



**Community Benefits**

**New Housing Development, Western Park, Renfrew**

**Sanctuary Housing Association**

**February 2016**

## Introduction

AS Homes (Scotland) Ltd is a family-run, Glasgow based housebuilder. We build modern, quality homes for a variety of Registered Social Landlords, including Sanctuary Housing Association. We are working with Sanctuary to build 67 homes at the Western Park development at Inchinnan Road in Renfrew. During this development, like all our initiatives, we are committed to delivering a number of community benefit programmes, designed to inform and engage the local community. Details of our specific community benefit approach for Western Park are shown below:

### 1. Working with the Community

We recognise the importance of supporting local community groups. We are involved with helping a number local schools, sports clubs and associations. In the case of the Western Park development, we wanted to give something back to the local junior football team. The development sits on the site of the former Renfrew Juniors FC. They have moved premises and the car park to the football club was in disrepair. As a gesture of goodwill, we are currently carrying out a complete resurfacing of their car park at Renfrew Junior FC. The value of this goodwill gesture is approximately £10,000.



Resurfacing the Renfrew Juniors FC car park

## 2. Informing the local community

We understand that the local community like to be kept well-informed of any construction work that is taking place beside them. As such, we have already provided two forms of communication to all the surrounding properties at this site. The first letter we distributed provided a general introduction of AS Homes (Scotland) Ltd and what we plan to do at the site. The second communication gave specific details of piling work that was planned, apologising for any inconvenience this may cause and details of a dilapidation survey we were carrying out.

We will shortly be sending out a third communication in the form of an update newsletter. This will include details of work carried out to date, plans for the future and what we are doing to give back to the local community.



A football team sponsored by AS Homes

## 3. Working with local schools

We visit a number of nurseries, primary and secondary schools to make contact, see if there are any projects we can help with and offer presentation and/or workshops.

In this case, our Commercial Director, Kieran Sexton got in touch with local primary school, St James Primary in Renfrew. We have arranged to visit the school on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March with the Considerate Contractors mascot 'Ivor Goodsite'. We will deliver a talk to the children, highlighting the dangers of a construction site and importantly, talking to the pupils about the variety of roles that exist in the construction industry to inspire them at an early age to think about a career in this important sector. We will also provide a goody bags to all the pupils.

#### 4. Creating Employment and Training Opportunities

We are committed to providing local jobs to local people on every site. At this development at least 75% of sub-contractors are employed from the immediate local area.

We have listed below the following local people who have been employed to work at Western Park:

Name	Area	Contractor/Sub-contractor	Job title
Martin Bryson	Inchinnan	Akela	Labourer
Colin Armstrong	Paisley	AS Homes	Labourer
David Smoth	Kilwinning	AS Homes	Fork Lifter
John Cunningham	Renfrew	T TAG	Scaffolder
Sean Canning	Govan	T TAG	Scaffolder

We have a strong policy of promoting people from within our organisation. Paul Clark started working with us as an agency labourer, 3 years ago. We recognised his huge potential and supported him and gave him access to a number of training courses and qualifications. He has now risen through the ranks to now become site manager and in charge of the Western Park development.

#### 5. Students and work placements

We recently worked with student, Calum Murray who was completing his degree in Civil Engineering at Glasgow Caledonian University. Calum shadowed a number of our employees throughout his work placement and came to the Western Park site whilst we were carrying out the earthworks, roads, sewers and foundations. Calum was onsite with our Site Manager Paul Clark and our Commercial Director Kieran Saxton. Calum gained some invaluable experience which has helped him work towards and finish his degree.

Recently two secondary school pupils took part in work experience at AS Homes (Scotland) Ltd. The pupils – Leon Potter and James Beattie worked in the office as part of work experience week. They gained experience in the quantity surveying and architectural departments, doing take-offs, measuring roads, learning about CAD design and attending site meetings. They both thoroughly enjoyed the week – so much so that they now want to pursue careers in the construction industry.

#### 6. Sustainability

AS Homes have numerous projects involved in the Considerate Constructors Scheme and the Western Park development is registered with this scheme. We compile all the report findings and update Project Managers on where we are successful and unsuccessful on the participating sites. This allows for continuous development and improvement. Our Site Manager, Paul Clark will implement all the

necessary elements on site ensuring that the development will attain or succeed the average score of at least 38 points. He will work in conjunction with our Commercial Director Kieran Sexton in compiling all evidence relating to the Considerate Constructor Scheme and ensuring the site follows the Code of Considerate Practice:

- Care about Appearance
- Respect the Community
- Protect the Environment
- Secure Everyone's Safety
- Value their Workforce

## 7. Publicity

### 7.1 Ideas

AS Homes (Scotland) Ltd has already carried out joint public relations activity to promote our joint working with Sanctuary throughout this development. We have already issued a press release with supporting quote from Sanctuary which resulted in nine pieces of press coverage, including the national, local and trade press.

Some examples of the press coverage are included below:



**Planning permission granted for £8.5m Renfrew housing development on former Renfrew Junior FC ground**



47 Total Shares

Planning permission has been granted for a £8.5m development of 67 homes for social rental at Inchinnan Road, Western Park, Renfrew.

AS Homes (Scotland) Ltd, one of Scotland's prominent house builders have been granted the planning permission to build them for Sanctuary Scotland Housing Association, one of the country's leading social landlords, on the site of the former Renfrew Junior FC pitch. The application was lodged with Renfrewshire Council in April 2016.

Of the 67 units, 33 will be flats and 34 will be houses. The houses will be a mixture of two storey, two and three bedroom, semi-detached and terraced houses. The blocks of two-bedroom flats will be three and four storeys high. The homes will be built using timber frame construction, which brings many benefits including quicker build times and energy efficiency.

## Homes plan is approved

**PLANNING** has been granted for an £8.5million development of new homes for social landlord Sanctuary Housing.

AS Homes will build 67 properties on the site of the former Renfrew Junior FC pitch in Inchinnan Road, Renfrew.

The 34 houses will be a mix of two storey, two and three-bedroom detached and semi-detached homes with 33, two-bedroom flats.

Pat Cahill, director of Sanctuary Scotland, said: "We aim to start work on site this month, with completion due in early 2018."

## Planning permission granted for £8.5m Renfrew housing development

AS Homes (Scotland), Sanctuary Scotland Housing Association  
18 August 2016

[Tweet](#)



AS Homes (Scotland) Ltd has been granted planning permission for a new £8.5 million development of 67 homes for social rent in Renfrew for Sanctuary Scotland Housing Association.

The homes are being built at Inchinnan Road, Western Park, on the site of the former Renfrew Junior FC pitch. The application was lodged with Renfrewshire Council in April 2016.

We will continue to work closely with Sanctuary on events that mark key milestones throughout the contract, and will send press releases approved by Sanctuary to the local media outlets.

## **7.2 Awards and Recognition**

AS Homes (Scotland) Ltd were nominated for the Homes for Scotland Affordable housing development of the year 2015 for our Cathcart Road site for Home Scotland HA.

AS well as being a member of the Considerate Contractors scheme, our company boasts an exemplary Health & Safety record. We have no claims nor any outstanding claims.