

From the Office of the Minister



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Leslie Cree MLA
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5 December 2013

Dear Leslie

Follow Up to Topical Questions on 11 November 2013

During Assembly Questions on 11 November you had asked me for an update on Invest Northern Ireland's plans for the regeneration of the Springfield Road/Woodvale area of Belfast and I agreed to write to you with the relevant available information.

Invest NI continues to work closely with Belfast City Council in relation to the development of flexible work space at Forthriver. The development will be a speculative build.

The site for the proposed development is Forthriver Business Park, a 20.4 acre site which is located off the Springfield Road in West Belfast. The proposal is for the use of 2 acres of the site.

An economic appraisal is currently underway. If the appraisal is positive, Invest NI will be working to secure the necessary approvals for funding as soon as possible after that.

The Forthriver project proposes the development of 35,000 sq ft of lettable Grade A standard business accommodation. The total cost of the work will be approximately £9m.

Invest NI and Belfast City Council is working closely with a range of stakeholders including Belfast Metropolitan College in relation to the development.

It is expected that the economic appraisal will be completed in December 2013.

I trust that you find this information helpful and I have also asked for a copy to be placed in the Assembly Library for reference purposes.

Yours sincerely

ARLENE FOSTER MLA
Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment