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Growing funds for Santon in Lewes

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The development of Santon Group's Malling Brooks scheme in Lewes, East Sussex, has been accelerated after being awarded £1.2m from the Growing Places Fund.

The investment will be used to improve the project's infrastructure.

Development of the 75,000 sq ft industrial scheme will now commence in autumn.

"The £1.2m allocation has been the last piece in the funding puzzle needed for us to get going on phase one," says Clive Wilding, property director at Santon, which owns the development on Southdowns Road.

"It's been a real accelerant.

"A start on site is dependent on prelets being agreed, but I am confident we can achieve this, as there is a real lack of this product in the market in Lewes."

MAS, the South African fund backed by private equity firm Mertech Group, will finance the remaining £5.2m.