

Rochdale

on the rise

Rochdale is being revitalised with a £1bn package of investment that is delivering modern homes, offices and exciting job and retail opportunities.

With Metrolink set to reach Rochdale in a few years time, the borough will be seen as a real jewel in the Greater Manchester region.

Rochdale Development Agency (RDA) is a not-for-profit organisation driving the ambitious regeneration of Rochdale. In 1993, Rochdale Council and other partners established the agency as a public/private partnership to attract new economic investment in the borough.

Major initiatives include the £350m Kingsway Business Park, the redevelopment of the borough's town centres and the regeneration of neighbourhoods under the

government's Housing Market Renewal programme. A further £90m was awarded earlier this year to deliver even more quality, modern homes in Rochdale and Oldham over the next three years.

The site of the new town centre £11.5m transport interchange has been cleared to pave the way for construction and plans for the new riverside civic offices which are progressing well.

John Hudson, Chief Executive of Rochdale Development Agency said: "This is a major milestone in the redevelopment of the town centre and signals the start of plans to transform the area. We are confident that the new interchange, along with the proposed riverside civic centre, will be the catalyst for the revitalisation of the east of the town centre."

Middleton town centre is also attracting a lot of attention. Construction is well underway on the £13m leisure and civic centre, which is due to be completed in early 2009.

The 7,300 sq m Middleton Arena will provide state-of-the-art sports and entertainment facilities for the area including two swimming pools, a sports hall, exercise and fitness studios as well as a performance and concert hall.

The Arena is the result of a deal negotiated by RDA and Rochdale Council with Tesco.

John Hudson and Rochdale councillors at the new Transport Interchange site



An artist's impression of Middleton Arena

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