



**WEDNESDAY 31 30 AUGUST 20122 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**WORKS TO START ON SITE AT BEGBROKE SCIENCE PARK TO DELIVER 135,000 SQFT OF NEW RESEARCH FACILITIES FOR OXFORD UNIVERSITY**

Oxford University Property Development (OUPD), the joint venture bringing together the land, vision and opportunities of Oxford University with the investment and development management skills of Legal & General, has announced today (31 August 2022) that Mace has been appointed to deliver the next phase of development at Begbroke Science Park (BSP).

This contract is the first in a package of work representing a £100m investment in expanding the Science Park by the JV and will create a further c 135,000 sq ft of space in total. One building will become a new home for the University's academics and the other will become a new commercial hub for companies looking to grow and build links with academia. Practical completion of the buildings, designed by nbbj architects, is targeted for early 2024.

The two buildings are lab enabled, designed by nbbj architects, to perform to high sustainability standards including BREEAM Excellent and WELL Gold Enabled. The development includes a new cycleway link between Begbroke Science Park and Kidlington as well as a public art piece by the Turner Prize winning practice Assemble.

The buildings are an expansion of the current facilities within the boundaries of the existing Begbroke Science Park at Begbroke Hill. OUPD is also working on plans, in consultation with the local community and Cherwell District Council, to bring forward wider development outside the existing boundaries of the Science Park to deliver homes, additional research and development facilities and commercial space.

The building was developed by Oxford University Development (OUD), the delivery arm of OUPD, in conjunction with Oxford University and Bruntwood SciTech. The contract has been placed by Legal & General who will oversee delivery.

Anna Strongman, CEO of OUD said today:

*“Begbroke has been a home of innovation for Oxford University for over 20 years, supporting spin-out and scale up businesses, attracting and retaining talent, and generating economic and social benefits. Our partnership will deliver the further space needed to build on that success. These two new buildings will provide further much needed academic and commercial spaces by 2024.”*

Mike Coplowe, Senior Development Manager, Legal & General

*"We are extremely proud of our partnership with the University of Oxford, and today marks an exciting milestone in Begbroke Science Parks journey. The first phase of the scheme will bring forward new research facilities, as well as providing space to incubate spin-out companies. Future phases will also seek to develop 2,000 new homes, with a mix of affordable tenures and subsidised key worker accommodation. These new facilities will help retain talent in the city, whilst driving essential inward investment and providing opportunities for world-leading innovation, as well as much needed housing for key workers."*

Professor Patrick Grant, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research), from Oxford University, said:

*"For many years Begbroke has provided a unique environment for the University's scientists to work alongside colleagues in the private sector. Amongst many innovations, we have created new technologies and products for green and sustainable energy and for precision medicine. The new buildings will accelerate our activity and collaborations, providing flexible facilities for research groups, spinouts and innovative companies of all kinds. They represent the first phase of an ambitious plan to deliver an innovation district at Begbroke, and we are excited to see the work commence."*

Terry Spraggett, Managing Director, Construction (PREACH) at Mace said:

*"Begbroke Science Park is one of the most ambitious science and education projects Mace has ever been appointed to deliver. Working closely with the University of Oxford and L&G, we'll use our track record and experience in creating the UK's latest science testing facilities in electronics, satellites and medical research, to bring new research spaces for this prestigious academic institution. By assembling a multi-disciplinary team, we are delivering the buildings in the science park to the highest sustainability and quality standards."*

For more information go to [www.oud.co.uk](http://www.oud.co.uk) or contact Robert Gordon Clark on 07973 148238 or [robert@playgc.co.uk](mailto:robert@playgc.co.uk)

## Notes to Editors

Two CGI images attached.

### 1. About Begbroke Science Park

Since 1999 the University's Science Park at Begbroke, five miles from Oxford city centre, between Yarnton and Woodstock, has been home to a wide range of research and development activities, playing a vital role in the local, regional and national economy. BSP is a fully integrated research and development facility, where world-class university scientists work with industry decision-makers and entrepreneurs to turn cutting-edge research into commercial opportunities. It is the only science park in Oxfordshire wholly owned and managed by Oxford University and is a cross-departmental research facility with currently c.120,000 sq ft of office/laboratory space for research groups and high-tech science-based businesses and spinouts, and a conference venue and business training centre. It is already home to more than 20 research groups in engineering, materials and life sciences as well as around 30 high-tech companies.

