

Annual Review
2006/07
A summary



WARWICKSHIRE

INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP

FOREWORD



I am very pleased to see yet another successful year for Warwickshire Investment Partnership.

The team has once again exceeded their target number of enquiries and have helped 65 companies to expand or locate in the County. These businesses, spread across a range of industries, are testimony to the attraction of Warwickshire as a business base.

During the past year, investment has been largely from small indigenous businesses rather than larger inward investors. This mirrors the trend witnessed over recent years.

Working in partnership remains fundamental to the delivery of the economic agendas of the West Midlands. The high tech corridor, business clusters and the Coventry & Nuneaton Regeneration Zone remain high priorities for the Partnership. Continued progress has been evident over the past year within the motorsport, ICT and medical technologies clusters. I look forward to an increase in the number of investments from companies within these areas in the near future.

I wish the Partnership every success for 2007/08.



Dianne Williams
Director of Operations
Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce

WARWICKSHIRE INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP

Warwickshire Investment Partnership was established in 1998 to respond to inward investment enquiries from all over the world and expansion requirements from thriving local companies. We provide companies with all the help and information they and their employees need to make relocation and expansion profitable.

We would like to thank our partners in both the public and private sectors for their contribution in helping us to achieve these figures. We look forward to continuing to work with you all in the future.

We hope that you find this summary of our achievements over the past year informative.

Warwickshire Investment Partnership

ACHIEVEMENTS AND ENQUIRIES 06/07

The Partnership received 1096 enquiries in the last 12 months. In comparison to last year 05/06, there has been an increase of 8%.

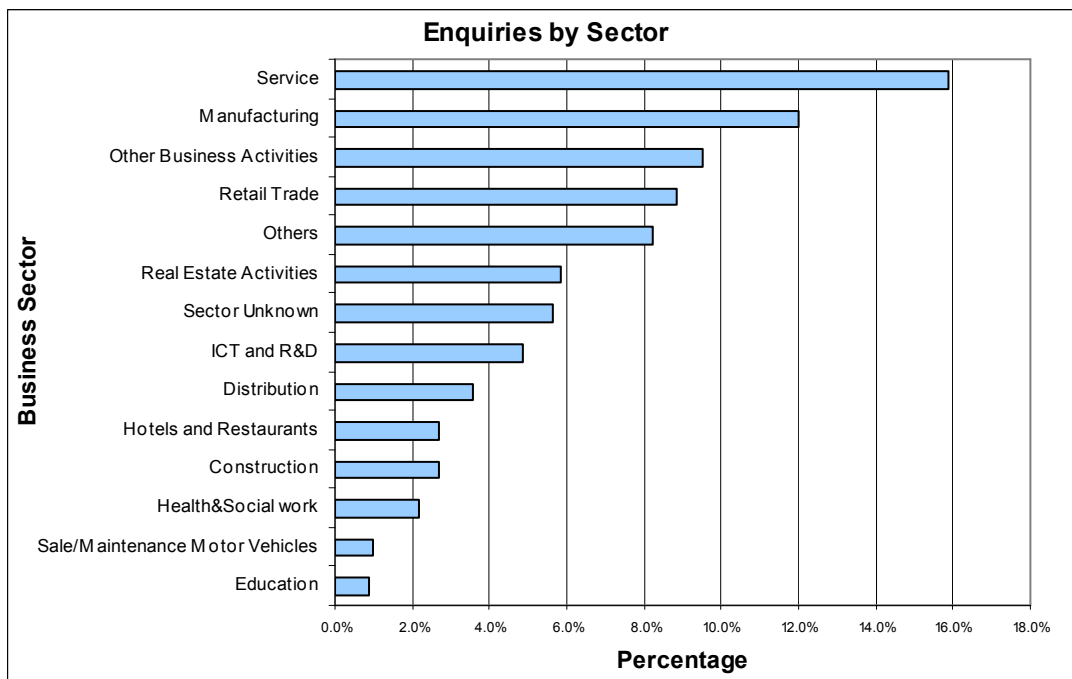
These enquiries resulted in 65 successful investments for the County, which have created 380 new jobs. Additionally, 235 jobs have been safeguarded for Warwickshire businesses.

TRENDS

- Online enquiries have continued to increase, with 65% of all enquiries in the past year originating from Warwickshire Investment Partnership's website.
- Enquiries by new start up companies continue to be the most frequent reason for property searches in Warwickshire and account for just over a third of all enquiries received in 06/07.

