

Invest in Bristol News

June 2011

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About Us

Bristol City Council's Economic Development Team works to build a thriving economy by:

- **Marketing the city to potential inward investors**
- **Promoting and supporting investment**
- **Nurturing business and key growth sectors**
- **Providing a complete enquiry handling and commercial property search service**

Contact the Council's Economic Development Team for further information on corporate relocation assistance:

Tel: +44(0)117 92 22928

Email: investinbristol@bristol.gov.uk

IoD China Trade Conference – release the dragon within...

**Thursday 29th September 2011 – 12.00pm until 5.00pm
Hosted by HSBC - Refreshments & Networking reception included**

Expert speakers from UKTI, China-Britain Business Council, Institute of Exports, Bristol China Partnership, UWE & Directors of Bristol & South West businesses all share their lessons on developing & growing business in China.

Are you a Director seriously considering growing your business in the fastest growing economy in the world?

Do you want to determine what it takes to develop your products and services for this vast potential market?

Would you like to learn about the capabilities you need and learn key lessons from Directors of local businesses already succeeding in China?

Our conference will inspire confidence and

provide you with an understanding of China's market potential, what preparation and considerations you need to make before jumping on a plane.

We will sign post you to support and funding that's available to ensure your business is ready before it takes its first steps into the Chinese market.

Bristol & South West – IoD China Trade Mission Opportunity - October 2012

We will announce an opportunity for you to join other Bristol & South West Business Leaders on a unique multi-partite Trade Mission in October 2012 to Bristol's sister city of Guangzhou & also Shanghai.

These thriving cities are in the heart of leading business regions in China. Our IoD China Trade Mission, in partnership with UKTI, will include flights, accommodation and access to potential funding to support for you and your business.

Book online at:

www.iod.com/Home/Local-Network/South-West/Events/China-Trade-Conference

Places are £34.00 + VAT for members and guests or £42.00 + VAT for non-members.
HSBC Commercial Centre,
Floor 4, 3 Temple Quay, Temple Back East,
Bristol BS1 6DZ
(nearest parking Quay Side, near Temple Meads Station)

Temple Quarter to be site of new Enterprise Zone in West of England

Bristol City Council Press Release— June 07

The West of England Local Enterprise Partnership has named Temple Quarter as the official Enterprise Zone which will act as a magnet for inward investment and boost the local economy by creating thousands of new jobs.

Meanwhile five other places have been given

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Enterprise Area status which will bring benefits and make it easier for developments to take place, ensuring economic growth across the whole of the sub-region.

Chairman, Colin Skellett, said this was the most significant step taken by the LEP, a public/private partnership formed between business, local authorities and education earlier this year.

“We set ourselves the task of removing the barriers to the creation of new jobs and the government gave us the opportunity to do that, in part, by creating an enterprise zone. It brings a number of advantages to businesses by reducing both the amount of planning red tape and the cost of their rates. But it also generates benefits for the area as a whole since we are able to retain the business rates that are generated which can be used to improve the other five areas we have identified,” he said.

The selected enterprise zone covers 70 hectares (173 acres) of land surrounding and to the north and east of Bristol Temple Meads railway station.

Initial estimates suggest that potentially well over 250 businesses could be accommodated in the zone and that its redevelopment will lead to the creation of almost 17,000 new jobs over a 25 year period in over 240,000 sq m (2.6 million sq ft) of new or refurbished space featuring offices, research and development floorspace and retail as part of a wider mixed use development that is highly attractive to businesses looking to relocate.

There will be a particular focus on attracting creative industries and technology, and it will be a hub for all creative minded businesses. Very high speed, pervasive digital connectivity will be a central feature of the zone.

Council Leader Barbara Janke said:

"This is excellent news for Bristol and the whole region because the Temple Quarter site is a major gateway that has huge potential to

generate jobs and investment. In five years alone almost 4,000 jobs will be created in around 40 businesses - with more to come in the long-term.

The focus on creative industries and technology firms opens up opportunities of creating a media hub in the city and will build on the world-class reputation of Bristol and the West in these sectors. The enterprise zone will also encourage the vision that we and partners have for Temple Meads as a major transport interchange."

