

Media release

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Campus Living Villages appointed preferred bidder by University of Bedfordshire

Campus Living Villages has been appointed as preferred bidder by the University of Bedfordshire for the contract to construct 850 beds of student accommodation on its Park Square Campus in Luton, and to operate and manage the existing 1,045 beds of university owned accommodation at the campus.

Campus Living Villages is the largest international provider of on campus student accommodation; owning, managing or developing around 43,000 beds in partnership with more than 50 universities across the USA, UK, Australia and New Zealand.

The 850 new beds will be delivered in two phases between August 2011 and 2013 and will include a range of en suite room, flats and studios, as well as communal areas for socialising and study.

The project is part of the University's significant £134 million investment in its campuses, which will give students the best possible learning environment along with state-of-the-art equipment.

Deputy Vice Chancellor (Resources) Donald Harley said: "This is an exciting next step in our plans to redevelop our Luton campus and we look forward to working with Campus Living Villages.

"The first phase of our redevelopment – a new Campus Centre – is well underway and on schedule to open in September this year. This will bring all student services under one roof and will house a 240-seat lecture theatre, social and learning spaces and the Students' Union."

Gary Clarke, CEO of Campus Living Villages UK, said: 'We are delighted to have this opportunity to work in partnership with the University of Bedfordshire.

"We are also very excited by its commitment to improving the student experience, both in terms of the quality and specification of the proposed new halls, as well as in embracing the resident life programme which Campus Living Villages will deliver across the campus.

"Having started our UK operations in late 2008 this is our second UK project, and the first which provides Campus Living Villages with the opportunity to showcase a large scale newbuild scheme."

Campus Living Villages has appointed Kier Marriott as construction partner. Davis Langdon acted as consultant.

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Information about Campus Living Villages

Campus Living Villages specialises in developing and operating purpose built student accommodation in partnership with universities in Australia, New Zealand, the United States and, most recently, the United Kingdom. With an established track record in providing safe and supportive residential environments, its sole business is student accommodation.

Campus Living Villages is focused on enhancing the experience of students in its villages and, in doing so, helping to improve the reputation and appeal of its partner universities. It develops structured student life programmes and support services tailored to each university and the unique demographic make-up of its residents.

Campus Living Villages has the expertise to manage all parts of the development and management process with in-house expertise in design, development, building, financing, sustainability and operational management. It allows universities to provide housing without having to be involved in the cost and complexity of building and managing student facilities.