White Cross, South Road, Lancaster LA1 4XQ

A unique business community providing high quality office, workshop and warehousing space in an attractive historic setting.

Providing innovative spaces to grow and prosper





Welcome to White Cross Business Park Innovative spaces to grow and prosper

White Cross is Lancaster's solution for business and enterprise offering quality business accommodation in successfully restored historic buildings. The estate boasts an exclusive setting next to the Lancaster Canal and provides all the modern facilities you would expect in a range of delightful character-filled buildings. Office, workshop and warehousing space is available in a city centre location, easily accessible via the M6 motorway and by train on the West Coast Mainline.

White Cross forms part of a growing portfolio of prestigious and flexible business accommodation across the county owned and managed by LCDL, the economic arm of Lancashire County Council.



History

White Cross Business Park Lancaster

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White Cross

is not just another business development, it is a unique blend of old and new combining character-filled buildings with modern facilities essential to today's businesses. Created from old industrial and mill buildings and located at the heart of the historic city of Lancaster, it is a successful regeneration project undertaken by Lancashire County Council. Our aim was to preserve the interesting architectural features whilst making the buildings suitable for modern industrial and commercial use. We have also retained the site's rich history and links to the founders the Storey Brothers, whose influence can be seen throughout.

The rise and fall of the Storey Brothers

Storeys was established at White Cross in 1856 by four brothers; William, Thomas, Edward and Joseph Storey. Sir Thomas Storey was a major architect of the firm and was knighted in 1898 and was the first Honorary Freeman of Lancaster. He was Mayor four times and High Sheriff in 1884. His eldest son William Storey also became Mayor of Lancaster and took a great interest in the city.

In 1945 the company started to produce PVC and became Europe's leading manufacturer. The company was bought out by multi national Turner and Newall in 1977 but in 1982 the company sustained losses resulting in the closure of White Cross Mill and the loss of 650 jobs. This was a major blow to Lancaster's economy and unemployment in Lancaster reached a peak of 13.7%. Storeys had been at White Cross for 126 years and were Lancaster's largest employer in the 1970's with 2,200 staff on the 15 acre site.

Saving White Cross

Almost 1 million sq ft of industrial and commercial space was left empty, on a large, run down site which was no longer suitable for modern manufacturing. The County Council's economic development company Lancashire County Developments (LCDL) bought White Cross in 1982 and spent 15 years renovating the site to create a range of industrial and office units for new and growing businesses by sub-dividing large work areas, improving access and providing parking and landscaping.

A bright future

White Cross has proved that old industrial buildings can be given a new lease of life and there is a better way forward than demolition and rebuilding modern industrial units. Today, White Cross is home to 130 small and medium sized businesses which together employ more than 1000 people, more than the number that lost their jobs when Storeys pulled out of the site. As well as being an award winning architectural and environmental showpiece, White Cross is now an integral part of life in Lancaster and continues to be a leading location for business and enterprise in the North West.

Why White Cross?

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Lancaster's solution for business and enterprise

White Cross has an enviable position as a dynamic urban village within a thriving, cultural city. It is an excellent place to base your business, whether you are looking for office, workshop or warehousing space.

Fantastic location

Centrally located in the heart of Lancaster, the site is easily accessible via the M6 motorway and by train on the West Coast Mainline. It is just a short walk to the city's train station, which offers direct access to commercial hubs including Preston, Manchester, Birmingham, London, Glasgow and Edinburgh. Also within walking distance are all the city centre amenities, and Lancaster boasts a highly skilled workforce through its world class university, as well as being within easy reach to populations of major towns and cities in the North West.

Attractive, flexible accommodation

The estate enjoys a stunning setting adjacent to the Lancaster Canal. It has a character of its own owed to the former mill buildings it was created from, which all have a unique, individual charm. White Cross offers a range of high specification accommodation in all shapes and sizes. Ideal for start up businesses, home to office moves or relocation of existing local businesses, there are also opportunities to expand your business and take extra space as the business grows.

Be part of a thriving business community

White Cross consists of 400,000 sq ft of lettable space and currently 130 businesses operate from the estate, giving a great sense of community spirit. The business community feel to estate offers opportunities for networking and sharing ideas with likeminded professionals.

We offer managed workspaces to let on flexible and competitive terms.

Our business tenants will also benefit from first rate facilities on the estate including:

- Managed site with security, reception & mail facilities
- Free car parking for staff and visitors (secure, allocated parking is available at a small annual charge)
- 24 hour access
- Meeting Rooms available
- Onsite catering facilities at the Gatehouse Restaurant.

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Why should I move my business to Lancaster?

