FINANCIAL REVIEW

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HD Lend Lease sells out in Darling Harbour

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Lend Lease topped the success of its Barangaroo **apartment** sellout last August with all 357 apartments in the first stage of its Darling Quarter residences selling out over the weekend.

The developer signed contracts with buyers for around half a billion dollars worth of real estate that will form a large component of its \$1 billion revitalisation of the southern end of Darling Harbour.

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Prices started from \$700,000 for a 50-square-metre, one-bedroom **apartment** and rose to \$3.5 million for a 130-square-metre "sky home" – a rate of \$27,000 per square metre.

The Sydney central business district has been a hot market for new apartments. In August last year Lend Lease **sold** out all 159 residences in Barangaroo South generating more than \$300 million in sales. Prices were as high as \$40,000 per square metre for penthouses.

Chinese developer Greenland has sold more than \$415 million worth of apartments in its mixed-use development on the former Sydney Water Boardsite following two staged releases.

Lend Lease project director Rob Deck told The Australian Financial Review the Darling Quarter sellout reflected the competitive pricing of the apartments and the value buyers placed on its location "right on the doorstep of Darling Harbour, **Chinatown**, Haymarket and Ultimo with a perfect Walkscore of 100".

Mr Deck said 60 per cent of buyers had **purchased** to take advantage of the benefits of living so close to the city and included young professionals and parents who had bought apartments for their children. About 25 per cent of apartments were **sold** to offshore buyers. Construction of the 40-storey **apartment** block and seven-storey "boutique" block will begin in early 2015 and be completed in 2017.

CO IIc : Lend Lease Group

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