

Press Release
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New sustainable homes for Newport



Work is well underway on Melin Homes' development of affordable homes at Broadmead in Newport.

The 3 three-bedroom timber framed homes will be highly insulated and will contain a range of energy saving features including solar panels to heat residents' water, exhaust air heat pump systems with room controlled under-floor heating, 100 per-cent efficient lighting, eco-flushing toilets and external water butts. All of these features will help to reduce running costs for residents.

The homes are being built to Level 4 of the Code for Sustainable Homes – higher than the mandatory Code Level 3. The Code sets the overall sustainability and energy efficiency of new build homes. The scheme was selected by the Welsh Assembly Government as a pilot scheme to assess the feasibility of achieving a higher Code Level which will be reviewed by the Building Research Establishment.

Mark Gardner, Melin's Chief Executive, said: "At Melin we are committed to providing high quality homes and improving the energy efficiency of them is just one way in which we can demonstrate this. Not only will these homes have a positive impact on national energy and climate change targets, they will also prove to be highly cost-effective for the residents who live in them."

Councillor Richard White, Newport's Cabinet Member for Housing and Community Services, said: "Newport City Council is pleased to see properties constructed to this level of energy efficiency by Melin Homes. In reducing the amount of energy required to be used in the property, it will save money for the resident, help prevent future potential fuel poverty and have a positive impact on climate change."

Work on Melin's homes at Broadmead is due to be completed in October 2009. The properties will be available for affordable rent or low-cost home ownership to qualifying applicants.

Photo caption: Building greener homes.

(Melin's Director of Development Peter Davies and Chief Executive Mark Gardner show Cabinet Member for Housing and Community Services Cllr Richard White and Housing Services Manager for Newport City Council Mike Jones around the development.)

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For more information please contact Laura Maddrell, Communications Officer, on 01495 745929 or email laura.maddrell@melinhomes.co.uk

Notes to editors:

- Melin Homes is a not-for-profit landlord providing quality homes and services across Blaenau Gwent, Monmouthshire, Newport, Powys and Torfaen. For further information please visit www.melinhomes.co.uk
- In December 2006, the Government launched the Code for Sustainable Homes as a replacement for the Ecohomes standard.
- The Welsh Assembly Government has indicated that all new homes should be zero carbon by 2011.