



ARA EUROPE COMPLETES FURTHER ACQUISITION FOR UK INDUSTRIAL AND LOGISTICS AGGREGATION STRATEGY

United Kingdom, 20 December 2023 – Real estate investment manager, ARA Europe, part of the ESR Group, has completed the acquisition of Total Park in Widnes, Cheshire on behalf of its flagship Active Real Estate Fund V (“the Fund”). The acquisition marks the Fund’s sixth acquisition in 2023 within its UK Industrial and Logistics aggregation strategy and builds on the momentum gained from its recent acquisition of an 86,000 sq ft distribution unit in Birmingham, leased to CHEP – the global leader in supply chain systems and platforms.

The acquisition of Total Park aligns with the Fund’s strategy of acquiring well-located, ‘last mile’ assets near major urban conurbations. The estate is a brand-new development which reached Practical Completion in October 2023 and comprises two units totalling 45,000 sq ft, constructed to BREEAM ‘Very Good’ standard and EPC ‘A’ energy efficiency. Unit 1 is leased to a New Economy tenant, Evove – a pioneer of next generation advanced membrane technologies for water filtration, with numerous applications to accelerate the transition to the clean energy economy, aligning with ARA Europe’s ESG objectives.

Tom Clews, Head of UK Industrial and Logistics Investment, commented:

“We are pleased with the acquisition of this best-in-class asset to complement our UK portfolio. Our strong conviction in the North West market is driven by continued depth of demand and close proximity to expanding infrastructure and motorway networks, which is leading to sustained rental growth driven by limited supply.”

Stuart Jackson, Head of Fund Management, commented:

“Having launched Fund V’s UK Industrial and Logistics aggregation strategy in June, we are pleased to complete another deal for the strategy at this opportune point in the cycle. Fund V looks well placed given its vintage and the fact it is seeded with high quality industrial and logistics assets in the UK, France and Ireland that have all been bought since June 2023 at rebased prices.”

NOTES TO EDITORS

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About ARA Europe

ARA Europe (the “Firm”) is an integrated real estate investment manager bringing 30+ years of investment and asset management experience across the UK and Western Europe and is the European platform of the ESR Group (www.esr.com) – APAC’s largest real asset manager powered by the New Economy and the third largest listed real estate investment manager globally.

ARA Europe has fully discretionary, separate account and joint venture vehicles across all major real estate sectors, including debt. We seek returns across the risk spectrum and are particularly active in the Industrial and Logistics sector where we leverage our in-house operational expertise and the occupier relationships of the ESR Group.

ARA Europe is the investment and asset manager for Regional REIT (www.regionalreit.com), a real estate investment trust listed on the London Stock Exchange, which owns regional office assets in the UK.