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Latest phase of work to transform Ings gets underway

The latest stage of work in a £27m scheme to deliver new, eco-friendly housing on the Ings estate in east Hull has started.

The Sutton Meadows development is part of Gateway's multi million pound regeneration programme across the city, aimed at making Hull a place where people choose to live. The work will see £600 million invested in east Hull by the pathfinder and its partners over the next 10-15 years and has already resulted in 59 new homes being built on the Ings estate.

The new development, which is being built by Chevin Housing Association in partnership with Hull City Council and Gateway, will see a further 127 homes built, at a cost of £15m, to replace substandard, 1960s built, Caspon houses which have become unpopular due to inefficient heating systems and their potential to leak.

In a bid to combat the impact of the current economic downturn on the housing market and to provide new homes for existing residents whose properties are being demolished, 36 of the 51 homes being built as part of Phase One of the Sutton Meadows development will be made available to rent, with the rest of the site comprising properties for outright sale and shared ownership. Prices are likely to start at around £131,500 for a 3 bedroom, end-terrace property.

In-keeping with the sustainability of the development, all properties will adhere to a minimum "Ecohomes" mark of very good, guaranteeing minimal environmental impact and reduced fuel bills. In addition, 10% of properties will also incorporate renewable energy in the form of solar panels.

Chris Hilton, Development Director at Gateway, said: "The Sutton Meadows development is an important step forward in our plans to dramatically alter the face of east Hull. The houses we have already delivered are of a very high quality and the start of work on the next phase is testament to the commitment we have to ensuring the proposed changes move forward, even in these difficult economic times."

David McKeown, Group Development and Regeneration Director for Chevin Housing Association, commented: "As well as being aesthetically pleasing, the new homes benefit from an excellent range of eco-friendly features aimed at reducing carbon emissions as well as residents' fuel bills."

Cllr Rick Welton, Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing Strategy at Hull City Council, said: "It is very pleasing to see such changes taking place in east Hull. These new houses are not only better suited to modern living but they will also vastly improve the image of the area."

Residents affected by Gateway's redevelopment programme will get first priority for the new homes. Properties will then be available on the open market.

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