

# News

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## Stockport Exchange welcomes Holiday Inn Express



A new 115-bed Holiday Inn Express® will be opened at Stockport Exchange after Muse Developments and Stockport Council completed agreements with InterContinental Hotels Group (IHG).

Due to open in 2017, Holiday Inn Express® Stockport forms a key part of the second phase of the mixed-use Stockport Exchange development which is currently under construction, creating a new gateway for Stockport town centre.

The hotel's contemporary design will reflect the town's rich history, featuring vertical fins which reference the town's Grade II Listed Victorian covered market hall nearby. Amenities will include a bar, restaurant, Wi-Fi and meeting facilities.

As well as the hotel, the second phase of work will deliver a new 50,000 sq ft, five-storey office building and pedestrianised public space, which will create an attractive gateway from the train station into the town.

Wes Erlam, development director at Muse, said: "This agreement is a major milestone in the delivery of an exciting new mixed-use business district for Stockport. To have attracted an internationally-renowned hotel brand like Holiday Inn Express is great news for the town and for Stockport Exchange.

"It is important to have complementary amenities as part of the Stockport Exchange scheme. We already have the benefit of the pool and gym next door. The addition of a Holiday Inn Express constructed to the very latest design standards will be a great asset for the scheme, future occupiers and the town as a whole."

Anna Corkill, Director of Development UK & Ireland, IHG said: "We're delighted to be working with Muse Developments and Stockport Council on this project. The Holiday Inn Express brand is one of the largest and fastest growing brands in the industry and we're proud to welcome this well-located property into our portfolio."

Located next to Stockport train station, Stockport Exchange will create a new commercial district and business hub for the town, with up to 375,000 sq ft of office space and 28,000 sq ft of commercial floor space.

It is a key project in the Council's ambitious 'Investing in Stockport' programme that will see a range of regeneration projects delivered across Stockport town centre, building on the town's strengths to make it an even better place to live, work and visit.

Cllr Patrick McAuley, Executive Member for Thriving Economy at Stockport Council commented that: "Stockport Exchange is a major part of the Council's strategy to reinvigorate Stockport, offering opportunities for both residents and businesses.

"We are thrilled to welcome Holiday Inn Express to our community here in Stockport at an exciting time for the town. Their arrival dovetails nicely with our other development projects such as the Redrock leisure development and the Town Centre Access Plan, where work will see our vision for a revitalised town centre become reality. Further announcements about these investments will be coming soon."

The second phase of development, including the hotel, office and public realm, started on site in September 2015 and will be completed in autumn 2016.

The first phase of the scheme - a 1,000 space multi-storey car park operated by NCP - was completed last year and is open to the public.

Cushman & Wakefield and CBRE are appointed as joint agents for the scheme.