



PRESS RELEASE

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## NEW PUBLIC SQUARE DESIGNS UNVEILED AT WELLINGTON PLACE, LEEDS

Designs have been unveiled for Leeds' newest public square, which will be at the heart of the exciting new city centre office development, Wellington Place.

Tower Square will stretch from the historic Lifting Tower to Whitehall Road, and, at 54,000 sq ft, is set to become one of the largest and most prominent public spaces in Leeds. Landscaped trees and planting will provide a natural setting for people to enjoy the ground floor shops, flexible seating and free WiFi.

An Old Wagon Hoist, dating back to 1850, will be located at the heart of the square as a reminder of the city's industrial roots. It will be a fitting backdrop to the square, which will connect Leeds' newest office development.

The square is set to host an array of exciting new community and charity events and activities as well as public art displays and installations to reflect the rich history of the site.

Tower Square, is part of the new office scheme funded by CPPIB and Hermes Investment Management and developed by MEPC, which also manages Wellington Place. It will open during the first quarter of 2016.

**James Dipple, Chief Executive, MEPC said:** "We see Leeds' newest public square as being a truly unique urban space for everyone to enjoy. Our aim is to create a natural setting which not only connects Wellington Place, its history, buildings and all those who work in them, but is also a place for the people of Leeds to meet, eat, shop, relax and enjoy. We are excited to be creating what will be a superb and welcoming addition to our thriving city."

Development around the square is in full swing with 6 Wellington Place overlooking the square currently being built.

When completed, it will offer six floors totaling 106,000 sq ft of office and retail space with a stunning glass atrium, open light flexible floor plates, and floor to ceiling windows to capture as much natural light as possible.

Global law firm Squire Patton Boggs has already agreed terms for two floors totalling 32,000 sq ft and will relocate its Leeds's based staff from its offices on Park Lane during early 2016.

The building's neighbour – 10 Wellington Place completed in April 2014 – is now 80 per cent let with just 7,685 sq ft remaining.

**James Dipple, MEPC added:** "We are on track with our development plans as we continue to create and build Leeds' business community. 6 Wellington Place has already proved popular with the recent signing of Squire Patton Boggs. We are building for the future and Tower Square and 6 Wellington Place will be a stunning addition to our already well established development."

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**Notes to Editors:**

**About Wellington Place**

Wellington Place is a sustainable business community being built in the heart of Leeds by developer and manager MEPC, and is funded by Canada Pension Plan Investment Board (CPPIB) and Hermes Real Estate.

Once completed, the scheme will boast a total of 1.5 million sq ft of commercial, retail, leisure and residential space and be one of the biggest and most prestigious new city centre business quarters in Europe.

Wellington Place has a number of blue chip tenants occupying its already completed buildings: 1, 2 and 10 Wellington Place, including: Allianz, Shulmans LLP, Sky and Towers Watson.

Construction of 6 Wellington Place, which will total 106,000 sq ft of office and retail space, began in June 2014 for which MEPC has secured a 32,000 sq ft pre-let with leading global law firm Squire Patton Boggs. Detailed planning consent has also been granted for building 5 on the site, offering 65,000 sq ft of grade A office and retail space.

Operating as a socially cohesive place for people to work, with easy access through multiple transport options, and an empowered local management team working to build strong long-term relationships with all stakeholders, Wellington Place is being built on the city's traditions, and with the future in mind.

The vision for Wellington Place is to be an exciting place to work, live and visit.

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Canada Pension Plan Investment Board (CPPIB) is a professional investment management organization that invests the funds not needed by the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) to pay current benefits on behalf of 18 million Canadian contributors and beneficiaries. In order to build a diversified portfolio of CPP assets, CPPIB invests in public equities, private equities, real estate, infrastructure and fixed income instruments. Headquartered in Toronto, with offices in Hong Kong, London, New York City and São Paulo, CPPIB is governed and managed independently of the Canada Pension Plan and at arm's length from governments. At September 30, 2014, the CPP Fund totalled C\$234.4 billion of which C\$25.4 billion represented real estate investments. For more information about CPPIB, please visit [www.cppib.com](http://www.cppib.com).