ENQUIRIES BY SECTOR GROUP

The graph shows the industry sectors of the businesses that are looking to relocate, expand or set up their business in Warwickshire. Enquiries from service sector companies are the highest level of enquiries again this year, with just over 1 in 5 companies being engaged in this sector.



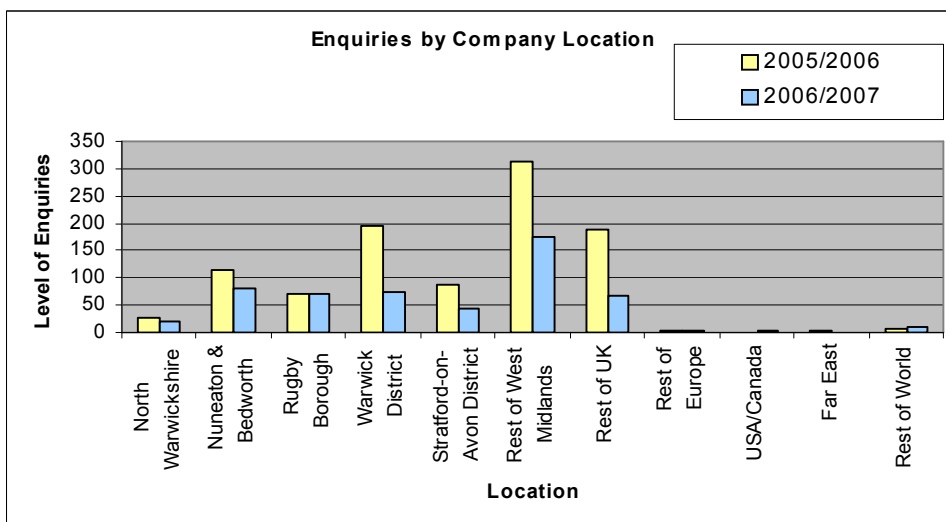
Similarly, the second highest sector this year is manufacturing which accounts for 1 in 7 enquiries. This is particularly encouraging in light of the recent job losses in some areas of Manufacturing in the sub-region.

ENQUIRIES BY COMPANY LOCATION

This bar chart shows us where the companies are located when they register their enquiry.

The general trend is that our enquiries come from companies already located in the West Midlands area. This accounts for 30% of our enquiries.

The total enquiries received from companies already located in Warwickshire is 53%.

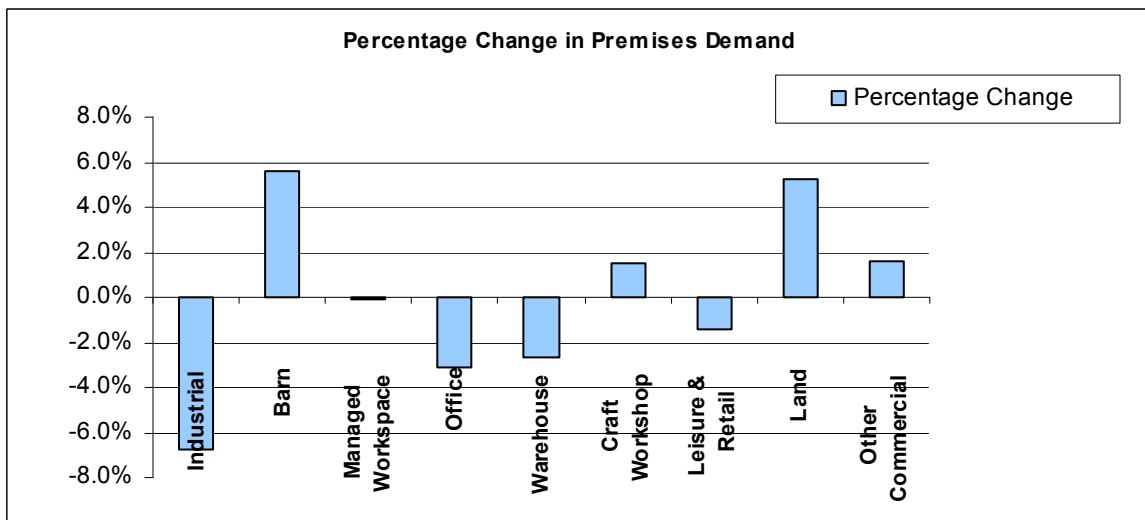


*You will notice that the 06/07 figures are lower than those for 05/06. This is due to the new Evolutive database not capturing as much web enquiry information as the previous system. This issue is currently being rectified.

