# HOWLINGS HODGSON

PROPERTY INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

**CASE STUDY** 

#### Reviving the wholesale district

Property: Multi-let Industrial estate, Nottingham

Client: Institutional Fund Manager

**Project:** Income enhancement and cost mitigation



### Problem

- A modern wholesale market consisting of 31 units occupied by fruit & vegetable and supporting occupiers
- A high void rate with many tenants holding over
- The service charge was £7.50 sq.ft
- This was discouraging the occupiers from completing lease renewals and preventing new occupiers from coming to the estate
- At the time of instruction, the average unexpired lease term was 1.35 years and the void rate was 34.8%

# Solution

- Full occupier audit and review of services provided
- New flexible serve charge regime agreed with the tenants
- Managing the rebrand of the estate which was successfully completed
- New service charge regime pitched at £2.50 sq.ft (wholesale) and £0.56p sq.ft (non-wholesale)

# Results

- Improved landlord / tenant relations
- Within 15 months of appointment all outstanding lease renewals were completed together with 1 reversionary lease and 4 new lettings (with 2 further units under offer)
- In the same time frame, the money weighted average unexpired lease term rose from 1.35 years to 4.52 years
- The void rate fell from 34.8% to 19.3%
- Net income increased by 205%
- Significant improvements to the estate's green credentials were achieved.
- The fund sold the property 2 years after appointment with a void rate of nil (0%)