

# 2020

## A New Decade

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hen I sat down to draft this issue, and despite last year being a success overall, I couldn't help but reflect that – whatever our individual political beliefs – we all feel slightly drained and worn out by the political landscape and commercial uncertainty that has surrounded our industry.

As already mentioned, last year was still an outstanding success in terms of new projects acquired and planning permissions granted. In addition, our company accounts, while not finalised, are again showing record-breaking figures in terms of both turnover and profit.

It then dawned on me that we have just entered a new decade, which led me to reminisce the past ten years. This was a great way to put things into perspective - what a successful decade it was in the company's history despite, on occasion, some of the most turbulent periods we've had to navigate. In spite of these

uncertain intervals, with both diligent hard work and persistence, we grew year on year over the last decade and took on some very exciting and more extensive projects, which have provided an exceptional boost to our company profile.

Looking back on the last decade fills me with nothing but optimism for the next ten years, and I can't wait to see how the Skillcrown Group looks in 2030.

With regard to the current company affairs, we are live on eleven projects, with over 300 units to be handed over in the next six months. As ever, we are on the lookout for future opportunities to bolster our pipeline. If you are aware of any such opportunities you feel may be of interest, I would be delighted to hear from you.

In addition, I will again be representing Skillcrown at the CIH Conference in Brighton, so please get in touch if you would like to arrange a meeting while I am at either event.

I hope you enjoy our latest newsletter and I wish everyone a successful 2020.



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We are delighted to announce that last year we managed to secure planning consent for the development of a 127-bedroom hotel.



## ANOTHER HOTEL INVESTMENT SECURED FOR OUR PORTFOLIO



We are delighted to announce that last year we managed to secure planning consent, under delegated powers of the London Borough of Lewisham, for the development of a 127-bedroom hotel.

The building, pre-let to Travelodge and including two large commercial units, is located on a site in Lewisham High Street that was previously a supermarket and offices. The multi-million pound project will provide high-quality, affordable hotel accommodation and two commercial units (A1/A2/A3/B1 use classes) on the ground floor, together with a refuse/recycling area and cycle storage.

Situated in a prime location in the heart of Lewisham, the development is close to Lewisham Shopping Centre and Lewisham Library, giving hotel guests easy access to all shops and amenities. Nestled between Lewisham and Ladywell stations, the site also provides key transport links within a short walking distance.



# SKILLCROWN SUCCESSFULLY REAPPOINTED TO HYDE HOUSING'S MAIN CONTRACTOR FRAMEWORK



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e are delighted to announce that we have been reappointed to Hyde Housing's main contractor framework on multiple lots that cover London and the Southeast.

Hyde has ambitions to build around 11,000 mixed tenure new homes over the next five years and we are confident we can help achieve their goal, adding value by drawing on our previous experience of working together and helping to unlock new opportunities.

With over 25 years' experience, Skillcrown has established a reputation as a forward-thinking contractor, delivering high-quality homes.



# SKILLCROWN HANDS OVER LATEST DEVELOPMENT IN CLIFFE TO MHS HOMES

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n November we were delighted to complete a new development of 14 one-, two- and three-bedroom houses and two one-bedroom flats for over 55s for housing association, MHS Homes. The project is located on Thatcher's Lane in Cliffe, Rochester, on a site that was formerly a sheltered accommodation scheme operated by MHS.

The new scheme offers a mixture of shared ownership, affordable rent and market rent houses for the people of Rochester. Taking just over two years to complete, the development features quality homes finished to a high specification, with a garden and driveway to all houses

and parking bays provided for each flat. The development is situated in a beautiful location, with both Higham station and an RSPB nature reserve in close proximity.

*"We are pleased with the success of this project, which has provided new homes to the community, and we are looking forward to working with MHS again in the near future,"* said Sal Osman, Skillcrown's Managing Director.

Sarah Paxton from MHS Homes commented at the time, *"Skillcrown has finished a fantastic rural scheme in Cliffe with apartments and houses. The standard is exceptional and shared ownership sales are all completing within days of handover."*



## Planning permission secured for Thornton Road in Croydon with MTVH



We have worked closely with Croydon Council to design a scheme that is in keeping and sympathetic to the local area.



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e are pleased to announce that we have successfully secured a new build contract with Metropolitan Thames Valley Housing (MTVH) to deliver 24 apartments on Thornton Road in Croydon. We have worked closely with Croydon Council to design a scheme that is in keeping and sympathetic to the local area. Once we were in agreement with the Council regarding design

and density, planning permission was granted under delegated powers of the London Borough of Croydon. With the Section 106 legal agreement finalised, we facilitated a package deal with MTVH to deliver 24 apartments for London Affordable Rent. The project will be located on the former Cambridge Autos dealership site and the proposals are for the erection of a part 3- and part 4-storey building with ancillary on-site car and cycle parking

spaces, as well as refuse and recycling facilities. A car club scheme will also be available, with tenants of the new development having membership. Located in a popular residential area, future residents of the site will benefit from West Croydon station being just a mile away, with frequent services into the City. Additionally, the development provides access to excellent amenities including schools, shopping facilities, bars and restaurants.



## Skillcrown raises over £3,400 for Breast Cancer Now

Supporting



## SKILLCROWN SUPPORTS BREAST CANCER NOW

**I**n October 2019, Skillcrown took part in the annual Wear It Pink day, raising money for the UK's leading breast cancer charity, Breast Cancer Now. From Head Office to site, the team sported outfits in various shades of pink and even pink hair throughout the day. The morning also started off with a bake sale of delicious red velvet cupcakes and lemon

drizzle slices, which went down a treat! We are delighted to announce that we were in the top 3% of fundraisers and exceeded our target of £2,500 by raising a staggering £3,477.36. Managing Director, Salik Osman, said, "Thank you to everyone who donated and supported our efforts in raising funds for such a great cause, and well done to the team for all their efforts."