

# centre:MK

Image courtesy of Leslie Jones Architects



## Enhancing the regional status of the new town's shopping centre

### CLIENT

Hermes

### LPA

Milton Keynes Council

### STATUS

Ongoing

### SERVICES

Planning, Heritage and Townscape, Economics, Strategic Communications, Landscape and VIA

### Our role

- First planned in 1967, Milton Keynes is the most ambitious and one of the most distinctive examples of a new town in England. At its heart, the shopping building centre:MK that opened in 1980 has been recognised as a leading example of Modernist retail design. It became a listed building in 2010.
- Turley was appointed by Hermes to help maintain its regional shopping centre status by supporting a series of enhancement projects through the planning process; looking to balance the vitality of the centre with protection of its special interest.
- Our key role has been as planning strategists for the future use and continued improvement of the centre. We have also built excellent working relationships with local stakeholders for the city and authority.
- As a multi-disciplinary consultancy we have also provided complementary advice on built heritage, visual impact appraisal, and economic analysis matters, as well as proactively engaging with stakeholders through the formulation of a public and political communications strategy.

### Results

- The shopping centre retains its role both within a growing city and also regionally. This has been supported by the securing of planning permissions and implementing developments over recent years, including transformation of Queen's Court, reconfiguration and extension for NEXT store and a series of enhancements to the shopping arcades and halls.
- A 1,400 space multi-storey car park for the centre has been delivered directly adjacent to the east end of the listed building. Most recently a major new store for Primark has been accommodated with a vertical extension at the core of the centre.
- We continue to provide professional planning and other specialist advice to secure the future of this remarkable centre.

**Turley**