

Embargoed until 08:30hrs Monday 15 November

15.11.2021

CLC's DRAGONS' DEN COMPETITION FOR YOUNG PROFESSIONALS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY: THE WINNER

The CLC and BEIS recently launched a [Dragons' Den style competition](#), sponsored by the Builders Merchants Federation (BMF), targeted at young professionals in the industry, to accelerate the sector's drive to net zero.

The panel, chaired by Andrew Griffith MP, the UK's Net Zero Business Champion and consisting of Andy Mitchell (CEO, Thames Tideway and Co-Chair of the CLC), John Newcomb (CEO, BMF), Chris Goodier (Loughborough University) and Adam Cane (ACO Water Management) met last month in the Construct Zero Den to interview the final four finalists from a competition that attracted twelve exceptional entries.

The winner, Peter Morgan of the [Manufacturing Technology Centre](#), passionately pitched to the Dragons the idea of an online and physical presence for surplus and left-over building materials for the DIYer to utilise for a small charge. The panel agreed this could be set up with minimal delay and trialled regionally.

Andrew Griffiths MP said:

"It is heartening to see young people in construction helping the UK reach its Net Zero target with their practical ideas. Peter's idea would help reduce the approximate 60 million tonnes of construction and demolition waste a year"

The winner Peter Morgan said:

"As a keen DIYer I'm often looking for way to source surplus materials to reduce waste and project costs. Whilst working with the Construction Innovation Hub I felt there was an opportunity to do this at scale if we work together across the industry. I'm really excited to be able to work with the CLC to make the idea a reality as a result of this dragon's den competition. "

John Newcomb said:

"In the battle against climate change the best solutions are also the easiest to implement. Peter presented a simple yet creative solution to reduce a significant amount of waste in the supply chain and I am delighted that this will now be shared with the wider industry."

Peter will receive:

- support from a CLC member to develop and implement their proposal into the sector;
- a cash-prize of £1,000, kindly donated by the BMF; and,
- a 12-month mentoring arrangement with a CLC Business Leader.

Notes for editor:

Panel Members:

Andrew Griffith MP - UK Net Zero Business Champion

Andy Mitchell – Co-chair Construction Leadership Council / CEO Thames Tideway;

John Newcomb – CEO, Builders Merchants Federation;

Chris Goodier – Loughborough University, Director of Centre for Innovative and Collaborative Construction Engineering (CICE) and Director of Doctoral Programmes, School of Architecture, Building & Civil Engineering;

Adam Cane – Sustainability Lead, ACO Water Management

About the Construction Leadership Council (CLC)

The CLC's mission is to provide sector leadership to the construction industry. The expanded CLC has twelve workstreams that operate collaboratively to address the biggest issues facing the sector, focused on the Industry Recovery Plan. Workstreams include skills and inclusion, building safety and business models. The CLC is co-chaired by Lee Rowley MP, Minister for Business and Industry, and Andy Mitchell CBE, CEO of Thames Tideway.