



NEWS RELEASE

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WORK STARTS ON NEW AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT IN PORTSMOUTH

The latest phase of Portsea's regeneration scheme is now underway, with Atlantic Housing starting work on a development of 39 new homes in Queen Street, Portsmouth.

The apartments will provide a mix of shared ownership and affordable rented housing and include both one and two-bedroom homes. Located at the gateway to the new John Pounds healthy living complex, the development is on land provided by the local council.

The new apartments replace a block of flats and former public house on the site, which had fallen into a poor state of repair. Atlantic Housing has been working with Barratt Homes and Portsmouth City Council on its plans for the site, which also include two retail units at ground floor level. The development is part of the major Portsea regeneration scheme which also includes further new homes on the old John Pounds site.

John Crapper, Atlantic Housing's project manager says the homes are targeted at the local community: "We are providing 21 homes for shared ownership, which are designed to meet the needs of local people who want to purchase a home, but are unable to afford to buy one outright. We are also providing a further 18 one and two bedroom flats at affordable rents, to meet local housing demand."

Local Portsmouth contractor, PMC Construction and Development Services, is building the homes, which are due for completion in summer next year.

ENDS

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Note to Editors

Previous developments at the John Pounds site include a new medical facility, which was completed in 2003, and the award-winning John Pounds Centre, a community building which opened its doors in October 2005.

First Wessex Housing Group manages around 16,000 affordable homes primarily in Hampshire and with some activity in Surrey, Thames Valley and Oxford.

The group comprises Atlantic Housing Limited, First Atlantic Housing, Pavilion Housing Association, Portsmouth Housing Association, Fernhill Care Limited and Wessex Property Limited.

Portsmouth Housing Association: provides homes in Portsmouth, Fareham, Gosport and Havant. It also provides a wide range of community regeneration services across South East Hampshire.

Atlantic Housing and First Atlantic Housing: provide a full range of affordable housing including rented, supported, shared ownership and key worker housing. A large support portfolio includes housing for older people, extra-care housing, dementia care housing, housing for people with learning disabilities, people recovering from mental illness and some specialist accommodation. They cover a geographic area spanning Eastleigh, Southampton, Winchester and the New Forest.

Pavilion Housing Association: the largest provider of housing association homes for rent in the Aldershot, Farnborough, Ash and Farnham areas.

Fernhill Care: provides care services for tenants of First Wessex Housing Group and other landlords and for individuals in the community with support needs. It specialises in domiciliary, extra- and dementia care.

Wessex Property Limited: the group's in-house repairs and maintenance organisation.

www.firstwessexhg.co.uk

www.atlantichousing.co.uk

www.pavilionha.co.uk

www.phagroup.org.uk