Begbroke Science Park forms part of the wider Begbroke Innovation District. The vision is to deliver an exemplary new setting for the University's world-leading science and innovation work, creating an inclusive and accessible community of approximately 2,000 quality homes, with new schools, a public park, a nature reserve and sustainable transport links. It sits at the centre of land earmarked in Cherwell District Council's Local Plan Partial Review for a high-quality mixed-use development. Hawkins\Brown have been selected by OUD to masterplan the site along with a wider design team. Consultation began on the vision in July 2022.

## **2. About Oxford University Property Development (OUPD)**

OUPD is a joint venture bringing together the land, vision and opportunities of Oxford University with the investment and development management skills of Legal & General Capital. Formed in 2019 and backed by c £4bn of investment capital, OUPD focuses on academic estate, residential, infrastructure and commercial innovation space. Oxford University Development (OUD) is the delivery vehicle for OUPD.

OUPD is delivering exemplary, sustainable development for Oxford University to maintain and enhance its world class research and education and to support the wider Oxford economy and society, and currently has three live projects under construction focusing on homes for graduate students (Court Place Gardens), leading research (The Life and Mind Building) and space for research and growing businesses (Begbroke Science Park Phase 1). It is also now consulting on a 190 hectare masterplan for Begbroke Innovation District.

By c 2035 OUPD expects to have delivered c 1.6 million sq feet of university space; c 3,000 new homes for graduate students, researchers, University and college staff and their families and the wider Oxford community; a host of new parks, squares, schools, playgrounds, cafes, community spaces and other amenities; and a net zero carbon estate.

## **3. About OU**

Oxford University has been placed number one in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings for the sixth year running, and number two in the QS World Rankings 2022. At the heart of this success are the twin pillars of our ground-breaking research and innovation and our distinctive educational offer.

Oxford is world-famous for research and teaching excellence and home to some of the most talented people from across the globe. Our work helps the lives of millions, solving real-world problems through a huge network of partnerships and collaborations. The breadth and interdisciplinary nature of our research alongside our personalised approach to teaching sparks imaginative and inventive insights and solutions.

Through its research commercialisation arm, Oxford University Innovation, Oxford is the highest university patent filer in the UK and is ranked first in the UK for university spinouts, having created more than 200 new companies since 1988. Over a third of these companies have been created in the past three years. The University is a catalyst for prosperity in Oxfordshire and the United Kingdom, contributing £15.7 billion to the UK economy in 2018/19, and supports more than 28,000 full-time jobs.

#### **4. About Legal & General**

Established in 1836, Legal & General is one of the UK's leading financial services groups and a major global investor, with over £1.4 trillion in total assets under management\* of which a third is international. We also provide powerful asset origination capabilities. Together, these underpin our leading retirement and protection solutions: we are a leading international player in pension risk transfer, in UK and US life insurance, and in UK workplace pensions and retirement income. Through inclusive capitalism, we aim to build a better society by investing in long-term assets that benefit everyone.

\*at 31 Dec 2021

#### **5. About Mace**

Mace is a global company of experts in shaping and making the built environment. It provides development, consulting, construction and operations services for many of the world's most inspiring building and infrastructure projects and programmes – from Olympic parks and iconic skyscrapers to state-of-the-art data centres, schools, hospitals and homes.

The privately-owned company, headquartered in London, UK, has an annual turnover of £1.8 billion. Over 30 years, its growth has been fuelled by an adventurous spirit and the relentless pursuit of a better way. Today, the company employs over 6,000 people across five global hubs in Europe, Middle East and North Africa, the Americas, Sub Saharan Africa and Asia Pacific.

Mace is driven by its purpose to redefine the boundaries of ambition, and its vision of leading the way to a more connected, resilient and sustainable world.

Find out more at [www.macegroup.com](http://www.macegroup.com)

**David Hendy, Head of Corporate Communications, Mace Group [David.hendy@macegroup.com](mailto:David.hendy@macegroup.com)  
07852999065**

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