



PR8846

9th October 2009

SPZ PROPOSAL HAS POTENTIAL TO CREATE JOBS

SEGRO, working in partnership with Rochdale MBC, is progressing with the second round of consultation on its proposed Simplified Planning Zone (SPZ) at Heywood Distribution Park.

The first consultation, which took place over a six-week period between March and May, gave consultees, residents and interested parties the opportunity to express their views on the proposed plans. Comments and thoughts on the plans were gathered and the proposals amended.

If granted, the proposals will allow planning permission for specified employment uses on the existing Heywood Distribution Park. The SPZ would operate over a ten-year period, thereby helping to stimulate economic development and encourage inward investment in the area. The proposals present Heywood with a unique advantage over its North West neighbours by improving the marketability of the town for potential occupiers, encouraging new development and creating further jobs in the area.

Chris Billington, Development Manager at SEGRO said: "SEGRO and Rochdale MBC have listened to views on the plans from the first consultation and have taken the comments into consideration for the second round of the proposals. Granting an SPZ at HDP would help stimulate economic growth, encourage investment and job creation. The SPZ will provide speed and certainty for existing occupiers wishing to expand on site or prospective occupiers' seeking new premises. The scope for SEGRO to accommodate existing occupiers needs by helping them to stay and expand on the site will be greater following approval of the SPZ thus enabling employers and firms to stay within the Borough."

To help local people understand more about the SPZ and how it will benefit the town, the public consultation will take place on the 7th September to the 26th October.2009

For further information on the public consultation please contact:

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The SPZ can be viewed at three locations:

- Heywood Library, Church Street, Heywood, OL10 1LL(closed Wed pm);
- Heywood Customer Service Centre, 44/46 Market Street, Heywood, OL10 4LY (9am-5pm Mon to Fri except Tues 9.00am-3.45pm); or
- Planning and Regulation reception, Floor 1, Telegraph House, Baillie Street, Rochdale, OL16 1JH (9am - 5pm).

There will also be an exhibition at Heywood Civic Centre, Church St on 10th September between 3pm and 8pm.

In addition the proposals can also be viewed on the council's website.

www.rochdale.gov.uk/yourviews