

## Grant secured to deliver 3,700 affordable homes in the West Midlands

# Matrix

## housing partnership

29 January, 2019

A leading West Midlands housing partnership has announced that it will deliver 3,700 new affordable homes at a total cost of over Â£550million by 2022.

Matrix Housing Partnership, led by Accord Housing Association, will deliver the new homes after having signed a strategic partnership deal with Homes England, under their New Ways of Working Programme. Through this deal Matrix will be delivering an additional 2,257 homes, as well as 1,500 homes already programmed.

In December Accord entered into a grant agreement with Homes England for Â£77million, to build these new homes across the West Midlands.

This coincides with Homes England's 5 Year Plan, which laid out how it is going to work with housing associations to increase housing supply. Homes England is the Government's "housing accelerator" responsible for grant funded building programmes.

As part of the Five Year Plan, Homes England is forming Strategic Partnerships with housing associations to help the sector build significantly more affordable homes. The partnerships will construct over 27,000 additional affordable homes starts by March 2022, including homes for social rent in areas of high affordability pressure.

On behalf of the Matrix Housing Partnership, Chris Handy, Chief Executive at Accord Housing Association said: "We have welcomed this funding from Homes England, which will allow our partnership to develop and bring significant growth opportunities in affordable housing for more than a generation.

"Matrix, along with our housing association and local authority partners look forward to the opportunity to working with Homes England to deliver these new affordable homes."

Jackie Jacob, Homes England General Manager for Affordable Housing Programmes said: "Homes England welcomes

partners like Accord who share our ambition to take a fresh approach to building better homes faster.

âOur Strategic Partnerships challenge housing associations to respond to a new way of engaging strategically with us and give them the ability to be responsive in addressing evolving housing needs at a local level.â

---