

# SUPERPORT Quarterly

June 2013

## Meet our new Chair...

Bernard Molloy joined the **SUPERPORT** Committee last September and has been a fantastic ambassador for the City Region ever since.

Bernard was instrumental in organising our successful Clustering in Logistics Conference earlier this year and has been tireless in raising the **SUPERPORT** profile. We are delighted that he has agreed to become Chair.

Bernard has over 40 years experience managing and strategically advising companies in the warehousing, logistics and materials handling industries. He is currently Global Industrial Director for Unipart Aftermarket Logistics and a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport. Known internationally in the supply chain sector, he has been responsible for numerous developments of national distribution centres and resolving supply chain issues particularly in industrial manufacturing.



## ...and our new Deputy Chair



The **SUPERPORT** Committee is also delighted that Kate Willard, Corporate Affairs Director for Stobart Group has agreed to become our Deputy Chair.

Kate is another invaluable ambassador for **SUPERPORT** and has brought boundless energy, enthusiasm and expertise since joining the Committee in September 2012.



## Thanks to Peter

The **SUPERPORT** Committee would like to take the opportunity to thank our outgoing Chair Peter Nears who has expertly guided and advised the activity and City Region stakeholders to take forward the **SUPERPORT** agenda for the last 3 years. Peter will continue to advise and support **SUPERPORT** as a member of the Committee.

The logistics sector in the Liverpool City Region employs

**46,000**

people across  
2,700  
businesses...

...and is worth  
**£2.6 billion**

7% of the City  
Region economy

# Welcome to SUPERPORT Quarterly

Firstly I'd just like to say how delighted I was to be invited to become Chair of the SUPERPORT Committee. I didn't hesitate in saying yes!

I am passionate about the City Region, as the place where I was brought up, and I believe fervently in the transformational potential of SUPERPORT for the City Region's economy. I'd also like to add my own thanks to outgoing Chair, Peter Nears, whose vision and leadership has done so much to drive SUPERPORT forward.

As I become Chair, it is great to report that we have reached a key SUPERPORT milestone with the ground breaking launch of Liverpool2 at the Port. This infrastructure investment, providing a new deep water container port, capable of handling over 90% of the world's container fleet, will have a huge impact on the City Region and UK economies and bring with it many opportunities in terms of jobs and supply chain

prospects. We need to act now to make sure we are ready to take advantage of this huge opportunity.

The SUPERPORT team at the LEP have been continuing to raise awareness of SUPERPORT in key sectors and markets, most particularly property, manufacturing and retail where SUPERPORT has such a strong value proposition. In April together with UKWA and CILT, we held the first all day Clustering in Logistics Conference which saw over 160 delegates gather to hear from a strong line up of speakers including: Lord Digby Jones Kt., Louise Ellman MP and Chair of the Transport Select Committee and Kieran Ring, CEO at the Global Institute of Logistics. Other activities have included exhibiting at Multimodal with partners Knowsley Council and Stobart and at Retail Week Supply Chain Summit.

Another milestone I'm pleased to report great progress on is the launch of the SUPERPORT Skills for Growth Agreement. I urge you to get hold of a copy to consider, and then most importantly, commit to how you can be part of the City Region response

to the need to prepare for future skills requirements. You can find a copy on the LEP website [here](#).

Alternatively contact Claire Delahunty for more information.

We encourage both employers and education providers to take part in the City Region effort to match supply with demand for skills. This will optimise job creation, employment and economic development.

Finally, regular stakeholder meetings are being held to co-ordinate the development of the Maritime, Logistics and Energy Week for the International Festival for Business (IFB) in June and July 2014. The IFB will be the chance for the UK to showcase best in kind industry and will attract 250,000 people from around the world. If you would like to get involved, have ideas for events you would like to see or hold; or to find out more please get in touch with Claire Delahunty.

**Bernard Molloy, Chair, Liverpool City Region SUPERPORT Committee**



Left to right: Mark Basnett, Kieran Ring, Bernard Molloy and Lord Digby Jones Kt.

# Liverpool2 build has begun

## The launch of Liverpool2 realised a major **SUPERPORT** milestone.

The first steel pylon has lowered into the river to mark the beginning of the build of the new deep water terminal at the Port of Liverpool which will enable larger vessels to dock. It will allow two 13,500 TEU ships to dock simultaneously. This will enable container cargo to gradually triple in volume when it opens in 2015, creating economic benefit for the City Region.

The Port celebrated with two key events. On 28 May, and despite the rain, a large crowd cheered the momentous occasion and the Chancellor, George Osborne, had the honour of ringing the bell to signal for the crane to move the steel pylon into place to mark the start of the build. He had a tour of the Port, met with apprentices and announced £35 million of Regional Growth Fund which will enable the dredging of the estuary.

