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CLAY CROSS TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION MILESTONE REACHED

The major Clay Cross town centre regeneration project has achieved its latest milestone – and has triggered the prospect of construction beginning later this year.

The scheme - which will see the development of a large Tesco supermarket and other retail units, a modern medical centre, creation of a new bus station for the town, provision of new affordable housing stock and major improvements to the existing road network in the town – is a joint project between North East Derbyshire District Council and GMI Rovinian Ltd.

At the beginning of January 2008, NEDDC informed a number of companies in the area that the land on which their businesses were located was required for the project. This process of land purchase means that the entire project can begin almost immediately, once any potential objections to the request to sell the land have been resolved. If there are objections, then the resolution process could take up to 18 months which would add further delays to the critically important town centre regeneration.

The £20 million-plus development – hailed by North East Derbyshire District Council as the key to the area's economic regeneration – will dramatically redesign the existing town centre, create new retail areas and generally improve the visual atmosphere within Clay Cross.

A number of car parks – as well as improvements to the road network - will be created to make access to the town centre easier and more convenient, aiding increased retail use and business for the town.

The 20 acre development will also include a new surgery designed to provide modern, leading-edge medical facilities for the local GP practice led by doctors Stavros Neofytou, Philip Jackson and Michael Green.

Initial work on the project to level and decontaminate the spoil tips and surrounding area has already begun. Full development will take 15 months.

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