



HOW

HOW Planning LLP

40 Peter Street
Manchester M2 5GP
T: 0161 835 1333
F: 0161 835 1322
howplanning.com

PRESS RELEASE

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PLANNING APPROVED FOR MULTI MILLION POUND REDEVELOPMENT SCHEME FOR LEIGH

Alard Properties Ltd (APL), together with HOW Planning have secured approval for a major mixed use development close to the heart of the town centre in Leigh, Greater Manchester. Now known as Bridgewater Place, the scheme is set to transform over 25 acres of aging industrial space into a vibrant commercial and residential location following approval of an outline planning application and accompanying Masterplan by Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council.



The masterplan, prepared with Taylor Young, for a mixed use development includes offices, up to 320 family homes; workshop/enterprise and small scale local retail units. The plans also incorporate imaginative ideas to maximise the aesthetic value of the site's canal frontage creating a family friendly area and incorporating high quality areas of open space and natural landscaping.

Commenting, Tony Goddard, Chief Executive of Alard Properties Ltd, said: "We are delighted to receive wholehearted approval for our proposals for Leigh and look forward to initiating the next stage of the process. However, this does not mean that our existing tenants need to vacate their premises overnight. These projects take time and we intend to fully discuss the timescales with our current occupiers and work with them to arrange a managed move to a suitable alternative in the future.

"Similarly, since buying the site in 2000 we have been very keen to ensure that Christchurch C of E school had a better future than its current situation of being located on the edge of a very busy industrial estate. These proposals, whilst transforming this aging part of town into a modern, vibrant commercial and residential area, will also provide the opportunity for the school to expand following our donation of extra land".

Says Gary Halman, Partner at HOW Planning: "This is a great scheme which will significantly contribute to the ongoing regeneration of the area. Approval of the masterplan is a major step



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Continued...

forward for Alard Properties who will be investing heavily in the area to create a thriving new community.”

Alard Properties Ltd also own Kingmoor Park Wrexham and the company’s flagship industrial estate Kingmoor Park in Carlisle. The latter, a 400 acre ex MOD facility was bought by the company in 1999. Following an investment, refurbishment and new build programme the site now has over 120 tenants including Capita, Edinburgh Woollen Mill and Princes Soft Drinks, who have provided over 1500 jobs for the area.

Notes for Editors:

1. The Masterplan incorporates:	
Employment Use (Class B1a, b +c)	103,000 sq ft (9,543m ²)
Retail Use (Class A1)	6,500 sq ft (500m ²)
Residential Use (Class C2)	320 units
Landscaped public open space	2 acres (0.81 Ha)

2. Bridgewater Business Park extends to approximately 18.5 acres. The masterplan extends to approximately 25 acres.

3. Alard Properties Ltd is owned by Manchester Property Developer Brian Scowcroft, who also owns Kingmoor Park Wrexham and Kingmoor Park Carlisle.

4. Brian Scowcroft is lead sponsor of the Richard Rose Federation which is responsible for two new Academies in Carlisle