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€400 MILLION PROJECTS TRANSFORM LYNGBY INTO A NEW RESEARCH HUB

Just north of Copenhagen is Lyngby—a suburb where Microsoft recently built its new headquarters and the home of the Technical University of Denmark (DTU) – a University which is growing to encompass a research environment of international standing.

In recent years, Lyngby just north of Copenhagen has developed into a growth centre supported by the collaboration between research, education and business. During this time, the area has made a number of attractive sites available for development, encouraging many businesses to locate there. Lyngby is currently expanding to the north and the east with the construction of several large buildings

and housing for students as well as new residents. All in all, the town is booming with development projects that have generated investment of more than €400 million and there's more to come.

The area is especially exciting because it has proven to be an easy place to sell sites. While Microsoft has already built its new international headquarters in down-

town Lyngby, bio-company Novozymes purchased a 140,000 sq m site from the Municipality of Lyngby-Taarbæk in 2015 and expects to complete the first 40,000 sq m of its building by the end of 2018.

The Technical University of Denmark is also undergoing extensive expansion with investments of more than €300 million. DTU's total construction potential is

382,100 sq m, while the percentage of built-up space will only amount to 36 per cent after the almost 80,000 sq m that are currently in progress are complete in 2017, so there is still room for a lot more growth.

All in all, Lyngby has amazing potential, and the political goodwill to support it. This opens the door to exciting projects these next few years.

This is also why more and more businesses choose to locate in the area. It was a fabulous year for the 250 companies in the Science and Technology Park, Scion DTU in Lyngby and Hørsholm, its neighbour to the north. Eight out of ten of these companies launched new products, applying for three patents a week; and seven out of ten grew and created more than 240 new jobs.

These past years the pace of innovation has accelerated in Scion DTU in Lyngby and Hørsholm. Eight out of ten, 81 per cent, of the companies in the research park, which mostly consist of hardware entrepreneurs and start-ups, launched

Bio-company Novozymes is about to build a new research center in Lyngby.

a new product in 2016 while they increased the total number of patents by almost 40 per cent to 151, according to a survey conducted as part of the research park's result report.

- We are thrilled. The figures confirm that our high-tech development environment with consultants, facilities and professional communities generates the innovation Denmark needs. We are also attracting a lot of interest from companies and entrepreneurs. Last year, we welcomed 46 new tenants, bringing us to a current total of 250 companies in the research park, says Steen Donner, CEO of Scion DTU.

In Hørsholm alone, Scion DTU is expecting the 100 companies that are already located in the research park to grow to 120 in 2017.

One of the biggest companies to move to the research park Scion DTU is the FMC Corporation, which opened its European headquarters in Hørsholm.

The sizeable growth in business activity also triggers a need for more housing. One of the biggest projects is the collaboration between the Danish pension fund PensionDanmark and Boligfonden DTU, which is the technical university's housing administration firm, on the development of housing for students and temporary employees. The youth housing will be located where there is a long-term need and demand and ensure that students' housing is close to their schools.

- We have developed an exciting model for a long-term collaboration with Boligfonden DTU. Working together will help reduce the housing shortage for young students while also ensuring safe and stable yields for the members of PensionDanmark. The model can be used for other schools and PensionDanmark is open to entering more of this type of agreement, says Torben Möger Pedersen, CEO for PensionDanmark.



PHOTO: PETER BRUNDSGAARD

- The City of Knowledge alliance has created the basis for comprehensive urban development. The campus area and the center of Lyngby are evolving into a growing business centre with new businesses, housing and education facilities, and future infrastructure projects to further accelerate this development. We work to transform the city of Lyngby into a thriving knowledge-intensive innovation district around DTU campus, in the words of CEO Caroline Arends, Lyngby - City of Knowledge.

The housing units are developed in a joint venture, from which Boligfonden DTU leases the housing and then sublets it to students. The goal is to start more projects in 2017 and thereby help meet the huge demand for student housing. ■

By Kamilla Sevel



PHOTO: HJA

Microsoft just opened an international development center as well as the Danish headquarters in downtown Lyngby.