

Folkestone Harbour and Waterfront Redevelopment

# Creating a thriving seafront quarter for Folkestone

**£6m**

/ Project value

**September 2016**

/ The build commenced

**June 2017**

/ The build was completed

As part of the Folkestone Redevelopment scheme, our application of value-added marine engineering has helped revitalise Folkestone's historic harbour area. Under three separately awarded contracts, consisting of Phase B1: Repair and Refurbishment, Phase B2: General Refurbishment, and Earthworks, our project dedicated team has ensured that Folkestone now has a circular economy that works for 12 months of the year. GRAHAM's commitment to realising the long-term regeneration goals of the Harbour was recognised in May 2018 with a 'Special Judges Award for Sustainable Regeneration' by the Global Good Awards.

## The Brief

Dedicated to revitalising the seafront and improving the attractiveness of the town, Folkestone Harbour (GP) Ltd required the execution of three separate harbour and waterfront redevelopment programmes under NEC Option B (Phase B1 and Earthworks) and JCT Standard (Phase B2) agreements. Tight timeframes of 23 weeks, 38 weeks and 20 weeks were agreed and subsequently met.



"Our attention to design excellence has helped to solve the very real issues, which previously threatened the viability of redeveloping this area, namely flood risk and the rising costs of sea defences,"

Leo Martin  
GRAHAM Managing Director – Civil Engineering



“We rated the project because of the commitment and effort demonstrated to reuse the elements of the original site in the regeneration project and further afield in the community to avoid waste. The project also demonstrated community engagement – a great showcase of how regeneration projects can exemplify a global good approach,”

Judges from Global Good Awards UK

### The challenges

Sensitivity was required during the work programme as the site is located within the area of a disused railway viaduct and a Grade II listed swing bridge structure. Furthermore, ensuring the maintenance of public access within the pinch point of the Folkestone level crossing was a key challenge throughout the project. This was achieved through the establishment of a Traffic Management Plan, which defined pedestrian priority, incorporated vehicle and pedestrian marshals and included plant operating constraints. As a measure of its effectiveness, the seasonal Harbour Arm, entertainment and restaurant venues remained open and accessible over the course of the works.

### GRAHAM's solution

Improving connectivity for the next generation of Folkestone, the £6m scheme consisted of three phases of preparation and redevelopment works. Beginning with the repair and refurbishment of the viaduct and swing bridge, Phase B1 featured brickwork repairs, surface preparation and repainting of the swing bridge with steel repairs and the refurbishment of existing metal balustrades. Phase B2 created new access to the Harbour Arm and a direct route to the town via the former railway station platforms. Core elements included refurbishment and alterations to the harbour square access, viaduct, swing bridge, level crossing, custom house, platforms and track bed. The neglected former railway station was also renovated with surviving glass canopies restored. The Earthworks contract centred on beach nourishment works, preparatory earthworks and boardwalk construction. Significantly, 100% site won materials were utilised.

### Outputs & Benefits

- / **Award Winning:** ‘Special Judges Award for Sustainable Regeneration’ by the Global Good Awards, Considerate Constructors Scheme – 10 out of 10 for innovation points in the ‘Protect the Environment’ category
- / **Environmental Risk Reduction:** Dust and noise pollution was significantly reduced through the utilisation of the specialist plant item MHB Badger Breaker, a self-propelled multi-head concrete pavement breaker
- / **Control:** We carefully controlled works to suitable level low tide periods between 05:00 and midnight, Monday to Saturday
- / **Collaboration:** We worked with a Geotechnical Specialist to design a soil performance model that allowed for increased speed of sand fill deposition, yielding cost and programme benefits
- / **Heritage:** An 800m long feature timber boardwalk was constructed reusing old Azobe railway sleepers



For more information on how we're delivering lasting impact:

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**GRAHAM**