

News

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Slough design principles for former TVU site approved

North West Quadrant – the game-changing c.£600m regeneration of the former Thames Valley University site in central Slough - has had its design principles approved by the council's cabinet.

The scheme – which will be brought forward by urban regenerator, Muse Developments, Slough Borough Council and Slough Urban Renewal, over an 8-10-year period - will form a key part of the council's Heart of Slough regeneration. A £600m investment, it will be a major stimulus to the local economy, bringing jobs, housing and high-quality public realm to the centre of the town. The project is expected to include a mix of new homes across a range of tenures, commercial workspace, and leisure and cultural facilities along with extensive public open space.

The ideas for the project will now form the basis of the public engagement and consultation, with local residents and community stakeholders being encouraged to provide their ideas and suggestions for the project and participate in an online discussion with members of the project team. The initial consultation will inform the detailed masterplan and designs, that will be prepared in time to submit a planning application by the end of March next year.

The team behind the scheme also recently launched a new community consultation website, <https://northwestquadrant.commonplace.is/>, where residents will have the opportunity to give their thoughts on the current site and offer suggestions for the future.

Chris Scott, development director at Muse Developments, added: "It's a real vote of confidence in our approach that our innovative design principles have now been approved by the council, which is also testament to the hard work of everyone with the scheme. We're united in our shared vision to bring forward a transformational scheme that will deliver vibrant places and spaces to benefit the whole of Slough and we're delighted to move to the next stage.

"We look forward to bringing these principles to the community and listen to what they have to say, as we work together on a masterplan design that will leave a positive legacy that will drive both economic and social prosperity in the town."

Cllr James Swindlehurst, leader of Slough Borough Council, said: "June's cabinet approval of this report moves us into the final stages of preparing the planning application for the complete redevelopment of the 'North West Quadrant' of the Heart of Slough.

"A confirmatory 'final update report' will now come to cabinet at the end of the summer, with a hybrid planning application for this mixed-use regeneration then being lodged at the turn of the year.

"This project will see £400 million invested into our local economy in Slough - delivering 1,300 new homes, space for arts, culture, further and higher education; with our residents sharing in the 2,000 new permanent new jobs this site will create in its business area. The construction of the 12 on-site buildings alone will create 800 jobs and 170 apprenticeships for young people and those re-skilling - giving them the skills and experience to start rewarding careers. This development will make a further step change in improving our town centre, with new public space, infrastructure and landmark buildings. I'm delighted the council and our partners are able to progress this towards delivery over the coming few months; with the new jobs, facilities and opportunities it will

create for our town.”

Andy Howell, general manager of Slough Urban Renewal, said: “It’s been great to see the team reach this milestone, which is a real statement of intent from the council to deliver a place-changing scheme and a thriving community in the Heart of Slough.”