The importance of social value in promoting educational outcomes in the built environment

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Introduction to talk

What is value?

The notion of what constitutes value

Different types of value

The emergence of social value

Successful outcomes that the social value has had on delivering educational benefits for students

Building social value into the commissioning and procurement processes

Benefits of measuring social value

Case Study: An example of social value working well in the built environment

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What is Value?

Nowadays people know the price of everything and the value of nothing.



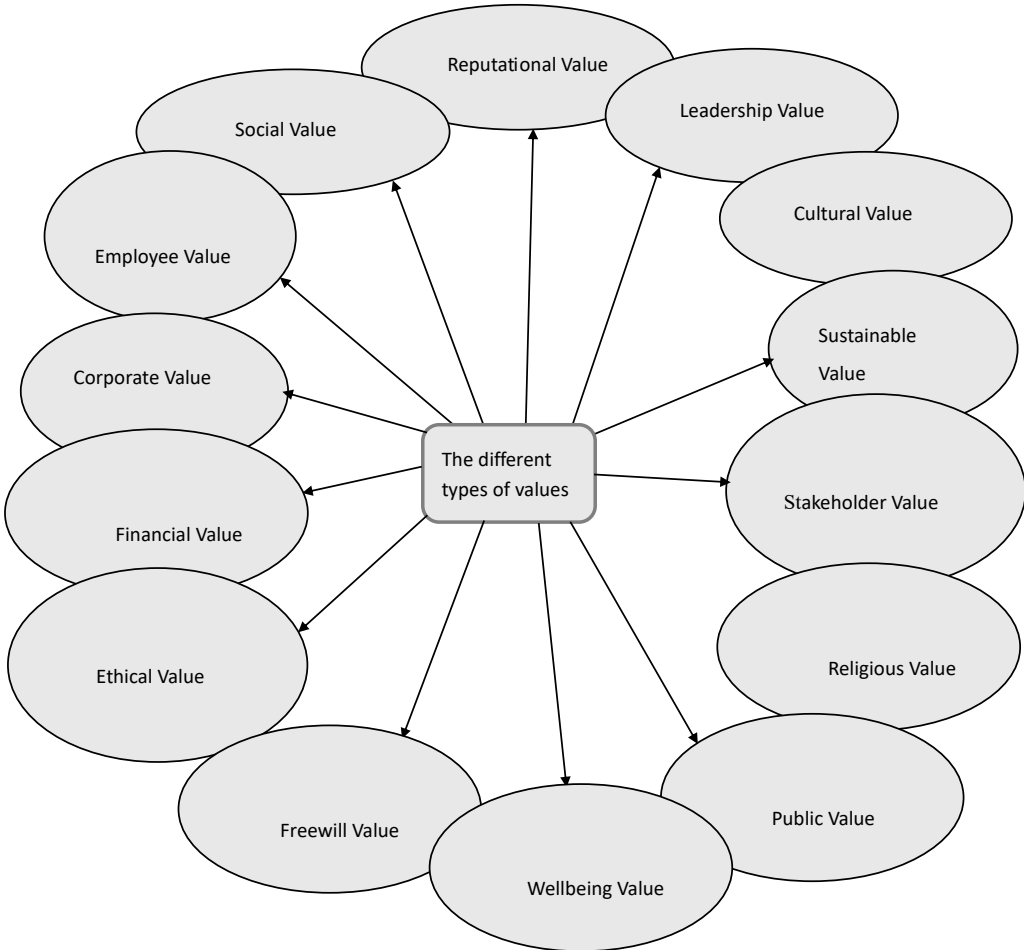
Traditionally value has been linked to the objectives and needs of project owners (commonly referred to as project sponsors) and clients

Project value has become increasingly used across a broader spectrum to represent other internal and external stakeholders' visions, requirements and needs on projects

Subjective nature to value based on initial capital costs and the cost in use associated with operational cost, as part of life cycle analysis
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Promotes parties to be transparent and honest with their collaboration partners (Chow et al. 2012)

Different types of value



The Emergence of Social value

The UK definition of social value relates to the changed experiences that people face and the outcomes and impact of these on their lives and contributes to their wellbeing

Social value is concerned with quantifying the importance and significance that change has on people's lives

British Standard Institute BS8950:2020, advocates that all organisations should adapt and convert some of their resources for benefitting wellbeing r

tIn the UK social value emerged from the Public Services (Social Value) Act of 2012. This was related to the way that finite resources are used and allocated

Social value begs the question of whether money expended on service delivery including construction could be utilised to also generate wider benefits for communities

Successful outcomes that the social value has had on delivering educational benefits for students

Construction and engineering students in particular have had the benefit of using real life projects for their assignments and dissertations

