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## Welcome to our Ambition for Wallsend newsletter for August

For all the latest progress on our regeneration plans for the town, events and what's going on.

This is the first of what will become a regular newsletter for our Ambition for Wallsend, and anyone can sign up for it by emailing <a href="mailto:AmbitionW@northtyneside.gov.uk">AmbitionW@northtyneside.gov.uk</a>.

Work to start on an active travel route



As part of our work to turn Wallsend into a vibrant and connected place, we are soon set to start work on the creation of an active travel route in the town centre.

This will create a safe, active travel route in Wallsend, improving access for pedestrians and cyclists between Segedunum Roman Fort and Museum and Wallsend High Street. It will improve access for families, pushchairs, wheelchairs, bikes, scooters and all active travel modes of transport.

#### The work will involve:

 Footpath improvements along the route on Wooley Street, and Maude Gardens that connects High Street West to the A187 Buddle Street.

- New crossing points on Buddle Street this will take pedestrians and cyclists to the Segedunum site and connects to the National Cycle Route (NCN 72).
- A new crossing point at Wallsend Bus Station.
- Upgrading the landscaping areas in Wallsend Bus Station.

The works will be carried out by North Tyneside Council's strategic partner Capita.

When the works start, a contraflow system and temporary traffic lights will be in place on the A197 Buddle Street/Station Road junction at all times, until the project is complete.

Bus stops will not be affected by the works, however due to the temporary traffic lights we expect there to be delays during peak times, we apologise in advance for any inconvenience caused during the works, we will work closely with bus providers to minimise this impact.

Local pedestrian diversions will be in place close to the works area, please follow on site signage.

#### Films in the parks



A free week-long family film festival will be taking place in North Tyneside later this summer.

Blockbuster films will be shown outdoors on a large screen at Wallsend's Richardson Dees Park this week, between Monday 19 and Friday 23 August.

The daily screenings will take place each day at 10am and 1pm and are free to attend.

People are encouraged to bring along a picnic and blanket and join in the fun. The park's café will also be open with refreshments available.

The full list of films being shown is

#### Urban Park Market at Richardson Dees Park



On the first and third Saturday of every month, the Urban Park Market comes to Richardson Dees Park.

The market invites hot and cold food vendors, as well as stalls for arts and crafts, fashion and more.

Stalls are hosted in the park, in the area next to the cafe. Please enter via North Road.

The event is free entry and runs from 10am to 3pm.

## **Huge success for Wallsend Festival**



The annual Wallsend Festival took place last month, and it was a massive success!

Thousands turned out for the festival and enjoyed fairground rides, stalls, character walkabouts, live music, demonstrations and lots of activities in the library.

Thank you to everyone who came along and we hope you enjoyed the day!

## New venue for adult learning courses in Wallsend



As plans continue to progress through our Ambition for Wallsend, adult learning courses provided by North Tyneside Employment and Skills Service that were previously hosted at Segedunum Business Centre have now moved to the Swans Centre for Innovation.

The course offer is unchanged, but learners will now benefit from new and improved facilities. Everyone enrolled on our courses has been made aware of the change and their enrolment won't be impacted.

For more information on the adult learning courses available in Wallsend, you can visit <a href="https://www.skillsnorthtyneside.org.uk/">https://www.skillsnorthtyneside.org.uk/</a>.

#### Affordable housing developments

One of the policy priorities in the Ambition for Wallsend regeneration masterplan is to Improve the quality of the housing offer in Wallsend; in particular creating affordable housing opportunities and tackling some of the poor quality privately rented housing in the area.

This priority is being pursued in Wallsend Town Centre by actively looking for new development and refurbishment opportunities and then seeking funding to deliver them. North Tyneside Council has secured £600,000 to pay to purchase and refurbish empty homes in the terraced streets north of High Street East. Demolition work is due to start at Parkside House, which will see 10 new affordable homes built in its place.

Alongside the new build development, A Private Rented Housing Improvement Plan was approved in February 2024. This plan aims to drive up standards in the private rented sector and tackle empty and derelict properties.

The plan includes a specific focus on Wallsend Town and has seen a new Landlord Forum set-up and an innovative housing-led regeneration scheme targeting empty homes in Wallsend town centre.

Every Wednesday, between 1pm and 3pm, North Tyneside Council's housing team host a private tenant drop-in event at the Working Well Hub on the first floor of Wallsend Customer First Centre.

These sessions are a chance for private tenants to come along, get advice about their tenancy and raise any concerns that the Council may be able to help with.

Any homes purchased will be refurbished by the Council and sold at market value to Aurora Affordable Homes, a company wholly owned by the Council to develop homes to be let at affordable rent. This strategy will enable the funding to be recycled to purchase more homes in the future.









# For any enquiries, email :

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