

News

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Muse Appointed for Aberdeen Scheme

Muse Developments has been appointed as preferred bidder, in a joint venture with Aviva, to work with Aberdeen City Council on the £100m redevelopment of the St Nicholas House site in Aberdeen.

The Council were impressed with Muse's innovative scheme, which will create a mixed-use development on the brownfield site. The new development, referred to as Marischal Square by Muse, will be created using the local supply chain; local architecture, engineering and design firms, and local labour, creating apprenticeship opportunities, as well as the long-term job prospects delivered by the businesses housed in the development.

Muse Developments regional director for Scotland, Stephen Turner said: "Muse has a great track record of delivering similar joint venture regeneration projects throughout the UK and is delighted to have been given the opportunity to work with Aberdeen City Council on Marischal Square- a high profile regeneration project which we believe will deliver a significant and lasting benefit not only to the Broad Street area, but to the city of Aberdeen.

"Our development team has created a vibrant design which respects the heritage of the location and opens it to wider use. The buildings include exemplar sustainable offices, high quality public realm - including a new civic square between the scheme and Marischal College - a 250 bed apart-hotel and new retail/restaurant space which is designed to create a new mixed-use quarter for the city."

Council leader Councillor Barney Crockett said: "Today's decision to appoint Muse as the preferred bidder for the site puts us in a strong position to not only press on with regenerating the city centre, but also to reap both the short and long-term benefits of the scheme. It's an historic decision by the Council and it's a great one for Aberdeen."

"We promised a modest civic square and this exciting development will deliver that and more, creating a lively new public space in the heart of the city."

Deputy leader Councillor Marie Boulton, who chaired the St Nicholas House Working Group, said: "We've selected the bid which offers the best value for the citizens of Aberdeen, not only by looking at the financial and economic implications, but also the potential public realm benefits of the development, how well it matches with planning guidance for the area, the impact it will have on heritage and culture, and the bidders' track record in delivering this type of scheme. "

A public consultation lasting 12 weeks will be carried out before any planning application is submitted.

The site will be developed in a single phase and Muse envisages completion during 2016, tying in

with Aberdeen's aspirations to be UK City of Culture in 2017.