

## PROPERTY NEWS



### OCCUPANCY UP AT ARLINGTON

Developer Arlington Mills has secured the sale and letting of 85 per cent of its speculative Armley Court scheme in Leeds. The development, located on Armley Road, comprises more than 23,000 sq ft of grade A office space, with raised access floors, air conditioning and ample car parking. Current occupiers include the British Red Cross, Neil Hudgell Solicitors and Asian Express. Charlie Hare, director at Arlington Mills, said: "In the context of the current market, the success we have seen at Armley Court reflects the quality of space we have created and the competitive terms we are prepared to offer." WSB Property Consultants, CarterTowler and Sanderson Weatherall are the joint agents.



### SIGNS OF A RECOVERY

CB Richard Ellis is aiming to capitalise

agency expert M3 Agency in May. The Sheffield office is headed by Toby Vernon and Roger Haworth, who work in conjunction with colleagues from CBRE's Leeds office on instructions across Yorkshire. CBRE says it has instructions on almost 5 million sq ft of standing industrial/distribution stock. Key instructions include SIRFT (626,000 sq ft), Blade (412,500 sq ft) and Sherburn Distribution Park (1.3m sq ft).

Roger Haworth, senior director at CBRE Sheffield, said: "As we move into the third quarter of 2010, we are witnessing positive signs of a recovery in the regional industrial and logistics market with 1.3 million sq ft of take-up in the past month alone from deals such as ASOS at Crossflow; Barnsley, which has taken a 530,000 sq ft distribution centre; and Amazon, which has signed up on 415,000 sq ft in Doncaster. This signals

coming to the market will increase values for existing stock, resulting in higher values and the eventual return of development in the region."



### RIDING HIGH WITH R

Waitrose has appointed as its preferred property agent the opening of ten convenience stores north of England next year. Six town and city centre locations hubs are being sought, of between 2,000 and 7,000 sq ft. The retailer has announced the opening of 300 convenience stores in the UK in the next ten years. John Newins, head of in-town retail in Leeds, said: "Waitrose's multi-format store shows that convenience shopping is a growing market and a format store should be easier to open than a larger format store."