The enterprise areas will be Avonmouth/Sevenside, Bath City Riverside, Emersons Green/Science Park, Filton/A38, Weston Regeneration Area.

The LEP board moved quickly to reach a unanimous decision because the government had set a deadline of June 9th and the host local authority had to have time to finalise details with landowners and developers.

Five criteria were drawn up against which the sites were judged: strategic fit with sub-regional priorities, speed of development, deliverability, need to avoid the displacement of businesses already in the sub-region and the capability of securing benefits, directly or indirectly, for more than one location in the sub-region.

At the same time, it had to be an open competitive process which was validated by the accountants PWC (PricewaterhouseCoopers) who reported:

“It is our view that you have successfully conducted a fair and transparent process to evaluate potential enterprise zone options in a very short timescale and that the recommendations made to the LEP Board reflect this open and robust process.

The board has also agreed measures to ensure that the enterprise zone will not be given an unfair advantage over the surrounding area.

We will be putting in place marketing



arrangements which will minimise competition between locations and to ensure a complementary offer is established for inward investment across the entire West of England and we will ensure there is a non competition or enticement clause to prevent poaching.”

Creation of an enterprise zone and enterprise areas is a major step forward for the West of England. They will be a major attraction to a wide range of businesses who are currently not operating in the West of England and as a result, we expect to see significant inward investment, create new jobs and economic growth.”

Bristol Airport awarded Carbon Trust Standard

Bristol Airport Press Release—June 28

Bristol Airport has been awarded the Carbon Trust Standard after taking action to measure, manage and reduce its carbon emissions by nearly 4 per cent.

The Carbon Trust Standard recognises organisations for real carbon reduction. Based on rigorous, independent assessment, it certifies that organisations have measured, managed and reduced their carbon emissions across their own operations and are committed to reducing them year on year.

A team of environmental champions has been formed, with representatives drawn from key departments across Bristol Airport, to support the objective to reduce emissions by five per cent per annum.

Initiatives which helped successfully lower carbon emissions include the introduction of motion sensitive lighting; new heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems in the terminal; and reduced coach movements as a result of the construction of a new western walkway.

Further use of wind power (following the installation of a 20m high vertical axis turbine in

December 2010) and a bio-mass generator form part of future development plans.

Boost for city museums as visitor numbers soar

Bristol City Council Press Release—June 24

M Shed, Bristol’s new £27m museum has welcomed over 18,000 visitors within its first week of opening. Funded by Bristol City Council, the Heritage Lottery Fund and DCMS, M Shed is fast becoming one of Bristol’s leading attractions and visitor figures are predicted to continue to remain strong over the summer holidays.

The 3,000 exhibits housed within M Shed tell the many thousands of stories of the people, place and life of Bristol and have been discovered through working with experts and communities across the city, a process that will continue for the life of the museum.

Another huge success for Bristol museums services this week has been the Beryl Cook Larger Than Life exhibition at the City Museum and Art Gallery which opened last Saturday. The exhibition has already received over 7,000 visitors.

Head of Bristol’s museum services, Julie Finch said; “After all of the hard work that has gone into creating and delivering M Shed over the last couple of years, it is wonderful to not only see it open to the public, but to see the fantastic public response to it.

“We are extremely proud of our new world-class museum and the Beryl Cook exhibition at the City Museum and Art Galleries is also another example of the current success Bristol’s museums are enjoying.”

Opening hours are from 10am-6pm on Saturday and Sunday at both museums. Unlike opening weekend there will not be timed tickets in operation at M Shed but it is still expected to be a busy weekend. Visitors may experience queues at M Shed once the museum has reached

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capacity.

For more information please contact Ruth Wilmshurst on 07795 445934 or Claire Royall - 01179 224 749

Bristol and Bath Science Park goes solar
SPark Press Release (extract)- June 22

Work to install around 200 sq m of solar photovoltaic panels at the Bristol and Bath Science Park has started.

The 154 panels, designed and installed by solar energy company Solarcentury, are expected to save around £2,350 on fuel bills per year and more than 13 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions entering the atmosphere per year.

This means that, over the lifetime of the system, they will save over £100,000 and more than 500 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions.

