

Business

Argus

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Historic building is at the vanguard of city's rejuvenation

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LORD Tredegar's former estates office in the heart of Newport has emerged as a beacon of business excellence for the city after a complete refurbishment and rejuvenation.

Dating back to 1905, the listed building at Pentonville, Gold Tops, in the middle of the city of Newport's commercial and professional district, was officially opened by Mayor of Newport, Matthew Evans.

Bought by private investors from the South of England after previously being used as court house but latterly empty the historic building, now renamed The Estates Office, offers ultra-modern office accommodation.

Cllr Evans said: "A fantastic job has been done to bring this historic listed building back to life. We all express our thanks and admiration to the new owners for the way that they have invested in this superb building and have created a fabulous new business centre in an environment that is steeped in history."

He said: "It is remarkable to see how quickly tenants have taken space in the building. I understand that just two of the six tenants were previously based in Newport so that, in itself, is a real success story."

Haydn Thomas, of letting agents Hutchings and Thomas Chartered Surveyors, who are tenants in the building, welcomed guests to the official opening.

He said: "The Estates Office has had an extremely important part to play and a significant place in the history of Newport."

"The building was the main estates office for the Tredegar Estates and as such helped shape and develop a



Newport mayor Matthew Evans opens the Estates Office with David Jones, Hutchings & Thomas, Justin Kingdon, managing agent, David Pugsley & Haydn Thomas, Hutchings & Thomas

great deal of this part of South East Wales. We were delighted that the new owners had the vision for the future use of this very important building which, it is fair to say, has had a chequered history in recent years."

Hutchings and Thomas has been successful in letting some 75 per cent of the avail-

able space in The Estates Office.

Gloucester-headquartered architect's Robert Limbrick has opened its regional office in the building and is already looking to expand within the building.

Mr Thomas said: "The opening of The Estates Office along with the recent open-

ing of Admiral Insurance office in Queensway and the Friars Walk scheme, in the centre of the city, proves that the economy of the city is a bright one.

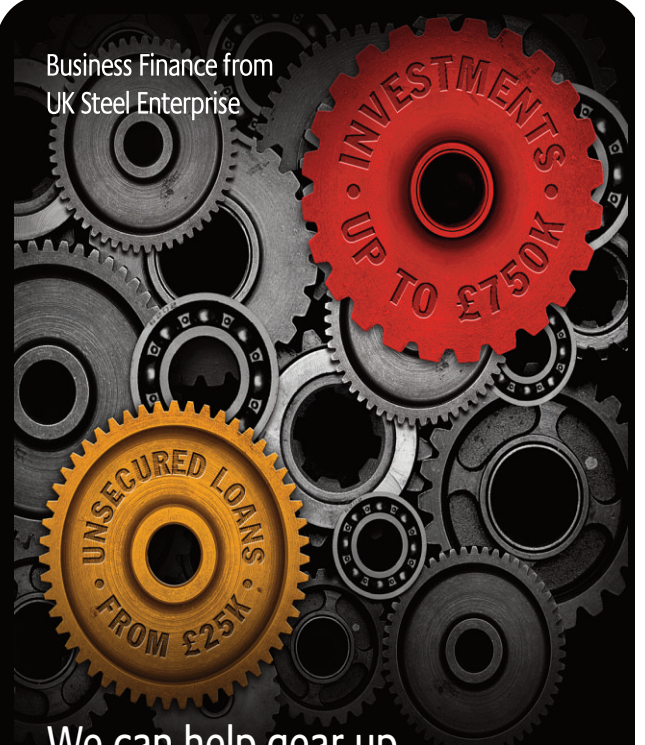
"We have been involved in the commercial economy of Newport for very many years, for some 20 years of Turn to page 7

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