

News

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Building begins on Timekeepers Square

Regeneration of the Chapel Street area of Salford is continuing apace as the first sod has been cut at the latest residential development, Timekeepers Square.

The 36-home townhouse scheme, which is being developed by Salford City Council and English Cities Fund (ECf), is located behind St Philip's Church and across the road from Vimto Gardens – the scheme's first fully completed mixed-use development.

Salford City Mayor Ian Stewart and Matt Crompton, joint managing director at Muse Developments, marked the second phase of building work on the 220,000 sq m Salford Central regeneration scheme by breaking the ground. They were joined by key members of Salford City Council, Urban Vision, ECf, Muse and John Turner Construction Group.

Named due to its proximity to a number of clock faces, including those at St Philip's Church, Timekeepers Square will deliver 36 townhouses to the city centre in a Georgian-style development in keeping with the conservation area off Chapel Street.

Plans for the development were approved in March 2015, with the first homes due to be available for purchase in 2016. The homes are set to be popular, having already received over 400 buyer registrations.

Already an award winner, Timekeepers Square won best unbuilt project in the Manchester Society of Architects Awards 2015, thanks to the development's classic architectural style.

Matt Crompton said: "Today marks the start of the exciting next phase of this forward-thinking development. Providing affordable, quality housing is paramount to what ECf set out to achieve in Salford and Timekeepers Square is set to be a prime example of that when it completes."

Timekeepers Square is the next stage in the Salford Central regeneration scheme, which aims to breathe new life into the Chapel Street and New Bailey areas of the city. It has already delivered a new hotel, multi-storey car park, a 125,000 sq ft office building – One New Bailey, under construction and due to be completed in May 2016 – and the Vimto Gardens mixed use development on Chapel Street.

The 44-acre regeneration scheme is being delivered by ECf – a joint venture between Muse Developments, Legal & General and the Homes & Communities Agency (HCA) – through an active partnership with Salford City Council.

Salford City Mayor Ian Stewart said: "It's certainly the right time to be in Salford as the city is developing at a phenomenal rate – as the popularity of Timekeepers Square shows. I hope it won't be long before the first new residents are putting their feet up in their new homes."

When the work is finished, Salford Central – which is made up of two inter-dependent, 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 John Turner Construction Group has been appointed as the contractor.