LAND AND PROPERTY ENQUIRIES

This graph shows the percentage change in demand from 05/06 to 06/07 for the types of property enquirers are seeking.

The proportion of enquiries requesting information on Land, Barns and Craft Workshops has increased over the past 12 months. Conversely, we have witnessed a substantial decrease in the proportion of enquirers looking for industrial premises.



REQUIREMENTS BY SIZE

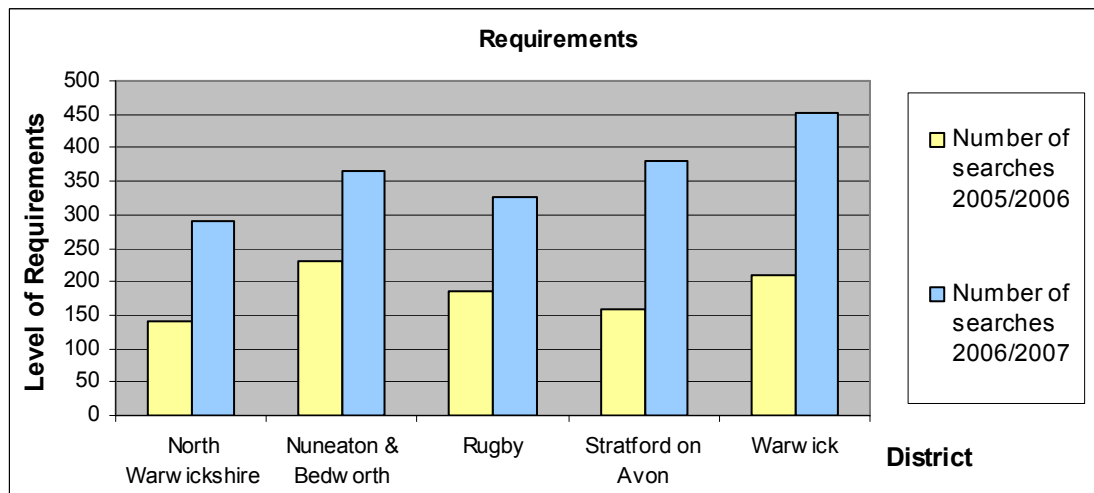
During 06/07 the requirements for industrial and warehouse units were dispersed fairly evenly across all size ranges, with the largest demand for industrial premises in the 5001 – 10,000 sq ft size range.

The most highly sought after managed workspace and offices were between 500 – 2,000 sq ft. A rise has also been seen in the amount of enquiries for offices over 40,000 sq ft, with 13% of enquiries in this size range.

ENQUIRIES BY PREFERRED DISTRICT LOCATION

This year, we have experienced a marked increase in the number of enquiries interested in all 5 Warwickshire district and boroughs.

Warwick District has seen more than a 200% increase in the number of searches and is the most frequently searched area.



A PARTNERSHIP FOR THE FUTURE

After another successful year, what is the focus for the Partnership in 2007/08?

Once again, we have set ourselves the challenge to increase our enquiry levels and raise the level of investments for Warwickshire, through a range of proactive marketing activities.

Cluster development continues to be a key focus for the Partnership. By working with our sub-regional partners, we hope to bring together companies in the medical technologies, motorsport and ICT sectors to promote diversification and technology transfer. We plan to expand our cluster work by exploring other sectors such as aerospace.

We will maintain our presence at events and exhibitions to promote Warwickshire as a prime business location. The Partnership will be attending MIPIM, the worlds largest property forum and PRI, the Performance Racing Industry show. We will also attend various regional business breakfasts and seminars to raise the profile of our services to companies in the local area.

Improvements to the enquiry management system and property database will be ongoing throughout the year. This will allow more efficient data capture and more accurate reporting on local investment trends. Our recently updated website will provide a more user friendly and informative resource for companies looking to find out more about investing in Warwickshire.

The Partnership is confident that these future activities will continue to meet the needs of its customers. We hope to maintain our excellent customer satisfaction levels over the coming year.

OUR PARTNERS

Warwickshire Investment Partnership is a working arrangement between the Economic Development Inward Investment functions of the following organisations:



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T. 01789 296063
www.stratford.gov.uk



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www.nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk



T. 01926 456016
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www.coventry.gov.uk



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