



# Leeds Housing Regeneration Project

## The £198m Leeds Housing Regeneration Project has resulted in whole areas of Little London, Beeston Hill and Holbeck being uplifted. This flagship project has created 388 new homes, improved 1295 existing properties and transformed green areas. Equans is also responsible for facilities management and lifecycle works for a period of 20 years.

The project - which began in September 2013 - has had a direct impact on the lives of those in the community.

The areas of Beeston Hill, Holbeck and Little London had previously been reported as being among the 10% most deprived in the UK with the design and layout of the estates often leading to anti-social behaviour and crime.

Limited investment over the years had resulted in extensive refurbishment work being required to give the estates an extended lifespan, with the environment also requiring improvement to complement the planned stock investment.

### **Inventive design solutions**

It was important that the new homes 'fitted in' with the local area, so their design had to be both innovative and harmonious with the existing housing.

The new properties have all been built to Level 4 of the Code for Sustainable Homes and Lifetime Homes standards, with photovoltaic solar panels, bike sheds, rainwater collection, and weather compensators, compost bins, recycling bin stores and water butts.

The homes have also been designed in line with Secured by Design principles, ensuring the creation of a safe and comfortable community. Refurbished properties have been made warmer and more energy efficient, with benefits for residents including:

- Lower energy bills
- Reduced CO<sup>2</sup> emissions
- Gas connections supplied to homes that did not previously have them

## Creating lasting change in the community

Local people were also able to take advantage of a wide range of employment and training opportunities, with more than 50 apprenticeships, 70 work placements, and 120 new jobs created through the project.

An extensive programme of engagement with local schools and colleges was also undertaken, with the aim of inspiring the next generation of construction professionals.

The project has improved the lives of people living in these areas of Leeds by creating high quality sustainable homes and transformational change. It has created stronger, more self-reliant communities and places that are safer, cleaner, greener - places where local residents are proud to live and where external perceptions have been transformed.



# Testimonial

"Not only has this scheme delivered much-needed new housing, but it has helped to regenerate communities in what have been some of the poorest areas of Leeds."

**Councillor Debra Coupar** Executive Board Member for Communities Leeds City Council

## Key features

- Client: Leeds City Council sustainable communities 4 Leeds (sc4L)
- Value: c£198million
- Duration: September 2013 April 2017
- Ongoing maintenance and lifecycle works for a 20 year period

- 1295 refurbished homes
- 388 new homes built
- 97% customer satisfaction with the refurbishment work
- £321.20 projected average annual energy bill savings per household due to thermal improvements
- Deprivation figures at a record low in Beeston Hill and Holbeck
- New employment created for 128 people (most of whom live in Leeds)
- Eight trainee positions created
- 77 work experience placements

#### **Project outcomes**

- 52 new apprenticeships created
- 12 existing apprenticeships safeguarded

## For further information please contact:

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