

## China push to make Royal Albert Dock 'rival the City'



Ambitious plans: £1 billion overhaul

**RUSSELL LYNCH**

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The developer behind the planned £1 billion overhaul of the Royal Albert Dock today gathered hundreds of Chinese businessmen and financiers in east London in efforts to create the capital's "third great business district".

Xu Weiping, the chairman of Advanced Business Parks, is partnering UK developer Stanhope on the masterplan for the scheme to revive the historic dock near London City Airport as a hub for Asian companies known as the Asian Business Port.

The Royal Docks, also including the Royal Victoria Dock and the King George V Dock, was granted enterprise zone status in 2012.

Building work could begin on the first phase of the 3.2 million sq ft scheme as soon as next year, to be completed in 2018. London Mayor Boris Johnson said the area could eventually grow to rival the City and Canary Wharf.

He said: "The Royal Docks have been neglected for generations but this extraordinary investment is set to create the third great business district of the capital and yield 20,000 jobs. It will be of huge benefit to Londoners."

Xu's conference, supported by property agent Savills and Newham borough council, will take place at the Royal Albert Dock development site and forms part of the first UK China Business Leaders Summit.

<http://www.standard.co.uk/business/business-news/china-push-to-make-royal-albert-dock-rival-the-city-9477752.html>

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