

09 March 2017

Leyton (Waltham Forest), Lea Bridge Road, Former B&Q, E10 7PQ



Planning permission granted, and Aldi prepare to start refurbishment work on site.

Aldi Press release 16 March 2017

Aldi has taken on over 100,000 sq ft of former DIY store space in a deal understood to have been transacted with B&Q as it continues its significant UK expansion, with plans to open more than 60 stores in 2017. Aldi has announced plans to create five new stores at current and former DIY retail units across the UK.

Three existing sites will be subdivided to create new Aldi stores in Peterborough (20,500 sq ft), which is currently awaiting planning consent, Northampton (20,500 sq ft), and Sutton in Ashfield, near Mansfield (20,000 sq ft).

Aldi has acquired a further two formerly occupied DIY retail sites. These are situated in Waltham Forest, London (22,500 sq ft) – which has been granted planning consent – and Bletchley (22,000 sq ft).

In total, Aldi will gain over 100,000 sq ft of retail space from the deals, which forms a key part of the supermarket's objective of opening 70 new stores in 2017.

To meet this growth target, Aldi is actively seeking new locations and has established a new Corporate Acquisitions department, headed up by Ciaran Aldridge. Aldridge, Corporate Property Director at Aldi said: "We're proactively collaborating with other retailers whose rationalisation strategies align with our expansion plans, and have worked to structure these deals across a mix of lease profiles and store formats.

"This partnership has enabled us to acquire locations on the edge of town centres. These are ideal locations for an Aldi store as they are situated in shopping areas that our customers already visit. "To achieve our goal of 1,000 stores by 2022 we're looking for freehold or leasehold sites across the UK. Our stores are typically situated in 20,000 sq ft units over 1.5 acres, with capacity for at least 90 car parking spaces. In London we are also looking for smaller 8,000 sq ft units in high-street locations to house our city format stores."

Aldi is committed to reaching a total of 1,000 UK stores by 2022.