

News

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Topping out marks milestone for South Shields regeneration



The £100m South Shields 365 regeneration project has reached an important milestone, as the team celebrated the topping out of The Word, the state-of-the-art library and digital media centre.

Muse Developments, one of the country's leading names in urban regeneration, in partnership with South Tyneside Council, are engaged in the regeneration of the town centre with the aim of boosting the local economy and improving the visitor experience.

Key project stakeholders including leaders from South Tyneside Council and contractors, Bowmer and Kirkland, gathered with Muse to celebrate the occasion as the building reached its highest point in a topping out ceremony of The Word.

Matt Crompton, joint managing director of Muse, commented: "Today marks an important step in the regeneration of South Shields town centre. The Word will be an iconic, state-of-the-art building that sets the bar for the quality of development and architecture that people of South Tyneside deserve.

"This is just the first stage of the overall regeneration project that will have a positive impact on residents and everyone who visits the town and we are very proud to be partnering with South Tyneside Council in such a bold scheme."

The Word development forms part of a phased regeneration scheme jointly funded by Muse and the Council and is due to open Autumn 2016.

Councilor Iain Malcolm, leader of South Tyneside Council, added: "It is fantastic to see our plans for this new cultural venue come to fruition. With the exterior now complete, work can now start on kitting out this innovative centre with top-of-the-range equipment, which will attract people from across the region and beyond.

"We are confident The Word will appeal to residents and visitors of all ages and will help to put South Tyneside on the map as a cultural destination 365 days of the year."

Work is now complete on improvements to the local Market Place, an integral part of the town's identity. The scheme will improve the town's public spaces to improve internal and external access and connectivity whilst also respecting the rich urban heritage of the town.

The second phase of the scheme has been given the green light for a new transport interchange in the heart of the town centre and work is to begin in 2017.