

## Greenlight given for 135 affordable homes to be built in Cradley Heath



May 01, 2019

Plans for 135 homes to be built in Cradley Heath have been approved.

Accord Housing Association is working in partnership with Galliford Try Partnerships West Midlands, to develop the homes off Woods Lane.

The development will include one, two, three and four bedroom homes made up of 42 apartments and 93 houses, which will all be available for affordable rent.

This is the first development to be built as part of Accord's new strategic partnership with Homes England. Accord is the lead a partner of Matrix Housing partnership, which will deliver over 3,700 new homes under this deal.

As part of Homes England's five year Strategic Plan, it has created strategic partnerships with housing associations to meet the demand for more affordable homes. Homes England has agreed 23 strategic partnership deals with 28 housing associations, which will deliver almost 40,000 affordable homes across the country by March 2022.

Chris Handy, Chief Executive at Accord said: "We are looking forward to working with Galliford Try Partnerships on this development in Cradley Heath. This development will be Accord's first as part of our strategic partnership with Homes England, which will bring significant growth opportunities in affordable housing for more than a generation.

"Accord's offsite house manufacturing facility, LoCaL Homes will be supplying the timber frames for the houses, which is yet another great example of partnership working."

Galliford Try Partnerships Midlands Regional Managing Director, James Warrington added: "This site in Cradley Heath involves challenging ground conditions which were presenting barriers to unlocking the development opportunity. Working with Accord and securing gap funding from the Black Country LEP, is a great example of partnership working.

"The development which has excellent links to major nearby cities represents a significant contribution to the new-build affordable local housing market in the area."

Cradley Heath is ideally located close to major roads and transport networks which serves close by local towns such as Stourbridge, Halesowen and Dudley and is within commuting distance to some of the region's major cities such as Wolverhampton and Birmingham.

As well as providing much needed homes for the local area, the plans will also see the upgrading of the retaining wall to the River Stour which is adjacent to the site.

Ninder Johal, from the Black Country LEP, who are supporting the delivery of the site by investing funding of circa £1.6m for remediation, commented: "Through investing in developments such as this one we are able to bring forward key sites across the Black Country. We are delighted to be working in partnership with Accord and Galliford Try to enable the delivery of new, affordable, homes in the Black Country ensuring we retain people in the area and encourage more people to choose the Black Country as the place to live."

---