

No business rates to pay at North Kent Enterprise Zone offering 'wealth of opportunity' for firms which move there

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A new enterprise zone in Kent, where companies will not have to pay business rates for five years, will give investors and businesses “a great platform to grow and develop”.

The North Kent Enterprise Zone came into being on April 1, giving firms which move into the area discounts of up to £55,000 a year on the commercial property tax for five years.

It covers three parts of the county: Ebbsfleet Garden City, Kent Medical Campus near Maidstone and Rochester Airport Technology Park.

Enterprise Zones



05.04.17

DCLG announces establishment of 12 more 'Enterprise Zones'

Twelve new 'Enterprise zones' have gone live today, the DCLG has announced – in an effort to drive the local economy in more regions across the country.

Enterprise zones were announced in the Autumn Statement in 2015 by then chancellor George Osborne and are designed to help entrepreneurs set up and grow their businesses.

The zones offer business rates discounts and other tax breaks to emerging entrepreneurs, backed by a simplified planning process.

On top of this, two of the zones, the West of England LEP and the New Anglia LEP, have been expanded to accommodate for a wider area of people and businesses.

The zones going live include:

- **M62 Corridor Leeds City Region:** In a boost to the Northern Powerhouse, the zone will capitalise on the area's strong manufacturing industry and focus on digital technology, automotive engineering, textiles and glass making
- **North Kent Enterprise Zone:** With three sites covering Ebbsfleet Garden City, Kent

Building has started on 600 homes at Ebbsfleet Garden City in 'remarkable' 12 months since Jeremy Corbyn mocked project progress

The garden city's first pub is expected to open in October as well as its first primary school, Cherry Orchard, in September



A year on from when Jeremy Corbyn mocked the speed of development at Ebbsfleet Garden City in parliament, bosses have today announced more than 600 homes have been started in the last 12 months.

Ebbsfleet Development Corporation (EDC), which was set up to help increase the pace of delivery of homes in the garden city, saw 614 homes being started over the last year - with 90 per cent of purchases snapped up with the government's Help to Buy scheme.

The EDC has recently secured millions in government funding for vital infrastructure, with the help of Dartford MP Gareth Johnson, and developers pushed ahead with their schemes.

At Eastern Quarry, Persimmon is building 170 homes and Clarion Housing 125 affordable units, with Persimmon selling 40 units, with 10 occupants as of last month.

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Twelve new Enterprise Zones go live

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Twelve new Enterprise Zones have gone live, helping to boost economic growth from the north-east to the south-west.

Announced in the Autumn Statement 2015, these new zones support businesses, helping budding entrepreneurs to start and established companies to grow. They offer business rates discounts and additional tax breaks, backed by a simplified local planning process.

In addition, 2 Enterprise Zones – the west of England LEP (Local Enterprise Partnership) and the New Anglia LEP – have expanded to benefit more places and communities.

