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Ambition for North Shields and the Fish Quay

October 2023

Hello and welcome to our latest edition of the Ambition for North Shields and the Fish Quay newsletter.

This is a regular bulletin to keep you up to date with progress on our ambitious masterplan regeneration projects in North Shields town centre and riverside.

In this edition you'll find the latest updates on:

1. Transport Hub and Town Square
2. Herring Girl statue
3. Riverside Embankment Walkway
4. Bedford Street proposals
5. Stephenson Street gateway
6. Exchange 1856
7. North Shields Cultural Quarter business support

Our ambition for North Shields aims to create a smaller, more vibrant town centre with more flexible retail opportunities, expanding the evening and weekend economy and improving the quality of public space in the town centre.


[Find out more](#)



Your new Transport Hub is now up and running. Live transport boards are in action and snagging works are almost complete.

There's exciting new artwork being installed inside the Transport Hub in the coming weeks, by artist Colin Davies. It includes a large scale map and morse code design on the internal wall, as well as a shoal of more than 2,000 fish up on the ceiling.

The work will take several weeks, we're doing it in phases including overnight to minimise disruption to passengers.



Outside, the new Town Square is about to be named. We're developing plans for an unveiling event where you'll find out which of our local heroes it's been named after, expect an update on that soon.

Herring Girl statue



The Fish Quay is now home to a stunning statue honouring the hardworking Herring Girls who were once a regular sight there.

The life-size sculpture was created by artist Ray Lonsdale and officially unveiled by actress Brenda Blethyn, star of ITV's Vera, on Friday 22nd September.

North Shields' Fishermen's Heritage Project raised funds for the statue, with support from North Tyneside Council. The Herring Girl is one of five new art pieces that are part of our Ambition for North Shields and the Fish Quay.

Riverside Embankment Walkway

This current phase of piling is coming to an end and excavation works will commence on the embankment from 16th November. Between 20th November and February 2024, the final phase of the piling work will be completed, with a two-week break at the end of December for the festive season.

We apologise to residents for the disruption and are doing everything we can to both expedite the works and keep any disruption to a minimum.

soil. We apologise for any traffic disruption caused by vehicle movements during this phase of the works.

Bedford Street proposals

We are developing proposals for Bedford Street and we'll bring you more detail on these in the coming weeks, but we are working on a scheme to bring it up to the same high quality finish as the Town Square, Transport Hub and Howard Street. Stand by for updates!

Stephenson Street Gateway

Pedestrian and cycling infrastructure improvement works in the Stephenson Street area are due to start in November. The scheme also includes landscaping to the grassed area adjacent to Stephenson Street, incorporating a piece of public art, to emphasise that the location is a gateway into the town.

We'll bring you more details on the construction timetable in our next newsletter.

Exchange 1856



A stunning seven-figure renovation of the Exchange 1856 by Stonebanks Investments is nearing completion. Keep an eye on their [social media channels](#) for an opening date in the next few weeks.

North Shields Cultural Quarter business support

Free, tailored support is on offer for existing creative and cultural businesses in North Shields, and those interested in moving into the Cultural Quarter around Howard Street, through [Create: Elevate](#). You can sign up for updates on the Cultural Quarter [here](#) and like the [Facebook](#) page.

If you wish to unsubscribe or have any queries, please email AmbitionNS@northtyneside.gov.uk or call (0191) 643 4830.



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