

News Release

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DEVELOPMENT TEAM SELECTED FOR SOUTH DOCK HARBOUR

The tender for development of South Dock Marina and the former PLA Police Station in Surrey Docks, has been awarded by the London Docklands Development Corporation (LDDC) to Skillion plc (with Marina Holdings Ltd and Sir Alexander Gibb & Partners).

In April of this year, the LDDC launched the development prospectus for South Dock Harbour in the Surrey Docks area of Docklands. This contained the Corporation's Development Framework for South Dock Harbour and the development briefs for a 370 berth commercial marina and two Edwardian dockside buildings; the PLA Police Station and the former Surrey Canal Office. The LDDC hopes to award the tender for the Surrey Canal Office in the near future.

South Dock Harbour will be the first fully serviced, commercial marina in Docklands. The total development will bring exceptional recreation and leisure facilities to the people who live, work in and visit the Surrey Docks, and generate significant employment.

Sir Christopher Benson, Chairman of the LDDC said: "The Corporation were looking for a professional development team with a competent marina operator who could make a commercial success of running South Dock Harbour. The winning consortium combines the experience of Skillion, who have worked successfully on other sites in Docklands, with the expertise of Marina Holdings Ltd, who have an excellent track record at Hoo Marina, Gillingham."

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Sir Alexander Gibb and Partners are already working as part of a consultancy team co-ordinated by Conran Roche, under the direction of the LDDC, involving engineering, infrastructure and landscaping works at Greenland and South Docks. The Corporation have invested over £500,000 on this work to establish a 'harbour regime' needed to service the proposed harbour development.

Nine separate submissions for one or more of the interests offered were submitted to the Corporation before 29 July 1988. It is expected that the schemes will be submitted for detailed planning permission in late Autumn, allowing work to start on site in early 1989. The first phase of the marina could be operational by May 1989.

For further information contact:

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

SOUTH DOCK MARINA (10 acres of water and 1.5 acres of land)

The marina can accommodate up to 370 berths in the enclosed water of South Dock and the eastern end of Greenland Dock. A 200 year leasehold interest was offered in land on two plots at Mulberry Quay and Tavern Quay, at the western end of South Dock, for marina associated activities such as a boatyard, boat lifting facilities, chandlery, onshore landing and storage. The marina will have direct access to the River Thames via South Lock and lay by moorings will be available off Greenland Dock Pier on the river.

PLA POLICE STATION:

A 200 year leasehold interest is being offered in this 13,000 sq ft building on 2/3 floors which was formerly a grain store and then a Police Station for the PLA. The building is now considered suitable for commercial and leisure uses compatible with the marina or as an independent development.

SURREY CANAL OFFICE

Offers were invited for the 200 year leasehold interest in this 540 sq ft, single storey building, formerly a Canal Office. The building could be used either to accommodate activities associated with the marina or for use as residential/studio or office accommodation.