

Cwrt Canna, Wales

Passivhaus Standard | Social Housing



Beattie Passive CGI
visualisation



Project Overview

Location: Cwrt Canna, Llangan, Vale of Glamorgan

Client: **Newydd Housing Association**

Design Brief: A £3.4 million development of 13 ultra-low energy homes, designed and built to the Passivhaus standard. The homes all boast high levels of insulation and airtightness, performance windows and Mechanical Ventilation with Heat Recovery (MVHR)



"Moving into this home has made such a difference with the prices of energy as they are. Having an eco-home which is light, airy and with high ceilings is so beneficial. It's been remarkable, the improvement in our mood and wellbeing"

Alex, Newydd Housing Association Tenant

Cwrt Canna, LLangan, Wales



Cwrt Canna is an award-winning development of 13 highly energy efficient and sustainable homes.

The 4 x one bedroom apartments, 8 x two and three bedroom houses and 1 x two bedroom bungalow were built to resemble a collection of farm buildings, set around a central courtyard space.

Built by our Flying Factory partner, Canna Developments, Cwrt Canna ticks all the boxes for a 'beautiful and functional' social housing scheme and then goes further still to achieve Passivhaus standards

of energy efficiency and thermal comfort, while cutting fuel bills and curtailing carbon emissions.

Designed in the Passivhaus Planning Package (PHPP) and constructed around a sustainable timber frame, the homes are extremely energy efficient.

Passivhaus raises living standards and can even help to lift families out of fuel poverty. Damp and mould are no longer a problem and comfortable room temperatures are maintained throughout the year.



Apprenticeships

Sadly, many apprentices lost their work placements due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Fortunately, they were able to take advantage of the apprenticeship opportunities at Cwrt Canna!

As of March 2022, a total of 298 apprenticeship weeks were fulfilled by 6 apprentices.

Of these, one continues to work as an apprentice on-site and three have since found full-time employment.

"As soon as you drive through the village of Llangan your head turns to look at our striking housing development. There is certainly a wow factor about Cwrt Canna and that is down to the hard work of our development team alongside all our contractors."

Jason Wroe

Chief Executive Newydd Housing Association



"I feel so grateful. It's not such a strain anymore. I was over the moon and started crying when I found out I would be moving here. Just getting more stability for us both is a relief. I'm just so happy we can now begin to build a future."

Amber, Newydd Tenant

In 2022, Cwrt Canna was named 'Best Affordable Housing Development' at the Inside Housing Development Awards, and it also won a Welsh Housing Award for 'Delivering High Quality Homes' that same year.

The judges were impressed by the social value inherent in the scheme and the environmental and health benefits associated with the Passivhaus standard.

Cwrt Canna was also a Finalist at the Offsite Awards, the Structural Timber Awards, the CN Specialist Awards, and the UK Housing Awards in 2022.



An Award-winning Project



Prisoner Rehabilitation Scheme



Social value was a hugely important part of this housing development. The project included a prisoner rehabilitation scheme, community engagement, training and apprenticeships.

The day release element of the project was initially delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic, but the scheme was resurrected again later.

In total, eight prisoners from HMP Parc were employed

to fabricate timber modules. Twelve prisoners from HMP Prescoed were also employed. Three of these individuals have since been employed by Canna Developments. Two have been rewarded with full-time contracts, while the third has been appointed as a site foreman.

It has been an exceptionally successful scheme, and we're very proud to have been involved.

Rhodri Crandon, managing director of Beattie Passive's Flying Factory partner, Canna Developments, said: "Those from HMP Prescoed were Category D and the work experience they gained whilst still in prison was invaluable in preparing them for the job market on their release.

"Our rehabilitation scheme helped them gain experience on-site and develop new skills under the supervision of our qualified tradesmen.

"As we paid them all a wage, they will be released with valuable work experience, a company reference and funds to help them secure accommodation and future work."

Ron Beattie, MD of Beattie Passive, added: "It gives these people a valuable skill they can use when they come out of prison. I'm very passionate about rehabilitation because it's such a beneficial solution for everyone involved."

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