

Summer 2019

# Latest News from Aura

### Hampton by Hilton Completes

Aura recently handed over Teesside's first Hampton by Hilton hotel which is now open for business at Stockton-on-Tees. Aura was originally appointed by Stockton Borough Council via the NEPO framework to deliver the multi-disciplinary team for the development of the 128 bed, seven storey hotel.



Aura delivered a range of services including project management, architectural and principal design, quantity surveying, engineering services and acoustic services for the project which will bring a significant boost to the local economy and is part of the Northshore masterplan.



## Aura Bid Expertise Wins £60M for Merit

Aura's bid management support for specialist engineering and construction company, Merit Holdings, has delivered over £60m in capital project wins for the company. One of the recent successes included a project to design and build a community energy centre for E.ON as part of a regeneration project for Blackwall Reach in Tower Hamlets, London.

The energy centre provides a central source of hot water and heating for 1,575 new homes, community facilities and commercial premises as part of the transformational initiative for the area.

Aura has an extensive range of expertise and experience in the complexities of construction procurement and tenders. Working closely with the team at Merit they developed a winning response that met all of the required specifications for the project.

### **Aura Designs New Schools**

Newcastle City Council has awarded Aura a contract to design three new schools as part of a programme for new and expanded schools in the north and outer west of the city. Aura will undertake detailed design work for two new build schools in the City, as well as an expansion of Kingston Park Primary.

All of the new school buildings will be constructed to Council specifications, enhancing the immediate environment and providing a welcoming safe and secure facility for children on a site that balances the needs of pedestrians, cyclists and motorists.



# New Education Analysis Service Supports Planning

Aura has launched a new service providing specialist technical analysis and advice to housing developers and planning consultants on the educational requirements associated with planning applications. The service brings together Aura's specialist knowledge of the building and space requirements for education,

with its technical expertise in preparing technical assessments of school capacity. Aura works with developers and planning consultants to prepare detailed reports that model the impact on school provision of new housing developments, supporting clients throughout the planning application process.

### **New Appointment**

Victoria Bell has joined the team at Aura as Bid and Business Coordinator. Victoria joins from SES Engineering Services with specialist experience in the creation of winning bid and tender documentation for building services and infrastructure projects. She is now an integral part of the Aura team working on bid and business development as well as quality management and marketing.



### North Tyneside Framework Success

Aura has been appointed to the North Tyneside Council procurement framework and Dynamic Purchasing System for consultancy services for construction. The framework includes a wide range of technical consultancy services, including project management, architecture, multi-discplinary, structural and mechanical, electrical & plumbing services.

### The Biosphere is Officially Open!

Dr Fiona Marshall, Global Head of Neuroscience Discovery, MSD visited Newcastle on 4th July to mark the official opening of The Biosphere, a specialist laboratory facility at the heart of Newcastle's £350m urban development scheme, Newcastle Helix.

Aura provides property and facilities management services as well as running business services, generating new tenant occupancy and ensuring that all landlord and tenant responsibilities are fulfilled.

Aura played an instrumental role in the development of the new building after originally being appointed by Newcastle City Council through the NEPO framework to deliver and manage the multi-disciplinary team to design and build the facility.

The 90,000 sq. ft purpose-built £25m facility contains both commercial laboratory and office spaces. As well as conferencing facility for up to 80 people.



The Biosphere has secured significant funding through the current European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and North East Local Growth Fund (LGF) programmes, which help local areas stimulate their economic development by investing in projects which will support innovation, businesses, create jobs and local community regenerations.

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