

**Issued on behalf of Onward Holdings Ltd****Date: November 12 2012****Ref: PR14a Franchise****FRANCHISE BUSINESSES TARGETED AS PART OF ONYX PHASE 2**

Franchise businesses are now being targeted by Onward Holdings Ltd, owners of the Onyx Retail Park, as part of the second phase of their expansion programme.

The Onyx site has an excellent track record in attracting franchisees and already boasts a number of recognised brands within its portfolio including global food retail chain Spar, who came on board recently, Domino's Pizza and Subway. Other franchisees in the area include KFC and Costa Coffee who both trade immediately adjacent to the Onyx Retail Park.

The development of new units through Phase 2 of the campaign will enable Onyx to increase the diversity of its businesses and the search is on to find additional operators eager to take advantage of the enormous trading benefits available.

The British Franchise Association recently claimed that more than 90% of franchise owners are still trading profitably after 5 years which certainly looks set to be the case for those with businesses at the Onyx Park. Subway, the UK's largest sandwich retailer, is just one of the food businesses to open its doors at the new South Yorkshire site and is already attracting customers in their droves.

Subway store manager Hayley Granger commented; "We were thrilled about the business opportunities this franchise could provide but the outlet is already much busier than we originally expected."

A sentiment echoed by Jay Ravel, Area Manager for Domino's Pizza who is responsible for five of Domino's establishments in the South Yorkshire area. "Head office is continually looking for high impact places and picked Onyx because of its prime location to existing and planned new housing. The site ticked all the boxes. Initially we hired 15 people but with the uptake in sales we are now recruiting a further 15 members of staff."

The take-up of units has been much higher than originally anticipated thanks to both the sensible lease rates on offer and the sites proximity to a large number of consumers. Adjacent to 1,100 homes the Onyx Park is also surrounded by industrial development and outdoor leisure facilities, giving rise to an impressive 18,000 passing vehicle movements per day on the A633, according to figures provided by Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council.

**Onward Holdings Ltd PR14a Franchise continued:**

Unlike many new opportunities that come onto the market, it is of little doubt that this high volume of passing trade and the subsequent footfall it creates will provide an initial strong customer base from which to build, making it an ideal location for a wide range of prospective businesses.

A former colliery, the site is based at Wath-Upon-Dearne, located mid-way between Barnsley and Rotherham. In full it comprises 17,500 square feet of retail space and holds a cross-section of planning consent including A1 (retail), A2 (financial), A3 (food) and A5 (hot food to take away).

Promotion of the site is handled by Andrew Miller Chartered Surveyors of Sheffield, who is offering the remaining units in a range of configurations ranging from 1,000 to 6,000 square feet. Franchise businesses can enjoy a variety of sensible lease terms starting from five years upwards with realistic rentals from £15 per square foot.

“The interest and take up of units has been far higher than originally expected and tenants are reporting excellent trading. I have no doubt the site will prove highly advantageous to any franchise business looking for a new location” commented Mr Miller.

For further information please contact Andrew Miller Chartered Surveyors on 0114 236 2340.

**END**

**Onward Holdings Ltd PR14a Franchise continued:**

**Background**

Onward Holdings has been involved in warehousing and industrial estates owned and run by the company since 1930. Today, this family-run business is primarily involved in development and construction, including the provision of multi-sized warehouse facilities in the M62/M1/A1 corridor of West Yorkshire, and residential and mixed-use developments.

In addition to ONYX the business has an exciting development at Green Lane Industrial Estate at Featherstone and a large industrial estate in Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire. The Scunthorpe estate is currently being developed and offers commercial and industrial land and buildings suitable for a variety of users on either a freehold or leasehold basis.

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**For further information or photographs please contact:**

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