

Danetree Village Consortium (DVC) has submitted a planning application for 5,150 houses and an employment area east of Daventry. The scheme will include three primary schools, a secondary school and district centres with shopping, community and health facilities. Improved public transport and a network of footpaths and cycle routes will link the new development with existing facilities and help to regenerate the adjoining Marches industrial estate.

The 700,000 sq ft employment zone will provide a range of office, high-tech and light industrial jobs at different skill levels. The plan is to create a low-impact, sustainable community that enhances Daventry and its local economy. The development will, for instance, make significant financial contributions to the public purse for schemes such as the A45 Flore and Weedon Bypass and will provide a major boost to the ongoing renaissance of the town centre.

DVC, a joint venture between Tenscentral Ltd and ProLogis Developments Limited, will be working with four of the UK's leading house builders: Bellway, Taylor Woodrow, Redrow and David Wilson to complete the scheme. These companies have been selected for their design and delivery capability and all are equipped to achieve the targets set by the government in its Regional Spatial Strategy for the East Midlands (RSS8.)

"The ability to deliver housing numbers and community infrastructure," says John Kerr of Bellway, lead house builder for Danetree Village, "can only take place by the early provision and funding of significant on-site infrastructure, on land that is controlled by DVC members ProLogis and Tenscentral, the promoters of the Danetree Village Project."

"ProLogis is a major provider of infrastructure to the government's sustainable communities programme," says Chris Lewis, First Vice President Infrastructure, ProLogis, "and is committed to the early funding of Danetree's infrastructure. Our proposals for the provision of schools, transport improvements, landscaping and reduction of flood risk are key to the success of the scheme. In addition, this extension to Daventry will deliver 3,000 jobs in a variety of sectors, further strengthening the local and regional economy."

A high degree of public consultation has taken place over the past two years. A number of major consultation events have been supported by ongoing dialogue with the local community. The aim has been to ensure that the Danetree Village proposals are fully understood and that, wherever possible, amendments to the scheme reflect local views.

"The consortium has consulted widely with the local community," says Oliver Roper from Tenscentral. "We have had detailed dialogue with West Northamptonshire Development Corporation (WNDC), Daventry District Council (DDC) and other public stakeholders before finalising and submitting the planning application.

"We are confident that our application is consistent with all the key government policy requirements. Meanwhile, we are committed to continue the ongoing public consultation process, to secure a viable and implementable planning consent and deliver the first houses for occupation at the end of 2009."