If you are considering moving to White Cross from outside the area, Lancaster is a fantastic place to live and work. A vibrant city with a rich cultural and industrial heritage, Lancaster offers historic buildings, beautiful outdoor spaces, boutique shopping and wonderful places to eat and drink. It benefits from an amazing setting on the River Lune with both the coast of Morecambe Bay and the countryside of the Lune Valley, Bowland and the Lake District within easy reach. For more information for what Lancaster can offer, visit www.citycoastcountryside.co.uk

For details of availability or to view workspaces, contact the Estates Office on 01524 585 360, email whitecross@lancashire.gov.uk or visit www.lancashire.gov.uk/whitecross

View our other workspaces in Lancashire

We have a range of other business accommodation available across the county, visit www.lancashire.gov.uk/corporate/lcdl for more details

Rosebud business solutions

If you are looking for finance to grow your business, we can also help you through Rosebud Business Solutions which combines flexible finance with customised support and advice. To find out more, call **01772 536 652**, email **rosebud@lancashire.gov.uk** or visit **www.lancashire.gov.uk/rosebud** courtesy of Lancaster City Counci and Steve Pendrill Photography.

> Lancashire Business Park

Work spaces

White Cross Business Park Lancaster

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The Barracks Offices ranging from 131 sq ft – 2,841 sq ft (12 sq m - 264 sq m)

This impressive 'baronial' style Victorian stone building is Grade II listed and consists of two floors of refurbished offices. The main entrance, immediately off the car park reflects the imposing nature of this prestigious building. Both floors have toilet and kitchen facilities and all offices are fully decorated to a high standard. Built in 1854, the Barracks was the home of the 1st Royal Lancashire Militia.

The Gatehouse

Offices ranging from 133 sq ft – 2,481 sq ft (12 sq m - 230 sq m)

This two storey building incorporates an impressive entrance foyer and reception with ground and first floor offices which have been designed to a high specification. Single offices or suites are available and tenants have the additional benefit of a meeting room on hire as required. The Gatehouse occupies a prominent position at the front of the estate adjacent to Lancaster Canal. It was built in 1899 and the stone building stands on a site where two cottages previously stood.

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Alston House

Offices from 152 sq ft - 1,377 sq ft (14 sq m - 128 sq m), Workshops from 361 sq ft - 2,483 sq ft (34 sq m - 231 sq m)

This attractive building offers both light industrial workshops and offices over five levels. Workshops are situated on the ground floor and level one and have a single phase power supply and fluorescent lighting. High standard office accommodation is available on levels two, three and four with various options from single rooms to office suites. Toilet and kitchen facilities are provided on all levels. Alston House takes its name from William Alston, Chief Engineer of Storeys for 21 years from 1943.

Storey House

Offices ranging from 209 sq ft - 3,206 sq ft (19 sq m - 298 sq m)

High quality office accommodation is available as single offices or suites on four floors. Kitchen/toilet facilities are located on all levels and each room is fully carpeted and decorated to a high standard. Storey House is named after Storeys, the company who were based at White Cross for 126 years before the site was successfully regenerated.

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Cameron House Offices ranging from 101 sq ft – 2,731 sq ft (9 sq m - 254 sq m)

A range of office accommodation has been refurbished to a high standard in Cameron House, which enjoys views of the Lancaster Canal, the city and the hills of the Lake District. The offices also benefit from kitchen and toilet facilities provided on each floor. The building is named after Robin Forsyth Cameron, who was Managing Director of Storeys from 1938 until his sudden death in 1951 at the age of 55.

Sharpes Mill

Workshops from 296 sq ft – 1,927 sq ft (27 sq m - 179 sq m)

This quality workshop space has two individual units on the ground floor and a further six studio workshops on the first floor level. Fluorescent lighting supplements good natural light throughout the building, and toilet and kitchen facilities are provided. Access is via double opening doors on the ground level and a stairwell to the upper level. Sharpes Mill is named after a family with strong connections to the Storeys. Edmund Sharpe Snr. provided foundation finance for the business and his son Edmund Sharpe Jnr. married into the family. His grandson Colonel G W Sharpe commanded Lancaster's King's Own Royal Regiment in WW1.

The Chapel

Offices ranging from 230 sq ft – 4,152 sq ft (21 sq m - 386 sq m)

The old Baptist Chapel was built in 1872 and now houses a Church Centre plus two offices in a prime location at the front of the site. During Storey's time, it was used as offices for sales and personnel.

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Harpers Mill Workshops from 289 sq ft – 6,446 sq ft

(27 sq m - 599 sq m)

A stone built, beautifully proportioned, four storey building housing workshops in a variety of sizes for light/general industrial use. The ground floor and level one have their own access and toilet/kitchen facilities. Level three has nine individual workshops located on each side of an integral corridor linking these with a loading dock and ramp area. A lift with a capacity of two tonnes provides access to levels three and four. Built in 1885 and originally called Mill No 5, the building was mainly used for the production of table baize, and then became a plastics production plant in the 1960s.

