



Gateway to Barnsley

Located at the main entry to Barnsley town centre from junction 37 of the M1, Gateway Plaza will provide up to 120,000 sq.ft. of high quality contemporary office accommodation – ideally suited to organisations relocating to Barnsley which require Grade A office space at a fraction of the cost of similar accommodation in London.



The development will also include a large health and fitness facility, over 20,000 sq.ft. of bar, restaurant and retail space, a 102 bed hotel and car parking for over 500 vehicles. Furthermore, the upper floors will offer 188 one and two bedroom apartments, providing urban living at affordable prices. The apartments are proving extremely

popular with the 70 apartments released in the first phase already sold.

Thanks to £5.2m of funding from Objective 1, Gateway Plaza is moving on apace with site preparations due to be completed this month. Developers Quest have appointed Woolf – part of the Capita Symonds Group – as the construction management company for the first phase of the development. The London based company has vast experience in similar projects, including the MoD's Abbeywood development, Bristol, in 1998. This brought together 5,700 MoD staff from throughout the UK into a 1,350,000 sq.ft. building. More recently, Woolf have worked on the Bath Spa Project, consisting of the redevelopment of redundant and dilapidated 18th Century listed

buildings and the creation of an exciting and contemporary landmark building.

The innovative Gateway Plaza development is expected to be completed in Spring 2008. For further details, contact Barnsley Development Agency on 01226 784444 (email info@barnsleydevelopmentagency.co.uk).



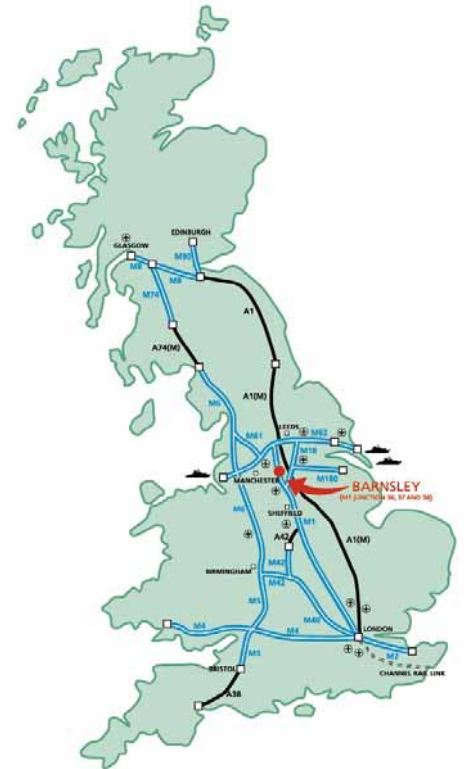
Barnsley's Renaissance

Barnsley is one of just 24 Renaissance towns and cities throughout England, which have been earmarked by the Deputy Prime Minister to become "economic powerhouses".

This is to help achieve the Government's core objective of increasing sustainable growth and employment for all and bringing benefits not just to their own population but to the surrounding region.

The population of the Borough stands at just over 218,000, of which 132,000 are of working

age. In addition, Barnsley's prime location adjacent to the M1 – with excellent links to the A1, M62 and M18 – means that within 30 minutes' drive time of the town there is a workforce of 1.3 million and within 60 minutes, a workforce of 4.5 million people.



Number of people within a 30 minute and 60 minute drive time of Barnsley

Within 30 minutes drive-time of Barnsley					
Age Range	Male	Female	All		
16-24	138,953	130,501	269,454		
25-34	153,503	139,733	293,236		
35-44	163,712	151,671	315,383		
45-54	129,899	126,238	256,137		
55-64	103,433	104,505	207,938		
Total	689,500	652,648	1,342,148		
Within 60 minutes drive-time of Barnsley					
Age Range	Male	Female	All		
16-24	449,572	426,545	876,117		
25-34	497,828	466,394	964,222		
35-44	543,997	516,343	1,060,340		
45-54	449,916	441,144	891,060		
55-64	349,598	355,240	704,838		
Total	2,290,911	2,205,666	4,496,577		
	Working age (16-59/64)	In Employment	Rate(a)	Unemployed	Rate(b)
Barnsley	133,400	96,900	72.6%	4,900	4.8%
South Yorkshire	776,200	555,000	71.5%	31,300	5.3%

(a) % of working age (b) % of economically active

Source: Annual Population Survey April 2004 - March 2005

Barnsley has a workforce with a diverse range of skills and current pay rates are very competitive compared with other locations throughout the UK. The claimant count unemployment rate in the Borough has been falling steadily for a number of



University Centre, Barnsley

years to below that of other areas – an indication of the strengthened local economy. However, there is still a readily available pool of unemployed people.

Barnsley is home to a University Centre – part of the University of Huddersfield – and neighbouring cities Sheffield and Leeds each have two first class universities: Sheffield University, Sheffield Hallam University, Leeds Metropolitan and Leeds University.

However, other universities and higher/further education establishments are also located within the region offering a variety of academic and vocational courses. For example, Barnsley College offers a diverse training programme in a wide range of vocations and subjects. Courses are offered at levels to suit needs from basic skills levels to professional accreditations to degree-level qualifications (from Sheffield and Leeds Universities). The SciTech Centre at Barnsley College is a facility in the centre of Barnsley, providing a range of skills development activities focused on ICT including web design, e-commerce and tailored provisions

for businesses and organisations. In addition, Dearne Valley College is a short travelling distance from Barnsley and offers customised courses ranging from Windows software training (Word, Excel, Powerpoint etc.) to business related courses.

