



## **MEDIA INFORMATION**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**22 April 2009**

#### **Local development wins top award**

Contractors behind the infrastructure works at a local development have won a top industry award, achieving maximum marks in all categories.

The construction team incorporating Birse Civils Ltd and The Ironstone Developer Group won a Gold Award at the Considerate Constructors Annual National Awards, for its work on the Primary Infrastructure Works at Ironstone in Lawley, Telford.

The Ironstone development is a partnership between the UK's largest house builders, Barratt Homes, George Wimpey and Persimmon, which will see the creation of 3,300 new homes within a sustainable and vibrant community.

The Considerate Constructors Scheme is a national initiative set up to improve the image of the construction industry. The awards are designed to recognise excellent standards of consideration towards a company's workforce, its neighbours and the environment.

The ceremony took place at the prestigious Lowry Hotel in Manchester where the site team was praised for the highest levels of cleanliness, an excellent communications plan and real community involvement throughout the project.

The Primary Infrastructure Works comprises the re-modelling of the A5223 Lawley Drive, through the centre of Ironstone, and the B5072 West Centre Way, towards Telford to accommodate the future Ironstone Development. It also includes major earthworks, essential drainage works, and high quality paving and street furniture.

The works are due to be finished in mid-2009 and will constitute a major proportion of the overall £65million investment in the development infrastructure when complete.

Eunan Higgins, Business Development Director at Birse Civils Ltd, commented: "To be one of only a handful of over 7,000 eligible sites across the UK to achieve this highest accolade is fantastic news for all involved in the scheme.

"It is testament to the commitment of the team in ensuring the implementation of considerate site practices throughout the project, which required extensive infrastructure work to what is a large brownfield development."

Judges commended Birse on its regular liaison with site neighbours, councillors and other key stakeholders through meetings, letter drops, newsletters and posters. The

team was also highly praised for its road safety projects with local schools as well as the maintenance of overall road safety in and around Ironstone.

Guy Scott, project director at Ironstone, commented: "This is a tremendous achievement for Birse and reflects the outstanding manner in which the company has incorporated quality consultation with all relevant bodies, as well as the general public, into the strategy.

"We have received praise from all sectors of the community on their communication strategy, together with the minimal disruption caused to local residents, during the works."

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*Issued on behalf of the IDG by Freshwater UK*

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