The panels are being installed on the roofs of the first two buildings, known as SPark One. These buildings are the Innovation Centre for small companies with up to 15 employees and the Grow-On space for bigger companies of up to around 40 employees.

Bonnie Dean, chief executive of the Bristol and Bath Science Park, said: "The Science Park was designed with sustainability in mind from the outset and we expect these solar panels to provide around 10-15 per cent of the energy requirements of SPark One.

"It's exciting to see these panels going in – they will make a real difference to tenants' bills while contributing to our low carbon commitments."

Derry Newman, CEO at Solarcentury, said: "Bristol and Bath Science Park is putting its roof space to great use. Conventional electricity prices are rising and businesses are now paid for any clean electricity they generate, so producing electricity from solar photovoltaics makes both financial and environmental sense."

The panels will also generate an annual income of

£7,380 over 25 years from the feed-in-tariff – a scheme which gives financial incentives for generating electricity from renewable or low carbon sources.

There will be a range of other forms of renewable energy generation at the Science Park including a solar thermal hot water system that will pre-heat the water for the heating system and a biomass boiler that will provide heat using locally sourced wood chips or pellets.

Bristol's £27 million city museum opens
Bristol City Council Press Release (extract) - June 17

In one of the most innovative and ambitious museum developments of the last decade, M Shed, Bristol's new city history museum, will open to the public on Friday 17 June 2011.

The museum will be housed in the landmark 1950s transit sheds at Prince's Wharf on the historic waterfront in the heart of the city. M Shed will be at the hub of a vibrant cultural quarter of Bristol, with the award-winning ss Great Britain located less than a mile away and the Arnolfini and Watershed Media Centre just across the harbour. The whole site - the sheds and their quayside - is one of the last remaining complete 20th century docksides in the UK.

The museum will include 3,000 exhibits, drawn from the world class collection of the city, telling the many thousands of stories of the people of Bristol, which have been discovered through working with experts and communities across the city, a process that will continue for the life of the museum.

The new museum includes three permanent galleries and a temporary exhibition space, a new glazed rooftop extension with spectacular panoramic views across the harbour, workshops, a functioning train shed, a learning suite, and café, book and gift shop. Entrance to the museum will be free.

Among the unique displays will be:

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Models and props for Wallace and Gromit, Curse of the Were Rabbit, donated by animator Nick Park, from Bristol based Aardman Animations. Wallace and Gromit have not only established worldwide fame, but have now been officially adopted as Bristolians.

The original spray painted pink Technics record deck used by members of Bristol band Massive Attack to record their tracks in the 1980s when they were still part of the loose group of musicians called the Wild Bunch.

A 10 metre long mural of a fantasy landscape of Bristol specially commissioned for M Shed from local graffiti artists Andy Council and Luke Palmer (Acerone). Bristol's rich history in graffiti including celebrated artist Banksy is illustrated in the museum.

Documents of the notorious Bristol Bus Boycott, led by a group of Bristol's black workers, which hit the world's headlines in 1963 and whose cause was championed by Tony Benn.

Abolition tokens issued by campaign supporters to gain support for the Abolition movement. Bristol played a major role in the transatlantic slave trade and M Shed tells many stories about those lived it, who profited and ran the slave trade in the city, those who were enslaved and those who challenged the industry.

Restored, full scale and fully functioning dockside cranes, steam locomotives and harbour boats including the 150 year old Mayflower, illustrating the important industrial past of the area, which lasted until as late the 1970s in Bristol.

Access to the public to try out these historic working exhibits will be available regularly throughout the year.

M Shed will also host live events including debates and discussions around the issues raised in the museum. It will also include hands-on workshops with volunteers from Bristol's dockside community, who will share

their skills with visitors as part of a living archive for the Museum.

Councillor Simon Cook, Deputy Leader and cabinet member for Bristol's capital programme, sports and culture, says:

"Bristol is such a fantastic city, drawing in hundreds of thousands of visitors every year to our museums, exhibitions, festivals, tourist attractions and events. And now we can add M Shed, Bristol's new museum to our cultural mix. M Shed is a fitting tribute to all the people who have helped shape the city's history. I share the pride of local people who see this new museum as a bold statement of who we are, where we have come from, what we have achieved and our optimism and enthusiasm for the future."

