

Comment

Apparently the Government has earmarked £250 million to help deliver almost 25,000 more homes. And MPs have also set aside £157 million for infrastructure development to support the housing growth. Strange, you would have thought the developers might get challenged to do the infrastructure bit as well – but we all know that when it comes to stumping up for infrastructure costs, house builders are notoriously slippery.

Heathrow Airport

Meanwhile Heathrow Airport which has itself been challenged to up its game in the Heathrow Quieter Homes Scheme', will make the FIT Show home for the duration as teams from the airport's buying department will be looking for supply chain partners. They want to meet systems houses, fabricators and installers – so tie a windsock to your forehead and make your way to Brum for 21-23 May.

Bust

The deal made by the Government for that £250 million was done on February 14 (and I trust no reader forgot the magic that is Valentine's Day...mostly because of the misery (and cost) that incurs throughout the rest of the spring). But love was in short supply for Apple Home Improvements (AHI) staff and customers. despite County Windows (Winchester) buying the bust business and assets for an undisclosed sum. Apple fell just before Christmas 2018 with the loss of over 100 jobs and numerous uncompleted orders. Following the acquisition, County Windows will continue to operate from its existing head office in Winchester. Both showrooms in Bournemouth and Hedge End will be rebranded and begin trading as County Windows.

Peter Hall, chairman of County Windows said: "We will look to take on AHI staff and contractors where appropriate and will be in contact them shortly." A helpline and email address have been set up for AHI customers to contact with queries about their existing orders. These are t. 01202 283333 and info@county-windows.com

Burglary

New burglary research that has come The Installer's way shows that over half of house burglaries in the UK occurred when someone was at home. So many people were distressed by this, moved house. Perhaps window & door installers could add lock replacement in to their portfolios thus whilst doing one installation they could be offering neighbours an opportunity to upgrade their security if they can't at the time afford a completely new installation.

Here are some key stats from the research, that was commissioned by Verisure UK. 70% of children have been affected emotionally by their home being burgled. 63% of parents are more likely to feel unsafe after being burgled compared to those who don't have children living at home. 1 in 8 people who have been burgled admitted to still feeling vulnerable up to six months after being burgled. Over three in ten (31%) burglary victims say their home doesn't feel like it used to. Just under half (49%) who have been burgled said they had no major form of security installed at their home, only locks on the doors and windows.

Go Back

By the way, you might want to go back a few pages to The Installers Doors and Door & Window Hardware feature in this issue.

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