Mr Osborne said: *"This project is good news for Merseyside and the North West but also important to the UK as a whole. As well as creating 5,000 jobs, upgrading Merseyside's maritime infrastructure demonstrates this country is open for business, and ready to compete in the global race."*

*"This government is working hard to heal the damage inflicted on our economy, and we are making sure we prioritise this kind of long-term investment in the infrastructure of our country"*

Then on 6 June the celebrations culminated when Sir Bobby Charlton and Kenny Dalglish (pictured right) were the guests of honour at a spectacular ground breaking ceremony with stakeholders enjoying a fireworks display.

Liverpool City Region LEP Chair Robert Hough said: *"This investment is a cornerstone of our collective ambition to maximise and accelerate economic growth across the city region's port and logistics sector. Together with its partners, the LEP is focused on the development and implementation of the SUPERPORT strategy. The start of this major project marks a new chapter in Liverpool's mercantile history."*



# Business Growth Grant

The Business Growth Grant is a new £10 million investment programme secured by Liverpool City Region Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and administered in conjunction with the City Region's local authorities. It is funded by the Government through the Regional Growth Fund (RGF).

The Business Growth Grant has been designed for companies who are unable to bid directly into the

Government RGF programme which has a minimum grant threshold of £1 million. Typically the programme will look to award grants of between £50,000 and £1,000,000.

The programme has several stated objectives, although the overarching objective is to create jobs and secure private sector investment within the Liverpool City Region. Preference will be given to those projects that make the greatest contribution to these objectives.

All expressions of interest will need to demonstrate how their project impacts this objective in order to proceed to full application. For each £1 of grant the expectation is that the project will generate at least £5 of private sector leverage.

## Eligibility

Below are some examples of eligible costs.

- Capital Expenditure including: plant, equipment, buildings, and adaptations.
- Investment in new technologies
- Systems
- Software
- Employment aid
- Training aid

For more information please contact **Programme Manager Andy Devaney** on **0151 237 3522** or email **[businessgrowth@liverpoollop.org](mailto:businessgrowth@liverpoollop.org)**

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# Smart Business Academy

An unprecedented number of major employers spanning the logistics, transport and supply chain sectors have collaborated to form the Smart Business Academy and lead a sector-wide bid for Employer Ownership of Skills funding.

The move sees a host of blue-chip businesses join forces to access funds which will help deliver high-quality, employer-led training and invest in skills across the logistics, transport and supply chain industries. Proposals have been invited which will raise skills, create jobs, drive enterprise and boost economic growth.

Companies already committed to the Smart Business Academy include: Abbey Logistics, Arla Foods, Arriva, ASDA, Bibby Distribution, City Link, DB Regio, Elddis Transport, Kuehne & Nagel, Royal Mail, Sellafeld Ltd, Stena Line, Stobart Group, TNT, Travis Perkins and Yodel and form the interim Board which has 100% employer membership.

As part of the broader stakeholder group, representatives from trade associations and sector skills councils sit alongside Job Centre Plus, National Apprenticeship Service, Technology Strategy Board, Princes Trust, British Dyslexia Association, Institute for Sustainability, Liverpool City Region LEP, Halton Borough Council, CILT, Skills for Logistics, Transport for London the CBI and other business groups.

Kate Willard, Stobart Group Corporate Affairs Director, said: *"The talent of our current and future workforce is key to the success, growth and prosperity of our businesses. The Smart Business Academy is a hugely exciting opportunity for major employers to collaborate to deliver tangible results for our businesses. I am delighted that so many successful and confident businesses have come together in this initial partnership and we look forward to welcoming more business as the programme develops."*

SUPERPORT has played an active role in Smart Business Academy and Liverpool City Region has been chosen to host the first Global Trading Floor for business in 2014.

Anyone interested in finding out more about up to the Smart Business Academy should contact **Kate Willard** on **01228 882300** or email **[research@smartbusinessacademy.co.uk](mailto:research@smartbusinessacademy.co.uk)**

