



23 December 2008

## **THE GANTRY**

### **Response to Matt Smith of the Daily Echo regarding the Gantry**

Hazel Warwick, Group Director of Development and Regeneration at First Wessex Housing Group of which Atlantic Housing is part, said:

“This development will bring much needed affordable housing to Southampton city centre with at least 65 per cent of the properties being available for general needs rent or low cost home ownership.

“Whilst the development is high density, every effort has been made to provide a desirable living environment which scores highly in terms of sustainability, quality of housing and transport facilities including 40 parking spaces and cycle storage.

“In addition, to make the scale of the building more visually appealing, rather than have one large block of flats, the plan is for three distinct blocks each with their own entrances and varying the skyline profiles. Areas of greenery and soft landscaping will also be introduced in what is otherwise a concrete urban environment.

“The design of the proposed development was produced following a full public consultation held at the Mayflower Theatre in February this year. Residents of Wyndham Court and the wider community including local councillors were invited. The Wyndham Court Residents Association were also consulted.”

**ENDS**

For further information, please contact:

Eva Lambert-Smith, Group PR & Communications Manager, First Wessex Housing Group on 023 9289 6701 / 07770 832247 or [eva.lambert-smith@firstwessexhg.co.uk](mailto:eva.lambert-smith@firstwessexhg.co.uk)

### **Notes to Editors**

First Wessex Housing Group manages around 17,000 affordable homes primarily in Hampshire and with some activity in Surrey.

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](http://www.firstwessexhg.co.uk)  
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