

Herbert Collins House, Southampton

New high-quality affordable homes in Mansbridge.

Developer: Abri

Contractor: Abri Construction Management Team

Completion: 2022

Local authority: Southampton City Council

The background

Herbert Collins House is a significant development for Abri. It's where their story began in 1925 with the creation of Swaythling Housing Society. The organisation has grown since that time, going on to partner with two other housing associations to become Radian and now Abri.

This development continues the legacy of founder Herbert Collins: providing affordable housing in southern England for as many people as possible.



The details

Herbert Collins House will consist of three one bedroom and 11 two bedroom apartments, available for social rent. There will also be parking for 25 cars. Councillor Spiros Vassiliou, Cabinet Member for Communities, Culture and Heritage at Southampton City Council, said:

“Putting the community first in projects like this is essential for delivering homes that improve quality of life. I’m pleased to see Abri working in this way, particularly in Mansbridge and their wider community investment. By prioritising the needs of local people in the area, they will continue to bring

more sustainable homes and opportunities to the community.”

The development is just a stone’s throw from Abri’s Queen’s Award-winning Round About Café. With the committed support of local volunteers, the café is a welcoming hub for the community providing delicious food and drinks and opportunities to get involved in activities.

Mansbridge is also one of 13 neighbourhoods that Abri is investing in between 2020 and 2025. In collaboration with residents and the wider community, they will focus on improving health and wellbeing, increasing employment and empowering people to take the lead where they live.

Employment support

During the development of Herbert Collins House, Abri’s employment team have been working with the local community to increase job and training opportunities in the area. Abri’s in-house construction team recognise their duty to improve the labour shortage and have entered into an employment skills plan (ESP) with Southampton City Council. Together they’re addressing the employment crisis while promoting jobs in the sector by employing local labour and an apprentice.

Additionally, they are supporting construction students at Southampton Solent University by giving them access to Herbert Collins House as a case study. Furthermore, they’ve provided funding for CSCS training and cards for five young people (aged 18-24).

