



PRESS RELEASE

Belfast, 6th April 2009

SOMER COMMUNITY HOUSING TRUST AGREES TO BUY 25 APARTMENTS IN SOUTHGATE FOR USE AS AFFORDABLE HOMES

Multi Development UK Ltd, the Developers behind the £360 million SouthGate development in Bath, have announced that they have concluded an Agreement with Somer Community Housing Trust for the purchase of 25 of the 99 apartments in the scheme.

The Trust is to act as the Registered Social Landlord for these apartments and will offer them as affordable homes to rent and buy.

The affordable apartments are located in 3 of the 6 main buildings in the Development and are due to be fitted out and ready for occupation in July 2010.

Multi's Development Manager, Jon Munce said: *"We are delighted that we've been able to secure this Agreement with the Trust. It represents another key milestone in the successful completion of the scheme"*

Angela Gascoigne, Managing Director of Somer Community Housing Trust, said: *"This is a flagship scheme for Bath, and a unique opportunity to provide affordable homes in the city centre. We have enjoyed a very positive working relationship with Multi and are delighted with the agreement we've reached to purchase a quarter of the apartments being built at Southgate."*

Councillor Terry Gazzard (Conservative, Abbey), Cabinet Member for Development and Major Projects, said: *"Bath and North East Somerset Council views SouthGate as being a fundamental part of delivering different elements of our vision for the community. Increasing the availability of affordable housing is part of this aim and the Council welcomes this plan. The Council will be working with our partners to see how the flats could be adapted to suit disabled residents."*

For further details on the homes for sale, anyone interested can call Somer's Sales Team on 01225 366307 or email sales@somer.org.uk.

www.multi.eu

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SouthGate

Six new buildings at the heart of the scheme will provide

- 37,567 m² (404,221 sq ft) retail space, including a new Debenhams department store.
- 3,522 m² (37,897 sq ft) leisure space.
- 2,278 m² (24,511 sq ft) restaurant space.
- 99 new homes, 25 of which will be assigned as affordable housing
- A new basement car park beneath the development with 860 new car parking spaces
- A modern integrated transport hub, linking rail and bus services on adjacent sites fronting Dorchester Street, including brand new bus station facilities, an open piazza and enhanced taxis and disabled parking facilities

Public open spaces and new streets, including a large central square. All of the newly created spaces will have tree planting, seats, opportunities for public art and access to public conveniences.

Somer Community Housing Trust is a social landlord providing 9,700 affordable rented homes. Based in Bath, it owns homes across Bath, Somerset, Wiltshire, and the Bristol area. The charity has an active social housing development programme and invests £13m a year in its stock. The Trust is a member of Somer Housing Group. www.somer.org.uk.

Multi Development

Multi develops large-scale mixed-use shopping centres, inner-city regeneration projects and offices that are innovative, unique, sustainable and appealing. Multi's "Design & Development" formula focuses on outstanding design and quality. Multi uses its design group, T+T Design, for all urban development and architectural concepts. Multi's projects are internationally recognized and awarded for their original and innovative nature, quality of architectural character, sustainability and profound sensitivity to local environments. Multi developments regularly act as the engine for revitalizing a city or region. By respecting the uniqueness of the local culture and market, Multi's projects captivate people by enhancing their surroundings.

Note for the editor, not for publication:

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