

Fosters Estate Newsletter

January 2021



What has been happening?

Despite the continued challenges brought by the Covid-19 pandemic and the current lockdown restrictions, work on the Upper and Lower Fosters Estate project has continued and a number of important milestones have been reached:

- the project was approved by the council's Housing and Growth Committee in November 2020
- Bouygues UK (bouygues-uk.com) have been selected as the main contractor to deliver the scheme. This follows an extensive tender and interview process with the interview panel including a tenant representing residents from the estate
- a revised tenure mix has been agreed which means that all the new homes will be let at affordable levels, including 60 homes for rent, 82 homes for shared ownership and 75 homes for extra care provision.

Work has also continued on the detailed design for the scheme that was approved at Planning Committee in October 2019. This has included clarifying a number of planning and legal matters and confirming land ownership across the estate, including the garages and pram sheds.

Negotiations are continuing with a proposed funding partner and further details will be released once these negotiations are concluded.

Once again, we are pleased to say that despite all the challenges thrown up by the Covid-19 pandemic, the project has continued to move forward with only minor delays to the original programme.

The next phase

Over the coming weeks, we will be working with Bouygues UK to finalise the details of their formal appointment and to carefully plan the sequence of works on site to minimise disruption to residents. Work will also continue behind the scenes on various planning and legal matters to ensure work on site can start at the earliest opportunity. One of the key criteria for selecting Bouygues UK as the main contractor was their commitment to engaging with residents and we will be introducing the Resident Engagement Team from Bouygues UK hopefully as and when lockdown restrictions ease.

We understand residents will have lots of questions about the project and we are keen to hear from you and we are here to help with any queries you may have. We are particularly keen to hear from our elderly, vulnerable or disabled residents who may be worried about the impact of the works. We encourage you to contact us and provide details of any friend, neighbours or relatives who you feel may need some extra support. Please contact either Deborah Beckford (Deborah.Beckford@barnethomes.org) or Nigel Lomax (nigel.lomax@barnethomes.org).

Project timeline

August 2020
Tenders returned

Oct/Nov 2020
Tenders analysed and
contractor appointed

Nov 2020
Project signed off by Barnet
Homes/Barnet Council

Spring 2021
Works begin

Fire safety works update

As part of Barnet Homes' fire safety works programme in high rise blocks in the borough, the blocks at Upper Fosters will receive retro-fitted sprinklers, upgraded fire detection and fire compartmentation works including new front doors to flats.

Barnet Homes wrote to all residents of the Fosters Estate informing them about the contractor, Vallectric Ltd, setting up a site compound located on the grass between the blocks in May.

Due to some delays caused by access issues during the lockdown and the need for some additional work, the programme for completion of the Fire Safety works has been revised and will now be completed between May and July 2021, depending on Covid-19 restrictions.

If you need to discuss these works, please call Ian Woollard from Barnet Homes' Fire Safety Team on **020 8359 3449**.

COVID-19 update

Barnet Homes continues to work to keep residents and staff safe during the Covid-19 pandemic, and the latest lockdown period. For the latest information about our response, and the latest service updates, please visit our website, barnethomes.org.

Contacting us

If you would like to discuss anything mentioned above, please contact Deborah Beckford on **020 8359 5307** or deborah.beckford@barnethomes.org. For further information about the project please visit the dedicated page on the Barnet Homes website: barnethomes.org/fosters.

Working with:

