

Gateshead's Bloom Procurement signals major expansion with plans for 300 new jobs

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One of the North East's fastest growing companies has announced plans to significantly increase its headcount with the creation of more than 300 new jobs in the next few years.

Gateshead's Bloom Procurement Services, a finalist in last week's Tyneside and Northumberland Business Awards and the highest climber in the 2019 Top 200 list of the region's largest companies, was formed 10 years ago and now has a turnover in excess of £200m.

The company provides an open marketplace for contracts in the UK public sector and last year transacted more than 1,350 projects.

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Growth capital investor BGF has invested £14m in the company and it is now looking to increase its headcount of 75 to around 400 in the next three years.

Founder Adam Jacobs said: "We have achieved phenomenal growth in recent years and this is set to continue. We are passionate about the North East and we want to develop and nurture the

skillset of people by attracting them to the region and retaining them so that we create a highly skilled and stable workforce. Liaising closely with local universities is also very important to us.

“To be recognised by the Government for our commitment to the region and in driving social value across the public sector, is something we are very proud of.

“We are the only private sector organisation to embed social accountability into all decision making via the introduction of operating processes accredited under the Social Value Certificate and we are creating social value via an engagement programme to contribute to good causes, both local and national, through volunteering and fundraising initiatives.

“We continue to embed social value throughout our eprocurement portal pro-void 2.0, which has enabled public sector buyers to set their social value goals and agenda for a project, whilst challenging tendering suppliers to demonstrate how they will add social value and support the delivery of public sector buyers’ objectives.

“Moving forward, we want to be seen as a beacon of best practice within the region and believe that social value outcomes should be at the heart of procurement.”

The company has been praised by Hexham MP and Work and Pensions Minister Guy Opperman.

He said: “Bloom has supported hundreds of small businesses across Tynedale and Ponteland, helping them secure contracts with a range of public sector buyers.

“We discussed the opportunities for further growth, jobs, and local investment as we recover from the pandemic and how the Government can help deliver value for public money and open up access to public procurement.”

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