

Council approval granted for £24M Student and Homes Quarter for Abbeyhill

Planning approval has been granted for a new mixed-used student and residential quarter in the Abbeyhill area of Edinburgh by the City of Edinburgh Council. The Abbey Lane development brings together a 298-bed student complex with 66 new homes on the half-acre site, near London Road. Artisan Real Estate will deliver the homes, while Unite Students will develop the student accommodation.

Artisan bought the former industrial estate site in 2016 and Unite Students acquired the option to purchase the site in July this year. The estimated total cost for the development is in the region of £24 million. Artisan will deliver 66 apartments including affordable homes and retail units built around a landscaped courtyard. The design includes a generous amount of green space, including a courtyard area, green roofs and roof gardens.

Welcoming the planning approval, Clive Wilding, Artisan's Group Development Director, said: "This is part of a £90 million investment commitment by Artisan to raise the standards of sustainable living at several prime city centre brownfield sites across Edinburgh.

"Abbey Lane will be a great example of mixed-use living in a superb central location. As well as reducing urban sprawl by optimising the number of people living in well-designed, energy-efficient homes in low car-use locations well-served by public transport, we are also envisaging what people want from

their living environment, post-Covid 19.



Aerial view showing artists' impression of 2 Abbey Lane, Edinburgh, in the context of the surrounding area. The development is the green-roof building in the foreground.

“Significant emphasis is placed on the quality of internal space and light to create enjoyable home-working environments, whilst accessible gardens and landscaping promote health and well-being by making nature and well-designed outdoor space integral to the day-to-day living experience.”

Nick Hayes, Group Property Director, added: “We welcome this decision to grant planning consent. We believe this development will enhance the on-going regeneration of an important part of Edinburgh city centre. Throughout the planning process, we have engaged with the local community and are looking forward to continuing that important work during the development phase of this project.

“Edinburgh has an undersupply of purpose-built student accommodation and we’re confident that this development will further improve the vibrant Abbeyhill area of the city.”