

News

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Final phase of landmark Rathbone Market regeneration tops out



English Cities Fund (ECf) has marked the topping out of the third and final phase of the Rathbone Market regeneration scheme in East London.

ECf - a joint venture between Muse Developments, Legal and General Property and the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) - and Newham Council celebrated the topping out of the striking new building Lumire, with an official ceremony.

The name Lumire is a nod to both the physical golden balconies on the building and the expectation that it will also be a beacon for Canning Town, symbolising its regeneration. It will join the award-winning Vermilion and Aurelia buildings.

This is the final phase of the £160 million regeneration mixed-use development which will have created over 650 dwellings, retail spaces, a community facility and two public spaces including the permanent home of the newly revitalised Rathbone Market.

Attendees at the Topping Out event included Sir Michael Lyons, Chairman of ECf, representatives of ECf, Councillor Lester Hudson, deputy mayor of Newham and Guy Fowler, Director, Major Projects of main development contractors, John Sisk and Son.

Sir Michael Lyons said: "Whilst we are here today celebrating the topping out ceremony of Lumire, the final phase of this landmark development, it is an apt time to reflect on the work achieved in

the partnership between ECf, the London Borough of Newham and contractors John Sisk and Son, in terms of the construction over all three phases.

“ECf have been working with Newham Council for nearly ten years, and to date we have invested and committed to £160m across the three phases of this development and on completion we will have delivered 652 dwellings, including 163 affordable properties and 192 Private Rented Sectors homes, making it an exemplar mixed tenure scheme.

“The development has undoubtedly been the catalyst for wider regeneration in this area, delivering new space for Newham, a hub for the community, and a reinvigorated Rathbone Market - something we are very proud of and one of the key drivers behind ECf’s regeneration agenda.”

Councillor Hudson said: “This is a very exciting moment as we head towards the completion of the first major development in the regeneration of Canning Town. We have always had a vision for the area of better housing, more community facilities and job opportunities for our residents and the Rathbone Market scheme has provided all of this, as well as preserving a permanent home for the historic market.

“There is a diverse community in the area and combined with Canning Town’s great transport links it is a really exciting place to live. I look forward to the development’s completion and welcoming the newest residents to Lumire.”

Guy Fowler commented: “As the Managing Director of Sisk Major Projects it has been a privilege and a pleasure to have been involved at Rathbone Market from the outset, with all three developments, Lumire, Vermillion & Aurelia. I am proud of the work our team has undertaken to meet the vision for Newham and ECf to provide comfortable homes that have a major impact on the quality of life for the residents & community in Canning Town.

“The success of the development has been largely due to the collaboration and close working relationship of all the parties involved, including the local community, Newham Borough Council, ECf, the design teams and our supply chain. It is a fantastic example of what can be delivered through a shared vision and I’d like to thank all the parties involved - including my own team - for making this a successful and enjoyable development to be involved with. I hope that, when we complete later in the year, we leave behind a positive legacy for the local community for many years to come.”

At the topping out ceremony, symbolic items were embedded into the Lumire development including: olive oil to symbolise protection; a yew twig as an emblem of rebirth; water from the Thames to represent a turning point in history; and a bottle of beer from London brewers Meantime, to symbolise celebration.

The Lumire development will comprise of suites, one, two and three bedroom split level apartments and is due for completion by quarter 4, 2016.