

News

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Christmas Star marks key construction milestone at Sovereign Square

Muse has celebrated reaching the highest point in the construction of the first building at Sovereign Square, Leeds with a traditional topping out ceremony.

Joint managing director Matt Crompton was joined by Richard Little partner at KPMG; Councillor Richard Lewis executive member for development and the economy at Leeds City Council and Martin Farrington director of city development at Leeds City Council.

To mark the occasion, contractor Morgan Sindall erected an illuminated Christmas star at the highest point of the 61,000 sq ft building on the corner of Pitt Row and Sovereign Street, for members of the wider community to enjoy over the festive period.

KPMG will occupy the office development following the landmark funding arrangement with British Steel Pension Fund earlier this year. The building will be complete August 2014 with KPMG moving into their new home in summer 2015.

Matt commented: "The topping out ceremony represents a significant milestone towards the transformation of this important regeneration scheme. The Leeds property market is seeing renewed optimism, with demand for office space increasing. This scheme is assisting in this rise in confidence and we're immensely proud to be a part of it."

The age-old Scandinavian practice of "topping out" is designed to protect the building and shield it from harm.

Richard Little partner at KPMG, said: "As the countdown to Christmas is well and truly on, we're celebrating the extensive progress at our new 'home' in festive spirit. The building is taking shape before our eyes, generating a good deal of buzz in the city and it's really pleasing to be at this point before the end of the year."

Leeds City Council executive member for development and the economy Councillor Richard Lewis said: "It's great to see this development progressing in what will be the first new major office scheme in Leeds city centre in a long time. This will complement the planned regeneration of this area of the city which will include new green space, new retail offer and help create new jobs in the local community."