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REPORT PUBLISHED FOLLOWING RUGBY RADIO STATION DESIGN ENQUIRY

A report of the Rugby Radio Station ‘Design Enquiry’ has been published today by site owners BT and Aviva Investors. The event, which was held at the end of June to discuss the future development of the Radio Station site, was attended by more than 200 people.

The site is identified in Rugby Borough Council’s Draft Core Strategy as an area that could accommodate 6,200 new homes and 2,800 new jobs*. The report details the issues discussed by members of the public and interested parties during the event and paves the way for further detailed design work and ultimately a planning application.

Jonathan Smales, chief executive of consultancy Beyond Green and chairman of the Design Enquiry, said: “Some of the key points raised during the Design Enquiry included the need to create a dynamic community that is well connected to Rugby town centre, has an appropriate level of green infrastructure and uses the iconic C Station building as a focus for the community.

“The report summarises the issues and opportunities that were discussed during the Design Enquiry. This is not a formal planning document, or a detailed record of every comment that was made. But it is an account of the main issues that were discussed and provides a snapshot of the work-in-progress towards creating a vibrant, attractive and sustainable urban extension to Rugby.”

Everyone who attended the Design Enquiry and provided their details will receive a copy of the Report by email or through the post. It is also being made available electronically on the project website – www.radiostationvision.com – where there is also a method for providing comments and feedback.

Steve Pell, senior manager for BT Group Property said: ““The production of this report is another important step forward with a long term project, which we are determined to ensure will be an asset to the local community and in keeping with BT’s and Aviva’s strong reputations as responsible companies.

“The partnership felt it was important to commission the Design Enquiry, which is additional to the statutory consultation process. It has been the first real opportunity for members of the public to give us their thoughts and there will be more opportunities as we move forward. Our next step is to draw up revised and more detailed plans before giving people another chance to tell us what they think.”

- ENDS-

* Rugby Borough Council Local Development Framework Core Strategy Preferred Options for the plan period up to 2026.

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Notes to editors

Rugby Radio Station has operated since the 1920s. In 1999, BT announced its intention to decommission the site and in 2004 formed a Joint Venture with Aviva Investors to explore the opportunity to redevelop the land (Rugby Radio Station Limited Partnership).

David Lock Associates are masterplanners and are advising the team on an integrated, mixed-use development with the potential to deliver significant housing and employment growth. The redevelopment is proposed to be a sustainable urban extension to Rugby with strong links into the town and town centre.

The Design Enquiry is being managed by Beyond Green, a leading sustainability strategy consultancy with an excellent track record in running stakeholder and community engagement programmes and events.

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