Councillor Tahir Ali
Cabinet Member for Development, Jobs and Skills

“I am pleased with the progress on new homes and facilities for the 3 Estates which are enhancing quality of life. And also that we are using every opportunity to bring forward training and jobs for local people - especially the construction apprenticeships arising from our work with developers. They are an important route into employment during this difficult economic time.”

The New Futures regeneration programme for the three Kings Norton estates of Hawkesley, Pool Farm and Primrose continues – with demolitions paving the way for a new retail development on Redditch Road and plans for more new homes.

The programme is well on its way to turning the long-term vision for the area into a reality: eventually delivering more than 1,000 new homes, a new shopping centre and new opportunities for employment.
You will probably be aware that the site on Redditch Road earmarked for a supermarket is currently being cleared. Many properties have already been demolished and the re-housing of residents continues.

Frontier Estates – who are commercial developers – won the bid to buy the land and enter into discussions with a number of interested retailers in June 2012 after approval from Birmingham City Council’s Cabinet.

After negotiations are complete, planning permission will be applied for and building can begin creating new job opportunities for Kings Norton.

Regeneration leads to training and jobs

Our Place Kings Norton – an independent community organisation run by and for local people on the Kings Norton 3 Estates – teamed up with Birmingham City Council’s Employment Access Team (EAT) in the autumn for a week of activity to let residents know about the sorts of training and job opportunities that will be available through the area’s regeneration.

The ‘Learn and Work Week’ encouraged out-of-work locals to register an interest in future opportunities in retail and construction.

EAT was set up to help Birmingham’s jobseekers access work and training across the city, especially with firms who have contracts with the council on large building and other projects.

Find out more
If you are interested in a job in retail or construction:

- Email your CV to EAT at eateam@birmingham.gov.uk
- Complete an expression of interest form online at www.birmingham.gov.uk/eat-eoi
- For more on the work of Our Place Kings Norton see back page for contact details.
New homes on the way for 3 Estates

Pool Farm Estate:BMHT

Work has now begun on the next two phases of brand new Birmingham Municipal Housing Trust (BMHT) homes on Pool Farm Estate.

BMHT is the council’s home-building arm which aims to deliver hundreds of new homes for the city each year in partnership with a range of private developers. It has already built 43 new homes at Brooklea Grove.

Kier Partnership Homes is working to build another 49 properties – 23 council homes and 26 new houses for sale opposite the Owens Croft/Brooklea Grove development on Pool Farm. This development has started on site and is due to be completed in August.

As part of this scheme Kier has employed three apprentices.

The homes feature photovoltaic panels on the roofs which convert daylight into electricity and a host of other energy-saving measures.

Pool Farm Estate: Barratt Homes

In addition to the new BMHT homes being developed on the estate as a partnership between Birmingham City Council and Kier, the council has also taken advantage of its option to sell land outright to a developer to build more new properties in Pool Farm.

At the beginning of 2012 the land at Monksway off Walkers Heath Road was advertised for residential development and Barratt Homes was the successful bidder. This means that 127 new homes will now be built on the site, including two, three and four-bedroom properties both for rent and for sale. Planning permission has been granted and work started on site in May.

The affordable homes will include a mix of low-cost, shared-ownership, and rental units and these will be provided by Midland Heart.

Land off Walkers Heath Road is cleared to make way for new homes

continued...
Grange Farm Drive (off Rednal Road): BMHT

Kier Partnership Homes is working with the council to build 55 new BMHT homes – 29 for rent and 26 for sale – at Grange Farm Drive. As part of this scheme Kier has employed six apprentices.

Construction started in August 2012 on a mix of two, three and four-bedroom houses and a small number of two-bedroom flats, and should be finished by August.

Stockmans Close (off Shannon Road): BMHT

Planning permission has been gained for a mixed tenure scheme of 44 properties to include two, three, four and five-bedroom houses and some two-bedroom flats. Building work on the homes – 24 for sale and 20 for council rent – will start this summer.

Re-housing programme for Primrose Estate: 2013/14

**Clearance area 5b, starting April 2013**

- **Tern Grove:** 1, 3, 5, 7, 11, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37; and 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44
- **Dee Grove:** 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24
- **Medway Grove:** 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 21 garages

- **Pool Farm Estate re-housing:** Apart from the new development underway in Brooklea Grove and the planned development at Monksway, no further re-housing and demolition will take place on the estate until 2017 at the earliest.

Useful contact details

- **Bali Paddock,**
  Regeneration Project Manager,
  Birmingham City Council
  Call: 0121 303 3968
  Email: Bali.Paddock@birmingham.gov.uk
- **Enquiries about clearance and re-housing**
  Call: 0121 303 1892
- **Our Place Kings Norton, The Fold**
  Call: 0121 459 5955
  Website: www.opkn.co.uk

Your ward councillors and MP

- **Richard Burden MP**
  Call: 0121 477 7746
  Email: Richard.Burden.mp@parliament.uk
- **Councillor Steve Bedser**
  Email: Steve.Bedser@birmingham.gov.uk
- **Councillor Peter Griffiths**
  Email: Peter.Griffiths@birmingham.gov.uk
- **Councillor Valerie Seabright**
  Email: Valerie.Seabright@birmingham.gov.uk
- **For all three ward councillors,**
  call: 0121 303 2039

If you would like this newsletter in Braille, in large print or on audio CD, please call 0121 303 3968.