

# News

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## **Planning submission for relocated Job Centre office in South Shields**

Building on the success of the South Shields Interchange, urban innovators, Muse Developments, has submitted a planning application to South Tyneside Council to bring forward the next stage of the council's 365 town centre vision – a 12,000 sq ft quality office building that would become the new Job Centre Plus for South Shields.

The BREEAM 'very good' building on Mile End Road would become home to 65 DWP employees, bringing over a range of services to help people of working age find work, claim benefits, as well as specialist support for those with disabilities.

Should the scheme receive planning consent, the relocation of DWP from Barrington Street to Mile End Road would be one of the enabling pieces in the repurposing of South Shields town centre.

The current Job Centre premises Street is earmarked for demolition to free up land and bring forward Phase Three – an exciting retail and leisure offer with improved connectivity, pedestrian access and public open space to benefit both the town and the community.

The ambitious £100m South Shields 365 regeneration masterplan is being delivered through a close collaboration between Muse and South Tyneside Council. The wider scheme has already delivered two statement buildings in 'The Word' – the multi-award-winning National Centre for the Written Word – and the £21m state-of-the-art South Shields interchange, which has brought together the town's Metro and bus station, with improved accessibility for all.

David Wells, regional director at Muse Developments, added: "It's a fantastic achievement for everyone involved in South Shields as we put forward planning for the next stage of the development, which will complement what has been delivered so far, and open the door to future opportunities to further create a real vibrancy in the town centre.

"Working collaboratively and progressively with our partners at South Tyneside Council, we're able to deliver at pace to bring forward transformational regeneration that will benefit both the town and the community for years to come."

It is anticipated that the scheme would be on site in Q3 of 2020, with a 12-month build programme.