

▶ Dartford Borough Council continued...



The Bridge development brings homes and businesses together



Around 150,000 vehicles use the Dartford crossing every day

The Bridge

Dartford's new developments include The Bridge; a mixed-use residential and commercial zone north of Dartford town and west of the Dartford Crossing, Ebbsfleet Valley to the east of Bluewater, Dartford town centre and Swanscombe Peninsula.

The Bridge is a partnership project which brings together Dartford Borough Council, Prologis and Taylor Wimpey in an innovative mixed use project featuring more than 1,500 new homes and 1.5m square feet of business space as well as innovative community space. At the heart of the science and technology space is a business and innovation centre known as the Nucleus. Open to start-up and Stage 2 companies as well as to more established organisations in the science and technology sector, the Nucleus offers office accommodation and a range of business support services for both occupiers and for users of its virtual service. The Nucleus can also provide access to a seed capital fund - a vital resource for growing businesses, together with networking opportunities, master-classes, seminars and

links with universities and development agencies.

Since working at home is a good option for start-up businesses, Taylor Wimpey plc, the developer of the first phase of housing at The Bridge, will be building a number of live/work units close to the Innovation Centre. Each of the 1,500 new homes on the development will be equipped with a broadband connection as a standard feature. a capability that will not only be important for the new enterprises that ProLogis and the Council hope will blossom, but it will also allow employees of larger organisations to work more flexibly.

The residential component is designed by Wayne and Gerardine Hemingway through their company Hemingwaydesign. The Nucleus, a high quality business hub, offers advice and support for new and fledgling businesses. Additional units encompass a science park, logistics centre and commercial office space.

The Bridge includes more than 80 acres of public space, Fastrack transport and high quality learning through a new School of the Future plus sports and leisure facilities.