

Media Release

Archbishop breaks ground as work starts on new school and 100 Lend Lease homes in Battersea

London, 10 February 2014: THE Archbishop of Southwark, The Most Reverend Peter Smith, has put the first spade in the ground to start the construction of new education facilities for Saint John Bosco College and more than 100 new homes in Battersea.

The new school and homes are located at Cobalt Place on Surrey Lane and will be built by Lend Lease, the integrated property and infrastructure group. Lend Lease has won planning permission to build 1,443 new homes in Central London in the last 12 months alone.

Lend Lease will build new state of the art modern educational facilities for the local Saint John Bosco College, as well as new community facilities nearby. Saint John Bosco College is a joint venture of the RC Southwark Diocese and the Salesians of Don Bosco and will see 1,050 places created for local students age 11 – 16 in addition to a sixth form for over 200 students.

Situated in Zone 2 of the London Underground, the homes at Cobalt Place will comprise 104 homes and will be arranged across two buildings of five and six storeys. The groundbreaking is the first step in the delivery of the school and the homes, which are set to be completed in 2015.

The homes, which range from one to three-bedroom apartments, will all have access to private balconies and gardens and will feature the latest in sustainable building practices and innovations, with residents benefitting from reduced energy costs as a result. Situated in the heart of Battersea, the homes will be just a short walk to Battersea Park and minutes from the high street, with access to a variety of shops, restaurants and cafes.

Richard Cook, Lend Lease's Head of Residential, said: "The groundbreaking at Battersea is the first step in the delivery of these much-needed homes for London homebuyers. We have already seen a high demand for these homes in Battersea with its central London location and proximity to the river, which makes it one of the most sought-after locations in the capital."

"We have been working closely with the community to make the homes something they can be proud of and have partnered with landowners in both the public and private sectors to deliver them. It is great to see such a high level of interest and to have The Most Reverend Peter Smith attend our groundbreaking to mark the start of construction."

The Most Reverend Peter Smith, Archbishop of Southwark, said: “This project has been a great collaborative work between the Salesians of Don Bosco, the RC Southwark Diocese and Lend Lease. I am looking forward to seeing the new school facilities and would like to thank all of those involved.”

Fr Martin Coyle SDB, Salesian Provincial, said: “I am delighted to be present at this groundbreaking ceremony which marks the beginning of this development in Battersea, a development which will create excellent facilities in new buildings for Saint John Bosco College, the Catholic school for Wandsworth already judged 'good' by Ofsted. Today is the result of a lot of hard work by all the partners in this project.”

Simon Uttley, Headteacher for Saint John Bosco College, said: “The opportunity to design and build one’s own school is an opportunity few headteachers enjoy. The process of developing a reality from a vision together with Lend Lease has been both exciting and transformational.”

Lend Lease has already begun work on another major regeneration site in Central London at Elephant & Castle. The £1.5bn regeneration will deliver 3,000 new homes and 160,000 sq ft of retail space as over the next 10 years. Construction has started on One The Elephant, a landmark 37-storey tower featuring 284 new homes, and Trafalgar Place, a development on the site of the former Heygate Estate which will house 235 units.

A sales event will be held on Saturday 15 February at Chelsea Harbour where interested buyers will be able to purchase one of the new homes at Battersea.

For further details about the event and sales enquiries at the Battersea development, please contact Lauristons Estate Agents on 0207 978 5800.

NOTES TO EDITORS:

1. For further information please contact Duncan Pelham, Media Relations Officer at Lend Lease, on 02034309765, 07763008175 or duncan.pelham@lendlease.com.
2. Lend Lease is a leading international property and infrastructure group. In the UK, it is the only fully integrated retail, residential and commercial provider delivering end-to-end property solutions. The company has core capabilities in development, investment management, construction, asset and property management.
3. Lend Lease is behind some of London’s largest and most exciting mixed-use regeneration projects such as Elephant & Castle and The International Quarter.
4. Lend Lease is listed on the Australian Stock Exchange and operates in four key regions – Australia, Asia, Americas and EMEA (Europe, Middle East, Africa). The group has more than 16,000 employees worldwide.
5. Lend Lease is listed on the Dow Jones World Sustainability Index (DJSI) and in 2012 ranked in the top eight per cent of property companies, achieving scores of 90 per cent or higher in a range of categories.

ENDS