

# London's largest waterside development gets green light



**One of London's largest waterside developments was given the go-ahead on the 9th of October when the London Borough of Tower Hamlets granted outline planning consent to the Wood Wharf Limited Partnership for the redevelopment of Wharf Wood, a seven hectare site adjacent to Canary Wharf.**

**The Wood Wharf Limited Partnership is a joint venture between British Waterways, Ballymore Group and Canary Wharf Group.**

Designed by architects Rogers, Stirk, Harbour + Partners with landscape architects Martha Schwartz Partners, the proposed masterplan will transform Wood Wharf into a vibrant mixed-use sustainable community with a range of high quality homes, offices, shops and community facilities, set within a stunning waterspace and public realm.

Wood Wharf is expected to create 25,000 new jobs, of which it is estimated that around 5,000 will be taken by local people. It will also provide 1,668 new homes including 483 affordable homes together with a new community park.

The scheme will deliver in excess of £50m worth of planning benefits for Tower Hamlets, in one of the largest community and infrastructure benefits packages ('Section 106') ever agreed as well as a £100m financial contribution towards the Crossrail project.

## **The main features of the scheme are:**

- Six commercial buildings providing approximately 454,000 m<sup>2</sup> (4.9 million square feet) office space;
- Six residential buildings providing up to 1,668 homes including 35% affordable housing and a significant proportion of affordable family housing;
- A new waterside community park;
- Community amenities which will include a new Health and Wellbeing centre, Idea Store, outdoor market and recreational facilities;
- A new High Street including shops, restaurants, bars and cafés as well as providing the opportunity to encourage independent and local traders;
- A waterside hotel;
- A new canal, waterfront boardwalks, and ecology areas;
- New pedestrian and cycle links connecting Wood Wharf and the wider community to Canary Wharf.

Commenting on the Council's decision, Jason Larkin, Wood Wharf Partnership's Planning Director said: "We are delighted that Tower Hamlets has given the go-ahead for this exciting scheme. The redevelopment of Wood Wharf will create one of the world's finest urban waterfront quarters. The creation

of jobs, homes, and investment in community infrastructure will make this one of the largest and most important regeneration projects in London and provide huge benefits to the London Borough of Tower Hamlets.

We were delighted with the strong support shown for the scheme from local residents and the Council and look forward to working with them to make the vision a reality."

The redevelopment of Wood Wharf will take place over the next 10 to 15 years in four development phases. Reserved matters applications for phase one will be submitted during 2009.

The Partnership's planning advisers for the masterplan were GVA Grimley.

For more information visit [www.woodwharf.com](http://www.woodwharf.com)

## **For further information contact:**

Gary Pleasants – 020 7566 7963

Paul Dimoldenberg 020 7566 7960 / 07864 042584

