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Start of new development makes a huge splash at Lakeside Doncaster

Lakeside, Doncaster's flagship economic development project, has been given a massive boost following planning permission for South Quay, a development incorporating six new prestigious office buildings and a pier accommodating up to three restaurants.

The first of these office buildings, being constructed by leading developer GMI Property Company, has quickly been snapped up by a Doncaster-based plc and work has already begun on site. GMI's strong track record in developing prestigious office developments – such as Thorpe Park in Leeds – will ensure that South Quay will become a magnet for companies across the region.

The 155,000 sq ft development will incorporate six new self contained office buildings built to a quality of specification not previously available in the Doncaster area. In addition, a pier will be extended into the lake to provide a visual landmark as well as a home for up to three restaurants.

The aim of the development is to attract and retain key employers in the Doncaster area by providing an engaging and sustainable working environment that is close to both the town centre and the motorway network. Doncaster is rapidly becoming one of the hot spots for the South Yorkshire economy, with its close proximity to the new Robin Hood Airport, motorways and the massive regeneration programme currently underway in the city.

Work on the first building, a 21,000 sq ft prestigious headquarters building, has already commenced and is scheduled to be completed in July 2006. The other elements of the development, such as the pier, will be built concurrently – meaning the entire project could be finished in 2010.

“South Quay Lakeside Doncaster is proving to be a popular area for business relocation, and the quality of buildings and leisure amenities we will be bringing to the site will place it firmly on the map as the premier business site in South Yorkshire,” said Tom Gilman, Director of GMI Property Company.

The South Quay development, with the new offices and Restaurant Pier, will add dramatically to the ambiance of Lakeside, which is already proving a success through the excellent regeneration and economic improvement undertaken by Doncaster Borough Council. With developments like the South Quay project, continued new investment into the town and region is guaranteed.

The remaining five buildings will provide over 110,000 sq ft of prime office accommodation, suitable for head office or regional office functions. The pier, which will extend 200 ft into the manmade lake, is designed to provide 22,000 sq ft of restaurant space with a mix of user types planned, incorporating a walkway to allow access for leisure use.

Details of the project can be obtained from the joint agents Steve Gibbins of Steve Gibbins & Co Ltd on 01924 386017, Adam Cockroft at DTZ on 0113 254 3000 or Tom Gilman, at GMI Property Company on 0113 277 2111.

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