Barnsley has five infant schools (5-7 years); five junior schools (7-11 years); 75 primary schools (5-11 years); 13 secondary schools (11-16 years); one secondary school (11-18 years) and one special school (3-19 years). There are also a number of private schools within the region. Barnsley's education system is about to undergo dramatic changes via the innovative Remaking Learning programme – a Barnsley MBC initiative to raise levels of achievement, cultivate change and create an encouraging learning environment in which self improvement is the norm. The comprehensive programme will focus on a variety of issues such as improving the achievement of children, young people and adults and increasing opportunities for adult learning.

Council tax comparator

Barnsley's council tax charges are more affordable than other locations in the UK - particularly in and around London - which is great news as that means extra cash in your pocket every month.

To illustrate this the table opposite takes council tax rates from Croydon and Kingston-Upon-Thames and compares them to Barnsley.

Council Tax Band	Barnsley	Croydon	Kingston-upon-Thames
A	£809.21	£867.96	£965.91
B	£944.08	£1012.62	£1126.89
C	£1078.94	£1157.28	£1287.87
D	£1213.82	£1301.94	£1448.86
E	£1483.56	£1591.26	£1770.83
F	£1753.29	£1880.58	£2092.80
G	£2023.03	£2169.90	£2414.77
H	£2427.64	£2603.88	£2897.72

Home from home

See how far your money will go in Barnsley and London.

Source: Halifax Home Finder website (www.halifaxhomefinder.co.uk) 24/08/2006

Barnsley



£100,000

2 Bed Terrace House

London



2 Bed Upper Floor Flat



£200,000

4 Bed Detached House



2 Bed Upper Floor Flat



£300,000

4 Bed Detached House



2 Bed Lower Floor Flat

**I'm a civil servant
get me
out of here!**



Home Office crime statistics for April 2004 to March 2005 show that:

In the London Region there were 6.8 violent crimes per 1,000 population – significantly higher than the national average for England & Wales (4.9) and Barnsley (3.8).

The rate of drug offences in Barnsley was just 0.6 per 1,000 population, compared with 1.2 for the London Region.

Robbery rates in the London Region were 1.3 per 1,000 population – three times the national average for England & Wales and 13 times the rate for Barnsley (just 0.1).

British Crime Survey findings in the Home Office document 'Crime in England & Wales 2004/2005' state:

"Levels of worry about burglary, vehicle crime and violent crime in Inner and Outer London were significantly higher than the England & Wales average."

"The Yorkshire & Humber region had the second lowest rate of personal crime out of the ten regions – this was significantly lower than the England & Wales average."

Peter's Diary

Peter lives in a four bedroom detached cottage in the small market town of Penistone, situated amongst beautiful countryside just seven miles from Barnsley.

Married with three children, he values the amenities and lifestyle enjoyed by his family. His spouse has a full time job in nearby Sheffield. Peter works for a public sector organisation based in Barnsley town centre and his week was spent as follows:



Tuesday

After a long weekend in the Lake District, just two hours' drive from Barnsley, had a busy day in the office catching up with emails. After work, attended a networking event in one of the hospitality suites at Barnsley Football Club with the added bonus of watching the team play - Barnsley won, of course!



Wednesday

Had several meetings today so decided to get some fresh air at lunchtime and enjoyed a pleasant stroll around town. Walked by a number of developments currently under construction as part of the £380m Remaking Barnsley regeneration programme. These included the new state of the art transport interchange and the Digital Media Centre - a purpose built business incubation development for creative and digital companies.



Thursday

Interviewed a number of new media agencies today as our corporate website is in need of an overhaul. The standard of design and expertise demonstrated by Barnsley-based agencies is excellent, and the fact they don't have the overheads of their counterparts in other towns and cities throughout the UK means that their quotes are highly competitive. Shortlisting will be difficult.



Friday

After a busy day in the office, left work at 4pm to meet spouse and visit local estate agents. With another child on the way and our eldest demanding a dog for his birthday, a larger house and garden are needed! Luckily, house prices in Barnsley and the surrounding area will enable us to buy a more spacious property in a highly desirable location.

Barnsley's future has never looked so bright, with growing numbers of companies being attracted to the town, speculative property development at record levels and Remaking Barnsley projects at an advanced stage.

BDA is a partnership of the key players in the continued economic development of Barnsley and our free service includes:

- Land and property information and advice
- Planning information and guidance
- Recruitment and training support
- Business advice
- On-going project support

Barnsley has many incentives to offer Government departments and non-departmental public bodies including:

- Excellent transport links
- Attractive land and property costs
- A skilled and available workforce
- Ongoing support from the BDA
- An unrivalled quality of life

Should you wish to receive further information please e-mail info@barnsleydevelopmentagency.co.uk with the following details: name, job title, organisation's address, telephone number and e-mail address.

Alternatively, if you would like to talk to one of our Business Development Officers about the opportunities available in Barnsley, please contact us via the details below.

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