



Cosmopolitan Housing Association Regeneration Officer, Kristene Karaski (left,) shows local residents Mr Goldsmith and his daughter (back centre) and Cheshire West and Chester Council Allocations Officers, Katie Illingworth and Emily Guest around one of the new homes on Westminster Road.

## **Investment into new Eco-homes for Ellesmere Port**

RESIDENTS were welcomed to an open day for a major new development of 37 homes for rent in Ellesmere Port which will reduce heating and water costs by using solar energy. Cosmopolitan Housing Association and Chester & District Housing Trust (CDHT) welcomed local residents at an informal open event to launch the Westminster Road development of 37 two-bed homes. The scheme attracted funding from the Homes & Communities Agency (HCA) as part of the National Affordable Housing Programme.

The open day marked the start of a programme of increasing the supply of new homes across the whole of Cheshire West, including Ellesmere Port & Neston, through a new relationship between Cosmopolitan and Chester & District Housing Trust. In total, the partnership between Cosmopolitan and CDHT will create 1,058 new homes across Cheshire West & Chester over the next few years.

The homes are the first to be developed in Ellesmere Port by Cosmopolitan. The event was organised to enable local people to view one of the new homes and meet colleagues from both Cosmopolitan and CDHT who offered help and advice on allocations, resident involvement, tenancy management and income management. The open day was held at the Housing, Health, Employment, Enterprise and Training (HHEET) centre on Church Parade in Ellesmere Port.

Councillor Herbert Manley, Cheshire West and Chester Council's Executive Member for Prosperity, said:

“The opportunity to create a significant amount of new homes within our local communities is always good news and it is great to see investment taking place to help us meet our growing housing needs. The Cheshire Housing Partnership, which includes the council, CDHT, Cosmopolitan and Wulvern, has now secured £20 million of Homes and Community Agency funding to continue to build new homes throughout the borough. I am especially pleased to see that this new development, in the heart of Ellesmere Port, includes investment in solar power and other eco-technology which will help new residents to reduce both their water bills and electricity costs.”

Consisting of 27 two-bedroom flats, eight two-bedroom houses and two 2-bedroom ground floor, wheelchair adapted flats, the scheme is in close proximity to Ellesmere Port town centre, Cheshire Oaks and motorway links to Liverpool and Manchester.

The eco-friendly properties are built to Code for Sustainable Homes Level 3 and feature photovoltaic roof panels and a rainwater retention system.

Anyone interested in one the properties on Westminster Road must first register online at [www.trusthomechoice.co.uk](http://www.trusthomechoice.co.uk) and express an interest in a property.