

## Plans put in for 302 homes at sustainable community

DETAILED plans have been submitted for 302 homes on the site of a former oil refinery in Neath Port Talbot.

Birmingham-based regeneration specialists St Modwen and house-builder Persimmon are seeking planning permission for the properties as part of a 25-year scheme to develop the former BP Llandarcy Oil Refinery into a £1.2bn sustainable community.

Under an ongoing agreement, between the two firms, about 2,000 homes will be built on seven St Modwen-owned sites across the UK. In South Wales, the agreement has already seen the start of work on 311 homes at Glan Llyn, a scheme redeveloping the site of the former Llanwern Steelworks.

Over the life-time of the scheme, Coed Darcy will be developed into a community of 4,000 homes, which will be supported by new education facilities including three primary schools and a secondary school.

Rupert Joseland, South Wales regional director for St Modwen, said: "Submitting this planning application at Coed Darcy following the recent start of work at Glan Llyn, shows our commitment to delivering on our plans for this scheme and South Wales.

"Subject to planning approval, we would hope to be in a position

to start on site in the New Year.

"The houses at Coed Darcy will be located within an attractive, rural setting with some properties providing extensive views across Swansea Bay and the Gower Peninsula.

"The homes will be linked by play areas, sports pitches, pedestrian routes and cycleways, all connecting residents with schools, shops and other essential facilities that will help establish Coed Darcy as a truly sustainable community."

Daniel le Neveu, group development director, Persimmon said: "We are delighted to be associated with our joint venture partners on this exciting new development which we are confident will deliver a sustainable new village and provide a range of quality homes catering for the needs of the wider community."

The plans were revealed as St Modwen updated the markets on its progress in a trading statement.

In addition to its housing developments the company also said that Swansea University had entered discussions with St Modwen after deciding to proceed with the next stage of the procurement process for a new science and innovation campus at the 50 acre site at Fabian Way.