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### **4,000 JOBS SAILING IN TO CABOT CIRCUS**

The Bristol Alliance has today announced that over 4,000 new jobs will be created by the £500 million Cabot Circus development, providing a wealth of opportunities for local people and a significant boost to the economy of the city.

When the city centre regeneration scheme opens this autumn, there will be a huge variety of jobs on offer within the retail, leisure, hospitality and catering industries – from entry level to management positions and many more besides.

Local residents are being urged to prepare now to ensure they are equipped with the necessary skills before vacancies begin to appear over the coming months.

Bristol Alliance Project Director, Bob De Barr commented: “With thousands of new jobs on the horizon, it is vitally important that Bristolians have access to the right support now to empower them to succeed in today’s rapidly evolving retail environment.

“Cabot Circus has attracted some of the strongest names in fashion, many of which are synonymous with exceptional customer service. These new retailers need to be confident that Bristol has the right skills and training.”

To help upskill the local population, the Bristol Alliance and the employment and training partnership West at Work have developed ‘Cabot Circus Jobs’ – a free service aimed at giving job seekers the assistance they need to secure a position at Cabot Circus.

The comprehensive package of support includes a series of free, specialist training courses, a three day Cabot Circus Jobs fair to be held in June and a dedicated website – [www.cabotcircusjobs.com](http://www.cabotcircusjobs.com) – where individuals can search and apply for vacancies and find out more about the jobs on offer.

A Cabot Circus 'Jobs Bus' is also touring the city now to give local communities access to professional information and advice on their doorstep. The bus is staffed by expert career advisors and provides information on a range of areas including confidence-building courses, CV writing, job application workshops and specialist retail training.

West at Work Director, David Draycott said: "Cabot Circus is an exciting development for Bristol and local people should be able to share the success that such large scale investment brings.

"It is vital that employers can draw on a local workforce with the right skills and therefore we urge people to take advantage of the dedicated support and training that is available for jobseekers."

Helen Holland, leader of Bristol City Council, added: "It is important to ensure that local communities share in the benefits created by the development and the launch of Cabot Circus Jobs will be central to achieving this.

"Cabot Circus will bring enormous economic benefits to Bristol and the news that over 4,000 new jobs are to be created further strengthens our position as one of the UK's fastest growing cities."

Advice about job and training opportunities within Cabot Circus can also be obtained from Shop for Jobs - located on Penn Street in Broadmead - Jobcentre Plus or anywhere displaying the Cabot Circus Jobs logo.

There are also a series of community information points across the city where people can access additional face-to-face support. Further details are contained on the Cabot Circus Jobs website.

Cabot Circus is one of the highest profile mixed-use developments in the UK, and will provide over one million sq ft of high quality retail and leisure uses, as well as apartments, offices and public spaces in the heart of the Bristol.

The scheme has secured some of the UK's most exciting brands and the likes of House of Fraser, Harvey Nichols, Cinema De Lux, Brasserie Blanc, Zara and Hugo Boss are set to transform the city and create one of the strongest fashion offers outside of London.

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Notes to editors:

West at Work is a partnership between the Learning and Skills Council (LSC), the South West of England Regional Development Agency (South West RDA), Jobcentre Plus, Business West, Connexions, Bath and North East Somerset Council, Bristol City Council, North Somerset Council and South Gloucestershire Council.

Cabot Circus Job is a partnership between West at Work and Bristol Alliance.