

Alsager Residents Action Group

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Your Ref:

Our Ref:

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Dear Sir/Madam

**Manchester Metropolitan University Campus, Alsager**

I am writing to provide you with an update on Manchester Metropolitan University's intentions for its campus at Alsager which will become wholly surplus to requirements over the next 12 months.

It remains the University's intention to pursue proposals which provide new housing development, together with a "Sports Hub" which provides a legacy of sporting facilities for the community of Alsager.

When the University, with the support of DTZ, staged public consultation events in February, it was our intention to submit an outline planning application, before marketing the site for sale to housebuilders/developers. It would then have been the purchaser's role to submit detailed planning applications.

We have since reflected on this approach, partly in response to concerns expressed by some of those who attended the consultation events. The University now proposes to appoint a development partner who will work with it to develop a planning application.

Subject to discussions with the appointed partner, the intention is that the planning application will seek outline permission across the whole University site but will also seek a detailed (full) permission for the first phase of residential development on the site. We expect that the University and the development partner would be joint applicants in any application.

There are a number of advantages to this approach.

- The time when development starts on the site will be brought forward by involving a developer at an earlier stage.
- Should it grant planning permission, the Council will have greater certainty that the proposals for housing and for a "sports hub" will actually be delivered.
- The community will know more about the actual location and design of housing on the site (at least for the initial phase of development).

DTZ will be marketing the opportunity to developers over the next few weeks. Given the work involved in producing a detailed planning application, the submission of an application will not be made until Spring 2014. Further public consultation will take place prior to any application being submitted.

Work is continuing to collect the evidence that will be needed for the application. This includes a study to assess the sports and leisure needs locally which is on-going and is involving discussions with local sporting groups.

I hope that above is clear. If you have any questions, please speak to myself or my colleague Beverley Smith (07825001516). An update of the position will also be posted on the University's website at [www.mmu.ac.uk/alsager/](http://www.mmu.ac.uk/alsager/).

Regards

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Keyes', written in a cursive style.

**John Keyes**  
Director