



NEWS RELEASE

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GB Building Solutions first to construct BREEAM 'Outstanding' Multi Residential Scheme

A new name has been revealed for a cutting-edge student accommodation development on the University of Bradford campus.

The sustainable student village aims to be the first BREEAM 'Outstanding' student accommodation in the UK, and will be called 'The Green'.

The name has been chosen because the student village, costing over £40m, will set a new benchmark for sustainable living and has been built to the very highest environmental standards. It is expected to receive environmental standard BREEAM's highest rating following completion when students are living in the village and using the environmentally-friendly features.

The accommodation will open in September 2011, providing a unique living experience for over 1,000 students. It will incorporate a wide range of features to allow resident students to live in a sustainable way.

The University is working with developers Listerhills SSV Limited – a joint venture by Welbeck Land Limited and the Hayaat Group. The development is being constructed by GB Building Solutions in a joint venture with Balfour Beatty Engineering Services.

The University has been flagged as a sector leader* in embedding sustainability across all areas of education. It is rated in the top ten Green League 2009 for universities and has recently been named as the first ever European university to win an International Sustainable Campus Award. It's Ecoversity initiative is widely recognised as trail-blazer for addressing environmental impact.

The Green has been designed to create a step change in the way students in University accommodation interact with each other. Clever design features such as gardens and patio areas, built-in barbeques and central places to meet and relax are to be used to create a truly cohesive community.

The development is made up of 34 town houses and 101 apartments, positioned around a central water feature – a biodiversity pond which reuses rain water. Other key environmental features include extensive recycling facilities, energy monitor screens, low energy fittings to minimise electricity consumption, washbasins and showers which are fitted with low rate fittings and dual flush toilets. The build of the development has also been done in a sustainable way, including using timber frames from sustainable sources.

Set in the heart of the University's City Campus the accommodation will have all the advantages of being a stone's throw away from lecture theatres and teaching rooms, the £7.5m redeveloped Student Central building housing the bar and entertainment facilities, and is also just a five minute walk to the city centre.



Vice-Chancellor of the University of Bradford, Professor Mark Cleary, said: “The development will boost our existing £82m programme of work to revitalise and develop the campus to create inspirational learning, living and social spaces.

“As one the most environmentally-friendly universities in the UK, The Green will help us to continue to be at the forefront of environmental education and practice, as well as providing our students with fantastic accommodation.”

Each townhouse will have 12 bedrooms and six bathrooms and have a real family-living feel about them including separate kitchen, dining room and living room, with direct access to a green space to the rear of each unit.

All the apartments all have ensuite bathrooms and are in clusters of six bedrooms which will share both a kitchen and separate dining room. Visit www.bradford.ac.uk/the-green to find out more.

Mohammed Ishtiaq, Managing Director of Mi7 Developments, the project managers acting on behalf of the Hayaat Group and Welbeck Land, said: “We are pleased that our five year journey to date in Bradford, with efforts from the stakeholders, our partners and design team, has enabled commencement of the first of six phases of the Listerhills development, in which The Green plays a key part.

“The clever design features of the village combine to make up what will become the first student residential development to achieve a BREEAM Outstanding rating. We are excited to see that the plans and visions on paper are now becoming visible and with work starting soon on further phases, there will be a transformation of this area which will certainly have a positive impact on the local economy.”

The Green is the landmark development within the wider £150m Listerhills development. Alongside the student accommodation, planning permission has also been obtained to deliver managed workspace, academic and healthcare facilities and extensive public realm.

The scheme is part of the city’s impressive £750 million Learning Quarter which will provide a centre of excellence for the region through design, education and innovation and is being delivered by Mi7 Developments, the project management company for the Hayaat Group and in partnership with Welbeck Land Ltd.

The wider Listerhills scheme being developed by Mi7 Developments, with significant support from Middle Eastern investors, has the potential to create over 700 jobs.

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MEDIA NOTE

For further information, contact the University of Bradford’s Press Office.

