

Clarion Quay

Urban Projects [Gerry Cahill, Derek Tynan & Michael McGarry]

The Clarion Quay complex comprises six towers with frontage onto Excise Walk and the riverside campshire together with three lower-rise buildings which surround landscaped communal gardens. At street level there is a mix of retail units and restaurants together with a proposed creche facility. All apartments are built to much larger proportions than usual with lots of extra space and an abundance of light through floor to ceiling windows.

The development, where 37 units are managed by Cluid Housing Association, is the first combined market and housing association development in the inner city with all the apartments being designed to the highest standard, enjoying dual aspect over landscaped gardens. Some of the apartments are duplex which gives families the benefits of a traditional house in a 21st century setting.

Custom House Square

Standing on the graveyard of the notorious Sheriff Street flat is a recently completed residential complex of exemplary quality. Custom House Square was designed by Anthony Reddy Associates, based on the essence of a plan by de Blacam & Meagher. It is a scheme with a distinctly European flavour and would not seem out of place in Barcelona or Paris.

It comprises a total of 580 apartments in five to six storey blocks gathered around a landscaped courtyard. The rear, curved block faces out over a park towards the houses built for previous Sheriff Street residents. The majority of the units are relatively spacious with only 10% of the total having one bedroom. Fifteen of the apartments are housed in a signature cedar tower standing proud in the courtyard. Impressively, the heating is recycled from wasted energy from nearby offices in an on-site Combined Heat and Power plant.