

## 50 Million Pound Business Park

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Once it is complete the 30-acre park will provide accommodation for up to 20 businesses, and will give tenants access to chemical company KemFine's heat and power plant and state-of-the-art effluent treatment facility.

The new park is being developed in a joint partnership between Scottish Enterprise Forth Valley and KemFine.

Acting chief executive of Scottish Enterprise CLLR BOB SPEARS: 'Good news on many levels'

Forth Valley Stuart Ogg said: "Grangemouth has long been seen as the hub of Scotland's chemical industry.

"We hope this site encourages more investment from businesses operating in the sector who are looking to take advantage of the excellent cost-effective utilities and lower-cost environment without giving up their links to the cities or transport networks."

"Not only will this development provide valuable industrial premises for the sector but it will contribute significantly to the My Future's in Falkirk regeneration initiative."

As well as creating up to 950 new jobs, the business park will help safeguard 650 existing posts within the companies currently operating on KemFine's Grangemouth site. Managing director of Kemfine UK, Tom Shields, said: "This venture is an exciting way of creating wealth and generating new jobs by using the high-quality infrastructure and facilities that already exist on KemFine's Grangemouth site."

"I am delighted with the early success in attracting new tenants who wish to extend their business or move their operations to this welcoming environment for industry and technology."

"This is an important event in the ongoing development of Grangemouth as a key centre of industry and technology for the 21st century."

Grangemouth councillor and member of Falkirk Council's economic development committee Bob Spears said the first stage of development at Earls Gate Park will not only create new jobs, but will also tackle some of the town's traffic problems.

He said: "The new infrastructure will help with traffic calming on Beancross Road and will be much safer for residents as a new roundabout is going to be put in place.

"This site has greatly moved on since it was the original ICI dye works and KemFine have been really proactive in pushing this."

"It's good news on many levels and these small business units that are going in will create new employment locally."

The contract for the first stage of work at the business park has been awarded to Fife-based Realm Construction, who are due to finish work on the new road layout by October this year.

As part of the £23m My Future's in Falkirk initiative, Earls Gate Park will have a role in helping to create over 4000 jobs across the district by 2012.

The scheme is aiming to transform the area into a bustling centre for Scottish businesses.

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