Julie Finch, Head of Bristol Museums and Archives, said:

"M Shed will be a world class museum. It builds on Bristol's great heritage to bring experts and the community together in the joint endeavour of building a new narrative for the city. I hope M Shed will become a destination for the understanding and celebration of the history of Bristol and its people and a vibrant learning Resource for the future, open to all."

Carole Souter, Chief Executive of the Heritage Lottery Fund, said:

"M-Shed is a significant addition to Bristol's already exceptional cultural landscape. For the first time, this dynamic city will have a 'one-stop shop' that brings together all the different strands of its unique history. The Heritage Lottery Fund has invested over £11m to help make this happen – we're absolutely delighted with the results and confident that Bristolians and visitors from further afield will feel the same way about this special museum."

M Shed, Wapping Rd, Bristol, BS1 4RN

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Opening Friday 17 June 2011
www.mshed.org
 Tel: 0117 352 6600
 Admission free

Opening hours: Tuesday to Friday from 10am to 5pm, and on Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays from 10am to 6pm.

Bristol and Bath Science Park celebrates first phase topping out
 Spark Press Release—June 16

The Bristol and Bath Science Park reached a significant milestone this week with the official topping out, by Willmott Dixon Construction, of the buildings at the entrance to the site.

The ceremony took place at the buildings known as SPark One, which include an Innovation Centre, Expansion Centre and the hub of the park, known as The Forum.

Willmott Dixon Construction is working in conjunction with Aedas Architects and Alec French Associates on the £10 million design and build SPark One project.

Topping out marks the completion of external work that makes the buildings watertight. Fit-out of the buildings will take place throughout the summer in preparation for occupation.

Accommodation is housed within two storey, post tensioned concrete frame structures, clad with a combination of timber and metal. The Forum has a 14 metre high atrium with striking curtain walling. Building services are specified to meet a broad range of potential requirements from conventional office space to laboratories.

As well as providing a striking initial focal point, the development sets high environmental standards. It will incorporate a biomass energy installation and also includes photovoltaics. The completed scheme will meet the most

demanding ‘Excellent’ criteria set by the Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method.

The infrastructure on site is expected to achieve CEEQUAL Excellent status (A Civil Engineering Environmental Quality Assessment and Award Scheme).

Further phases will see the remaining plots of the 59 acre (24 hectare) site developed and it will eventually be home to 6,000 jobs.

It will be a hub for the region’s science and technology businesses, bringing together a wide range of companies including entrepreneurs, fledgling businesses and established brands to form an inspiring scientific and technology community where ideas can be shared and taken to commercial scale.

The Park is home to the new National Composites Centre, which will bring together companies and academics to develop new methods for the rapid manufacture of high value composite products.

The project has been designed, developed and managed by Quantum Property Partnership – a joint venture between Quintain Estates and Development plc and Aviva plc. The South West RDA has invested £40m which has helped unlock the scheme. The universities of Bath, Bristol and the West of England are also partners.

Green Energy Summit
 Bristol City Council Press Release—June 10

Leading green energy companies from Bristol and Hannover are holding a special summit in the city today (Friday) to encourage future business links.

The Green Energy Summit marks the formal start to Bristol’s Good Living Week, and will be attended by the Mayor of Hannover, Stephan Weil, and Bristol City Council Leader Barbara Janke.

The summit will focus on innovation in green



energy technologies, products and services, in particular:

- energy efficiency in new buildings and low carbon retro-fit
- Solar PV - the challenges of scaling up Deployment
- District heating and biomass technologies
- Wind - emerging technologies for on and off shore.

The summit will encourage inward investment opportunities in Bristol and provide local businesses with contacts to develop overseas markets, as well as helping companies with the potential for innovation and growth.

Bristol has been twinned with Hannover since 1947 and more recently the two cities have developed strong working relationships focusing on green technologies.

The Mayor will be accompanied by both a political and business delegation. During their time in Bristol these delegations will have separate agendas, focussing on their specific areas of interest.

