

New Islington – The Partner Organisations

Urban Splash – Lead Developer

Pioneering property developer Urban Splash was selected as lead developer for the government's third Millennium Communities Initiative, the Cardroom in East Manchester in March 2000.

Submissions were invited by prospective developers from the UK and abroad and Urban Splash was successful because of its track record for innovation, ideas, and its quest to create architecture of a high standard and quality.

Founded in 1993 by Tom Bloxham MBE and Jonathan Falkingham, the Urban Splash philosophy is to provide affordable work, live and play spaces with the emphasis on outstanding quality design and build. Urban Splash has a string of successful schemes including: The Collegiate, Liverpool, the refurbishment of a Grade Listed* Listed former school in apartments: Smithfield Buildings, Manchester, a former department store now home to retail, leisure and apartments; Timber Wharf, Castlefield, Manchester, the first new build scheme by Urban Splash and Match Works at Speke Garston, Liverpool, the conversion of former Bryant and May match factory into modern office space. Urban Splash has won over 75 awards with each major scheme receiving a prestigious RIBA (Royal Institute of British Architects) award.

For Further Information Contact

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More follows

Notes to Editors Contd...

New East Manchester Limited

New East Manchester Ltd (NEM) is one of nine Urban Regeneration Companies in the country and a partnership between the City Council, English Partnerships and the Northwest Development Agency. It is NEM's role to implement its Regeneration Framework, secure required public and private funding, lead on specific major development projects as well as co-ordinate the range of regeneration and renewal initiatives in the area.

One of NEM's key strategic objectives is to create strong, sustainable communities within east Manchester. This will be achieved by creating strong demand and increasing choice, quality and diversity within the existing housing market as well as provision of 12,500 new homes in the area.

The proposals for New Islington form an integral part of NEM's comprehensive programme of housing renewal in east Manchester. In March 2001 Urban Splash were appointed as lead developer for the estate as they demonstrated clear vision and commitment to making the area one of the very best examples of city living in the 21st Century.

For Further Information Contact

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English Partnerships

English Partnerships is the national catalyst for sustainable regeneration and development. It is a key delivery agency for the urban renaissance and the government's new 'sustainable communities' agenda. The Millennium Communities programme is one of English Partnerships' flagship initiatives, aiming to create between 5,000-6,000 new energy-efficient and

environmentally friendly homes on a range of sites across the country over a seven to ten year period.

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New Islington was the third Millennium Community to be identified and the programme now encompasses seven sites. English Partnerships has formed a steering group of local stakeholders to co-ordinate progress on the Community's development and is leading the project on behalf of the public sector. As well as being a landowner in the Community area, it will also be funding demolition, remediation and infrastructure works on the site.

For Further Information Contact

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Alsop Architects – Lead Planners

Alsop Architects are acting as overall strategic framework planners for the Manchester Millennium Community project. The practice was selected from a shortlist of six in December 2001.

Following consultation with the local community and a specialist team covering a range of other disciplines, Alsop Architects have developed an overall framework for the whole study area extending over 30 acres. The practice's objective has been to exploit the real opportunity presented by this project to create a sense of identity for an existing edge of city neighbourhood. This has been achieved by developing an overall vision that creates a new public realm, designed to accommodate and harness people's interests, hobbies and imagination.

Alsop Architects is a leading European practice with offices in London and Rotterdam. Well known for award winning projects such as Peckham library and North Greenwich underground station in London, and the Regional Government headquarters in Marseilles, Alsop Architects is increasingly

developing an international reputation for its *visioning* approach to the master planning and redevelopment of run down areas and its ability to positively address issues of urban regeneration by realising the untapped physical, environmental and sociological potential of a neighbourhood or town.

Notes to Editors Contd...

For Further Information Contact

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Manchester Methodist Housing Group – Preferred Housing Association Partner

Manchester Methodist Housing Group is a hugely successful organisation, owning and managing nearly 4000 homes across the North West. The Group is involved in a range of complex integrated community regeneration projects and its expertise has been recognised with a number of national awards.

Following an intensive selection process, the Group was chosen as the preferred housing association partner in March by a panel including elected residents' representatives as well as other partners. Since then, MMHG has worked closely with all partners, especially the residents, in developing the Millennium Community Initiative.

For Further Information Contact

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