



14 April 2008

DESIGN REVEALED FOR THE REGION'S NEW HISTORIC ARCHIVE BUILDING

The final design of the new Glamorgan Record Office has been revealed – a state of the art archive building that is to house records for six Glamorgan counties, dating from the twelfth century to the present day.

The new building will be situated on part of Cardiff City Football Club's extensive new stadium development following a deal between PMG Estates Ltd and the football club and will be ready in 2009. It will extend still further the social benefit created by the new football stadium, as the new building will take advantage of the roads and other infrastructure created by the stadium and retail park at Leckwith.

The new 45,000 sq ft facility will house a collection of over 1 million documents and will be constructed in such a way as to use the structure itself to create stability in terms of temperature and humidity – reducing the need for environmentally expensive air conditioning.

There will also be conference space for workshops, lectures and school groups and a key feature will be a modern paper conservation studio – the leading facility in South Wales when completed, where visitors will be able to see specialists working to repair and conserve irreplaceable ancient archive papers.

Mike Hall, Director of PMG Estates says construction of the new building will be underway very soon. "Remediation of the land has taken place and drainage and ground works are currently being finalised. When completed, the building will provide excellent facilities for storing the archives, dramatically improving the access the public has to these records, whilst bringing another dimension to the Leckwith site."

Cllr Rodney Berman, the Leader of Cardiff Council, welcomed the new building as a genuine asset to the local community:

“It was always intended that the development at Leckwith would be a genuine 'mixed use' development offering a diverse range of attractions and amenities. The new Glamorgan Record Office is an excellent example of a community facility that will complement the sporting, retail and other attractions being built.

“Of course it will serve the wider region, not just the people of Cardiff, so I’m delighted the service has decided to relocate to Leckwith where it will be so much more prominent and accessible to people from both Cardiff and the surrounding communities.

“The new building will offer more comfortable surroundings for visitors and staff, as well as improved storage conditions for the archives, and I’m sure it will prove to be a popular move.”

Gary Tuson, Programme Director at the Glamorgan Record Office believes the new facilities will be among the best in the UK. “Currently our records are stored on no less than eight kilometres of shelving in various buildings in and around Cardiff. Bringing it all together under one roof will dramatically improve people’s access to these records. The records are irreplaceable and they will now be stored in environmentally sound and future proof accommodation second to none.”