



November 8, 1984

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START OF MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS FOR SURREY QUAYS

A £9 million contract for infrastructure works has been awarded to Taylor Woodrow Construction Limited. Work has started on the site in the last few days and will be completed by Spring 1986.

The works to be completed on the 140 acre site include provision of the main highways to adoptable standards; construction of a network of footpaths and cycleways; the supply and installation of services associated with the construction of highways including storm water drainage, street lighting and ducting to take electricity and telephone cables; the excavation and construction of a water channel from Canada Water to Surrey Water; earthworks on the site and landscaping.

These basic infrastructure works will enable the speedy marketing and disposal of development parcels of land; receipts from which are expected to be in excess of £15 million.

The major components of the regeneration of the area comprise housing, a commercial centre, industry, schools, sporting and other amenities.

Twelve housing sites, including the 73 unit Costain Site already under construction, will be developed to provide up to 1200 homes on 44 acres. The housing will be predominantly family homes with gardens for private ownership. A choice of tenure will be available through the offer of sites to local housing associations. The intention is to provide a substantial amount of "affordable" housing for local residents.

The 29 acre site surrounding Canada Water will be developed to provide a District Shopping Centre and a business park. Negotiations are taking place with major retailers to develop a superstore and shopping centres of approximately 200,000 sq. ft. with extensive car parking facilities. There will also be an area for retail warehousing.

A 12 acre site for industry is to be developed alongside the existing London Borough of Southwark industrial site with access to the site from Quebec Way. Already high technology building proposals have been attracted to these sites.

Speaking at a "ground-breaking" ceremony on the site today with Dick England, Director of Taylor Woodrow Construction Ltd; the LDDC Chairman, Christopher Benson said :

"We are delighted to welcome Taylor Woodrow back onto the site. They are of course familiar with the lay of the land having completed a desilting, site clearance and consolidation contract for the Corporation earlier in the year. Nonetheless they had stiff competition in tendering for these new works.

"Vast reclaimed Dock areas such as this do not always present contractors with ideal working conditions but I am confident that Taylor Woodrow will come through with flying colours.

"In the relatively short period since LDDC acquired the 140 acre Surrey Quays site in March 1983 we have prepared and published comprehensive plans and carried out consultations with local people and with the local and statutory authorities.

"We have chosen a pragmatic route to tackle the job of regeneration in the Surrey Docks. The deal is simple: we will put in the roads, footpaths, services and some of the landscaping works in the public areas and we will ask the private sector and other agencies to do the rest.

"Over the next five years we expect in excess of £100m to be invested by the private sector in Surrey Quays and it is this partnership which will enable us to realise the full effect of the plans we have published and meet the needs of the local community".

Rendell, Palmer & Tritton are the Consultant Engineers

Monk Dunstone Associates are the Quantity surveyors

Brian Coulston and Partners the Consultant Landscape Architects

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