Council Leader Barbara Janke said:

“Both Bristol and Hannover have a strong record in green technology and innovation and share strong ambitions to be leading green European cities, and so it makes sense that we build even stronger links between our two cities on the green energy agenda. This summit is aimed at supporting our important environmental technology sector, helping companies with export opportunities and attract more inward investment into Bristol.

The summit comes at the end of a very good week for Bristol following the announcement of the Temple Quarter Enterprise Zone which will be a highly attractive and sustainable gateway for businesses wanting to invest in the city.”

The energy summit kick starts Bristol’s Good

Living Week, a series of events at different venues around the city. To find out more: www.goodlivingweek.com.

Hospital is taking shape as steel frame nears completion

Evening Post (extract) - June 10

Work on the exterior of Bristol's new £430 million hospital is now under way.

The steel structure which will hold together the new Southmead super hospital has almost been completed and the panels which will form the outside of the building are in the process of being fitted.

The building, which is one of the biggest construction projects currently taking place in the Bristol area, is due to be completed and opened by the spring of 2014.

Over the next 12 months the roof will be completed and the building made water-tight so the detailed and complicated fitting out process can take place.

The glass panels in the spectacular atrium, which will be the centrepiece of the new building, are due to be fitted in autumn next year.

When it is completed the main building will have a wide range of specialist regional services, which include A&E, neurosciences, plastic surgery, orthopaedics, pathology, and renal services, to which they will receive referrals from all over the UK and overseas.

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Chairman, Colin Skellett, said this was the most significant step taken by the LEP, a public/private partnership formed between business, local authorities and education earlier this year.

“We set ourselves the task of removing the barriers to the creation of new jobs and the government gave us the opportunity to do that, in part, by creating an enterprise zone. It brings a number of advantages to businesses by reducing both the amount of planning red tape and the cost of their rates. But it also generates benefits for the area as a whole since we are able to retain the business rates that are generated which can be used to improve the other five areas we have identified,” he said.

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Firm moves in after historic office building gets a revamp

Evening Post (extract) - June 01

An accountancy and law firm has moved into one of the most prestigious addresses in Bristol city centre.

Specialist contractor accountancy and tax legislation firm Nasa Consulting has announced it has taken office space in what is believed to be Bristol's oldest office building.

The business has taken the entire first floor of West Block Albion Chambers in Small Street. The firm decided to relocate from Horfield into the city centre and has taken up the whole of the 1,616 square feet of office space.

Nasa Consulting provides limited company and umbrella company services for temporary workers, contractors and for small and medium-sized enterprises across the whole of the South West as well as the rest of the country.

The firm works with all the largest recruitment agencies in the UK with its leading PAYE umbrella company, Nasa Umbrella.

Following the completion of the deal there are now only two refurbished floors to let in the west block offices.

The offices available range from 1,347 square

feet to 1,653 square feet. James Preece, who helped to market the office space, said:

"Albion Chambers is an ideal location for firms who want to be at the heart of the action.

The offices are almost opposite the city's law courts, and close to the busiest part of town which includes the bars and restaurants on Corn Street

The increasingly popular St Nick's market is also within easy walking distance of the new offices. The area is fast becoming one of the most popular in town for both the commercial and retail sector."

Mr Preece added:

"The property has been refurbished but has also kept many the period features which make it so attractive and appealing.

At the same time the building offers the very latest in modern office accommodation."

The Albion Chambers were built around 1830 and are believed to have been the first purpose-built offices in Bristol.

The area has long been considered the legal centre of Bristol thanks to its proximity to the law courts.

Many of Bristol's leading criminal firms and barristers are based in the surrounding offices. At one stage it was also the city's commercial heart

Demand at Avonmouth boosts warehousing market

Evening Post—June 01

Bristol is defying market trends with soaring demand for larger industrial storage and warehousing units.

The demand is being boosted by the popularity

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of Avonmouth with large companies looking for warehousing and distribution centres. The Co-op is in the process of building a huge warehouse at Avonmouth and other recent arrivals have included Tesco, Asda and John Lewis.

According to the latest research from Bristol property specialists Colliers International, rents for prime big sheds in the city has slipped just 25 pence per square foot since June 2007.

Prime rents in Bristol have remained constant at £5.50 per square foot since 2009.

This has kept Bristol on top of the South West division, which has been holding steady at £4.60 per square foot since 2009, having fallen back from a high of £5.30 in June 2007.

