

Overview

Connect prepared, designed and issued a leaflet to update the owners/occupiers near Union Park about the potential for exporting waste heat from the data centre. 1,595 leaflets were distributed within a 500m radius of the site. A copy of the leaflet is included in Appendix A, with the distribution radius in Appendix B.

Response

Following the distribution of leaflets, we allowed a two-week window for responses (Wednesday 25th June – Wednesday 9th July). We received two responses during this window, one from a resident asking for more detail and one from a local business making an enquiry about the district heating.

Enquiries

Name	Role	Organization	Email	Phone
[REDACTED]	Strategic Director	BSOC Ltd	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

BSOC Ltd. is a training centre that train young people from difficult backgrounds in construction skills, aiming to get them qualifications and move them into careers in construction. They are interested in forging partnerships locally and are interested in any opportunity to use the excess heat from Union Park to keep their own costs down. Their address is BSOC Ltd, Silverdale Road, Hayes, UB3 3BN.

Queries

We received one query from a resident, asking for more detail on the district heating. We prepared and issued the below response, working with Ridge and Ark Data Centres to draft the response.

Good afternoon,

Following our discussion on the phone, please see further information below on the district heating proposals for Ark Data Centres.

As you may be aware, it is possible to reuse the heat produced by data centres (such as Union Park) in the local area by connecting up the data centre to a district heating system.

Ark Data Centres have made provision for Union Park's energy centres to become continuous sources of that low-grade heat, having installed valved tap offs on appropriate sections of the energy centre cooling systems. Much like an electricity distribution system, a heat distribution system needs both a supplier (in this case, a data centre) and a distribution system operator. At present, there is no distribution system operator in place around Union Park.

To clarify, Ark Data Centres are not intending to design or build this district heating system and would not become a distribution system operator. This would need to be designed and built by others, and the correspondence that you received was to gauge interest in the development of this system from the site's neighbours. Union Park would function solely as the supplier of low-grade heat. As such, if any district heating system did come forward, the service provider would be the operator of that network – who would then have an agreement with Union Park as the supplier to use the heat provided from the data centre.

I hope that answers your query. Please let me know if you have any further questions

Many thanks,
Will

Appendix A

Union Park

Community update, June 2025



FAO Owner/Occupier

Dear Owner/Occupier,

Since 2021, Ark have been developing the Union Park data centre campus on the site of the former Bulls Bridge Industrial Estate. Once completed, the campus, as approved, will provide approximately 60,000sqm of data centre floorspace comprising of a data centre building split into three conjoined articulated blocks, three standalone energy centres, a substation, and two visitor reception centres.

A number of low carbon technologies have been utilised in the proposed development in the form of heat pumps, electric vehicle charging bays, and photovoltaic (PV) panels. Wherever possible, the technologies employed seek to reduce carbon emissions and atmospheric pollution.

As part of the overall energy strategy, consideration is being given to the potential advantages of exporting waste heat, provided to the network that exists and is installed by others. As part of this review, we are contacting our immediate neighbours to understand whether there is an interest in this.

If you have an interest in discussing this matter further, please do feel free to contact us on the details to the right. We will be accepting responses for two weeks from the date that you have received this letter.

If you are not the owner, please forward this leaflet to your landlord.

Contact us

 ArkUP4@connectpa.co.uk

 0800 029 7171

 Ark Union Park
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Appendix B

