

# News

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## Vimto Gardens' topping out is cordially celebrated

English Cities Fund (ECf), Salford City Council, Vimto and Galliford Try celebrated placing the final brick on the Vimto Gardens development with a topping out ceremony on Salford's Chapel Street.

A purple brick was placed in situ to commemorate the completion of the external structure and, in a twist on tradition, the group toasted the milestone with a flute of sparkling Vimto.

Cementing its position as Salford's newest mixed use development, Vimto Gardens will become home to a six-storey luxury residential building, which features an internal private courtyard on the first floor, as well as retail and commercial units on the ground floor. Consisting of 83 one and two-bed apartments and 14 townhouses, it aims to bring vim and vigour back to the city as families and young professionals take up residency in the heart of Salford.

The homes, situated between Chapel Street, Islington Way, Barrow Street and Wroe Street, will go on sale in July 2014 and the first homes will be ready to move into by the end of 2014, while the commercial units, set to include a convenience store and other useful amenities are also available.

Phil Mayall, development director at ECf, said: "This is an extremely significant point in the transformation of Chapel Street and the wider Salford Central scheme. As the first construction completion, it signals a new and exciting phase for the development and takes it another step closer to restoring Chapel St to the thriving, lively neighbourhood it once was."

Vimto Gardens, which took its name from the popular soft drink as its original factory was located 400m from the site, is being delivered by ECf – a joint venture between Muse, Legal & General and The Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) – in conjunction with Salford City Council.

James Nichols, great-grandson of Vimto inventor John Noel Nichols and brand licensing manager at Vimto, said: "We're thrilled to lend Vimto's name to this exciting development on what is a historical site for our company. It is great to see the brand's hometown of Salford continuing to grow and attract new residents."

City Mayor Ian Stewart said: "John Nichols set up his factory in Salford because it was a thriving neighbourhood and had excellent road and rail connections. Over 100 years later, residents of Vimto Gardens will enjoy the same. I'm pleased the topping out ceremony paid tribute to one of our most renowned sons and the innovative, creative, quirky Spirit of Salford that our city is so famous for."

ECf's £650m regeneration of Salford Central includes the creation of almost 1,000 new homes, 11,000 new jobs, 220,000 sq m of commercial space and 390 hotel rooms. The scheme is being delivered in conjunction with Salford Council and is made up of two distinct but independent areas – New Bailey and Chapel Street.

At New Bailey, a 143 bed Premier Inn hotel and 615 space multi-storey car park are already under construction - both due to complete towards the end of the year - and will be joined shortly by a 1250,000 sq ft office scheme, known as One New Bailey.

Galliford Try has been appointed as the contractor.

Bob Merriman, managing director for Galliford Try Building North, said: “We are pleased to join our partners in toasting both this important milestone in the construction of Vimto Gardens, and the continued economic rejuvenation of the Chapel Street corridor as part of the Salford Central regeneration for English Cities Fund.”

For further information, please visit [www.vimtogardens.com](http://www.vimtogardens.com) or for sales enquiries, please contact [sales@vimtogardens.co.uk](mailto:sales@vimtogardens.co.uk) / 0161 300 8546.