

## Lightweight steel fast tracks three Scottish apartment projects



Scotland's house building boom is paying dividends for Metsec Building Products who has won contracts worth nearly £3.5 million with Cala Homes West to supply its light gauge galvanised steel framing to fast track three developments in Glasgow.

The company's Metframe pre-panelised walling system is cutting superstructure build time of the six luxury apartment blocks by half compared to traditional masonry. As well as early completion on the fast selling apartments, Cala specified Metframe because it offered a complete structural solution including concrete floors for a high quality finish, as well as stairs, stair and lift enclosures and roof structure.

All three developments have been designed to meet Scottish Building Regulation requirements for acoustic and thermal performance and for resistance to progressive collapse. Glasgow-based Gyplok, an approved Metframe installer, is pre-fabricating the wall panels, bolting them together on site and dry lining the structures.

The Waverley Point development, Shawlands, is already complete, providing 31 two bed flats over four and five storeys in a 3,100 m<sup>2</sup> building with

undercroft parking. Dry envelope from the ground floor slab was achieved within 11 weeks. The project included supplying loadbearing internal and external walls, concrete floors, prefabricated stair flights, lift shaft walls and roof structure.

A new Metframe block of 30 apartments in a four storey building over undercroft parking is currently being erected behind the listed art deco façade of the former Toledo Cinema.

The Metframe panels are clad in 50mm thick Celotex rigid insulation, providing a 0.30 W/m<sup>2</sup>K thermal performance. Dry envelope on the 2,500m<sup>2</sup> building is due to be achieved within 12 weeks.

Construction of four apartment blocks on the site of the former Bon Secours hospital begins this autumn to provide 86 apartments in 9,000m<sup>2</sup> of floor space. Dry envelope stage is scheduled for between 10 and 16 weeks depending on the size of each of the masonry clad buildings.

These contracts for Cala Homes follow a number of similar fast track apartment developments in Glasgow and Edinburgh where Metframe was specified because of build speed and the ability to provide concrete floor solutions.

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