

Ambition for North Shields and the Fish Quay



North Tyneside Council

ISSUE 1

October 2021

Hello and welcome to your Ambition for North Shields and the Fish Quay update!

This is a regular e-newsletter keeping you up to date with the latest progress as part of North Tyneside Council's ambitious Masterplan to transform the town centre and riverside through a series of bold regeneration projects.

The aim is to improve the area so that it provides the right environment to support businesses, leisure users and retail.

The Masterplan features eight separate ambitious projects, including:

1. Highways improvements at key gateways to the town: East Tynemouth Road and the Law Courts; South East Fish Quay/Brew House Bank; West Howdon Road/Coach Lane/Saville Street
2. Transport Hub and new Town Square
3. Public realm improvements at Bedford St and Saville St
4. Northumberland Square redevelopment
5. Howard Street Cultural Quarter
6. Riverside Embankment Walkway
7. Allocated housing sites: Tyne Brand mixed use site; Unicorn House residential
8. Relocation of the Shields ferry landing

Find out more at www.northtyneside.gov.uk and search 'Ambition for North Shields' or follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/AmbitionNS

Work underway on Northumberland Square redevelopment

Work has begun to recreate the Georgian-era appearance of North Shields' historic Northumberland Square.

The project, which is being delivered in partnership with Capita, will see the redevelopment of the historic Square, sympathetic to its heritage and roots.

Supported and co-funded by Historic England, the work will take the Square back to its original layout of footpaths and a perimeter of trees.



Traditional sandstone paving and cobbled-style paths will be installed along with new contemporary lighting and up-lighting throughout the Square.



The scheme will be the first step towards creating a new Cultural Quarter for North Shields, incorporating the Square and the top end of Howard Street (north of the Saville Street junction to the Square), offering a new, pedestrian and cyclist-friendly environment and cultural scene.

These images show how Northumberland Square and Howard Street could look.

[Read more](#)

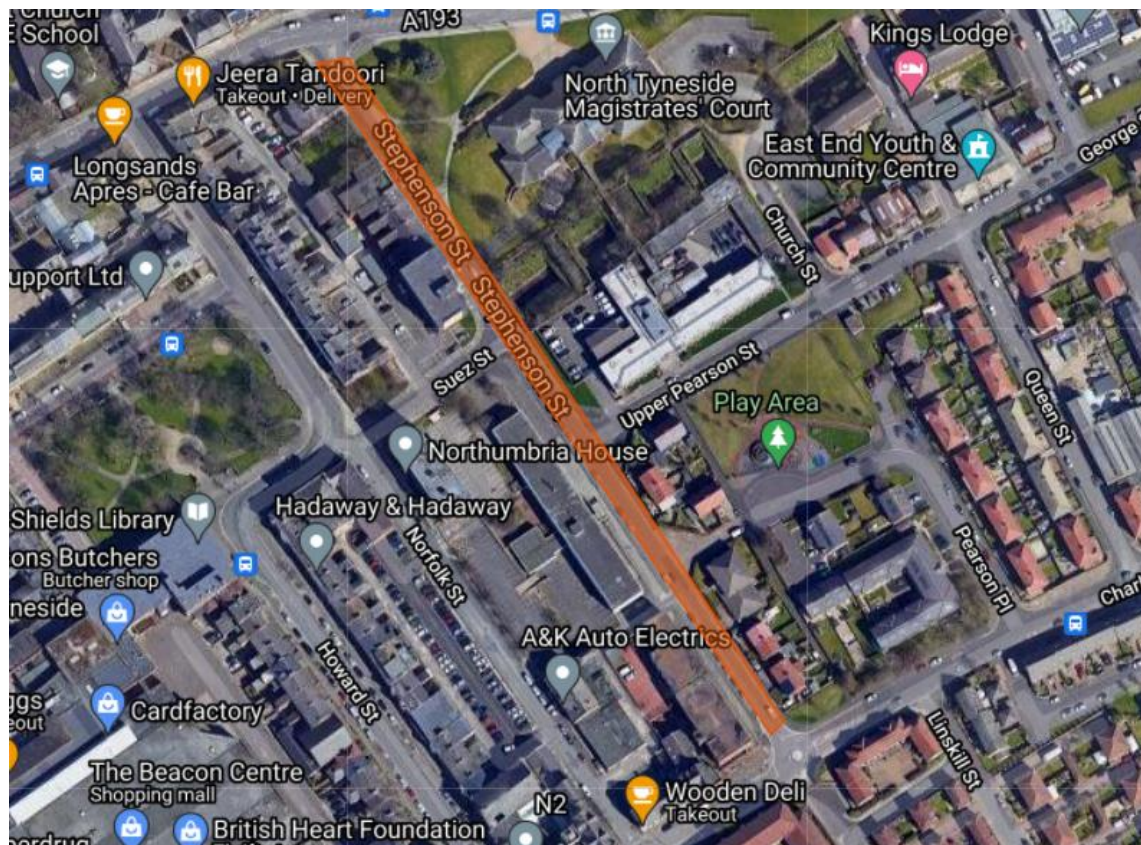
Northumberland Square redevelopment – latest updates

