

## £8.5M ERDF APPLICATION FOR YORKSHIRE CONTACT CENTRE CONCEPT

An application for £8.5-million European funding on behalf of Manor Property Group will help address the undersupply of larger floor plate modern office accommodation in the Yorkshire Region to meet growing demand for contact centre operations.

The ERDF (European Regional Development fund) application has been submitted to regional development agency Yorkshire Forward towards the £28 million project, with the balance of funding coming from the private sector; it will fund the conversion and refurbishment of part of a 5-storey vacant former department store into Grade A commercial floorspace, in order to bring the building back into beneficial use. It has already attracted end user interest from inward investors due to the scarcity of such space.

The application states: 'The Manor Point building is unique in Hull and rare regionally by offering individual floors of 2,000-4,600 square metres (gross internal) with a clear, uninterrupted space and in a city centre. Experience & enquiries demonstrate that large scale potential occupiers seek this type of location & accommodation & look for ready access to occupation.'

The refurbished section of the five storey building will provide retail or leisure space on the ground floor with office space above in excess of 13,000 sq m. The full development will accommodate up to 2,500 employees of which 1750 will be new jobs created in the region.

Bill Addy of Manor Property Group said: "Yorkshire Forward recognises the huge potential of this development to meet the growing UK demand for larger space accommodation with high quality services, which will help attract contact centre operations to the region, and especially Hull."

Development costs associated with Manor Point are acknowledged as a third of an equivalent new building project. The application concludes that 'The physical product delivered would be a major improvement for the city centre and ultimately a catalyst for development of adjacent sites'.

ENDS

Notes to editors:

Manor Property Group has a broad base of property developments worth in excess of £625 million development value. Manor has over 30 years' experience with a wide range of projects which span leisure, retail, commercial, residential and student developments.

More information at: [www.ManorPropertyGroup.com](http://www.ManorPropertyGroup.com)

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