

Expert advisory group formed to help drive house building in the Midlands



A new advisory group has been created to support the delivery of much needed, high-quality housing at pace and scale within the West Midlands.

The Advanced Manufacture in Construction (AMC) group has been formed by the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) and will be led by Mark Farmer, the Government's champion for modern methods of construction in homebuilding.

The expert group consists of industry specialists from Accord Housing Association, Homes England, Mace, Lendlease, the University of Wolverhampton, CITB, Walsall Housing Group, Construction Innovation Hub, UK Finance and West Midlands Combined Universities.

AMC involves manufacturing building components in factories away from building sites and then assembling the parts more quickly and efficiently to produce quality homes.

Accord chief executive Dr Chris Handy said: "We are delighted to be part of the AMC group to support the delivery of much needed affordable housing within the Midlands.

"Accord's LoCal Homes factory is already creating timber framed modular systems which are being rolled out across the region with new collaborations being set up across the public and private sector to make the adoption of AMC more cost effective."

The WMCA believes AMC can help the West Midlands bounce back more quickly from the coronavirus pandemic. The need to build more homes faster is a key priority for the region's post-Covid-19 economic recovery plans.