From w/c October 11 there will be a number of changes to some roads in the area while work continues in the Northumberland Square / Howard Street area (as shown in red in the plan following below).

- The traffic lights at the junction of Upper Norfolk Street and Albion Road will be removed and Upper Norfolk Street will permanently become one-way (southbound) between Albion Road and Suez Street.
- Temporary traffic lights will be installed on the Stephenson Street/Albion Road junction to provide buses with enough room to turn safely (see plan below). The junction will also feature two push-button crossings (highlighted blue). Permanent lights will be installed at this junction next spring.



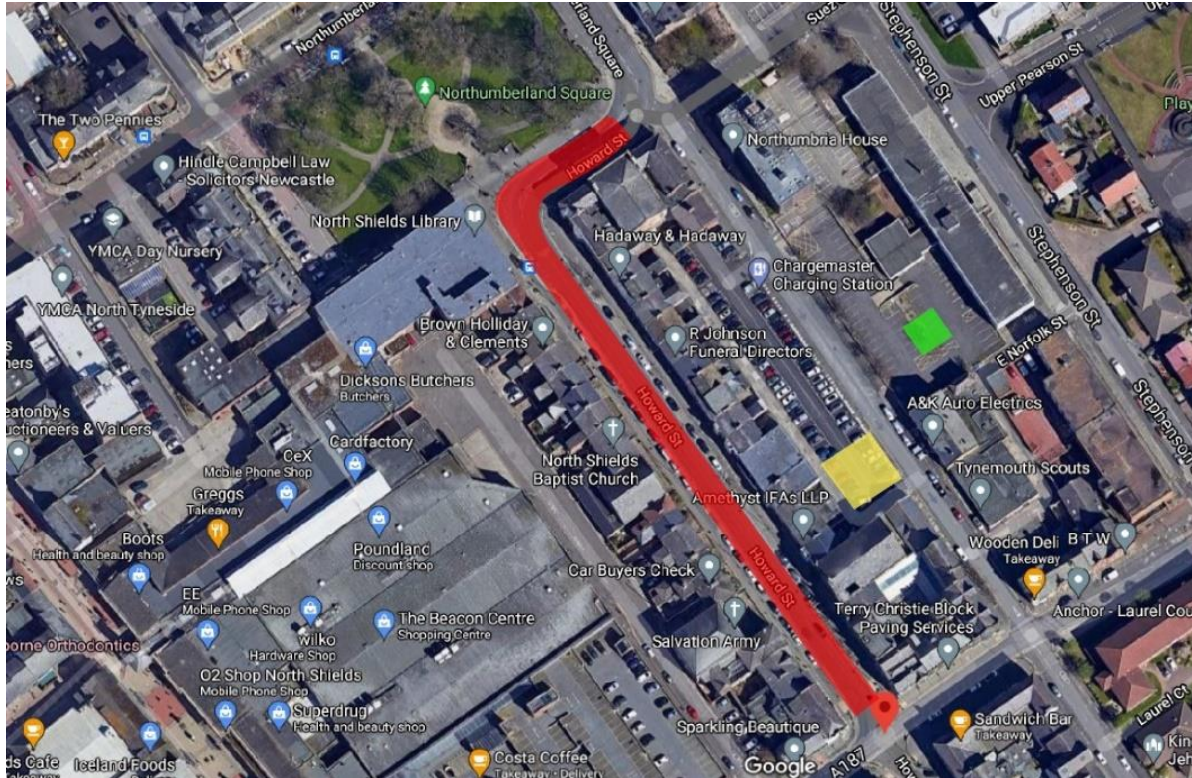
- Traffic on Northumberland Place and Northumberland Square (see pink area above) will be managed with a combination of temporary signals and lane restrictions. We kindly request people pay careful attention to on-site signage.
- The top section of Howard Street between Northumberland Square and Saville Street (as shown in red above) will be permanently closed to vehicles, except for emergency services, businesses' deliveries and bin collection vehicles. On-street parking on Howard Street will no longer be available within the red area. Access will be maintained for pedestrians/cyclists and into businesses' premises. The construction team will work hard to minimise disruption. Residents with NS5 permits can make use of remaining bays within Norfolk Street car park.
- Temporary parking restrictions will be introduced along sections of Stephenson Street (in the area shown below) to create extra width in the carriageway to allow for the buses to travel through the new diversion safely.



