



Invest
Milton Keynes

Largest Corporate Relocation in the UK



There can be no greater advertisement for Milton Keynes than the thousands of businesses that have chosen to locate here.

Discover what Milton Keynes could do for your business!

David Higgins, Network Rail's chief executive, said:

"The railway is vital to Britain's future economic success – connecting commerce and communities across the country. Our people based in Milton Keynes will play an integral part in its transformation."

"The national centre is at the heart of our plans to improve the way we work and will help deliver a better and more efficient railway for passengers and freight."

Case Study: Network Rail

Network Rail's spectacular new headquarters for 3,000 people is Britain's biggest ever corporate relocation.

The Quadrant:MK is Network Rail's new £120 million headquarters in Milton Keynes. It opened its doors in the summer of 2012, bringing more than 3000 people from across the UK under one roof and putting the city at the very centre of national railway operations. Never before in the history of British business have so many people been relocated to a single location.

"We have chosen Milton Keynes as the site for our new hub because it offers amenities of a major city in the heart of the countryside." Tim Coucher, Project Director - Network Rail

The move to create a new national centre was triggered by leases that were about to expire at many of Network Rail's offices in London, and other locations around the country. By locating outside the capital, a considerable saving was possible on rental costs.

Network Rail explained its site selection process:

"We looked at various places and drew up a shortlist that included Birmingham, Coventry, Milton Keynes, Luton and Bedford. We chose Milton Keynes because it fitted all the criteria we had set – the site is a five minute walk from MK Central station, the town is on the West Coast mainline with a journey time of 35 minutes into London Euston"



MILTON KEYNES
COUNCIL

Skills Pool

The workforce here is young and dynamic, with 48% of the population under 35 years old compared to 37% nationally. Our home-grown talent pool is growing all of the time, thanks to excellent education opportunities and a host of skills, training and apprenticeship initiatives to support local employers.

and there was land ready to develop. Also, because the area is fairly new and rapidly expanding, it has very good amenities for people of all ages and their families."

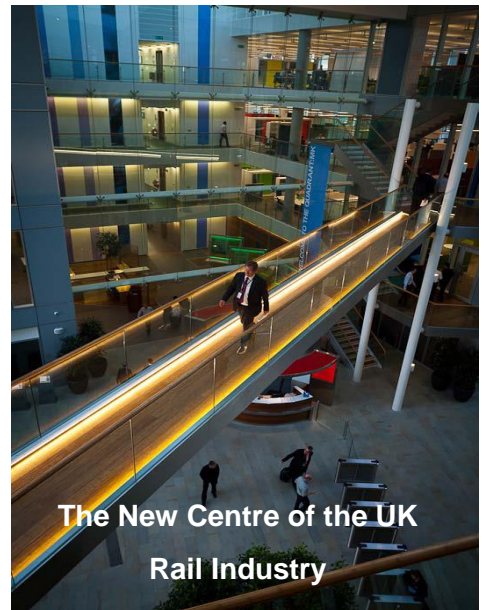
Milton Keynes Council and Network Rail

Milton Keynes Council as a unitary authority was able to offer all the support required 'under one roof'. The project was assisted through a variety of critical channels including:

- Support to relocating families, with a dedicated website covering housing, schools, health and other essential information.
- Dedicated tours for employees relocating to MK and their families.
- Milton Keynes Council (MKC) adopted a pro-active approach by writing a development brief for the Hockey Stadium site, which gave the architects a clear outline of the required expectations, and highlighted issues which may arise as the project moved forward, using this approach fast-tracked the application process enabling the development to go ahead with as little disruption as possible.
- A steering group was established consisting of four task groups, covering Communications, Education, Recruitment and Living, to engage key stakeholders and organisations who had an interest in the Network Rail relocation, and were able to provide support/information where required.
- Working with local businesses and creating a local supply chain had a positive effect on the Milton Keynes economy.

Inside The Quadrant:MK

The complex, known as The Quadrant:MK, spans more than 400,000 sq ft of the best designed offices in the country. The centre has been specifically designed to facilitate better working practices by bringing teams together in flexible and informal ways. Teams based in Milton Keynes include Engineering; Logistics; Operations; IT; Procurement; Planning; HR and Finance. The centre is powered by a combined heat and power plant and includes a host of energy saving features.



The New Centre of the UK
Rail Industry

In addition to the 2,000 people relocating, more than a thousand new positions were created. Network Rail embarked on its largest ever recruitment drive which attracted more than 15,000 applications and has been awarded the 2012 HR Excellence Award. This proves that companies looking for a UK headquarters will have no problem attracting the very best people to live and work in Milton Keynes.

To find out more contact
Invest MK:

(+44) 1908 200800



Our location gives us a seriously competitive edge in securing skills, property and customer base.