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## THE ROYAL TOWN PLANNING INSTITUTE HIGHLY COMMENDS LONDON DOCKLANDS' GREENLAND DOCK

## EMBARGOED UNTIL 3.00 P.M WEDNESDAY 13 DECEMBER 1989

The Greenland Dock Development in London Docklands'
Surrey Docks has been Highly Commended by The Royal Town
Planning Institute in its 1989 Award for Planning
Achievement.

This prestigious national competition attracted 37 entries covering a wide variety of endeavours including recreation and employment schemes, new buildings and conservation.

The London Docklands Development Corporation (LDDC) initiated and funded the Greenland Dock Development Project. Conran Roche, architectural, planning and design consultants, co-ordinated the project for the LDDC, working with consulting engineers, Sir Alexander Gibb & Partners; quantity surveyors, Davis, Langdon and Everest and landscape design consultants, Paddy Jackson Associates. The LDDC's Surrey Docks Team, controlled the project and provided design and development direction.

The Greenland Dock Development Project area spans 62 acres of land and 31 acres of enclosed water in Greenland and South Dock on the south side of the Thames. It is a historic site, dating back to the seventeenth century and was once Britain's centre for whaling, timber and grain imports. Greenland Dock, like most of London Docklands, was heavily bombed during the last war. It steadily declined until its closure in 1969.

Work on redeveloping Greenland Dock began in 1983. The main objectives were to improve the environment, create housing and employment and make active use of the water. Regeneration has involved: repairing dock walls and clearing water areas; building main roads; providing main services; landscaping the dock and riverside areas; restoring historic locks and bridges and the selective demolition of derelict buildings.

The successful regeneration of Greenland Dock together with other nearby new developments, providing leisure and retail facilities for local people, has helped secure the future for the Surrey Docks as a whole.

The majority of development is residential, including a significant proportion of homes which have been sold to local residents at affordable prices. Throughout the Surrey Docks, half of the new homes built on LDDC land since 1981 have gone to people previously living in the London Borough of Southwark. At Greenland Dock, the Corporation, Southwark Council and a consortium of local housing associations have this year put in place Docklands' biggest social housing development of 500 units.

The Dock waters provide the scheme's focus. With 372 berths, the fully serviced commercial marina at South Dock is London's largest. In addition, a £1.8 million community watersports centre, funded by the Corporation and run by Southwark Council, opens next spring for sailing, canoeing and windsurfing.

Chris Farrow, LDDC Area Director Surrey Docks Team said: "The LDDC's initiative and commitment to Greenland Dock has created an area of true distinction. By providing the necessary backbone of infrastructure and landscaping, private investment has been secured and helped to transform this once derelict and vacant wasteland into a thriving economic and social success.

"Today's high commendation from the RTPI is just one of several official recognitions that London Docklands' schemes have recently received. It is greatly encouraging that, at last, Docklands' developments are getting the praise they deserve."

For further information and photographs contact:

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