- From October 13 bus diversions will be in place. As a result, two bus stops on Northumberland Square and one on Northumberland Place (highlighted in purple below) will be closed. Buses will instead serve the existing stop on Albion Road (highlighted in orange) and a further bus stop will be installed on Stephenson Street (highlighted in blue), which will remain in place permanently. Please check the [Nexus website](#) for latest updates to any changes to services.



- A site compound will be set up at the southern end of the Norfolk Street car park (highlighted in yellow below) from October 20. The team will also use a small area within the old Unicorn House building car park for the storage of materials (highlighted in green).



The park area is due to reopen soon until after the Christmas holidays to ensure winter events, including the Victorian Christmas Market, are unaffected. Please note the park area will be open between approx 7.30am and 4pm weekdays only. It will be closed again after Christmas while further work is carried out.

The first phase of work is expected to be complete by summer 2022. We will continue to keep you updated and we would like to thank you for your patience while this work is carried out.

Redevelopment of former North Shields office block site underway



The new development of high-quality family housing in the town centre is a step closer now the former Unicorn House site has been cleared.

The site has been cleared to make way for 28 high-quality family homes.

[Read more](#)

Historic North Shields townhouse set for new lease of life

An historic North Shields townhouse is undergoing a much-needed facelift thanks to a new funding scheme.

Claire and Brendan Giles recently purchased 43-44 Howard Street – a run-down three-story Georgian property in the heart of the town's heritage and cultural area.

The couple secured funding to help with the refurbishment through a third-party grant scheme as part of the [North Shields High Street Heritage Action Zone \(HAZ\) project](#), a partnership between North Tyneside Council and Historic England.



[Read more](#)

Women's views sought on transport hub and walkway proposals

We have some ambitious plans for North Shields including a new transport hub and walkway to the Fish Quay and would like to hear the views of women of all ages.

We are holding a consultation event at 5.30pm on Wednesday 13 October in a central North Shields location. Please be part of it by emailing engagement@northtyneside.gov.uk or call (0191) 643 7747 to book your place

Lord Mendoza visits Heritage Action Zone



Lord Neil Mendoza, the Government's Commissioner for Cultural Recovery and Renewal, was welcomed to North Shields. He enjoyed a visit to the Heritage Action Zone (HAZ) where he found out more about plans for the area before heading to the Old Low Light heritage centre.

He is pictured (left) at Northumberland Square with Emma Squire, Director of Arts, Heritage & Tourism at the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (centre), and North Tyneside Council's Director of Regeneration and Economic Development, John Sparkes (right).

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