

# News

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## **Morgan Sindall Construction takes Merchant Gate office space**

Morgan Sindall Construction is the final addition to the striking mixed-use development in the heart of Wakefield town centre, Merchant Gate, taking the remaining office space at the scheme delivered by The English Cities Fund.

Morgan Sindall Construction, one of the UK's leading construction companies, has signed a ten-year lease for 4,092 sq ft of quality Grade A space at No.2 Burgage Square.

The English Cities Fund is a strategic joint venture between urban regeneration innovators, Muse Developments, Legal & General and Homes England, working collaboratively with Wakefield Council.

Merchant Gate blends together Grade A office buildings, prime retail and leisure facilities, alongside 66 residential apartments, a new public square, along with a 1,500-space multi-storey car park and a new college for performing arts.

CAPA – Creative and Performing Arts College – is currently under construction at Merchant Gate and will welcome up to 500 students in the next academic year.

In addition, Merchant Gate is home to Wakefield Council's civic offices, library and museum at the award-winning Wakefield One.

Morgan Sindall Construction is a sister company of Muse Developments, with both forming part of Morgan Sindall Group plc.

James Scott, development director of Muse in Yorkshire, commented: "We're delighted to welcome our sister company to Merchant Gate, a striking symbol of the remarkable renaissance of Wakefield.

"Merchant Gate, and strategic schemes like it in the city, are changing people's perceptions of Wakefield. The city, benefitting from substantial investment, a proud history and an excellent location, is fast becoming one of Wakefield's premier mixed-use destinations."

The offices at Merchant Gate are 1 Burgage Square, 2 Burgage Square and Emerald House. Emerald House is let to HM Courts & Tribunals Service.

James added: "Morgan Sindall Construction has taken the opportunity to move to the very best new office buildings in Wakefield. Rents are competitive with first-class facilities.

"The offices are close to Wakefield Westgate Station, on the main Leeds-London line, while prime retail facilities at Merchant Gate will make the development ideal for leisure as well as working."

The marketing agents of Merchant Gate are the Leeds offices of Knight Frank and JLL.