

# Press Release

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## Fresh impetus for new-build project in Westend: Deutsche Wohnen and borough council sign supplement to implementation contract

**Berlin, 1 April 2021.** Today, Deutsche Wohnen and the Borough of Charlottenburg-Wilmersdorf signed a supplement to the city planning contract for the long-planned construction project in Westend. The focus of the agreements was that the protection afforded to existing tenants has once again been extended significantly.

As **Henrik Thomsen, Chief Development Officer (CDO) of Deutsche Wohnen SE**, explains, “We are very pleased that, together with the borough, we have cleared up all possible areas of uncertainty. This means that we can give our tenants a reliable framework and the greatest possible security for them to be able to stay in the estate permanently. With this new-build estate in Westend, we want to realise a project that is architecturally, ecologically and socially exemplary for Charlottenburg-Wilmersdorf and that creates urgently needed housing.”

**Oliver Schruoffeneger, cabinet member for building in the Borough of Charlottenburg-Wilmersdorf**, adds, “The planned construction project will create urgently needed affordable and sustainable housing in Charlottenburg-Wilmersdorf. Together with Deutsche Wohnen, we have found socially responsible arrangements which will enable all tenants to remain in what are their familiar surroundings in future too.”

In accordance with the Berlin Model for the Cooperative Development of Building Land, the existing buildings in the estate will first be dismantled, while the new-builds that will replace them will create 369 flats with controlled rents in Westend. These flats will then be let to tenants with a permit for subsidised housing and will provide accommodation to the previous tenants in the estate.

Deutsche Wohnen also attaches particular importance to sustainability both in the planning and the construction of the planned project. To this end, the project has been accompanied from its inception by the German Sustainable Building Council and will be certified accordingly after its completion.

### Complete planning permission process quickly

Following the signing of the second supplement to the city planning contract of 13th March 2018, the next steps in the planning procedure will follow. **Henrik Thomsen** summarises the situation as follows, “We hope that, together with the borough and all other parties involved, we can quickly proceed on this good foundation with the rest of the planning procedure. After all, we want to finally get started and build this wonderful new estate.”

Deutsche Wohnen intends to build a modern, integrated city estate with 665 rental flats, a kindergarten and some commercial units in the Berlin district of Westend in close proximity to the Olympic Stadium. The existing buildings on the former estate for the British allies were



not planned for the long term when they were put up post-war in the 1950s. The priority at that time was to have a very basic construction that could be quickly realized, which explains the poor condition of the buildings now and their low energy efficiency. The new estate will be built on the footprint of the existing one, while the mature trees and the resulting park-like feel they create will be retained as a characteristic that confers identity on the estate.

## **Deutsche Wohnen**

Deutsche Wohnen is one of the leading publicly listed residential property companies in Europe. The business focus of the company is on managing its own portfolio of residential properties in dynamic metropolitan regions and conurbations in Germany. Deutsche Wohnen sees itself as having both a social responsibility and a duty to maintain and newly develop good-quality and affordable housing in vibrant residential neighbourhoods. As at 31 December 2020, the portfolio comprised a total of around 155,400 residential and 2,900 commercial units. Deutsche Wohnen SE is listed in the Deutsche Börse's DAX and is also included in the leading indices EPRA/NAREIT, STOXX Europe 600, GPR 250 and DAX 50 ESG.

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