

Raising Standards

Innovation

Southern Housing Group is committed to using modern methods of construction where we can see clear benefits for our residents. We believe that in the long term these methods will enable us to produce better, more cost-effective homes than those built using conventional methods. The Group has pioneered a number of techniques in the UK.

Millenium Plus, Nightingale Estate, Hackney

This ground-breaking development pioneered the residential use of Tunnel Form construction in the UK. Tried and tested in Europe, this technique uses metal formers on site around which concrete is poured to create a tunnel-like structure of party walls and floors. Factory-made components, like roof panels, are then lifted and bolted into place. The benefits of this method of construction are speed of construction, high quality, increased space standards, adaptability of internal layout, high insulations standards leading to lower heating bills and low maintenance costs.



Lewis Gardens, Hackney

Eleven houses on this development are built using the 'Super-E' system, developed in Canada. This is a timber frame system, which uses panels for the walls and structure that are manufactured off-site. 'Super-E' properties are renowned for their thermal and sound insulation. The homes also feature a mechanical heat-recovery ventilation system, which continually brings fresh air into the building and exhausts stale air. 'Super E' homes meet the Canadian Government's high standards for air tightness, improved energy efficiency and durability, combined with the use of eco-friendly products and materials that reduce the impact on the environment.



Havering - transforming derelict garages

The London Borough of Havering chose the Group as their partner to develop a number of small infill sites, mostly occupied by derelict garages. The aim of the project is to meet affordable housing needs by introducing a mix of tenure, while introducing innovation and award-winning design to these neighbourhoods. To address these aims, our architects are proposing contemporary solutions, while using more traditional materials as well as including environmental improvements through new landscaping, lighting and boundary improvements bringing wider regeneration for the whole community. Leading architects, Proctor and Mathews, have developed proposals for four sites and intend to use a modular pod system to deliver higher quality construction, better insulation, shorter time on site and an overall cost saving.

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