

# GME picks up ‘landmark’ west London site from Lendlease

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Great Marlborough Estates has confirmed the purchase of a “landmark” site on Chiswick High Road in west London, with plans for 137 new homes.

Grant Lipton and Dean Clifford’s firm has acquired the one-acre swathe from Lendlease for an undisclosed sum, in a move described as “a major vote of confidence in the London property market”.

The deal was negotiated during lockdown, and is said to be one of the largest resi transactions to take place in London since the start of the coronavirus pandemic.

It involves Empire House, a vacant office block with scope for 66 new apartments, and land at Essex Place with room for 46 apartments and townhouses; another 21 apartments will be developed at the corner of Essex Place and Acton Lane.

The designs have been drawn up by Assael Architecture, and each unit will have either a private balcony or garden (“in line with changing consumer tastes post-lockdown”). An additional 9,000 square feet of retail and leisure space will be created at ground floor level.

Along with delivering a number of boutique schemes in PCL, GME was the development advisor behind the restoration of John Nash’s Regent’s Crescent in Regent’s Park into 67 luxury apartments and nine mews houses, and recently secured

planning permission for a pair of Zaha Hadid-designed skyscrapers overlooking Vauxhall station.

JLL advised GME on the acquisition; Knight Frank advised Lendlease.

