

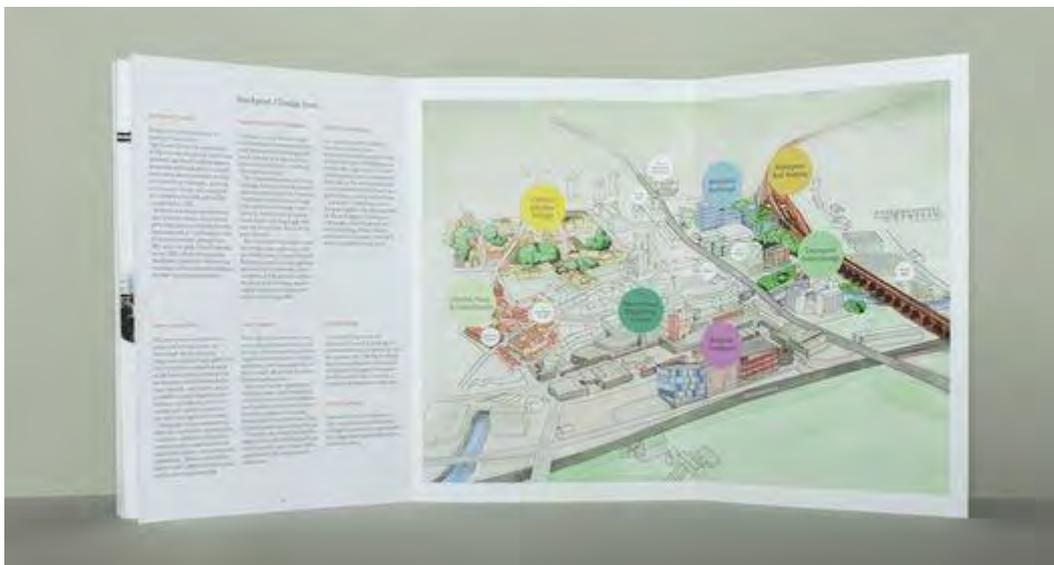
STOCKPORT BUSINESS BULLETIN



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February 2018

Welcome to the February 2018 edition of Stockport Business Bulletin, providing an overview of investment, news and networking opportunities in Stockport.



Stockport's new town centre prospectus launched

Stockport Council's ambitious new [town centre prospectus](#) has been launched to over 150 investors and developers from across the region.

With people at the heart of the prospectus and the change it will bring, it sets out how Stockport and co-investors will build on the success of the £1 billion transformation that is already underway, as well as celebrating Stockport's unique character and heritage. The prospectus describes a range of opportunities for investment and redevelopment and offers investors, businesses and developers the chance to be part of the success taking place in Stockport, the prospectus reinforces Stockport's position as one of South Manchester's prime investment locations.

Investment and Property Update

First glimpse of the next phase of Stockport Exchange

A first glimpse of the next phase of [Stockport Exchange](#) has been revealed by Stockport Council and Muse Developments. Building on the phenomenal success of phase two, the stunning new 60,000 sq ft office will be developed next to the recently completed One Stockport Exchange office. It is expected to create a further 350 jobs with work on site planned for Summer 2018 and completion anticipated in Spring 2020.



Successes at Aurora

Deals on over 100,000 sq ft of premium industrial space have been completed at Aurora Stockport. The trio of deals will see CAF Rail, Aeroco and Anglian Windows join Baumuller at [Aurora Stockport](#), with each company choosing to make the industrial park the base from which they plan to grow their businesses over the coming years.

SF Taylor to expand

Print Management company, [SF Taylor](#), is preparing to kick-start 2018 with the creation of a new, 30,000 sq ft state-of-the-art storage and distribution centre. The additional space allows further expansion to manufacturing facilities, ensuring the company can continue to invest in new technologies and innovations.



