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Ambition for North Shields and the Fish Quay

February 2025

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. Bedford Street
2. Riverside Embankment Walkway
3. Howard Street parking
4. North Shields 800 launch

Our ambition for North Shields aims to create a 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](#)

Bedford Street



Work is underway to give Bedford Street a smart new look, with fresh paving, mature trees and new seating.

The work is being carried out by North Tyneside Council's construction partner, Capita. It is funded by the North East Combined Authority, Active Travel England and the UK Government.

Temporary taxi ranks have been installed on Nile Street and loading bays have been installed on West Percy Street, Russell Street and Wellington Street.

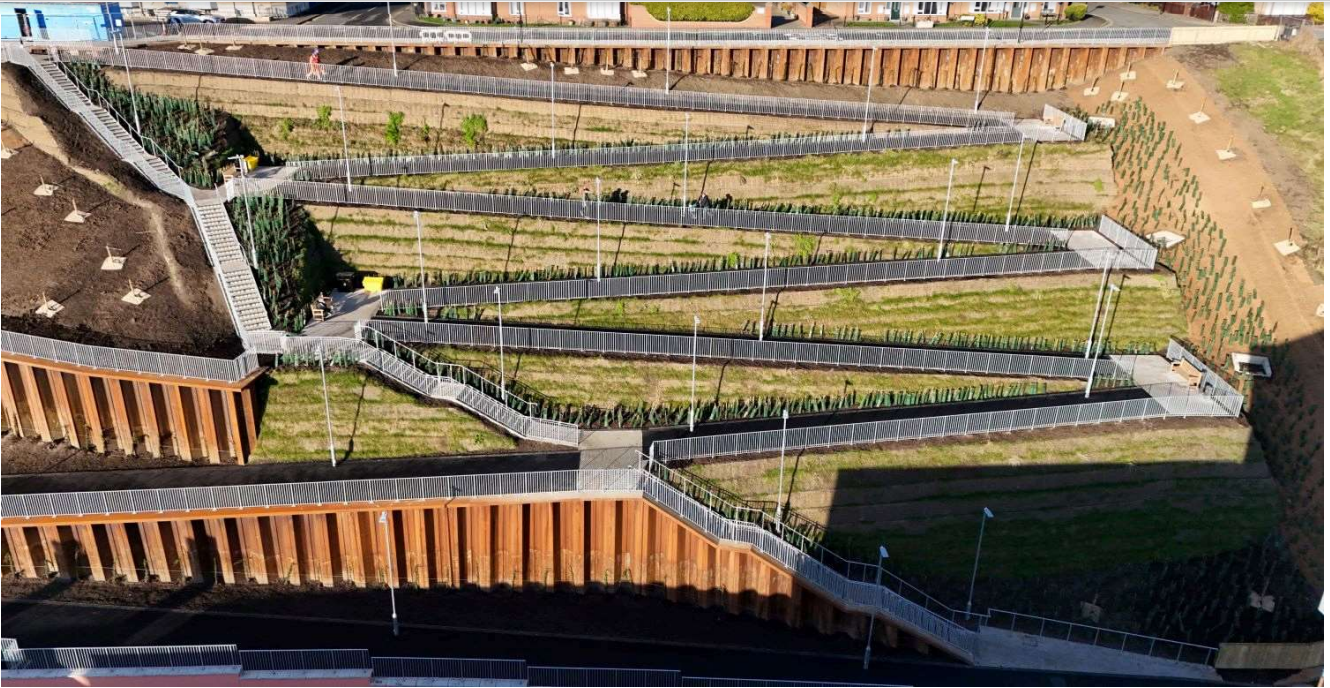
The main demolition works on the clock tower are complete. The weather vane from the top of the tower has been donated to the Discover North Tyneside team at North Shields library.

Fencing will be put up around work areas, starting at the top and bottom of Bedford Street. The team will begin to remove the existing paving and lay the new paving.

The team will work closely with businesses and residents, ensuring that any work across doorways is done out of hours.

The team will be on site for face-to-face discussions as the works progress.

Riverside Embankment Walkway



The Riverside Embankment Walkway has been well used since it opened in December and we have had lots of positive feedback.

The walkway links North Shields town centre with the Fish Quay, providing step-free access with route options to suit different needs.

Funding for the scheme was provided by the North East Combined Authority from the region's Transforming Cities Fund. The work was carried out by our contractor Willmott Dixon.

Final snagging works including upgrades to the lighting on the Western Staircase (Library Stairs) are almost complete. Willmott Dixon will remove their site compound on Tyne Street the week commencing 10 February.

As well as resurfacing the highway, our contractor has given Lower Howard Street, outside the Registry Office and the square in front of the JobCentre a thorough deep clean and repaired broken cobblestones. The benches outside the Registry Office and on Lower Howard Street will be getting a fresh coat of paint.

Image courtesy of Hewitson Ltd, Civil Engineering and Groundworks.

Howard Street Parking



A letter has gone out to residents and businesses on Howard Street about parking issues and enforcement.

In the designs for Howard Street, signage was kept to a minimum to preserve the character of the conservation area.

Unfortunately a number of motorists are parking on the footpaths, despite signage which states Howard Street is a pedestrian and cycle zone .

Motor vehicles parked on pavements cost the Council thousands of pounds a year for repairs of damaged paving stones. Parking on pavements can cause serious problems for people who have walking difficulties, people who are blind or visually impaired, wheelchair users and people pushing prams and buggies.

The parking abuse on Howard Street has generated numerous complaints to the Council and cannot continue to be tolerated.

Surveys of the parking before and after the Christmas period identified a number of vehicles that were repeatedly parking on the footpath. Regular abuse of the designated loading bays was also seen. The Council will begin regular enforcement of these bays. This should help motorists that are legitimately trying to load/unload to businesses and services on Howard Street.

To address the parking abuse on the footpaths, the Council is considering changing the current layout of Howard Street. Measures under consideration include yellow lines, or the closure of Howard Street to all motor vehicles.

Businesses and property owners are asked to encourage staff and visitors to park more appropriately, to avoid these changes becoming necessary.



The North Shields 800 celebrations launched in style at the Exchange 1856 theatre.

An invited audience packed out the auditorium as organisers shared the exciting highlights in store for 2025. The launch featured a live performance by musician Liam Fender and children from New York Primary School singing 'Spirit of the North'.

Later on, North Shields band Hector Gannet played two free ticketed concerts at the venue to more than 800 people.

Throughout 2025, the people of the town are celebrating North Shields past, present and future with a vibrant calendar of projects and events for the town's 800th anniversary. A dedicated website and social media channels are keeping everyone up to date. Follow @northshields800 for more.

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



North Tyneside Council

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