

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT ORDER APPROVED FOR BATH & WEST ENTERPRISE AREA

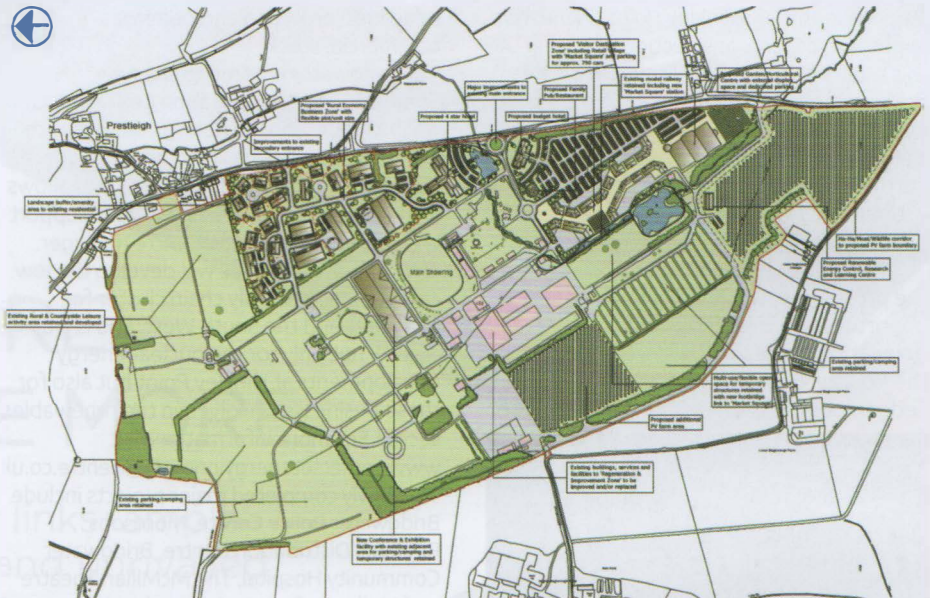
Mendip District Council has underlined its commitment to creating economic growth and encouraging new investment by approving a new Local Development Order (LDO) for an 8.2 hectare site at the Royal Bath & West Showground near Shepton Mallet in Somerset. A prestigious year-round destination zone for events, the Bath & West also offers significant potential for rural businesses, agri-technology and food production.

The Bath & West LDO provides a simplified planning offer for new development within B1 (offices, light industrial and research and development), B2 (general industrial) and B8 (storage and distribution) use classes. Units with a floor area of up to 25,000 sq metres, with a maximum height of 10m and two storeys will be exempt from normal planning fees and Section 106 planning obligations.



Bath & West aerial view

In recognition of its importance to the £100 billion annual food economy, Defra is also supporting the site as a Food Enterprise Zone, and have applauded the ambition to create a series of Food Enterprise Units and to redevelop the Royal



Bath & West development

Bath & West Society's offices into an Agri-Food Hub to boost enterprise across this vital sector.

Other key investment sites across Mendip have also seen increased activities, with a new £8m speculative development at Commerce Park in Frome, which has seen outstanding demand for the scheme. Mirage Inks is one of the most recent investors on the site with new 2,300 sq m premises under development for their manufacturing and research & development facilities for specialist food packaging printing using innovative UV technology.

The cathedral City of Wells is also proving popular for investment growth

with the recent land purchase and design and build of a new £2m UK HQ and distribution facility for Swedish-owned TePe Oral Hygiene.

Both Cathedral Park in Wells, and Street Business Park, a greenfield development



Wells Cathedral

situated opposite Clarks Shoes international distribution centre - one of the South West's leading businesses - both offer an ideal location for companies looking north to Bath and Bristol, and also west to the M5 and Bridgwater, making them an ideal location for Hinkley Point C new build supply chain activities.

For more information about key employment sites, commercial property availability and further information about the LDO and Food Enterprise Zone projects, contact economy@mendip.gov.uk or visit: www.mendip.gov.uk/business www.intosomerset.co.uk



Royal Bath and West Show