Refurbishment of Crossley Park

Paloma Capital has commenced a £2million refurbishment programme of [Crossley Park](#) in Heaton Chapel to create modern warehousing accommodation. Located just off the A6, the estate comprises 300,000 sq ft industrial accommodation with units ranging from 5,000 sq ft up to 90,000 sq ft. For further information contact Mark Sillitoe at Williams Sillitoe on 01625 800 066.



Screwfix opens at Southfield 25

[Southfield 25](#), a new trade counter development on Bredbury Industrial Estate, has secured Screwfix as its newest tenant. The company opened the doors to their new facility a few days ago and will be creating 15 new jobs. For enquiries relating to leasing the remaining available units on the estate please contact Michael Blackshaw at Impey & Co - michael@impey.co.uk



Business Support & Funding News

Get Digital Faster

Is your business able to access superfast broadband? Significant investment in digital infrastructure has taken place in recent years to ensure 99% of premises in Stockport are able to access superfast broadband via their fibre enabled street cabinets. Superfast broadband provides speeds of at least 24mbps yet is used by less than 50% of properties across the borough. To check whether your premises have access to superfast broadband, and for further information, go to www.get-digital-faster.info



Would you like to be recognised as one of the region's most pioneering businesses?

[Pioneer 10](#) is a fully-funded programme led by inspiring business experts at Stockport Business and Innovation Centre. Featuring workshops, tools, support and a business awards programme it has been designed for small, ambitious businesses in Stockport. The programme is now open for entries and is available to entrepreneurs and businesses at all stages to help drive growth and development.

New Support for Self-employed Stopfordians

Business Growth Hub has launched its new Start Smart programme, designed to support Stockport residents who want to find out if self-employment is right for them – and those who have recently started their own business to help them to succeed and grow. From the part time gardener through to starting and growing a limited business, Start Smart can help. For more information, get in touch with the Start Smart team on 0161 359 3050, or via www.businessgrowthhub.com



Events and Networking Opportunities



[Stockport Breakfast Club](#), 15th February 2018, 7.15am - 9.30am, Alma Lodge Hotel, Stockport

There will be lots of opportunity to network at one of the longest running networking events that Greater Manchester Chamber organises on your behalf. A popular feature in the Stockport business calendar for over 30 years, this is a great vehicle to make new contacts and build your business network over a sit-down breakfast.

[Access to Finance Drop In Sessions](#), 8th March 2018, 9am - 3.45pm, SBIC, Broadstone Mill

A specialist from the Business Growth Hub's Access to Finance team (A2F) will be delivering one – to – one drop in sessions aimed at SMEs looking for additional sources of growth funding. Pre-booking is required.



Other News



Stockport Work and Skills Commission Survey

[Stockport Work and Skills Commission](#) are running an online survey to capture the views, ideas and suggestions of people who would like to take part in the debate about work, skills and the local economy in Stockport. This is a great opportunity to have your say so please get involved in helping us to identify and understand the priority work, skills and local economic issues that will affect Stockport, and help us to shape our future success.

Be a Business Challenge Partner

Visit a group of young people who are completing the [NCS Programme](#) and set a real world challenge that your business or organisation is facing. In teams, the young people will go away and come up with solutions and actions to present back to you. This is a fantastic way to get youth input and feedback and give young people an insight into the working world. For more information get in touch with Gareth on 07867561476 or send an email to gareth.beer@the-challenge.org





Happy first birthday to Holiday Inn Express Stockport

[Stockport Exchange's Holiday Inn Express](#) has just celebrated its first birthday. Since opening its doors in December 2016, staff at have welcomed 46,406 guests; served 16,575 drinks; prepared 10,200 meals for visitors to enjoy. Occupancy levels at the hotel have been very high since opening and have continued to build with the 115-bed hotel frequently booked to capacity.

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Whether you are starting up a business, trying to grow your company or thinking of relocating to Stockport, a range of services are available to help you. You can follow us on Twitter - [@SMBC_Business](#) to keep up to date with the latest news and support available.



For further information on any of the topics covered, assistance with any economic information or if you have any comments please contact us.



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