

Station Hill – April 2024

Lincoln MGT deepens its roots in Reading, funding new trees in partnership with Ethical Reading

In partnership with Ethical Reading and its 'Trees for Reading' Initiative, Lincoln MGT has sponsored the planting of more new trees in Reading this year as part of the venture's commitment to increasing biodiversity in the town

Lincoln Property Company ('Lincoln') and MGT Investment Management, the joint venture delivering the landmark Station Hill mixed-used development in Reading, has funded the planting of new trees across the town, in a bid to increase biodiversity and make it a greener, healthier and happier place to live.

Ethical Reading's Trees for Reading initiative aims to make a positive difference to the town by funding the planting and care of new trees. This year four young trees – an ornamental cherry and three ornamental pears – have been planted at the busy Whitely Street junction in Katesgrove on behalf of Lincoln MGT. These are in addition to ten other trees sponsored over the past two seasons on sites near schools in Southcote and Tilehurst, which include rowan, sweet gum, European hornbeam and Freeman's maple.

The joint venture's contribution to Reading's canopy cover is set to increase significantly, with the planting of a proposed 135 trees on the 6.5-acre Station Hill redevelopment in the centre of Reading, once the project is finally completed.

Lee Fearnhead, Director of Construction for UK & Europe at Lincoln Property Company, said: "We are proud to continue our partnership with Ethical Reading and to demonstrate our commitment to increasing biodiversity in Reading by helping to make the town a healthier and greener place. Station Hill will soon transform Reading with more than 130 new trees planned for the public realm elements of the development. We look forward to watching the young trees grow across Reading."

Ethical Reading's Trees for Reading Lead, Kathryn McCann, commented: "We were delighted to hear that Lincoln MGT was interested in funding more trees this year, in addition to the ten planted across the last two seasons.

"We had received a special request from Katesgrove Community Association to add trees there this year. It's one of the wards with the lowest levels of canopy cover in Reading, and it's notoriously difficult to find suitable planting sites there, as so much of the area features narrow pavements with no verges. The association put forward suggestions for a number of locations, in conjunction with our project partner, Reading Tree Wardens, and the council agreed to plant trees on behalf of Lincoln MGT in some of those. The trees are already brightening up the very busy Whitley Street junction with their blossom and will help to freshen the air and provide welcome cooling shade and havens for wildlife as they grow."

Ethical Reading has teamed up with Reading Borough Council (RBC) and Reading Tree Wardens to offer local organisations the opportunity to make a tangible positive difference to the town by funding the planting and care of trees. RBC has committed to providing two years of care and maintenance, including watering, which will be crucial to ensuring that the trees survive and thrive.

-ENDS-

Notes to Editors

For media enquiries please contact reading@redwoodconsulting.co.uk or +44 (0)20 7828 5553.

About Station Hill

Lincoln MGT, a joint venture between Lincoln Property Company ('Lincoln') and MGT Investment Management, is bringing forward Station Hill, the landmark, market-leading £850 million mixed-use development with sustainability and community at its heart, creating a new focal point in Reading and setting a new benchmark for regional regeneration.

Station Hill is transformational for the city and will create a new thriving hub for businesses, residents, and the wider community in the centre of town, within walking distance of Reading's new Elizabeth Line station.

Once complete Station Hill will comprise up to 625,000 sq ft of best-in-class office space, which will cater to over 8,000 employees, 1,300 private and affordable homes, a 600-unit Build to Rent community, 100,000 sq ft of new lifestyle-led retail and leisure space, including potential for a 200-bed hotel, later living accommodation, and two-acres of new public realm designed to be accessible to all users offering a variety of experiences.

ONE Station Hill the office element of the development which is currently under construction and will be ready for occupation in 2024.

A strong commitment to sustainability and the highest levels of energy efficiency are at the core of this ambitious project, which will achieve a net zero carbon footprint.

To find out more, please visit: www.stationhill.co.uk

About Ethical Reading

Ethical Reading is a not-for-profit social enterprise dedicated to making Reading a better place to live and work through helping organisations become more ethical. This includes everything from the decisions made at the very top to the way employees treat each other and the people they deal with day to day. We want to mobilise people and organisations across Reading to embed ethics into decision-making processes and everyday actions and kick-start an Ethical Cities movement in the UK and beyond.

To find out more, please visit: <https://www.ethicalreading.org.uk/>