

## Next phase in Aldershot regeneration set to start

The next major step in the regeneration of Aldershot town centre gets under way this month, with the start of demolition of the Union Street site.

Contractors will begin work on site from 1st February, likely until summer 2021, to clear the area for redevelopment. The team will be working to the guidelines set out by the Considerate Constructors Scheme to make sure that any possible disruption is kept to a minimum. Hoardings will shortly be placed around the site, showcasing the scheme itself and images of the town centre's exciting future.

The plans for major investment into Union Street, creating flexible retail, new homes and public spaces, were brought forward by the Rushmoor Development Partnership, a joint venture between Rushmoor Borough Council and Hill Investment Partnerships, and granted planning consent in June 2020.

The scheme seeks to focus on creating public spaces at the heart of the development, with a new square located within 'Union Yard', a creative space for small and independent businesses. The square and yard will both feature alongside the delivery of much-needed new homes as well as student accommodation in partnership with the University for the Creative Arts, aiming to bring more life and footfall into the high street.

Martin Tennant, Chair of the Rushmoor Development Partnership commented:

"Aldershot's regeneration is a top priority for the Council, and this is the next stage in ensuring successful delivery of the scheme at Union Street, which will not only provide great public spaces, new homes and an exciting retail offer, but will also create further economic investment and bring jobs and training opportunities for local people."

Cllr David Clifford, Leader of Rushmoor Borough Council, said:

"This scheme is so important for the future vitality of Aldershot town centre and it is great to see it moving forward at pace in these challenging times. The fact that it has continued to make so much good progress is testament to our commitment to regenerating our town centre."

Greg Hill, Deputy Chief Executive, Hill Investment Partnerships:

"It's fantastic that the next phase of this regeneration is now underway, which will provide residents of Aldershot with a revitalised town centre. We're working hard to ensure the project continues to move in the right direction and this next phase of work indicates we're maintaining that momentum."