

West Midlands salute to quality construction



Winners across the West Midlands were applauded for their commitment to quality construction at the 11th Annual Built in Quality Awards. Held at the ICC in Birmingham in April, the awards form a key part of the 'Celebrating Construction' event, which recognises the professionalism, excellence, and innovation that lies at the heart of the West Midlands construction community

Hosted by Birmingham City Council's Building Consultancy, the Built in Quality awards have grown in size and stature since they began in 1996.

This year the winners of the Built in Quality Awards, spanned across the newly formed WM7, a local authority building control collaboration between Birmingham City Council, Coventry City Council, Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council, Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council, Solihull Metropolitan Borough

Council, Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council, and Wolverhampton City Council.

Trevor Haynes, Chair of the WM7, and Building Consultancy Assistant Director at Birmingham City Council, said: "The Built in Quality awards are yet another example of the West Midlands determination to continue to be driven forward by major construction projects, which is in turn creating jobs and inward investment during the economic downturn.

"Such events also breed confidence in the construction sector and act as a catalyst for

"SUCH EVENTS ALSO BREED CONFIDENCE IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR AND ACT AS A CATALYST FOR PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENTS TO CONTINUE"

private sector developments to continue, leaving the West Midlands strongly placed for when the economy has stabilised in the future."

Winners this year included, in the apartment category, Birmingham's iconic Rotunda, transformed from offices into the most famous premier residential apartment block in the city centre.

Working closely with Birmingham City Council's Building Consultancy service and Birmingham based Glenn Howells Architects, award winning developer Urban Splash overcame many



Volume Housing winner: WH Keys, Sandwell



Volume Housing winner: Tasker Street, Walsall



Sustainable Housing winner: Cross Street South Regeneration, Wolverhampton



Apartments Winner: *Brindley House, Birmingham*



Apartments Winner: *Rotunda, Birmingham*



Apartments Winner: *Hemisphere Apartments, Birmingham*



Apartments Winner: *Swallowfields, Sandwell*

◀ construction difficulties including removing and reinstating a state-of-the-art cladding system, whilst keeping the Bullring shopping centre open.

Guy Jackson of Urban Splash, said: "It's an honour to win this award. Urban Splash worked incredibly hard with its partners on Rotunda to reinstate one of Birmingham's most famous buildings."

The Rotunda's reception, a former shop unit, now

welcomes visitors with an impressive light display, made from 465 aluminium tubes and bold colours throughout, providing a chic living space with segment shaped rooms circling a bright central core.

Another winner in the Education category was the £29 million Joseph Chamberlain Sixth Form College in Birmingham, constructed by BAM Construction and designed by Nicholas Hare Architects.

"URBAN SPLASH WORKED INCREDIBLY HARD WITH ITS PARTNERS ON ROTUNDA TO REINSTATE ONE OF BIRMINGHAM'S MOST FAMOUS BUILDINGS"

A striking three-storey crescent shaped building has been crafted that enhances the Highgate skyline whilst shielding beautifully landscaped courtyards from the noise of busy roads around the site.

BAM Construction's Steve Roome, said: "Making a success of Joseph Chamberlain College was a true team effort. The architects, Nicholas Hare, produced a stunning design, which we developed and constructed within the time and financial constraints of today's market.

"Dr Lynn Morris, the Principle of Joseph Chamberlain, was an inspiration for us and together we have produced a college building that will also be inspirational for everybody who works and studies there."

Working collaboratively with the council's Building Consultancy ensured that complex design requirements were reconciled.

This created a secure learning environment,



Restoration Winner: *Molineux Hotel, Wolverhampton*



Commercial Winner: International Digital Laboratory, Coventry



Commercial Winner: Ibis, Solihull

incorporating discrete staff monitoring, combined with first class technology facilities, airy breakout spaces, tranquil courtyards and dramatic views out across the city. The building was completed ahead of schedule and under budget. It also achieved a commendable 'Very Good' BREEAM (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method) rating for its green credentials.

The overall evening was a resounding success, with an opportunity for construction organisations of all sizes to

celebrate and network.

BBC West Midlands' Joanne Malin compered at the event and many VIPs were in attendance including the Lord Mayor of Birmingham, the Leader of Birmingham City Council and Clive Dutton, Director of Planning and Regeneration. He said: "This event is about rewarding the fruition of real vision, achievement, hard work and aspirations of our colleagues in the construction industry. It is about acknowledging and promoting professionalism, quality work and excellence. It

"THIS IS INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT FOR OUR GROWING REGION AND OUR REPUTATION AS A GLOBAL CITY WITH A LOCAL HEART"

is about recognising the individuals and the companies who are building our future environment. It is about real people who make a real difference to the quality of life of us all, at home, at work and at play.

"This is increasingly important for our growing region and our reputation as a global city with a local heart."

Celebrating Construction is co-hosted by Birmingham City Council, the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) West Midlands Branch and the West Midlands Centre for



Education Winner: City College, Coventry



Education Winner: Joseph Chamberlain Sixth Form College, Birmingham



Education Winner: Light Hall School, Solihull



Education Winner: Mary Elliot School, Walsall



Domestic Winner: *Dorridge Road, Solihull*



Domestic Winner: *Streetly Lane, Birmingham*

Constructing Excellence (WMCCE).

The event was sponsored by The Homes and Communities Agency, CIOB, Advantage Offsite, ConstructionSkills, Business Link and the University of Wolverhampton.

The winners (there were multiple winners in most categories) were as follows:

APARTMENTS

Brindley House
 Builder – Balfour Beatty (Northern)
 Architect – TWS

Swallow Fields
 Builder – Concept Development Solutions Ltd
 Architect – Supporta RPD

Rotunda
 Builder – Urban Splash
 Architect – Glenn Howells Architects

Hemisphere Apartments
 Builder – Laing O'Rourke Architects – Capita Architects

COMMERCIAL

Ibis Etap Hotels
 Builder – Costain Ltd
 Architect – LRW Architects

International Digital Laboratory
 Builder – Vinci UK
 Architects – Edward Cullinan

COMMUNITY

Ann Marie Howes Centre
 Builder – Wates Group
 Architect – Glancy Nicholls

GMAC
 Builder – Thomas Vale Construction
 Architect – CPMG

National Centre for Mental Health, Birmingham
 Builder – BNHJV
 Architect – BDP

DOMESTIC

Dorridge Road
 Builder – Bickford Building Services (Solihull) Ltd
 Architects – Cross & Craig

Streetly Lane
 Builder – P.D. Cowley Building Contractors
 Architect – Philip A Davies

EDUCATION

City College
 Builder – Moss Construction
 Architect – Robothams

Joseph Chamberlain Sixth Form College
 Builder – BAM Construction
 Architect – Nicholas Hare

Light Hall School
 Builder – Morgan Ashurst
 Architect – Glancy Nicholls

Mary Elliot School
 Builder – Willmott Dixon
 Architect – Hunters

RESTORATION

Molineux Hotel
 Builder – Linford Group
 Architects – Donald Insall

SUSTAINABLE HOUSING

Cross Street South Regeneration
 Builder – E Manton Ltd
 Architects – Cole Thompson Anders

VOLUME HOUSING

Tasker Street Development
 Builder – Kendrick Homes Ltd.
 Architect – Kendrick Homes Ltd
 WH Keys

Builder – Mar City Developments Ltd
 Architect – Kevin Twigger & Associates



Community Winner: *Ann Marie Howes Centre, Birmingham*



Community Winner: *GMAC, Birmingham*



Community Winner: *National Centre for Mental Health, Birmingham*