

# News

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## **Muse completes transformative Chatham Place scheme in Reading**

Muse Developments has completed a major £100 million regeneration project in Reading, located at the western end of the town centre.

Muse has delivered the Chatham Place scheme over two phases, in partnership with Reading Borough Council, as part of their 'Reading 2020' vision. Overall the scheme has provided close to 500 new private and affordable homes, much-needed car parking provisions, substantial public open spaces and retail and leisure facilities.

Its second and final phase of development, which was recently completed, comprises 184 one and two bed apartments split over two buildings of nine and 19 storeys, with ground floor retail units and a public urban garden.

The first phase of development was completed in 2009 and included a 596 space multi-storey car park and two residential buildings delivering 307 new homes.

Muse commissioned and officially unveiled a piece of public art earlier this year to celebrate the completion of the scheme. The nine 'Walking Words' panels were created by local artist Sally Castle and tell stories of Reading's past in words and pictures. They are designed for the enjoyment of residents and visitors alike, and have been installed along a public walkway through the scheme.

The installation of this new public art is being celebrated through a programme of nine events during 2016 as part of Reading's Year of Culture. These events – involving local artists, arts organisations and art practices – are themed around the stories told on the panels.

Robert Poole, projects director at Muse Developments, said: "We're very proud to have completed this major regeneration scheme for Reading, which marks the culmination of many years of development. Chatham Place has completely transformed this area of the town, not only providing new hundreds of new homes, but creating a vibrant new public space for local people.

"I'm also delighted with the exciting new piece of public art we've commissioned as part of the scheme and I'm sure it will be instrumental in establishing it as a new destination and a space that the local community and new residents can enjoy together."