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## Media release

# Operator named for new daycare nursery at East Village - London's newest neighbourhood

A brand new daycare nursery will open this summer in East Village, the vibrant new neighbourhood that was formerly the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Village, providing places for up to 80 babies, toddlers and young children.

The Little Bear's nursery will be operating an all-day service from 7.30am to 6.30pm, located right on the doorstep of the new homes and ready for the first families to move in, as well as offering places for children already living in the local area.

The Olympic Delivery Authority (ODA), which was responsible for the construction of the Olympic Park and the Olympic Village, has announced details of the operators of the new nursery, which will be opening in the same building as the all-ages Chobham Academy, and close to a state-of-the-art health and well-being centre, both also set to open this year.

This is the third venture for owners Lee and Seonaidh O'Neill, who run two Little Bear's nurseries at Wanstead in east London, open since 2005 and 2011. Their first nursery has achieved an 'outstanding' rating from Ofsted – the highest possible. The two centres care for more than 100 children, and employ over 40 staff, both full-time and part-time.

Little Bear's at East Village will follow in the footsteps of the two current nurseries, operating to the highest standards. The centre will promote a close partnership with parents, best practice in curriculum, well-trained and caring staff, and high nutritional standards.

Lee and Seonaidh were attracted by the location of the new facility, and the high quality of the design and layout, which has been purpose-built as a nursery with light spaces, a large outdoor area, a shaded canopy and garden. The centre will create around 20 full-time and six part-time jobs.

**Seonaidh O'Neill, who worked as a teacher for over 10 years and will manage the centre said:** "We are thrilled to be opening in this new quarter of London and offering our nursery service to families who will be moving into the new homes. We have caring and dedicated staff at our nurseries, and will be bringing the same high standards of care to Little Bear's at East Village. The facility has been designed to the highest standards for a nursery and we can't wait to open."

**Ralph Luck, ODA's Director of Property, said:** "We are delighted to have Little Bear's on board – when people move into the new homes this summer, they will have London's best transport connections, shops, and parklands on their doorstep. Now they will also have the highest quality care for their children, within walking distance of their new home. This is a whole new community being built and coming together."

Over coming months, the nursery will be fitted out, ready to open in August. For enquires about places at Little Bear's, please email [hello@littlebearsnursery.co.uk](mailto:hello@littlebearsnursery.co.uk)

Little Bear's will be run independently of the Chobham Academy, where there will also be a nursery for older pre-school children from the age of three, offering parents choice and the full range of child care and pre-school options.

### **Notes to Editors:**

#### **About East Village**

East Village will be jointly owned by Qatari Diar Delancey (a joint venture between Qatari Diar Real Estate Development Company and Delancey) and Triathlon Homes (a joint venture between First Base, East Thames Group and Southern Housing Group).

#### **New homes for Londoners**

- A total of 2,818 homes, including 1,379 affordable homes
- Homes range from 1 bedroom apartments to 4 bedroom townhouses
- Designed for modern, sustainable living by 16 world renowned architects with construction, fittings and finishes to the highest standard
- Built to Code for Sustainable Homes Level 4
- 11 individually designed areas provide neighbourhood character

#### **Accessible living**

- Just under 10% of East Village's 2,818 homes are specifically adapted for disabled people. These 240 homes have been designed to exceed industry standards set by HABINTEG and are 100% 'Lifetime Homes Compliant'
- Adapted homes have design features to allow for chairlifts, hoists and rails to be installed throughout, kitchens have clear spaces underneath work surfaces, all electrical switches are easily accessible and there are downstairs bedrooms and bathroom facilities in all homes of more than two storeys
- The wider neighbourhood has also been designed to accommodate disabled residents with dedicated disabled parking for maximum access, charging points, illuminated and level entrances, wide doorways and large lobby spaces which are wide enough for at least two wheelchairs.
- Access to each of the buildings within East Village is also consistent, with gently sloping ramp access ensuring the process of moving from home to outside transport is step-free and straightforward.

#### **Spacious living**

- Spans over 27 hectares of land, equivalent to St James's Park
- More than 10 hectares of new parks and open space
- Mature landscaped gardens with five park areas, public squares, play areas

and courtyards

- Next to The Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park – 285 hectares of parkland, waterways, and nature trails connected by paths for jogging cycling and walking
- Connected to the Lea Valley – 26 miles of parkland from Hertfordshire to the River Thames, with the 10,000-acre Lea Valley Park

#### **Time and choice**

- One of the best connected neighbourhoods in London
- Stratford International and Stratford Regional stations offering links to London's key locations
- Reach the west end in 20 minutes, St Pancras International in 6 minutes (by High Speed 1), Canary Wharf in 12 minutes, Ashford in less than 30 minutes and London airports within an hour
- Over 30 local and independent shops, cafes and restaurants
- Steps away from Westfield Stratford City, Europe's newest and largest shopping centre
- Adjacent to the world-class sporting venues of The Olympic Park
- A world-class education campus, Chobham Academy, with 1,800 places for students aged 3-19
- A state-of-the-art medical centre with full range of healthcare services

#### **What's happening now at East Village**

- East Village is currently being transformed following its use as athletes' accommodation during the Olympic and Paralympic Games last summer.
- Brand new kitchens are being fitted, and partitions are being taken away that created extra bedrooms for the athletes during the Games. Final fittings and landscaping works will take place in coming months to prepare East Village for its first residents to move into this summer.

#### **Ofsted**

Little Bear's latest Ofsted report can be found [here](#).

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For further information please contact the Olympic Delivery Authority Press Office on +44 (0)203 023 6800 or visit the website at [www.eastvillagelondon.co.uk](http://www.eastvillagelondon.co.uk)