

Lioncourt Homes, Droitwich Spa

LIONCOURT HOMES SELECTS INSULSLAB FOR EXCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT

Lioncourt Homes, a leading housing developer in the West Midlands, has chosen Insulslab as the preferred foundation solution for Amphlett Court, its latest select development of 13 homes in Droitwich Spa.

As part of the site was previously a pond, the ground had to be remediated prior to construction and a raft foundation specified to deliver the required stability. At the same time, Lioncourt Homes was striving to create highly energy efficient homes which incorporated the very latest construction techniques. These criteria led Lioncourt Homes to use Insulslab as a competitive raft replacement foundation system with high levels of insulation integrated into system design. Insulslab is also a cost effective alternative to traditional beam and block foundations and as a cap on piles.

Colin Cole, Chief Executive, Lioncourt Homes, explains: "As an independent developer we are constantly looking for new methods which improve the house building process but will also deliver tangible benefits to our homeowners. As a system which combines energy and installation efficiency, Insulslab presented as an ideal solution to pilot on the current site."

Constructed of interlocking expanded polystyrene (EPS) pods with steel fibre reinforced concrete (SFRC) cast on top, Insulslab delivered the foundation up to ground floor level without the need for an additional screed. This installation technique facilitated significant time and cost savings over the traditional raft foundation proposed for the scheme and at the same time U-values as low as 0.10 – 0.13 W/m²K. Only minimal excavation was required compared to the traditional design due to the shallow depth of the Insulslab foundations.

In spite of Amphlett Court being the first time Lioncourt Homes used Insulslab, the system was installed on all 13 plots which were also 13 different house types. To reduce on-site wastage, Insulslab supplied the EPS pods in a range of full, half and quarter sized formats, to best accommodate each individual house design. On-site technical support was also provided by Insulslab, to train ground workers Friel Construction on how to install the system.

Bill Friel, Managing Director, Friel Construction, comments: “We’d never used Insulslab before but can really see how the system delivers time and cost savings through its systematic and simple installation procedure. We’ll definitely look to use again, particularly on sites where the ground is poor. As a result of using the system at Amphlett Court, we are now well on our way to becoming an approved Insulslab installer.”