

14<sup>th</sup> July 2016

Dear Resident,

**RE: Regeneration of the former Visteon site**

We are writing to you to update you on progress relating to the regeneration of the former Visteon site.

In January 2016 planning permission was granted on the former Visteon site for the development of 244 new homes, employment space, a children's play park and community facilities.

Over the last two years we have been remediating the former factory site, removing the derelict buildings and other contaminants. We are closely liaising with the Northern Ireland Environmental Agency (NIEA) and the Belfast City Council Planning Department to ready the site for construction. We currently estimate that construction work will commence in early 2017.

You may have observed that marketing boards have been erected on site as Fold seeks expressions of interest for the commercial and employment element of the project. We have also engaged an agent to promote the commercial aspects of the site throughout Northern Ireland and to attract a business partner.

Our initial feedback from prospective commercial partners is that the planning conditions constrain the marketability and employment prospects for the site. A number of clients have declined the site on the foot of these conditions. As a result we lodged an appeal to the PAC (Planning Appeals Commission) with a view to discuss the position with Belfast City Council to try and make the offering and terms more attractive. We understand that the PAC have written out to residents informing them of the details of the appeal and have given an opportunity for residents to put forward representations should they wish to do so. We remain committed to maximising the living, working and leisure aspects of this very important regenerative project.

We continue to review proposals for the community facility and have had initial engagement with a number of key stakeholders (including Belfast City Council, the Education Authority- formally BELB - Sport NI and the Irish Amateur Boxing Association) to discuss the best possible use for this important building. It is our intention to further engage with the wider local community in due course to ensure we do not duplicate or displace existing provision but provide a meaningful facility locally.

The proposed social and private housing has generated substantial interest to date and we are in the process of appointing a residential estate agent. They will commence a marketing strategy for the private homes for sale. The new homes should be ready for completion from 2019 onwards. We will keep you updated on the progress of the project in the months ahead.

For further information, please refer to [www.foldvisteonregeneration.com](http://www.foldvisteonregeneration.com) or email us on [regeneration@foldgroup.co.uk](mailto:regeneration@foldgroup.co.uk).

Yours sincerely



John McLean  
Chief Executive