



# PRESS RELEASE

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## **Octagon Park plans submitted**

The planning application for a new retail park to be located on the southern edge of Ely has just been submitted

The application, submitted by Mantle on behalf of Healy Investments Ltd, includes a new Tesco store to replace the one on Angel Drove, freeing up the area around Ely Station for redevelopment. Also included in the application is a hotel, a restaurant overlooking a water feature, a petrol station, seven retail units including a DIY store, and an office scheme.

The application has been drawn up following extensive consultation with East Cambs District Council and with local residents. A public exhibition held in September 2012 was attended by almost 400 people, the majority of whom were supportive of the plans.

Matthew Chandler of Mantle said, "We are really pleased to be submitting this application. It is the culmination of many years work and much consultation. Relocating Tesco would facilitate the council's aspiration to redevelop the Station Gateway."

"We are confident that Octagon Park will deliver many benefits to Ely. The development will be a multi million pound investment into the economy and will create hundreds of jobs, boost tourism and help to ensure that local people do not travel out of the city to do their food shopping. It will also provide Ely a bulky goods retail offer retaining more expenditure within the City. At present so much expenditure is currently lost to Cambridge and Newmarket. The feedback we have received tells us that this was the right thing to do".

Neil Perrin of MP Real Estate, one of the joint letting agents, said "We have received strong interest from retailers unable to secure the size and format of store required to satisfy their needs elsewhere in Ely. There is currently an exodus of shoppers from Ely to the retail parks in Cambridge and Newmarket which our proposals will help to curtail."

The application is likely to be decided by East Cambs District Council planning committee later this year.

MP Real Estate and Lambert Smith Hampton are the joint letting agents.

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