

EDGE LANE Project

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EDGE LANE WEST ALL SYSTEMS GO

Plans to regenerate the Edge Lane corridor are progressing after the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) secured a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) for 371 properties on Edge Lane West.

Following a High Court hearing at the end of March, a challenge to the confirmed CPO was dismissed.

Liverpool Vision, together with partners HCA (previously English Partnerships), the Northwest Regional Development Agency, Liverpool City Council and Kensington Regeneration are working to deliver the long-awaited transformation of this area.

The Edge Lane West scheme will help transform the wider Edge Lane corridor into a major gateway into the city, designed not only to give a positive first impression to visitors, but also to meet the needs of the communities in the area.

It will include:

- Around 280 new homes
- New and improved retail facilities
- New employment floorspace
- A new state-of-the-art health centre
- A new access and much improved setting for Kensington Primary School and the Life Bank



- Changing the line of the road to make it an urban boulevard
- Safe pedestrian crossing points
- A much safer and improved environment

Eliot Lewis-Ward, HCA Area Director for Merseyside and Cheshire, said that improvements would be far reaching: [“This positive decision will mean completion of the remaining areas, to the ultimate benefit of residents, businesses and the city as a whole. Regeneration work along the rest of the Edge Lane corridor has been progressing well and is already bringing economic and community benefits.”](#)

To date 322 properties have been acquired and negotiations are continuing to acquire the remaining 49.

However, if necessary, CPO powers will be used to ensure the scheme moves forward and in such circumstances Liverpool Vision will give as much advance notice as possible to affected property owners.

A demolition programme is currently being devised and is to be shared with the community before any work begins. In the meantime there will be a number of demolitions on health and safety grounds which will begin soon.

HALL LANE WORK UNDER WAY

Work has started on the first phase of a scheme to relieve one of the biggest traffic problems in Liverpool.

The Hall Lane Strategic Gateway scheme is a £20m project which will greatly improve the route into the city centre from the M62, as well as removing a notorious bottleneck.

The first phase of the project involves site clearance, the acquisition of buildings, demolition of some buildings and work on utilities diversions.

Cllr Peter Millea (pictured), Executive Member for Assets and Development, said: [“The Hall Lane scheme will provide much better access into the city centre and a much better environment for the neighbourhood.](#)

[“It will also provide a new frontage to the Royal Liverpool Hospital development and be part of a much better gateway to the city.”](#)

Discussions with the Department



for Transport are continuing about the funding for the main phase of the work and it is expected the work will start later in the summer. Funding is also being provided under the European Regional Development Fund.

The scheme will improve the situation for traffic heading to the city centre from Edge Lane, which currently must turn either right into Hall Lane or left into Towerlands Street at the top of Mount Vernon Green. Both of these routes are residential roads and traffic is subject to delay.

New road alignments will take traffic away from the residential areas of Hall Lane and Towerlands Street and will be a dual carriageway for most of its length.

There will be a new junction at West Derby Street/Crown Street directing traffic north along a new stretch of road towards Low Hill and then on to Islington, or south along a realigned Grove Street.

The junction at Low Hill will be improved and this new link will improve traffic flow between Islington and Grove Street.

Pedestrian facilities will be provided at all traffic signal controlled junctions and cycling facilities are also being introduced. The scheme will include extensive landscaping, including tree planting, and improved lighting.

A residents' parking scheme is being prepared for the Kensington Fields area. Work is due to be completed by spring 2011.

CHRISTMAS START FOR NEW HOMES

The construction of new homes in Edge Hill is set to begin by the end of the year.

Bellway Homes Ltd, the city council's development partner, is in the process of submitting final detailed plans this summer which build on the masterplan and design code approved last September.

Already significant progress has been made within the Edge Hill clearance/redevelopment area in acquiring properties, providing relocation solutions for residents and demolishing vacant properties.

Cllr Marilyn Fielding, Executive Member for Safer, Stronger

Communities, said: [“It's great to see such good progress continuing in the Edge Hill area which will lead to more new homes for local residents and their families in the New Year.”](#)

The demolition programme started in June 2008 and more than 60 properties have been demolished. Prominent commercial blocks along the Wavertree Road frontage to the area will be demolished over the coming months.

The area bounded by Dorothy Street, Wavertree Road, Durning Road and Gladstone Road will be cleared and ready for redevelopment by the end of the year.