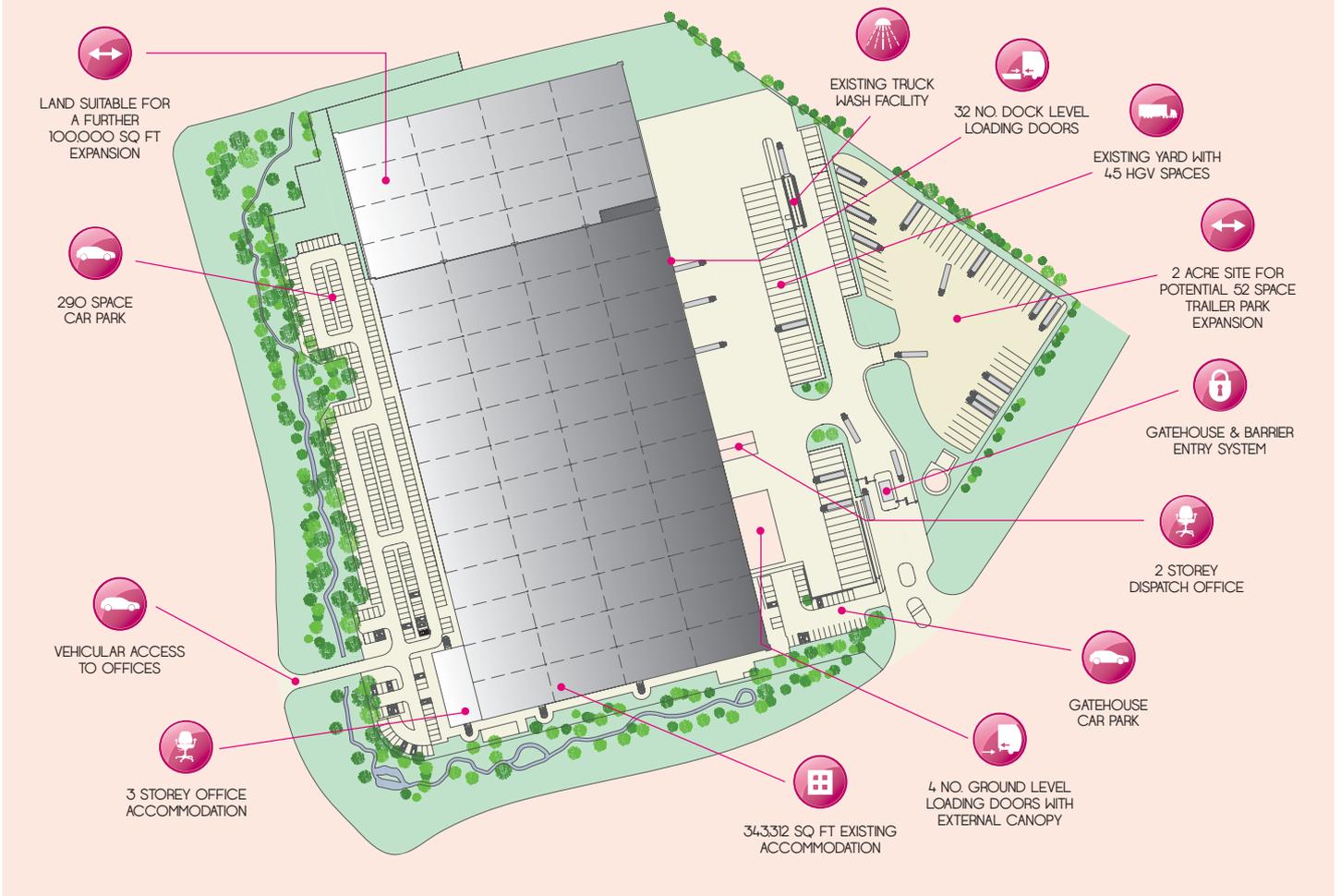


# SUPERPORT Property Focus



With the shortage of high quality vacant warehouse space across the UK, we are delighted to see B8 Real Estate marketing ONYX 350 with immediate vacant possession at Manor Park, Runcorn.

This high specification facility is fully racked out and equipped with sprinkler system. For further information contact **Jon Thorne** at **B8RE** on **01925 320 520**.



# Skills - what can you do?

The Skills for Growth Agreement was launched at the end of March and it is now time to reflect if you can add to the demand or supply side picture.

Employers, stakeholders and training providers working in the SUPERPORT sector are formally invited to attend the above meeting to follow on from the Skills for Growth conference that took place in March. The meeting will take place on **Monday 1 July 2013**, starting at 9am at The Gallery, Huyton Civic Suite, Civic Way, Liverpool, Merseyside L36 9GD.

The day will concentrate on the next steps and actions required to address the key challenges and headline actions identified in the report. Please reply to [Cathy.Waldron@knowsley.gov.uk](mailto:Cathy.Waldron@knowsley.gov.uk) to confirm if you can attend and if you require lunch by **Monday 24 June 13**.



## New Low Carbon and SUPERPORT UTC

Liverpool John Moores University and Liverpool Community College are lead partners in a new Low Carbon and SUPERPORT University Technical College (UTC) to be based in North Liverpool.

It will be opening in September 2014 and will provide a thorough grounding not just in the two specialisms but also in business and enterprise skills, supporting the creation of the conditions necessary to stimulate enterprise and economic growth across the Liverpool City Region.

The vision for the UTC has been developed as a unique response to the strategic landscape of the city and wider city region, providing a curriculum that has been developed in conjunction with

employers both to meet the needs of the regeneration efforts underway and to tackle the skills gap.

*"The UTC will help to support the local economy and local employers in many different ways. We have identified large specialist skill gaps within our Port engineering / logistics and Port Operations departments that we are hoping the UTC will be able to assist us in the future."* **Peel Ports Ltd.**

## Don't miss our next Panel meeting

**1 October 2013**

SUPERPORT Panel from 10am-12pm at Hill Dickinson, Liverpool



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European Regional  
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