

# News

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## **Benchmark for Basingstoke receives planning approval**

An innovative office pre-let opportunity at the heart of one of the region's premier business hubs, Basing View, has taken a significant step forward following detailed planning consent from Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council.

Benchmark, as it is known, brings forward 40,000 sq ft of Grade A, BREEAM Very Good standard office space, and will join a new generation of recently developed office buildings at Basing View, which is adding to the vibrant business community in the town.

The wider 65-acre, £200m Basing View regeneration scheme – that is providing approximately 650,000 sq ft of high-quality, commercial-led development – is being delivered by Muse Developments – one of the UK's best in delivering transformational urban regeneration – and Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council.

The five-storey building will provide flexible internal floorplates from 5,000 to 8,000 sq ft, a contemporary reception area and roof terrace. Located just five minutes' walk from Basingstoke train station (train time to London 45 minutes) and two miles from the M3. The building will also benefit from 130 secured parking spaces within a dedicated multi-storey car park that is already being built next to the building.

Benchmark is one of a number of new developments at Basing View, including the 60,000 sq ft Florence Building, now let to Sovereign Housing Association; a 45,000 sq ft office building pre-let to Eli Lilly and Company, which is under construction, and a new Village Hotel, scheduled for completion in early 2020. Architects BDP have also been appointed to work on the re-development of Norden House, which was bought by the council in early 2018.

Cabinet Member for regeneration and property at Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, Cllr John Izett said: "As we start the new year, the good news for Basingstoke continues with the announcement of another new office building to meet the occupier demand that clearly exists for the town.

"We expect the transformation of Basing View into one of the Thames Valley's best performing office centres to continue in 2020, thanks to our ongoing work with Muse and key partners such as the Enterprise M3 LEP."

Funding for enabling works at the site of the new Benchmark building was provided by the Enterprise M3 Local Enterprise Partnership.

Chris Scott, development director at Muse said: "It's a proud moment for everyone involved at Basing View, as we take the next step on the journey to create a best-in-class commercial quarter in the heart of Basingstoke.

"The interest in Basing View has been outstanding, thanks, in part to our strong and open collaboration with the council, which blends a clear vision on what the community needs with innovative design. We look forward to welcoming new occupiers to Benchmark when the scheme completes."

Agents for Benchmark are JLL and RARE.