top of the garages
Professionally cleaned the bin stores
Trimmed and tidied up the seeded bushes, trees and planters



Before



Allotment site at Worsbrough
cleared with Biddlestones



After



Tidying the garden at Churchfields
independent living scheme

20+ events 

Case study: Free training for tenants on damp and mould



Between September 2025 and end March 2026, the Engagement Team delivered a free training course to tenants and residents on controlling condensation, damp, and mould. A bespoke video was played to participants to give hints and tips around keeping the home safe and warm, and when to report issues.

They attended 41 events, including events with partners and standalone drop-in sessions, delivering the training to 160 people and also providing them with free damp and mould kits.



CONTACT US

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