



NEWS RELEASE – 2 March 2012

New apartments deliver on sustainability

The first development by Hills Property Limited for the Cottsway Housing Association is set to deliver significant environmental benefits.

Hills Property has been contracted to build 26 new apartments in Stratton St Margaret and construction is almost a quarter of the way through.

The build features a timber frame design which complies with the Code for Sustainable Homes and will minimise the amount of waste produced on site and during manufacture.

Nick King, group director Hills Property, said: “The roof trusses and floor joists are designed and manufactured as part of the frame. This minimises timber off-cuts usually produced from more traditional build techniques. A wall and floor cassette system has been chosen and designed to speed erection and to reduce plasterboard and block work cutting which in turn further reduces on site waste.”

The factory chosen to produce the timber frame recycles 100 per cent of all timber waste and 85 per cent of any additional waste generated during the production process.

Thermal performance of the new apartments will be high, through increased air tightness, sound insulation and thermal efficiency. For every cubic metre of wood used instead of other building materials, 0.8tonnes of CO2 is saved from the atmosphere.

The development is Cottsway’s first project since becoming a Preferred Development and Management Partner of Swindon Borough Council. **ENDS**



Jan 2012 – Construction begins



Feb 2012 – One month later and roof trusses are being installed



Feb 2012 - Allan Ramsay, site manager, inspects the progress at Stratton St Margaret



Notes to editors:

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- Hills Property Limited, through its popular *Hills Homes* brand, has established a strong reputation for building high quality homes on carefully selected sites in Wiltshire and neighbouring areas – from major developments in large towns to smaller ones in rural towns and villages. www.hills-homes.co.uk
- The company is a recent winner of the 2010 LABC National 'Best small housing development' Award.
- In addition to its own developments, Hills Property is also a successful contract builder.
- Hills Property Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of The Hills Group Limited, a privately owned family company established in 1900
- More information on the Hills Group Limited www.hills-group.co.uk

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Cottsway Housing Association Ltd is the largest local Registered Provider (RP) operating within the West Oxfordshire District and also has properties in Wiltshire and Gloucestershire. It manages over 3,700 homes and provides services to over 135 leaseholders and over 70 part owners in its shared ownership schemes. Cottsway has an annual turnover of £15 million and a target development programme to develop on average at least 140 properties each year. Cottsway Housing Association is a charitable industrial and provident society.

Code for Sustainable Homes: The Code for Sustainable Homes is the national standard for the sustainable design and construction of new homes. The Code aims to reduce our carbon emissions and create homes that are more sustainable. It applies in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.