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**Press Release**

## **PLANNING APPLICATION SUBMITTED TO ENHANCE GLASGOW CITY CENTRE AND CREATE LANDMARK £70 MILLION OFFICE DEVELOPMENT**

Further to the acquisition of Glasgow's General Post Office (GPO) building at Number One George Square in November 2005, HF Developments and AWG Property have today (Friday, 31 March) submitted their planning application to Glasgow City Council for a radical and eye catching redevelopment of the prestigious city centre site.

The joint venture plans to turn the A-listed Victorian building – bought from Stefan King's G1 Group for £11 million in November of last year – into 127,000 sq ft of office and public realm space with a striking glass roof extension. The intention is to provide Glasgow with an iconic office development providing first class quality office accommodation. New public realm will be available on the ground to engage passers by and allow the people of Glasgow and tourists to the city to benefit from the new site.

The proposed refurbishment and extension of the former post office building will help to reactivate the southern corner of the Square. The submission follows an extensive design process which involved pre-application discussions with Glasgow City Council and Historic Scotland.

William Hill of HF Developments said: "This is a key step in the long awaited redevelopment of, after the City Chambers, Glasgow's most prominent building. It will create the most dynamic and attractive office in the city centre. If the planning application is successful, we hope to start work at the end of June with an expected completion date of September 2008.

Stephen Kelly of AWG Property said: "Number One Glasgow is a key city centre site which means a lot to the people of Glasgow, it's our intention to the make the very best of the existing building to further enhance the overall appeal of George Square.

"Since initial planning consent was awarded in 2003, the commercial property market has further evolved. Our application presents a workable, economically viable and deliverable high quality office building in response to current market requirements."



This is the latest development in the planning process for the former GPO building. In the late 90s, consent was granted to demolish the interior of the building, including the roof, and to subdivide the building to use the southern half fronting onto Ingram Street for retail use.

August 2003 saw consent gained for the redevelopment of the interior behind a retained façade, with a roof extension. No part of this development was implemented.

1 George Square was originally designed by civil servant Robert Matheson of HM Office and his successor as the Board of Work's principal architect for Scotland.

## **Ends**

### Notes to editors:

1. AWG Property and HF Developments own and manage the highly successful Strathclyde Business Park and Hamilton International Park home to many leading blue chip companies including ScottishPower, ICM, NTL, Cable & Wireless, HSBC, Hilton, First Engineering.
2. The joint venture has secured deals worth in excess of £60 million over the last 12 months delivering 257,000 square feet of office space.
3. AWG Property Limited is one of the leading property Development and Investment companies based in Scotland and manages a property portfolio with an aggregate end value on completion of £700 million including all joint ventures in the UK. Further information can be found on [www.awgproperty.co.uk](http://www.awgproperty.co.uk).
4. HF Developments is one of Scotland's leading property companies, with property valued at over £100 million in development and investment.

### **For more information, please contact:**

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