



MEDIA RELEASE

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### **WATES AWARDED INNOVATIVE POLICE BUILD PROJECT IN WAKEFIELD**

West Yorkshire Police has named Leeds-based Wates Construction as the contractor to build its new Scientific Support Unit at Calder Park in Wakefield.

The £12.8m contract will see Wates start on site in March to create the state-of-the art Forensic Investigation Support Centre of Excellence. The three-storey building will occupy over 7,500 square metres with facilities including laboratories, open plan offices, training facilities, imaging studios, photography rooms, a deliveries area, a dining area and space for extensive document storage.

It will house the force's Imaging Unit, Scenes of Crime and Forensics and is scheduled to be ready for summer 2011.

The building will achieve a BREEAM (the environmental assessment method for buildings around the world) rating of Excellent and will incorporate a number of sustainable features. These include ground source heat pumps which will be used to heat the building in winter and cool the building in the summer, and a grey water harvesting system which will recycle water for use in toilets and outside taps. A fully intelligent building management control system will also ensure carbon emissions are constantly monitored whilst maintaining optimum comfort conditions.

The project will also meet the Association of Chief Police Officers' Secured By Design initiative standards, which ensure crime prevention at the design and build stages of new and refurbished homes and buildings.

David Price, regional manager at Wates Construction, said: "We're obviously thrilled to add this latest project to our rapidly growing portfolio. It's a high profile development that will enable West Yorkshire Police to make use of the most cutting edge scientific facilities in the fight against crime. We hope to make the most of its location in Wakefield by creating jobs for local people and significantly boosting the local economy."

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**For further information please contact Lisa Margis on 0161 236 0008 or 07748 301 005**

**Notes to Editors**

Wates is one of the UK's largest family-owned construction services and development companies. Established in 1897, it remains privately owned by the Wates Family. Wates employs more than 2,200 people and had a turnover of £1,009 million in 2008.

The company works across a range of sectors, including education, prisons, affordable housing, retail fit out and refurbishment, office interiors, land development and commercial buildings.

Wates has three areas of Corporate Responsibility focus: to reduce the impact of CO2 emissions from our activities, eliminate all non-hazardous waste to landfill by 2010 and boost skills and employability in areas of most need. Wates was awarded Silver status in the 2008 Business in the Community Responsible Business index.

Safety is a top priority and the Group's excellent record has resulted in RoSPA Gold Awards for Occupational Safety and British Safety Council Awards for the past six years.