Tim Davies, head of office at Colliers International's Bristol office, said:

"The South West as a whole and Bristol in particular continue to outperform many regions in the UK. Ease of access to the M4 and M5 plus the increasing importance of the dock facilities at Avonmouth and Portbury have encouraged businesses to focus on the Bristol area. This trend, coupled with the marked lack of movement in terms of new build, keeps demand for and rents from big sheds particularly competitive."

Law firm celebrates 1st anniversary in Bristol with West country themed party
 Irwin Mitchell Press Release—June

Guests who gathered to celebrate the first year anniversary of leading law firm Irwin Mitchell's Bristol office received a warm West Country welcome (last night).

The West Country-themed evening saw more than 150 guests greeted by colourful maypoles and hay bale seating. They were able to enjoy views of the River Avon from the terrace of fashionable Bristol bar and restaurant, The Riverstation. Guests dined on specially selected regional delicacies, using locally

sourced ingredients and were entertained by a local guitarist.

Guests of honour at the event, held on Thursday 19th May, included BBC Radio Bristol breakfast show presenter, Steve LeFevre, together with representatives from the legal and health professions, charity organisations and leading business people from the South West region. Welcoming guests to the first anniversary party, Irwin Mitchell's Regional Managing Partner for Bristol, Jonathan Peacock commented:

"When Irwin Mitchell first announced its intention to set up an office in the South West, we pledged to offer an unrivalled level of legal service across the region.

Even though we anticipated there would be a high demand for our services, we have been surprised and delighted by the additional client work we have taken on since our arrival in Bristol.

This has led to the expansion of our office – both in physical terms, by taking up an option for extra floor space much earlier than we had predicted – as well as additional staff recruitment.

We are very pleased to have made a significant number of key hires and promotions in Bristol over the past year, including new partners Alison Hawes in Family and Julie Lewis in Medical Law, ensuring the services we offer clients are more comprehensive than ever.

We will continue to pioneer the development of our multi-disciplinary approach and to campaign for change where we need to – that is very much on the agenda here – and build on our already strong reputation for continuous improvement and professional excellence.

We will also be looking to further expand our role in the business and community life of the region."

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King Sturge name will go but merger 'will make us stronger'
 Evening Post—June 01

One of the oldest names on the Bristol business scene is set to disappear following a £197 million merger.

But bosses at King Sturge, which was formed in Bristol 200 years ago, insist that it is still business as usual following the deal.

As reported in the Evening Post, the deal between the property firm and American-owned Jones Lang LaSalle will make the partners of King Sturge overnight millionaires.

The deal went through yesterday after it was formally agreed by the American stock market.

Jeremy Richards, who runs the King Sturge office in Clifton, insisted it would be business as usual for the firm although the name would disappear for good.

Mr Richards said:

"This is a momentous day for King Sturge and this deal will make us not only the biggest in the UK but also in Europe as well.

There was a great fit for both companies, we wanted the network that they have in Europe and further afield and they were interested in our network in this country."

He added:

"We sat down and told staff about the deal on Friday but this is not about redundancies or cost cutting – this is about growth.

We made a strategic decision because we believe that the sector is going the same way as the accountancy firms did in the 1980s. There will be a lot of consolidation and there will be a small handful of large firms and plenty of niche outfits.

That means that it will be tougher for firms in the middle of the market so this deal made strategic sense for us.

We have a great relationship with the people at Jones Lang LaSalle and we are really looking forward to working with them.

We are not going to keep chopping and changing – after all we only do this once every hundred years or so."

All 43 King Sturge offices and businesses across Europe, including 24 in the UK, will become part of Jones Lang LaSalle and will operate under its brand.

The integration of the two businesses and their offices across the country is to begin with immediate effect.

Mr Richards said the idea of consolidation between the property firms had been talked about "for some time".

He added: "The property world is moving and it is becoming a more global marketplace.

We need to be ready to move onto the next stage of our development of our company."

The merged business operates in 70 markets across 30 countries employing 5,300 people providing integrated real estate services worldwide to investor, owner and occupier clients.

The new UK business will have 2,700 employees across 34 offices.

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