

Partnership to deliver offsite housing pilot



An award winning offsite manufacturing hub in Walsall which produces high quality, sustainable low carbon housing has successfully partnered with Cheshire housing association, Halton Housing Trust, to deliver a Â£500,000 four home pilot.

LoCaL Homes, part of the Accord Group, is an innovative factory based in Stephenson Avenue, Walsall, and will be manufacturing a four home terrace to be built at Grangeway in Runcorn.

Jason Powell, Head of Manufacturing for LoCaL Homes, said: "We are delighted to be entering in to this new partnership to deliver offsite timber framed homes with Halton Housing Trust. Manufacturing and building homes in this way is proving to be much quicker than traditional methods and means that housing associations such as Halton can build more homes, faster to help meet housing need."

John Dale, Investment Manager at Halton Housing Trust, added: "This partnership marks the start of an exciting development for the delivery of homes in Cheshire.

"Providing high performance, high quality homes in Runcorn and Widnes is a priority for the Trust as we aim to build more innovative, flexible and efficient homes for a wider group of people.

"We will use this experience of partnering with LoCaL Homes to train and educate local contractors in offsite construction and contribute to the delivery of energy efficient homes in the North.

"We hope this pilot showcases the fantastic opportunities offsite construction brings and kick-starts the use of more offsite housing solutions in the future."

LoCaL Homes made UK history for the Accord Group when it opened its doors in October 2011, making it the first housing association in the country to have its own factory. Since then it has gone from strength to strength, winning two national awards and expanding its premises to incorporate a new storage warehouse to help speed up the production process.

Employing 22 people, many of whom were previously unemployed, the factory produces around 200 homes a year on one shift.

For more information, please email [Elaine Wolkowicz](#) at LoCaL Homes or call 01922 614 898.