ROCKET JUNCTION WELCOMES VISITORS WITH NEW CITY LOGO



Visitors to Liverpool will be greeted by the city's new logo when they come off the M62 at the Rocket Junction.

Following the end of Capital of Culture, six of the pillars supporting the flyover are to be re-clad with the new Liverpool logo to replace the 08 logos, and will also be backlit to provide a dramatic night-time effect.

The original logos were installed at the end of 2007, along with

up-lighting following cleaning and painting of the flyover.

Rob Monaghan, Head of Gateways at Liverpool Vision, said: "The 08 logos have remained in place for the first quarter of the year as a legacy of 2008 and while Liverpool's rebranding exercise was being carried out. We are sure that the new logos will be equally as effective."

The new logos will be installed during the last week of June.

INNOVATION PARK - NEW ROAD SET TO OPEN IN THE SUMMER

The new road at Liverpool Innovation Park will be open to traffic in the summer.

The site, which also contains enhanced public space including a new linear park, is home to one of the jewels in Liverpool's knowledge corridor.

Liverpool Innovation Park, owned by Space Northwest, already has around 1m sq ft of office, Research and Development and light industrial accommodation in units from 500 sq ft to 80,000 sq ft, but as Rob Monaghan, Liverpool Vision's Head of

Gateways explains, more business space will soon be available:

"The entrance to the park looks spectacular and the new road we're building from Edge Lane to Wavertree Road will open up a further 11.5 acres of serviced development plots, allowing more high calibre businesses to move in, bringing further activity and economic benefits to this important area of the city."

For further information go to <http://www.liverpoolinnovationpark.com>

NEWS IN BRIEF

LANDSCAPING

Landscaping work on Edge Lane, managed by Liverpool Vision, has been recognised for its excellence. The British Association of Landscape Industries (BALI) gave the highest award for hard landscaping on regeneration projects valued at over £1.5m to contractor English Landscapes. Work included environmental improvements, upgraded street lighting, better kerbs and footways and the planting of more than 200 trees.

The Edge Lane Project has previously been highly commended in the North West Regional Construction Awards. It will now become a demonstration project for BALI.

RETAIL PARK

Liverpool City Council and Liverpool Vision are working with the owners of the retail park, Derwent Holdings, on a masterplan and development framework to remodel the area.

It is also hoped that discussions with Derwent, who own a significant amount of property in Edge Lane Central, will also lead to interim treatment of some of the worst sites prior to redevelopment.



NEW SCHOOL PLANNED AT LANDMARK LITTLEWOODS SITE

Liverpool City Council has applied for planning permission to relocate two secondary schools on the site of the former Littlewoods building and the Innovation Park.

The site on Edge Lane has been chosen due to its excellent location on the city's 'knowledge corridor', which stretches from the Innovation Park to the University area.

The application to co-locate Archbishop Blanch School and St



Margaret's C of E High School is part of the City Council's Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme, which will bring £500m of capital investment

to improve or rebuild all of Liverpool's secondary schools.

The programme aims to revolutionise how learning is offered, introduce changes in ICT usage and encourage schools to open facilities for full community use.

The scheme will retain the iconic art deco features of the Littlewoods complex while adding modern 21st century new buildings as well as including improvements to community sports provision.

ECO-FRIENDLY APARTMENTS AT 'VILLAS' SITE

Work on a new residential scheme on Edge Lane is expected to start early next year.

The Villas site, on the junction of Edge Lane and Alford Road, opposite Liverpool Innovation Park, will see the construction of 17 two-bedroom residential units in a four-storey apartment block with secure parking, landscaped areas and top floor apartments with terrace gardens.

Formally the location of two derelict Victorian villas, the site will be developed by Plus Dane

Housing Group in partnership with builders the Seddon Group.

The building will be built using timber frame with feature block work, cedar cladding and render finishes and has been designed to achieve Eco Homes "Excellent" rating while providing a secure and safe environment for the residents as measured by "Secure by Design".

On completion the units will be available for sale or shared ownership.

For further information contact Chris McAllister at Plus Dane on 0151 708 4623



The Edge Lane Project is being delivered by a group of partners comprising:



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Copies of this newsletter can be made available in other languages, on tape or in Braille if required.