## News

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## Building begins on Salford's Carpino Place as first sod is cut



Construction work has begun on Carpino Place, a new development of townhouses which forms the most recent stage in the Salford Central regeneration scheme being delivered by English Cities Fund (ECf).

A number of members from ECf – which is a joint venture between Muse Developments, Legal & General and the Homes & Communities Agency – as well as local councillors, marked the occasion with an official sod cutting ceremony at the development located on Oldfield Road off Chapel Street.

Those in attendance from ECf included Muse Developments' joint managing director Matt Crompton, development director Phil Mayall and senior project manager Simon Hourihan. From the council were city director Jim Taylor, city mayor Paul Dennett, assistant mayor for housing and neighbourhoods Paul Longshaw and strategic director for environment and community safety Ben Dolan.

The multi-million-pound scheme, which will comprise 22 three-storey townhouses, follows on from the success of Timekeepers Square – a Georgian-style development located behind Chapel Street, which sold out in just seven months – as well as the 97-home Vimto Gardens project.

Phil Mayall said: "Our ultimate aim is to build a thriving community in the Chapel Street area and, with Vimto Gardens being fully sold and the first residents now moving into Timekeepers Square, we're really starting to see this take shape. We're thrilled to have commenced work on the next

stage of this with Carpino Place and are sure it will be a stand-out part of Salford's ongoing transformation."

Carpino Place is named after Archbishop Francesco Carpino who, in 1966 along with the then mayor of Salford, laid the foundation stone of The Stella Maris Seaman's Mission, which previously occupied the site.

An internal courtyard at the development will house parking spaces for each of the 22 homes, with other notable features including private rear gardens, rooftop terraces and patio areas. The project will also incorporate the restoration of the historic cobbled Wroe Street and South William Street.

The scheme, which is being delivered by ECf in conjunction with Salford City Council, has been designed to complement the surrounding area, enhancing the existing streetscape and strengthening the urban setting of Oldfield Road.

Salford city mayor Paul Dennett said: "Salford is growing at a rapid rate. The city is being transformed with desperately needed new homes for the community and the construction of them is creating jobs for local people. I look forward to visiting when they are finished and welcoming the first tenants into their brand new homes."

Michael McNulty, a Salford resident and site labourer who has gained employment through the project, also attended the ground-breaking ceremony. He said: "Having grown up in Salford, it's exciting to see it being transformed into an area that can stand on its own next to Manchester as a modern, urban place to live. It's even better to be able to work on the project and I'll be proud to see it complete next year."

When the work is finished, Salford Central – which is made up of two interdependent but distinct areas, Chapel Street and New Bailey – will create around 11,000 new jobs, 220,000 sq m of commercial space, 849 new homes and 390 hotel rooms.

The homes at Carpino Place, which were designed by Buttress Architects and are being built by John Turner Construction, are expected to go on sale in spring 2017.

Phil added: "With Carpino Place offering such a rare proposition so close to the city centre, and if the sales of Vimto Gardens and Timekeepers Square are anything to go by, we'd encourage prospective homeowners to register their interest as soon as possible."

For more information about Carpino Place, please visit www.carpino-place.co.uk, email sales@carpinoplace.co.uk or call 0161 989 0158.