

### Skanska marks official opening of new Midlands office in Birmingham

**Skanska has officially marked the opening of its new Midlands office in Birmingham, with a ceremony officiated by Executive Vice President Paul Chandler and Leader of Birmingham City Council, Mike Whitby.**

The event took place at the company's new office in Colmore Row, near Snow Hill Station on the evening of Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November. Guests included representatives from the commercial development market, members of the consulting professions and other advisors, many of whom have worked with Skanska over recent years whilst the company has been undertaking a number of schemes in the Midlands across the healthcare, custodial and defence sectors.

The decision to establish a base in the Midlands is in response to the company's business plan in which it set out a commitment to increase its regional presence where it can offer skills, experience and solutions, "the Skanska way" to the benefit of its clients. This includes combining its extensive in-house skills and experience in a "one Skanska" approach to deliver complete solutions to its clients.

During his speech, **Paul Chandler** said "We have a wealth of experience of working in the Midlands area, predominantly in the public sector. There are a number of potential private sector opportunities in this region and we know the in-house skills and experience we have built up, particularly in the London commercial market, places us in a good position to successfully deliver projects in other UK locations.

"To do this it is important that we understand the market and our clients. The opening of our Birmingham office is our commitment to the area and will enable us to develop long term relationships".

Leader of Birmingham City Council, **Mike Whitby**, commented: "Skanska's decision to open an office in Birmingham is testimony to the city's drive to provide the property industry with clarity on the opportunities available for development over the next 20 years, through its Big City Plan. By engaging with the industry and demonstrating how the city's attributes - such as its transport network, skilled workforce and supportive business community will help them achieve real growth - we have attracted one of the world's leading construction and development groups to Birmingham. We look forward to working with the team at Skanska to develop their presence in Birmingham."

Business Birmingham, the city's inward investment programme, provided support to Skanska to help the company locate its UK hub in Birmingham. **Wouter Schuitemaker**, Investment Director at Business Birmingham, said: "Business Birmingham has worked closely with Skanska to help the business identify the immediate and long-term opportunities having a base in Birmingham could offer. Skanska's decision to locate in Birmingham will not go unnoticed by its suppliers and the wider property sector and will send a clear message that the city has the opportunities, investment and business attributes needed to help companies in this area to grow.

**For further information  
please contact:**

Tanya Barnes,  
Head of External  
Communications  
+44 1923 423 905  
+44 7769 881 546

**Ends**

**Notes to Editors - About Skanska:**

Skanska is involved in some of the UK's most prestigious projects in both the Private and Public Sectors. Whilst known mainly for our large high-profile schemes, we also undertake many smaller projects

[tanya.barnes@skanska.co.uk](mailto:tanya.barnes@skanska.co.uk)

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including public realm improvements, hard and soft landscaping as well as hundreds of utilities projects each year covering gas, electricity and water.

By combining the skills and experience of our construction operations and those of our Infrastructure Development Business Unit, we have become a UK leader in Private Finance Initiative/Public Private Partnership schemes covering healthcare, education, defence, transportation and street lighting.

In December 2010, we announced our intention to establish a Residential Development Business in the UK. This decision followed a comprehensive review of the UK market, which identified a high-volume, long term need for high-quality residential properties in the UK. This, coupled with the extensive environmental requirements placed on new UK homes fits perfectly with Skanska's knowledge and experience. In January 2011, we purchased our first residential development site in Cambridge. This was followed in October 2011 with the announcement we had purchased our second site, again in Cambridge.

Our business model is to integrate our core disciplines to deliver project solutions across our chosen market areas. By integrating all disciplines and working together with our clients, our partners and our supply chain, we make a real difference to the delivery of projects. We focus on creating sustainable solutions and we aim to be leaders in green construction, health and safety and business ethics. We work strictly in accordance with the Skanska Code of Conduct and to our Five Zeros, which reflect our core values: zero loss-making projects, zero accidents, zero environmental incidents, zero ethical breaches and zero defects.

Our commitment to contribute to a more sustainable world is resolute. In June 2011, we were named the Greenest company in the UK across all industries in the Sunday Times Best Green Companies Awards. We seek to use our position to influence both our clients and our supply chain to make more sustainable decisions, taking a longer-term view over the infrastructure we develop. Our ability to demonstrate real responsibility to people, organisations and the environment in which we work attracts the next generation of talent who want to make a real difference.

Backed by the financial strength of Skanska AB, we focus totally on our customers in the UK to understand their needs.

We employ approximately 4,600 staff in the UK and undertake around £1.3 billion worth of work each year. We carry out all aspects of the construction, development and infrastructure process - from financing projects, through design and construction right through to facilities management, operation and maintenance.

Skanska is one of the world's leading project development and construction groups with expertise in construction, development of commercial and residential projects and public-private partnerships. Based on its global green experience, Skanska aims to be the clients' first choice for Green solutions. The Group currently has 52,000 employees in selected home markets in Europe, in the US and Latin America. Headquartered in Stockholm, Sweden and listed on the Stockholm Stock Exchange, Skanska's sales in 2010 totalled around £11 billion.