

# Downtown Liverpool In Business

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**DLIB**

## Work begins on Kings Waterfront Project

Partners working on the regeneration of Kings Waterfront in Liverpool have announced the start of a £15m programme of infrastructure works.

A groundbreaking ceremony was held this week to mark the start of works that will be the first phase in transforming the 15 hectare site into a mixed-use development of international quality.

Representatives of City Centre Urban Regeneration Company Liverpool Vision, national regeneration agency English Partnerships, Northwest Regional Development Agency (NWDA), Liverpool City Council and the Merseyside Objective 1 Programme were on hand to witness the start of a two-year construction programme.

Once complete Kings Waterfront will include a 9,180-seat arena, 7,600 sq m conference centre, 1,350-seat auditorium, two hotels, 1,800 residential units, commercial leisure and retail space, car parking and public open space.

Sir Joe Dwyer, Chairman of Liverpool Vision, said: *"This is a very significant day for Liverpool and Merseyside. The start on site represents an important milestone in realising our ambitions to develop world-class facilities in Liverpool for the benefit of the city, Merseyside and the North West."*

*"We set ourselves a challenging timetable with this development, but thanks to the hard work of partners over many months we can now see tangible evidence of progress on this important waterfront site."*

David Higgins, Chief Executive of English Partnerships said: *"Today is all about progress with the start of these infrastructure works. As well as providing new homes, the Kings Waterfront development will deliver a fantastic range of facilities for local people and visitors alike. It's what regeneration is all about - bringing together new uses for land, with public and private organisations working together effectively. English Partnerships is pleased to be playing its full part in this exciting project in Liverpool."*

Councillor Mike Storey, leader of Liverpool City Council, said: *"When I became leader of the council one of the first things I said is that the city needed an arena and conference centre. So this ground-breaking is a day that I have looked forward to. It is a promise made and a promise delivered and we have been able to do that by working closely together with our partners on this very exciting scheme."*

Helen France, NWDA Executive Director of Partnerships, said: *"This is a really important day for Liverpool and the Kings Waterfront Partnership. The development will be a key part of the continued regeneration of Liverpool. This is a very exciting project which will make a real difference to the facilities offered by Liverpool. This has been a genuine partnership and NWDA is proud to be able to contribute towards the development of this flagship regeneration initiative."*