

# HCA UPDATE

## OCTOBER 2009

The Homes and Communities Agency is the single, national housing and regeneration agency for England. Our aim is to create opportunity for people to live in homes they can afford in places they want to live, and for local authorities and communities to achieve the ambition they have for their own areas.

This monthly update provides a summary of some of our recent achievements and highlights.

"I am delighted that the HCA has been able to play such a major role in unlocking key housing schemes across the country... We look forward to completing the contracts and getting starts on site."

Sir Bob Kerlake on the  
Kickstart programme

**£450m**  
APPROVED  
FOR OVER  
**11,700** NEW  
AND  
AFFORDABLE  
HOMES  
THROUGH  
KICKSTART  
ROUND 1  
FUNDING.

## OUR ACTIONS

### Unlocking new homes in every region Kickstart

Through the Kickstart programme, we have now approved funding for 91 schemes to receive a total of £207m, providing 6,618 new and affordable homes across the country. A further £241m could be allocated for 5,144 additional homes, subject to conditions. We have received a further 660 bids for funding under Kickstart Round 2. The programme, which could deliver up to 22,400 homes, will also create new apprenticeships and labour opportunities.

### Local Authority New Build

47 local authorities have been granted a total of £127m to deliver over 2,000 new homes under the Local Authority New Build programme. This forms the first tranche of funding from a total package of £460m to be allocated. Round 2 bidding began in September and the results will be announced shortly.

### Public Land Initiative

A series of HCA and local authority sites are being identified in the nine government regions, where developers will work with public land owners to bring forward new homes. A workshop attended by 47 local authorities and Regional Development Agencies took place in October to explain the initiative and how to get involved. A total of 1,250 homes are to be built, with construction underway in April next year.

OVER  
**2,000** NEW  
HOMES  
TO BE  
DELIVERED  
UNDER  
ROUND 1  
OF THE  
LOCAL  
AUTHORITY  
NEW BUILD  
PROGRAMME.

### Improving employment opportunities

A potential 2,800 new apprenticeships and local labour initiatives could be created through the HCA's Kickstart, Local Authority New Build and affordable housing programmes over the next two years. We have established an Employment Working Group to co-ordinate our activities, and have stipulated that all RSLs receiving NAHP funding commit to improving employment opportunities.

# HCA UPDATE

OCTOBER 2009

MORE  
THAN **2,800**  
NEW LOCAL  
LABOUR  
OPPORTUNITIES  
COULD BE  
CREATED  
THROUGH  
THE HCA'S  
HOUSING  
PROGRAMMES.

---

#### Investment to end A406 housing blight

The HCA has agreed to invest £54m of funding to refurbish properties along the A406 in Enfield, north London, to create over 400 new affordable family homes. Housing association Notting Hill Housing Trust will carry out the project, working with the local community to shape the development.

---

#### Creating new rural homes in West Midlands

Over 360 new homes have been commissioned in the West Midlands to improve housing in rural communities across the region, marked by the recent completion of the John Corbett Way development in Stoke Prior, Bromsgrove.

---

#### Putting sustainability first

Planning permission has now been granted for 110 homes in Phase 1 of the redevelopment of Graylingwell, part of the HCA's hospital sites portfolio. Work can now begin to create a sustainable community with a net zero carbon footprint, including plans for new bus routes, cycle paths and a Combined Heat and Power plant.

---

#### Affordable homes for King's Cross Central

The HCA has granted £42m towards the development of 284 affordable homes at King's Cross Central, London, one of Europe's most significant regeneration projects. The 284 homes will be built alongside open market housing for sale and/or rent, and will provide a mix of affordable rented homes, supported housing and homes for shared ownership.

---

#### Driving up environmental standards

The HCA has provided £3.5m of funding for 57, environmentally-friendly new homes at the Flaxhayes development in Bridport, Dorset. The homes will achieve Code Level 4\* of the Code for Sustainable Homes, and will incorporate features such as energy efficient cooking, heating and cooling technologies. They will also be built to Lifetime Homes standards to ensure residents can get the most out their community as time goes by.

**1,250**  
NEW HOMES  
WILL BE  
BUILT ON  
HCA SITES  
AS PART  
OF THE  
PUBLIC LAND  
INITIATIVE.

Find out more about the HCA's work at  
[homesandcommunities.co.uk](http://homesandcommunities.co.uk)  
or sign up for the HCA newsletter online.

0300 1234 500  
[homesandcommunities.co.uk](http://homesandcommunities.co.uk)