

**5 February 2019**

## **Marks & Spencer to open new store at Hammerson retail park**

Hammerson announced today that Marks & Spencer is set to open a new 40,000 sq ft anchor store for Ravenhead Retail Park, St Helens.

The full-line store will offer popular Marks & Spencer ranges including spring/summer 2019 must-haves across Clothing & Home, a Foodhall stocking thousands of essentials and food ranges such as the new Plant Kitchen range, and a 64-seat M&S Café serving a selection of hot and cold drinks. Customers can also enjoy services including Click & Collect and free customer parking.

This new signing means that Marks & Spencer, which has been part of St Helens' retail scene for 90 years, will be staying in the town following the closure of their branch in the Hardshaw Centre which was announced last year.

The new anchor at Ravenhead Retail Park, due to open on 14<sup>th</sup> March, will be a larger, new-format store, increasing the brand's presence in the town whilst all colleagues are transferring over to the new store, a number of new positions will also be created.

Andrew Berger-North, Director of UK Retail Parks at Hammerson, commented: "Ravenhead Retail Park offers shoppers an easy, convenient and family-friendly retail experience with dining options and plenty of easily accessible car parking spaces. We are delighted that Marks &

Spencer has chosen Ravenhead to increase their presence in the town and look forward to the brand joining our varied retail line-up, including Next, Argos, Boots and Costa.”

Lucy Grimes, M&S Store Manager at St Helen’s said, “My team and I are really excited about relocating to our new store at Ravenhead Retail Park, where we’ll continue to offer outstanding service for customers. As well as larger Food, Clothing & Home departments, we’re really looking forward to offering new services which we didn’t have previously, such as St Helens first M&S Café. Cutting the ribbon and welcoming customers into our new store on Thursday 14th March will be a great moment for the team and mark the start of our next chapter – I hope lots of local customers will pop down and join us.”

**ENDS**

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**Notes to Editors**

Hammerson own, manage and curate winning European destinations focused on flagship retail destinations and Premium Outlets. As at end of June 2018, our portfolio of high-quality retail property had a value of £10.6 billion and includes 22 prime shopping centres, 15 convenient retail parks and investments in 20 premium outlet villages, through our partnership with Value Retail and the VIA Outlets joint venture. Key retail venues include, Bullring, Birmingham; Bicester Village, Oxfordshire, Dundrum Town Centre, Dublin; and Les Terrasses du Port, Marseille