

## PRESS CUTTING

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# Upmarket shopping bid for ex-News site

**THE** famous Manchester Evening News/Metro News building on Deansgate could soon be no more.

In the week Metro News and MEN staff began relocating to a new multi-million pound purpose-built office in nearby Scott Place, Manchester Council approved plans to demolish the old building at 164 Deansgate and replace it with a five-storey shop and office complex.

**by Peter Green**

It will be the first building in Manchester's new upmarket shopping area. The building, called *The Avenue*, will front Deansgate between the John Rylands Library and the Royal Bank of Scotland's new building at No 1 Spinningfields.

Developers Allied London

promise an upmarket shopping boulevard with restaurants and bars. The site will include 400,000 sq ft of retail and leisure space.

Insiders say talks are already well advanced with a well-known retailer tenant.

Last week Allied London revealed a £500m management buy-out, backed by the Royal Bank of Scotland and George Soros-backed investors Delancey.



**NEW LOOK ON THE BLOCK:** An artist's impression of the proposed Avenue building