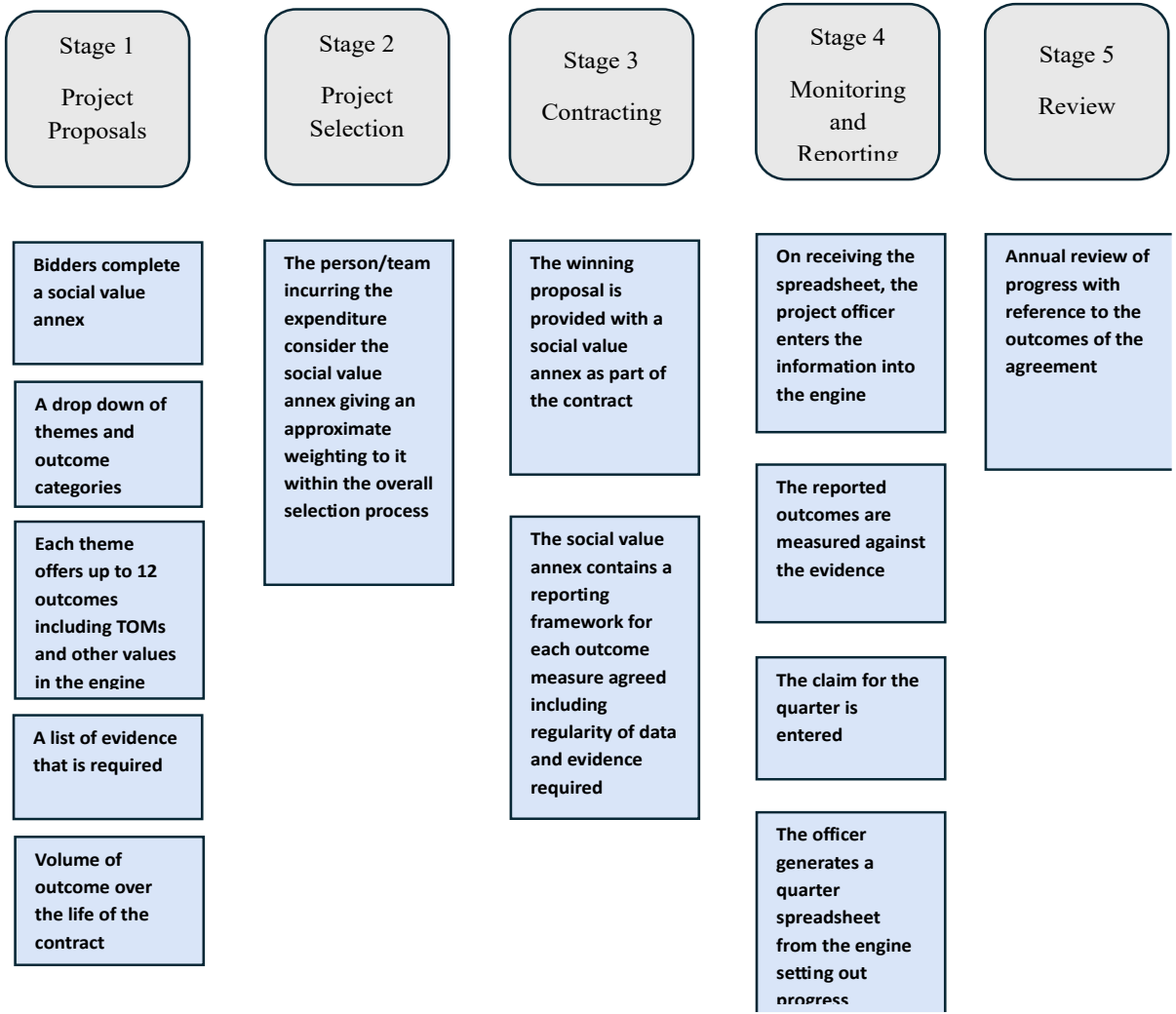
Site visits have given the opportunity for students to see projects progressing through the various stages of construction

Contractors and consultants through their social value commitments have offered students work experience, placements, internships and full-time employment

Mentorship opportunities from industry practitioners

Increased job opportunities for students

Building social value into the commissioning and procurement processes



Benefits of measuring social value

- Allows organisations to justify spending and their investments into a particular area by looking at the impacts this has had
- Ability to generate more funding by demonstrating that previous funding into a particular area has made a difference
- Ability to defend their roles and decision making in the providing the services they have undertaken
- Allows organisations to closely focus their resources and efforts on a specific area as a targeted rather than scatter gun approach
- Facilitates a more controlled approach where they can better plan and allocate the resources they need to invest in a project or initiative
- Systematic approach of constantly reviewing performance by asking the question of what could be done differently to generate more impact in future
- Having metrics which can demonstrate successful impacts through social value assessment can assist in communication strategies in being able to convey to employees, investors, communities and other stakeholders what has been achieved.

New Science and Engineering project as part of UoS Masterplan



Conclusions

Social value has been presented and as

previously outlined forms part of action research

Case study where it is being piloted on UK

construction projects, especially for university clients

Achieved very successful outcomes for students in the UK as part of a pilot

Possible facilitated and encouraged

Improved leaning outcomes for students

Possible facilitated and encouraged

Improved career outcomes for students

Created the collaboration and partnering ethos that is so important for innovation and delivery strategies in teaching and learning

Recommendations

Recommended that the principles and

mechanics of the social value related to advocacy be deployed when embarking on projects

Hoped that the social value can provide the right platform for students to gain valuable industry experience as part of their studies

Therein achieve similar beneficial learning outcomes for students and improved employability upon graduation

Meet the aspirations for a more sustainable future in education

WREC / WREN

Thank You – Any Questions?