



PRESS RELEASE
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FORTH PORTS PLC

Leith Residents Designs Are Brought To Life

Leith residents have been invited to a presentation this week (Wednesday) to discuss their input into the planning application for the First Village Masterplan near Ocean Terminal.

In March this year, approximately 50 residents from a broad range of backgrounds attended a workshop organised by Forth Properties Limited, the property division of Forth Ports PLC. The local people were given expert briefings from a number of guests including Masterplanners RTKL, who gave an overview of the guiding principles of the development. The residents were given the opportunity to create their own designs and highlight their priorities for key aspects of the development – previously known as the 'Hub' - including public areas, shopping facilities, event, attractions and landmark buildings for the area known as the First Village Masterplan which includes Ocean Terminal, Britannia Quay and Waterfront Plaza.

The event was part of the Forth Properties drive to ensure the local community is actively involved in the regeneration of Leith and Granton and has its views represented in the on-going development of the area. Wednesday's meeting will inform residents about the detailed design of the area around Ocean Terminal and the next steps in the planning process. Residents will also hear how the ideas from March's design event have been taken forward.

The key point that arose from March's resident consultation was to make sure that the area is made into a place for everyone – of all ages, cultures and backgrounds. RTKL have since developed their plans to incorporate a green park space at Britannia Quay and they have incorporated an accessible waterfront esplanade running from Western Harbour to the northern end of Ocean Terminal into the design.

Representatives from RTKL, including Director Mahmood Faruqi, will attend Wednesday's meeting to present the design as it stands so far and answer questions.

Michaela Sullivan, Head of Planning at Forth Ports, said: "We were extremely encouraged by the quality of ideas that were generated by the local residents in March and have done our utmost to ensure that their comments and ideas have been taken on board.

"The community had strong opinions about making the Waterfront accessible and a place for everyone. RTKL have incorporated green spaces, leisure and recreation areas into their plan and are committed to ensuring that the commonly shared views are reflected in their plan."

She continued, "The detailed outline planning application for the First Village Masterplan will be submitted to the City of Edinburgh Council mid next year and we are very grateful to those with an interest in the area for attending these consultations."

Wednesday's meeting will also provide another opportunity to view the Leith Docks Outline Planning Application Exhibition which has been on display at various venues during September. The planning application on the proposed development is currently with the City of Edinburgh Council for determination, and the opportunity for public comments has been extended to November 2.

The presentation of the First Village Masterplan will be held at Thomas Morton Hall, 28 Ferry Road, Wednesday October 24, 7 – 8pm

Issued by The BIG Partnership on behalf of Forth Ports plc

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NOTES TO EDITORS

Forth Ports PLC owns and operates the Ports of Grangemouth, Leith, Rosyth, Methil and Burntisland on the River Forth, the Port of Dundee on the River Tay and Port of Tilbury on the River Thames. Forth Ports PLC is also a significant landowner with extensive property interests and a number of high profile developments. These include the Scottish Executive offices and Ocean Terminal shopping centre – home to the former Royal Yacht Britannia - at Leith, the Western Harbour, Granton Harbour and Leith Docks developments on Edinburgh's waterfront and the City Quay development at Dundee.