

New State-of-the-Art Planetarium Set to Open in Nottinghamshire

November 12, 2024



A new £6.8 million planetarium is set to open its doors in Nottinghamshire later this month. The facility, located at the Sherwood Observatory, will offer visitors a unique opportunity to explore the cosmos and learn about space and science.

The planetarium will feature a 10-meter hemispherical screen and advanced projection technology, allowing visitors to embark on virtual tours of the solar system and beyond. It will also be accessible to individuals with disabilities, ensuring inclusivity for all.

The project was made possible through funding from the UK Government, the National Lottery Heritage Fund, the Garfield Weston Foundation, the Wolfson Foundation, and other donors.

Pick Everard, a multi-disciplinary consultancy firm, managed the project and cost services, while G F Tomlinson handled the construction phase. The project team worked collaboratively to ensure the successful delivery of this state-of-the-art facility.

Nick Hanson, associate cost manager at Pick Everard, said: "This is an exciting project that is contributing positively to the local area with a world leading science and education facility.

"The Sherwood Observatory is of huge historical significance and draws on our expertise of delivering high quality visitor attractions, with protected elements sensitively treated and managed through robust stakeholder management plans.

Jason Ainsworth, Framework Construction Manager at G F Tomlinson, highlighted the project's significance in inspiring future generations. He said, "This project will not only attract visitors but also inspire young

people to pursue careers in STEM fields.”

Councillor Matthew Relf, Executive Lead Member for Regeneration, Growth and Local Planning at Ashfield District Council, expressed his excitement about the upcoming opening. He emphasized the project’s potential to spark interest in science and astronomy among local residents.

The new planetarium is poised to become a major attraction for visitors from across the region and beyond, offering a unique and immersive educational experience.