

Reviving the Bramall way

As part of a drive towards lean methods of working and efficient business processes, Bramall Construction is part way through an improvement programme alongside business consultancy Revive Associates.

The Revive team, who started working with Bramall's Yorkshire and East Midlands delivery companies in April, began work by value stream mapping the business to identify where processes could be improved.

Revive has introduced business and site 'control rooms' which are a mechanism for identifying issues and concerns in areas including quality, delivery, cost and people. Control rooms make issues highly visible in order for them to be resolved effectively.

Data from site control rooms feeds into the business control room to allow strategic decisions to be made, so that business processes can be improved. An important characteristic of the control room culture is an environment of 'no blame, no excuse'. This encourages ownership and openness when issues arise.

The eight discipline (8D) process has also been introduced to resolve issues identified by the control room. The 8D process is an efficient, robust and systematic tool that helps avoid common errors which often occur during problem solving.



L-R: Steve Welburn (Bramall Finance Director), David Hughes (Keepmoat Efficiency Director) and Barry Poling (Revive).

Revive has worked closely with the Site Team at Bramall's scheme of 91 Code 6 homes, in West Yorkshire. The scheme is currently running to schedule with a marked reduction in waste.

Keepmoat selected Bramall to trial the Revive process with the possibility of this being rolled out to all Keepmoat delivery companies.

Dave Hughes, Keepmoat's Efficiency Director, commented: "From the first meeting Revive projected a fresh and realistic proposition.

"Revive are not advisors but doers, they quickly became part of our team, sat in our office alongside, and working with, our people."