

# Waterfront scheme is major boost



The green light for a £175m waterfront scheme for Huddersfield is good news for the town, says Kathryn Moore.

PLANS for one of Huddersfield's largest ever redevelopments have been approved.

Members of Kirklees Council's planning committee have given the go-ahead for the £175m Waterfront Quarter development which will occupy almost one mile of frontage to the River Colne and the Huddersfield Narrow Canal at the gateway to the Colne Valley.

Ramsden and Colne Developments will provide 817,000 sq ft of mixed-use buildings which could create up to 2,000 jobs for the town.

Paul Sheen, director at Ramsden and Colne Developments, said: "We are absolutely delighted that our Waterfront Quarter development has been given the green light.

"We have worked extremely closely with Kirklees Metropolitan Council, together with British Waterways, English Heritage, Huddersfield Civic Society and the Canal Society to ensure that we have created a

workable development of which we can all be very proud.

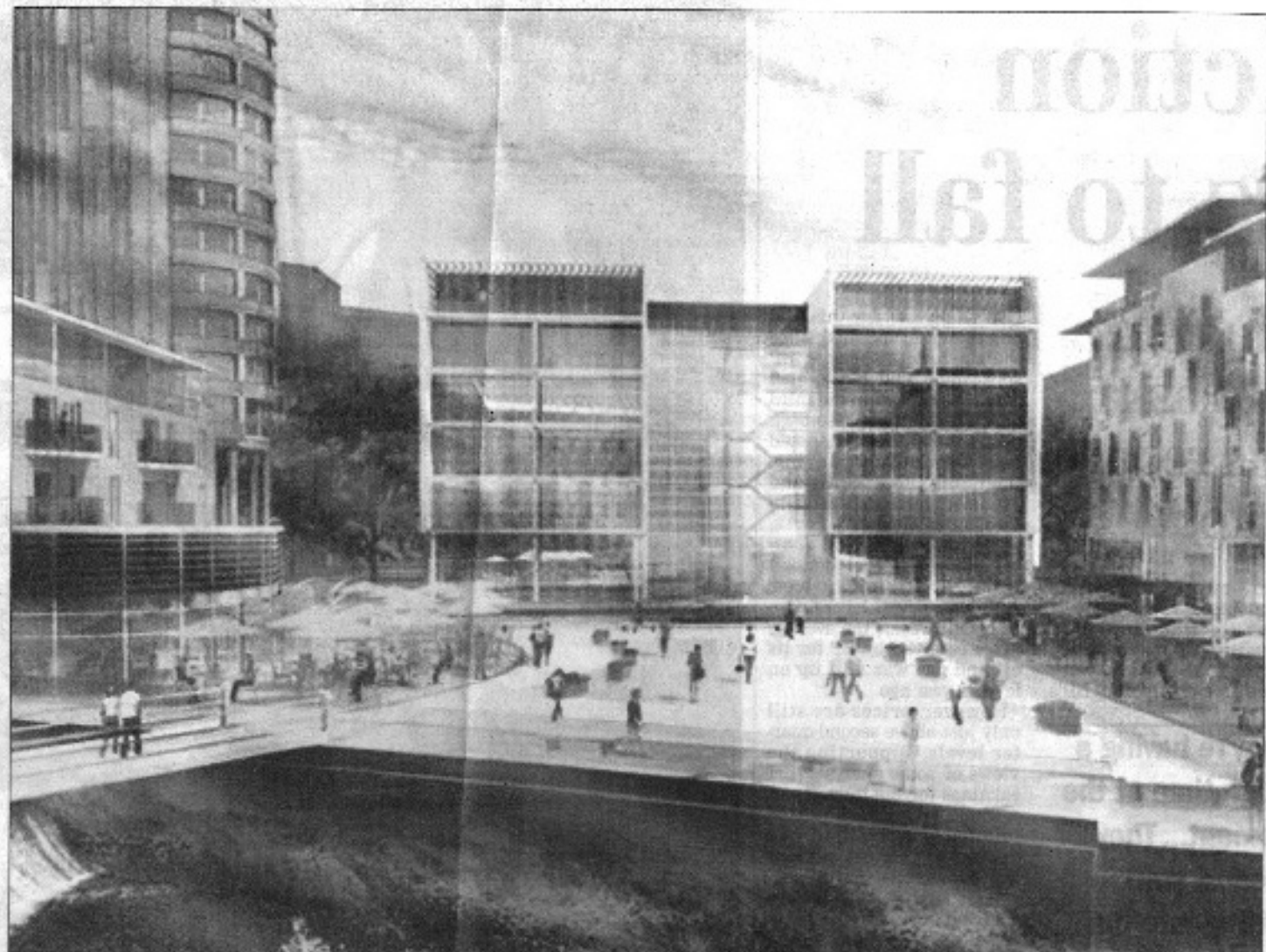
"This is one of the most important developments in the recent history of Huddersfield and it was crucial that we get it completely right.

"It will lead to massive inward investment and job creation and will underline Huddersfield's growing reputation as one of the most attractive places in which to live and work in the United Kingdom," he added.

The Waterfront Quarter development features nearly 300,000 sq ft of state-of-the-art offices and 460,000 ft of residential space, together with a hotel, gym, crèche, cafes and restaurants.

Mr Sheen said: "We are aiming to make a start on the first phase of the residential part of the development in spring next year, with a 12-month build period.

"This will comprise 200 high-quality affordable apartments in a beautiful setting. Given Huddersfield's reputation as a residential property hotspot,



An artist's impression of the Waterfront development at Huddersfield.

these apartments present an unparalleled investment opportunity"

The transformation of Folly Hall Mills - plans for which have recently been approved - which looks across the River Colne towards the Ramsden and Colne's site, will provide the fourth side of the development's square.

Owners Bradbury Investments are hoping to start on site in spring next year, with completion 12 months later.

Paul Bailey, director at Bradbury Investments, said: "These are tremendous

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developments for Huddersfield. They involve significant regeneration of the riverside area and will create jobs, as well as raising Huddersfield's profile as a major office and residential location."

The Ramsden and Colne team, which includes Knight Frank property consultants and DLG Architects, are also working closely with Kirklees Metropolitan Council who also own and occupy part of the 12-acre site. Andrew Gardner, a partner of DLG Architects, whose recent commissions include the

award-winning The Light in Leeds, said: "The Waterfront Quarter is in many ways the perfect regeneration opportunity and we are delighted to bring our resources and experience to such an exceptional project.

"The design proposals compliment the unique setting of this development and will act as a catalyst for wider regeneration in this south-west sector of the Town."

It is estimated that the development of the site will take up to four years. [kathryn.moore@gpn.co.uk](mailto:kathryn.moore@gpn.co.uk)