Hightown & Crosslands

Workshops from 569 sq ft – 10,733 sq ft (53 sq m - 997 sq m) Warehousing from 885 sq ft – 46,500 sq ft (82 sq m - 4,320 sq m)

This part of the complex has a variety of workshop, warehousing, showroom and office space. Hightown consists of workshop/warehouse units on a single storey with on-site parking for employees and visitors. Each unit has large folding up and over doors and good headroom. Hightown was previously used for the manufacture of plastic sheeting for Storey Brothers Ltd.

Crosslands offers workspaces of various sizes on three levels, and has been designed to incorporate workshops, warehouses, showrooms and offices with lift access to each floor. This is an ideal location for businesses with offices and/or showrooms requiring limited public access and integral production/storage areas. Crosslands is named after Edward Storey's family home and birthplace of the late Chairman, Frank Storey.

For details of availability or to view workspaces, contact the Estates Office on 01524 585 360, email whitecross@lancashire.gov.uk or visit www.lancashire.gov.uk/whitecross

More work spaces

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Our other business workspaces in Lancashire

We currently have space available to buy or let at our new flagship development Rising Bridge Business and Enterprise Village in Rossendale, as well as spaces to let at Lancashire Business Park, Leyland and the Innovation Centre, Nelson.

Rising Bridge Business and Enterprise Village, Rossendale

Offices to buy or to let from 2,518 sq ft - 3,465 sq ft (234 sq m - 322 sq m)

A unique opportunity is now available to locate your business within our newly completed development. The high specification office buildings provide all the modern facilities you would expect, combined with innovative sustainable features which have achieved a BREEAM 'Excellent' rating. The village also benefits from excellent transport links, enabling you to travel to Preston in 25 mins and Manchester in 20 mins.

For more information, call 01772 533 890 or visit www.lancashire.gov.uk/risingbridge

For more information about all our available workspaces visit www.lancashire.gov.uk/lcdl

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Lancashire Business Park , Leyland Offices to let from 120 sq ft - 7,031 sq ft (11 sq m - 653 sq m)

Industrial spaces to let from 5,393 sq ft -142,857 sq ft (500sq m - 13,270 sq m)

One of the North West's premier business locations, this 238 acre complex is already home to dozens of successful companies, and now your business could join them. Opportunities are available for companies requiring industrial/ distribution facilities as well as office premises. Bespoke buildings or existing units can be accommodated subject to availability, and the site also boasts an attractive, landscaped environment, on-site security, excellent motorway links and flexible terms.

For further information or an appointment to view, contact us on 01772 622 108.

The Innovation Centre, Nelson

Offices to let from 433 sq ft - 889 sq ft (40 sq m - 83 sq m)

This flexible accommodation for new and small businesses has already attracted several tenants. The 8,400 sq ft (780 sq m) two-storey building also has business meetings and conference facilities available to all tenants.

For further information or an appointment to view, contact us on 01772 536 959

For more information about all our available workspaces visit www.lancashire.gov.uk/lcdl



What our tenants_say

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Accounts Matters Ltd

Accounts Matters has been based at White Cross since it was founded in 2005 and offers all accountancy services, specialising in Bookkeeping and Payroll. The company has recently achieved the Chartered Institute of Payroll Professionals Payroll Quality Partnership accreditation, the only practice in the area to be awarded this prestigious accolade.

Josie Smith, Managing Director of Accounts Matters Ltd says:

"I chose White Cross as a number of my clients were already based here and I liked the way the offices were laid out. I've always liked our offices on first floor Cameron House as the sun is on our side and it is light and airy. It's easy for clients to find us and ample parking is available. There is a good choice of office space available with fair rents, the grounds are kept clean and tidy and the décor is well looked after. The staff on site are really helpful and it is open at weekends for those of us who work everyday! I'm very proud of being a tenant of White Cross."

www.getyourmobi.co.uk

Get Your Mobi are a specialist web design company that offer all aspects of web design ranging from starter portfolio web design packages through to full Ecommerce solutions. Launched in May 2011 with a team of 2 people, Get Your Mobi now employ 7 staff and resell products to various web design and marketing agencies around the world including Europe, South Africa and America. The main focus for the company during the last year has been the development of mobile web technology, a massive growth market with the increase in internet browsing using Smartphones.

Managing Director of Get Your Mobi Lee Brady said:

"Location, Location, Location.....great rental prices and excellent support from the landlords. We looked at various options in and around the Lancaster area when considering where to locate our offices and White Cross ticked all the boxes. The location is superb as it is close to the centre of Lancaster with easy access to the motorway. The rent is very reasonable and with great incentives in place regarding contracts it really has been a great business decision to locate at White Cross. With plenty of free parking available this is another great saving for businesses to consider. We started off with a small unit which suited our purpose in the early stages of building the business but soon needed to move to larger premises, which was no problem and made easy with the help of the landlords."



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FOR AVAILABILITY OR TO VIEW CONTACT 01524 585 360

www.lancashire.gov.uk/whitecross whitecross@lancashire.gov.uk



The information provided is correct as of May 2011