

DEVELOPER PAYS £4M TO BE IN 'TOP CITY'

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A developer has paid £4 million for a building in Leicester's High Street. __West Midlands-based company Barberry Group has bought the four-storey building which is let to Habitat. __Jason Jasper, project manager for Barberry, said: "Barberry Group has identified Leicester as one of the top 10 cities in the UK. _ "We are witness to the rapid and positive change in Leicester city centre.

"The High Street is being pedestrianised to increase footfall and a new John Lewis department store is due to open this year within the prestigious Highcross shopping centre, directly opposite the high street.

"This heralds exciting times ahead for Leicester shoppers. Our purchase demonstrates our confidence in the city as a location where retail has a bright future."

Habitat has an option to finish its lease in 2010.

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