

We make an important contribution to the local economies of the areas in which we build.

Most of our employees and site workers are recruited from the areas in which we operate. In the UK, we build much needed affordable housing and contribute significant funds to infrastructure and community facilities through planning obligations. We are often involved in regeneration projects and our mixed use developments provide retail and office units that can further boost local employment.

Affordable housing

We build high quality affordable housing and seek to integrate affordable units throughout developments in order to encourage community cohesion. We delivered 1,709 affordable homes in the UK during 2009, which was 16.8% of our total number of home completions.

We support the UK Government's First Time Buyers Initiative (FTBI) and Homebuy Direct schemes that help first time buyers to finance their first step onto the property ladder. We sold 645 homes under the FTBI and 107 under Homebuy Direct during 2009. In addition, we also provide Taylor Wimpey Shared Equity and Deposit Match schemes to help prospective customers finance their home purchase.

Local employment

We seek to recruit employees and site workers from the areas around our offices and developments. Our

Raploch development in Stirling, for example, won Social Regeneration Project of the Year at the Regeneration and Renewal Awards 2009. In an area where unemployment is around 75%, the award judges were impressed by the use of commercial contracts to help local people. We have a recruitment office on site which has provided 10 apprenticeships, 10 operative jobs and 46 training placements with more on offer. Partnership with a local construction forum has resulted in £2.68m worth of work for local businesses and local sub-contractors have received mentoring and support to help them tender for work.

Community enhancement

Every year, we make substantial financial and in kind contributions to local communities through UK planning obligations. For example, the Section 106 agreement for our site at Abbotswood in Romsey will include a range of highways, footways and cycleway improvements as well as a contribution to local bus services. It includes the provision of a community hall, pavilion, sports pitches, play areas and a community worker as well as a contribution towards an off site community centre. We will also provide millions of pounds in funding for education and will fund the maintenance of areas of nature conservation and conservation woodland.

£2.68m

worth of work for local businesses and sub-contractors provided by our Raploch development.

- We delivered 1,709 affordable homes in the UK in 2009.
- Most of our employees and site workers come from the areas around our sites and offices.
- Our Raploch development in Stirling won Social Regeneration Project of the Year at the Regeneration and Renewal Awards 2009.
- Every year, we make substantial financial and in kind contributions to local communities through UK planning obligations.

2009 contributions via planning obligations

(Sections 106 and 75 payments)

