

# News Release

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## **NEW SHOPS AND JOBS AT SURREY QUAYS IN LONDON DOCKLANDS**

The new Surrey Quays Shopping Centre in Surrey Docks, Rotherhithe, opened its doors to the public today. This 280,000 sq.ft retail development is the largest shopping centre to date in Docklands and has created some 2000 jobs.

The Shopping Centre is phase 1 of a two stage overall development for the Surrey Quays area, initiated by the London Docklands Development Corporation (LDDC), to create a new town centre for north Southwark and to make the area an exciting place to live, work and visit.

The Surrey Quays Shopping Centre has been developed by Tesco who have invested £35 million in the new complex. It occupies a 20 acre site about a mile from Tower Bridge between Lower Road and Redriff Road, SE16.

The Shopping Centre features a 80,000 sq.ft Tesco Superstore, 50,000 sq.ft B&S store, 450 seat Food Court and 34 other high street shops including Boots, Top Shop and W H Smith and has 1500 car parking spaces. The Shopping Centre is within easy walking distance of Surrey Docks Underground Station on the East London Line and is serviced by several bus routes.

Surrey Quays not only offers first class shopping facilities to the many people who now live and work in the area but is also providing some 2000 jobs. Tesco and many of the other employers in Surrey Quays have worked closely with the London Dockland Development Corporation (LDDC) and agencies such as the Employment Service and Skillnet to help and encourage local people to compete for these jobs.

At the Surrey Quays preview yesterday, the LDDC's incoming Deputy Chairman, The Rt Hon. Lord Cocks of Hartcliffe, paid tribute to Tesco and all those involved especially for their efforts to recruit local people. He said that he understood that 75% of all the staff at the Tesco Store at Surrey Quays were local, which was a great boost to the area.

Local employment and training needs in the Surrey Docks will be the focus of attention at a major jobs and training fair which the LDDC is organising on a site close to the Shopping Centre from 3 - 5 November 1988.

The fair, Jobs and Training '88, is being sponsored by Tesco and supported by the Training Agency and the Employment Service. Employers exhibiting at the Fair will include Tesco and several other retailers from Surrey Quays Centre as well as representatives from training agencies such as Skillnet, Jarvis plc and MARI.

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