

WIGAN AT MIPIIM 2023

EVENTS

Come and see the team at The Manchester Stand, C15.A2.

Wednesday 15 March, 2pm – 2:45pm: Net Zero

Town Centres: Stockport and Wigan's Net Zero Ambitions with Deloitte partner Simon Bedford, Wigan Council's Chief Executive Alison McKenzie-Folan and Executive Director of Place Aidan Thatcher, Cityheart director Warren Taylor, Stockport Council's Chief Executive Caroline Simpson and Stockport Mayor Development Corporation chief executive Paul Richards.

Thursday 16 March 2023, 4pm – 5pm: MIPIM panel

session: Levelling Up Greater Manchester: Wealth across Greater Manchester's ten boroughs is unevenly spread. This panel will discuss what needs to be done to close the economic gap and boost prosperity in the north of the conurbation. Speakers include Alison McKenzie-Folan, Wigan Council, Chief Executive, Paul Dennett, Deputy Mayor, Greater Manchester Combined Authority, Mark Robinson, Director of Economy, Rochdale Council, Jeremy Hinds, Director, Savills.

*Please note, you don't need to register in advance to attend the discussions.

To find out more about the investment opportunities available, please get in touch: 01942 489190
Business@wigan.gov.uk

WELCOME TO WIGAN

Located in the North West of England, Wigan is one of the largest metropolitan boroughs in the country, and one of the greenest districts in Greater Manchester. A stone's throw from Manchester and Liverpool, with easy access to major motorways, including the M6, and on the hourly trainline between London Euston and Scotland, Wigan's location makes it the perfect place to do business. With HS2 and improved infrastructure programmes in the pipeline, connections into the Wigan Borough will continue to improve.

Historically, Wigan is famous for its industrial past and rich mining heritage which has paved the way for a vast network of greenspace and flashes today. In 2022, Natural England designated the flashes of Wigan and Leigh as National Nature Reserves – recognising the ecological importance and natural beauty of the borough.

As one of the most affordable locations to live in the region, demand for homes continues to grow with a good pipeline of sites across the borough.

ECONOMIC VISION

In Wigan Borough, we like to think we do things differently. Our economic vision is part response and part challenge to that belief.





Here in Wigan, we see the potential, the possibilities, the promise of a diverse and resilient economy. We know that partnership is key to success. Whether your business is already here, or you're looking for a place to grow and invest, you can be part of our vision for Wigan.

MIPIIM 2023




Alison McKenzie-Folan, Chief Executive and Aidan Thatcher, Executive Director of Place at Wigan Council will be attending MIPIIM to share their insights into the current economic climate, discussing the opportunities available in Wigan Borough.



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CURRENT PROJECTS

THE GALLERIES



Our flagship scheme, in partnership with developers CityHeart, is the £135 million redevelopment of a former shopping centre in Wigan.

The Galleries redevelopment scheme will transform the town centre, creating a vibrant new retail, leisure, commercial and residential destination in the heart of Wigan – making it an attractive and accessible place to live, work and visit.

Complete with cinema, bowling alley, music and eSports venue, food and drink venues, hotel, apartments and a new market hall, the redevelopment will breathe new life into the town.

The new development has been designed to be far more environmentally sustainable, with ground source heat pumps and photovoltaic units helping to save 1,530 tonnes of carbon a year – contributing to our ambition of achieving carbon neutrality by 2038 or sooner. The programme was awarded £2.6 million from the government's Heat Network Improvement Programme (HNIP) to construct a new heat network to support this aspiration.

For more information about the scheme visit:

galleries25.com or email: galleriesredevelopment@wigan.gov.uk

CIVIC CENTRE INNOVATION HUB

A new state of the art hub for business start-ups and entrepreneurs, targeting the digital, arts and culture sector has received £3.1 million from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. The hub will support Wigan's Strategic Regeneration Framework providing a space for entrepreneurs to do business in the heart of the town centre.

ECKERSLEY MILLS



North West property developers, The Heaton Group, has received planning approval for the first phase of a mixed-use Canalside development next to Wigan Pier, and has secured grant funding for Phase 2. This heritage-led regeneration opportunity will see former cotton mills restored, making it a centre for residential, business and leisure excellence.

THE PIER QUARTER



The multi-million-pound redevelopment of Wigan Pier will transform the famous Wigan Pier site into a wedding venue, gin distillery, microbrewery, food hall and events space when it opens later this year.

KING STREET HERITAGE ACTION ZONE

The King Street Heritage Action Zone (HAZ) programme will revitalise King Street – a popular area for the night-time economy which was awarded Purple Flag status in 2022. The programme, funded by Historic England and Wigan Council, is helping to refurbish historic buildings, including a theatre to attract new activity to the street.

STATION GATEWAY



With the arrival of HS2, the reconfiguration of two town centre train stations will make it even easier to get to and from Wigan town centre. With 3.2 million passengers passing through these stations each year, the changes will transform the external environment, improving connections and interchange while unlocking prime mixed use development opportunities around the site.

HAIGH HALL



Referred to locally as the 'jewel in the borough's crown', Haigh Hall Woodland Park is already one of the region's most popular visitor destinations. £20 million of funding has been secured from the Government's Levelling Up Fund to transform the Grade II* listed hall into a cultural visitor destination of national significance.

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

Wigan has been identified as one of six growth locations in Greater Manchester, part of a growth corridor bringing opportunities to develop 12,000 new homes and over 1,000,000 square metres of new commercial floorspace. Key sites have been identified in Hindley for 2,000 homes and North Leigh for 1,700 homes, while strategic commercial development opportunities in the corridor include Westwood Park, Junction 25 of the M6 and Gibfield Park on the border of Wigan and Bolton.

WHY INVEST IN WIGAN?

- Wigan is at the heart of the North West and boasts rising development values.
- It's part of Greater Manchester (GM), the UK's strongest economic centre outside London.
- Strategically located with direct rail services to London, Manchester, Liverpool and other locations such as Preston, Warrington and Bolton.
- Has a strong local economy and home to various local, national, and international businesses including Kraft-Heinz, NicePak and AB World Foods (Patak's Foods).
- Large regeneration projects underway and investment secured to regenerate and transform the borough.
- Forward thinking and proactive local authority with proven track record of effective partnership working.
- Future improved connectivity with exciting pipeline of opportunities including HS2, Station gateway, active travel, and improved road infrastructure schemes.
- Strong sense of pride and rich heritage and culture.
- Great place to live, work and visit with affordable homes, excellent schools, vast greenspaces, job opportunities and training facilities.