Emma Banks or Charlotte Renwick: 01274 233089/233084

Email: press@bradford.ac.uk

Fax: 01274 236280

For enquiries out of office hours, call 07879 437996.

Notes to Editors

*Highly Commended in the Green Gown Awards 2009 in the Courses category.

** Flagged as a sector leader in 'Teaching and Learning by Universities that Count' for approach to Education for Sustainable Development

BREEAM

BREEAM (BRE Environmental Assessment Method) is the leading and most widely used environmental assessment method for buildings. It sets the standard for best practice in sustainable design and has become the de facto measure used to describe a building's environmental performance. For more information visit www.breeam.org

University of Bradford & Ecoversity

Having been founded in 1966, the University of Bradford is one of the UK's 'traditional' universities. It is a research-active institution, with over 80 per cent of our research being rated as either 'international' or 'world-leading' in the 2009 Research Assessment Exercise (RAE).

Known for its strong emphasis on employability skills and knowledge transfer work with businesses, the University has a truly global make up with over 20 per cent of its student population being international. The University is also a leader in sustainable development and education, and is number seven in the top ten greenest universities in the UK, according to the Green League 2010.

Ecoversity was launched at the University of Bradford in 2005. The programme aims to embed the principles and practice of sustainable development across the entire University by getting people involved, taking the lead on issues, and encouraging and making it easier for people to adopt sustainable behaviours and lifestyles.

Hayaat Group

Hayaat Group are a Middle East based group of companies with a multi-national presence in fields such as investment, oil and gas industry and real estate development. The Group's vision and aims are to seek out projects that are sustainable and innovative.

One of the pillars of Hayaat Group is Projenco Al Khaleej, an international oil & gas advisory and services company with over thirty years expertise in the field, with blue chip clients which include Rolls Royce, Emerson Systems, Kawasaki Heavy Industries, Deutsche Babcock, Severn Trent, De Nora and Mitsui.

The younger and growing element of the group is Hayaat Developments Plc based in Isle of Man, which is developing the Listerhills scheme in Bradford.

Welbeck Land Ltd

Welbeck Land Limited is the UK wide development arm of the Howard de Walden family. Welbeck has been active in the UK property market for over 16 years, and has developed landmark schemes such as One Lothbury in the City of London, Boots at Oxford Street, the Skyline Apartments in Leeds, as well as regeneration sites in Edinburgh and Manchester. Its development activities are complimented by its market leading Strategic Land business, which is separately funded by two institutional pension fund investors and the Howard de Walden family.



Welbeck and the Howard de Walden family are committed to the promotion of sustainable development, and to exploring new development models that harmonise the needs of the environment and local communities with the commercial imperatives of business.

GB Building Solutions Ltd

GB Building Solutions is a solutions-focused construction company which believes in adding value and delivering on the promises it makes to its customers.

GB Building Solutions has five offices based throughout England and undertakes a range of new build and refurbishment projects in both the public and private sectors. It specialises in five sectors; residential, commercial, education, hotels & leisure, and healthcare.

GWP Architecture

GWP Architecture is a practice of Architects, Landscape Architects, Interior Designers and Urban Planners. Founded in 1980 the practice has offices in the UK, Czech Republic and Middle East. GWP Architecture are specialists in the design of sustainable, affordable housing solutions and have completed a number of sustainable student residential projects for Universities in the UK. Recent schemes have received a number of awards including successive UK BREEAM Multi Residential awards 2008 and 2010 and the first student residential accommodation in the UK accredited to European 'Passivhaus' standard.

Robinson Design Limited – Structural and Civil Engineers

Robinson Design Limited is proud to be providing Civil and Structural Engineering Services on the Listerhills SSV Project 'The Green' which we believe is a very important project not only for the University but the city as a whole. Based in Bradford since 1947, we are a multi-disciplinary design company providing innovative and award winning Engineering and Architectural design solutions for the Construction Industry and have a long standing and close affinity to Bradford, its people and its built environment. We are proud to be working both on the national and international stage delivering world class engineering solutions whilst remaining true to our West Yorkshire roots and family business ethos.

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