

OPPORTUNITIES COME KNOCKING AS SITE DEVELOPS

Building on the Old Cane Hill Hospital site is bringing new opportunities for local people as well as new homes, including exciting career prospects from apprenticeships to local trades.

As two of the UK's biggest housebuilders, Barratt Homes and David Wilson Homes are investing £570,000 in apprenticeship salaries as part of an Employment and Skills Plan to demonstrate our commitment to both the local community and the wider construction industry.

We are working closely with Croydon Borough Council's 'Pathways to Employment' initiative in conjunction with JobCentre Plus to recruit a minimum of 13 apprentices from the local area across the life of the development. The successful candidates will work on the Cane Hill development under the Barratt Apprenticeship programme, which offers one of the best means to "earn as you learn" and develop superlative skills in a variety of construction industry roles.

In addition to apprenticeships, we will engage with local schools and colleges in a number of ways. One will be to provide workshop-style training opportunities to give students an insight into careers in the built environment. As always, we will continue to increase awareness for children on a range of topics from the dangers of playing around building sites to the stages involved in housebuilding.

Further career-building possibilities will be available through a series of traineeship programmes for 20 Coulsdon residents, providing an opportunity to gain the construction industry's essential CSCS card. Following a successful classroom-based learning programme, the trainees will go on to complete 100 hours of work experience with the real prospect of securing a career with one of our sub-contractor partners.

Local businesses and trades will also be invited to events, such as the 'Call for Trades' event we held at Coulsdon Manor Hotel on 29th October, to register their interest in supplying goods and construction services during the redevelopment of the Cane Hill site.



APPRENTICES IMPRESS CROYDON MP

Croydon South MP Chris Philp is excited about the apprenticeship opportunities we are providing at Cane Hill Park, and came along to meet some of our new trainees.

As the development of Cane Hill Park got underway, Mr Philp met four apprentices who have just joined us at Barratt Homes and David Wilson Homes, proud to work for five star housebuilders. The apprentices will play an important part in our regeneration of the former Cane Hill Hospital site after years of neglect.

Said Mr Philp: "I am very excited about these apprenticeships, which are providing excellent opportunities for young people.

"While I am monitoring the development and in particular the implications for traffic in the area, I welcome the undoubted employment and economic benefits of bringing these much-needed new homes to the area."

He met four apprentices who all live in the Croydon area: Nathaniel Howard and Tom Martin have both joined to become carpenters, Jack Wilson is an apprentice bricklayer and Kieran McWilliam is learning to become an electrician.

Over the next two years, the apprentices will be combining college study with practical training giving them an industry-recognised qualification and a valuable trade.

Cane Hill Park Operations Director James Dunne, said: "Apprentices are the lifeline of our business on site, and we have had many success stories with previous apprentices completing their qualifications and progressing a career in either their chosen trade or going on to site management with us."

The development will underpin 1,200 jobs and boost the local economy by £7 million a year as well as fulfil the demand for new homes in the local area.

Barratt Developments was named the best employer of apprentices in the country at the National Apprentices Awards in 2014 and has created more than 3,000 new jobs in the last year alone. It has pledged to take on 1,100 apprentices, graduates and trainees between 2014 and 2016 and the group was recently named as one of the top 10 apprenticeship employers in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) sector – as ranked by the Apprenticeship Careers List.

If you would like to find out more about a career with Barratt Homes and David Wilson Homes log onto www.buildingcareers.together.co.uk

CALL FOR TRADES

Cane Hill Park offers plenty of opportunities for local trades to come and work with us ... and we still need more.

Barratt Homes and David Wilson Homes held a special Call for Trades event at Coulsdon Manor in October as more local sub-contractors are needed to help us build the 675 new homes on the old Cane Hill Hospital site.

James Dunne, Operations Director Cane Hill Park, said: "The development represents a huge opportunity for local construction firms to play a part in a landmark project while adding to their order books.

"It is important to us to support local businesses as far as possible so we would like to hear from sole traders right the way through to larger companies who can provide trade services for the development.

The trades we are looking for include electricians, plumbers, painter and decorators, carpenters, roofers, scaffolders, plasterers/dry liners and bricklayers.

James added: "We recognise sub-contractors are vital to our business and likewise providing local jobs and a boost to the local economy is an important part of what we do. At Cane Hill Park we are aiming to build successful partnerships with companies and individuals throughout the construction process over the coming months and years."

Trades interested should contact:
james.dunne@barratthomes.co.uk

BUILDERS BRING FESTIVE CHEER

As the developers of Cane Hill Park, we helped to bring some festive cheer to Coulsdon this year by supporting the volunteer-led Yulefest.

For the third year running, Coulsdon Yulefest celebrated the switching on of the Christmas lights thanks to a handful of volunteers from local community groups, businesses and residents who got together in 2013.

Barratt Homes and David Wilson Homes again donated £2,000 towards the festival.

Said festival organiser Chris Thairs: "We are delighted that the developers at the Cane Hill Park development are once again supporting the Coulsdon Yulefest community celebrations. The event is one that is greatly enjoyed by thousands of local residents and it is only through the support of local businesses that it can continue to take place."

The main stage and security for the event cost in the region of about £2,000 each. Chris added that he hoped to make this the biggest and best festive event yet for Coulsdon.

This year, the Yulefest switch-on ceremony took place at 5.30pm on Saturday, 5th December, in Brighton Road.

Operations Director for Cane Hill Park, James Dunne, added: "Once again we are proud to be able to support Coulsdon Yulefest. It's a great community event that is enjoyed by so many local people."

"For both Barratt and David Wilson Homes, as local companies, it is important to put something back into the community and of course we very much enjoyed the event itself."

For further information about sponsorship opportunities at Yulefest and to help support the annual event, visit www.yulefest.co.uk



WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

The autumn has brought us a big surprise – mild weather conditions. This has been of great help in progressing building at Cane Hill Park.

The two Show Homes being built for both Barratt and David Wilson Homes had their roof tiling completed in November. This was an important stage – a water-tight roof and the soon-to-be installed windows will mean internal works can start.

Our electricians and plumbers were busy throughout November to complete the first-fix elements and now the process of completing the internal walls has begun. By the end of this

month we will have kitchens and bathrooms fitted and internal finishing done. By late January 2016, we will be in a position to launch the Show Homes so that customers can come and look at the new home styles that will be available at Cane Hill Park.

The new spine road through the centre of the site is nearing completion, linking the edge of our first phase of development up to the Chapel and Water Tower. Our new roundabout entrance will be completed just before Christmas and this will become our new route for construction vehicles.

The existing Lime Tree Avenue is shortly to be renovated with sections of the existing road surface being renewed. We are also working with Croydon Council to agree a suitable footpath finish to the section of worn footpath next to the mature lime trees, whose root systems must be protected from damage. Barratt Homes and David Wilson Homes also now plan to replace the existing lighting columns as part of the works to revitalise Lime Tree Avenue.



GET IN TOUCH

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