

Ambition for North Shields and the Fish Quay

ISSUE 10
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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.

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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
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](#)
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7. Allocated housing sites: Tyne Brand mixed use site; [Unicorn House residential](#)
8. Relocation of the Shields ferry landing



Monday 29 August, 10am – 4pm
Northumberland Square

Celebrating the diversity of North Tyneside, this free family event featuring live music, entertainment and small fairground rides will return to Northumberland Square this August Bank Holiday.

We can now confirm musical acts for the return of North Tyneside Together with Voices of Virtue, The Belta Reivers and Sanila Iftikhar set to bring the party atmosphere to North Shields!

Organised by the Council's Ethnic Diversity Community Task Force, the event will provide an opportunity for residents and visitors to learn about each other's cultures and traditions, celebrating equality and diversity throughout the borough.

The event will take place from 10am to 4pm in and around the soon-to-be revitalised Northumberland Square.

Northumberland Square update



Photo credit [The Media Network](#)

The redevelopment of Northumberland Square is almost complete, with clean up preparations underway. The square is expected to be open to the public from today (Friday 26 August).

The turf has been recently laid and is being watered regularly to ensure it establishes, along with daily watering to all plants during dry weather.

The appearance of the square has been taken back to its original historical layout, featuring a perimeter of trees, a simplified network of paths, the installation of traditional sandstone paving and cobbled-style paths, with new contemporary lighting throughout. The biodiversity of the park has been enhanced through the introduction of new plants creating a much-needed biodiversity net gain to the conservation area.



Howard Street update



All paving is now complete on Howard Street, reinstating the period curtilage detail with a material pallet to reflect historic precedent. A significant number of trees have been planted to form an avenue from Northumberland Square.

Cycle stands have been installed outside the library.

Transport Hub update



Works continue to build foundations for the new North Shields Transport Hub.

Embankment Walkway update



Works are set to begin on the new Embankment Walkway, creating a safer link between the improved town centre and the vibrant Fish Quay.

Following consultation, designs were adapted to consider feedback provided by residents, businesses and community groups. The amended design for the walkway can be seen in the artists impression above.

Over the coming weeks we will be removing benches and litter bins in the area, ready to start on site. Ecologists will be on site to undertake a final check that bird nests are empty before vegetation clearance begins. The new scheme will involve extensive planting, resulting in an overall net gain for biodiversity.

Works will begin at the top of the embankment next to the substation on Tyne Street to lay foundations for a new electrical kiosk. The team will be hand digging these foundations between 8am and 5pm and some surrounding bushes will be removed.

Residents and visitors will be able to fully access the embankment while these activities are happening in late August.

In early September, construction hoardings will start to go up around the site. The Tyne Street perimeter at the top of the embankment will be fully fenced off with a full road closure to traffic for the duration of the works. A pedestrian route between the Stagline Building and Ropery Stairs will remain open throughout the works. Stairs at the Stagline Building will be closed. Additional signage will be in place to advise motorists and pedestrians of the changes.

At the bottom of the embankment on Bell Street there will also be hoardings erected with access to the Fish Quay maintained through temporary two-way traffic signals.

Works are expected to commence on both top and bottom of the embankment from 12th September with expected completion Spring 2024.

The scheme is being delivered by our appointed construction partner Willmott Dixon.

We are working hard to minimise disruption and we would like to thank you for your patience. We will continue to keep you updated throughout the duration of the project through our newsletters and regular posts of progress on our social media channels.

Tanners Bank Bridge replacement

The replacement of Tanners Bank Bridge is now complete, with the metro line now in full operation and the roadworks on Tanners Bank underneath the bridge also complete.

The works have created more space underneath the bridge for better bus links and road freight to the Fish Quay, encouraging more sustainable travel and reducing journey times as well as improving the local economy.

The road is expected to be open to traffic from today (Friday 26 August).

Business Spotlight: Claire Giles Greeting Cards



Claire Giles relocated her greeting cards business to North Shields from Manchester and took full advantage of the High Street Heritage Action Zone fund aimed at businesses and residents in and around the square.

[Watch the video here.](#)

Don't forget to pop by the Post Office on Nile Street to check out Claire's greeting cards!

Find out more about Claire Giles Greeting Cards here: clairegiles.com

Further information

Parking

Parking is available in the free Norfolk Street car park (limited to 2 hours), the Beacon Centre multi-storey car park and on-street parking elsewhere around the town centre.

Buses

Bus diversions are in place and two bus stops, on Northumberland Square and Northumberland Place, are closed.

Buses are instead serving the existing stop on Albion Road and a new permanent stop on Stephenson Street.

Further details about changes to services in North Shields are available on the [Go North East website](#) and [Arriva](#).

Customer First Centre

The North Shields Customer First Centre will continue to remain open as normal, although the entrance may be partially restricted at times.

North Shields businesses

All businesses around Northumberland Square and on Howard Street remain open as usual.

Check out our Digital Story Map

We've created a digital story map showing all the exciting developments either already underway or still in the design stage for North Shields and the Fish Quay.

The map is a really handy interactive tool that plots each project included in the Ambition for North Shields Masterplan with a brief summary of what to expect.

You can view the [story map here](#).

Follow us for more updates!

We are working hard to minimise disruption where possible and we would like to thank you for your continued patience. We will keep you updated throughout the duration of the project.

Keep an eye on our [Facebook page](#) for more updates as works progress.

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