

September 2007

## The Malthouse Project Information Sheet

### St Matthew Housing - who we are

Established over 30 years ago, St Matthew Housing (SMH) provides accommodation and support to single homeless or unsuitably housed individuals. SMH also provides a floating support service to people who are at risk of losing their tenancies and becoming homeless. With houses and floating support workers located in six counties across East Anglia and the East Midlands, the organisation is committed to enabling and empowering disadvantaged and vulnerable people to assist them in achieving their own goals in their own communities.

St Matthew Housing is a registered charity (no. 266521), registered housing association (no. HO677) and company registered in England and Wales (no. 1131435).

### The Malthouse Project – brief project description

The Malthouse Project in Elsey's Yard, Bury St Edmunds, is a versatile and unique scheme for both St Matthew Housing and the county of Suffolk. The project offers training and educational facilities and accommodation for local people with a general housing need.

### History of site

The Malthouse Project is a restored old maltings, which dates back to the 17<sup>th</sup> century. The old maltings was operational through until 1917 when it was then purchased by Greene King. For many years the building was left to the elements and had gradually deteriorated until parts of it were in danger of collapse. It was taken under the wing of St Edmundsbury Borough Council and became designated a Grade II Listed Building by English Heritage.

### Project partners

St Matthew Housing worked closely with St Edmundsbury Borough Council, Heritage Lottery Fund and Bury St Edmunds Town Trust on the development of the project.

### Project development

Initial work began on site in November 2005, and work officially started in March 2006. The Malthouse Project was completed in March 2007.

### Project cost

Total cost: £2.1 million

This total cost is made up of £1.6 million for the restoration and £500,000 to build the five flats.





**St Matthew Housing**  
Housing and support for people in need



### **Project funders**

Heritage Lottery Fund:	<u>£1,149,000</u>
St Edmundsbury Borough Council:	<u>£656,000</u>
Total from other funders:	<u>£172,572.97</u>

Other funders include:

- Biffawards
- Bury St Edmunds Town Trust
- The Henry Smith Charity
- English Heritage
- Simon Gibson Charitable Trust
- The Albert Hunt Trust
- The Beatrice Laing Trust
- The Ganzoni Charitable Trust
- The Trust House Charitable Foundation

### **What The Malthouse Project offers the community**

The Malthouse Project provides a café, heritage and training centre, community rooms for hire, accommodation for local people with a general housing need and central offices for St Matthew Housing.

### **Purpose and aims of the project**

The project opens up many new services and facilities to the local community and is a way for people who have been excluded from mainstream education and training because of illness, disability or other barriers, to gain a second chance.

All income generated from The Malthouse Project funds the social objectives of the project.

### **Voluntary and educational opportunities at the project**

The Malthouse Project will offer many opportunities for residents and services users from SMH and other organisations, students, volunteers, schools and local people to get involved in. These include; work place experience in the Kiln Café, training in a catering environment working towards achieving an NVQ qualification in Multi-skills, gaining experience of an office environment through participating in the reception area of the project and becoming tour guides to show visitors the building's heritage.

### **New build accommodation**

There were also five new flats built on site, which are all now fully occupied. The two ground floor flats are wheelchair accessible and have an additional room for a live-in carer. The residents are people with a general housing need who have been nominated to St Matthew Housing via St Edmundsbury Borough Council's housing register. The rent is currently £74.07/£86.91 per week.

***For more information, please contact Sarah Yarrow, Communications Officer on tel: 01284 732574 or email: [sarah.yarrow@stmatthewhousing.org](mailto:sarah.yarrow@stmatthewhousing.org).***