

Employment opportunities on the Grangegorman Project

The Grangegorman Project is being coordinated by the Grangegorman Development Agency (GDA) on behalf of the HSE, DIT, their respective Government Departments and the local community. There are a number of phases to this major infrastructural project and different employment opportunities will arise as the project progresses.

Planning phase:

The main body of construction work will not start for some time. At present the emphasis is on the planning and design of individual 'building packages'. To date, the GDA has recruited specialist technical expertise in the areas of planning design and engineering. Such expertise will continue to be required throughout the project.

Public consultation on the draft Strategic Plan for the project is currently underway. This plan sets out how the project will progress. Once the Strategic Plan is adopted, we then move into our formal planning process. It is expected that a Strategic Development Zone planning route will be taken and a draft planning scheme for this will be submitted to Dublin City Council by early 2011. Recognising that this process can take some time, we would anticipate a decision by early to mid 2012.

Design work:

In tandem with the planning process, detailed design work will be ongoing during 2011. This means that once a planning decision is received, construction can begin on the first buildings within a very short time. Design teams are employed through the public procurement process.

Construction work:

The enabling works for the HSE Mental Health Replacement Facilities have just gone on site and are being carried out by Piers Contractors. The main building contract is currently out to tender and due to start at the beginning of 2011. Each of the main DIT buildings - such as facilities for Business, Tourism, Science and the Library building - will be tendered as separate packages. This means that many different contractors will have an opportunity to become involved in the project. There will also be conservation work on the site relating to the protected structures giving further contracting opportunities.

It is the contractors for each building package who will be directly employing people on the site. This main body of work is expected to start on site at the end of 2012.

Local employment

The GDA would like to see as many opportunities as possible for local people on the Grangegorman project. It is therefore our intention to work with local experts such as FAS, the Local Employment Service, and the North West Inner City Network amongst others and to build on research already carried out in the area, to put systems in place to offer the best opportunities.

Because of its scale, the Grangegorman project will be ongoing for at least the next ten years and because of its strategic importance to Dublin, it is vital that the project be developed with the best interest of all stakeholders in mind. While constraints do exist in relation to public procurement and competition laws, The GDA will continue to work to ensure the benefits of the project are as widely distributed as possible.

In the interim the GDA will provide regular updates on the website, www.ggda.ie, as well as Facebook and Twitter to assist those interested in employment opportunities.