

Ambition for North Shields and the Fish Quay



North Tyneside Council

ISSUE 5

February 11 2022

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

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Northumberland Square latest

The footpaths on the eastern and western sides of Northumberland Square (outside the park area) are nearing completion. Once completed, the new parking bays will be opened on the eastern side of Northumberland Square during week commencing February 14.

Within the park area, works are progressing well. The wavy footpath is starting to take shape, with the base layer (stone) currently being laid. During these works, the park area will remain close. Pedestrian diversions will be clearly signposted.

City Fibre works

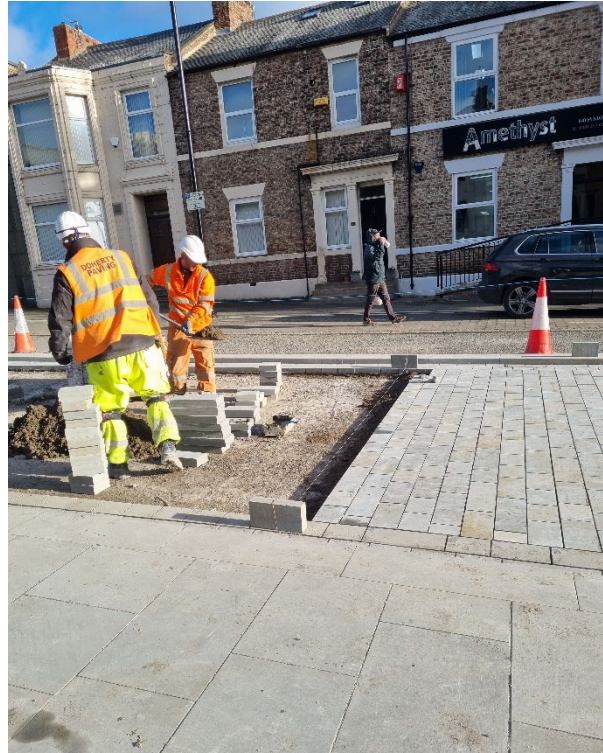
From Saturday February 12, City Fibre will begin its works in the northern area of Northumberland Square. The City Fibre team will work from east to west, towards Northumberland Place (pictured right). During these works, we expect there will be temporary parking restrictions in the yellow highlighted area, while traffic flow will be maintained along Upper Norfolk Street and Northumberland Square.



Following the installation of City Fibre, our construction partner Capita will continue replacing the footpath along the northern side of Northumberland Square.

Howard Street latest

Works continue in the carriageway at the top of Howard Street, around the bend, towards Norfolk Street, while the block paving on the main stretch of Howard Street is progressing well. Pictured below is the construction team laying each individual stone by hand.



Footpath works near the Customer First Centre

During week commencing Monday February 14, work will begin on the footpath near the Customer First Centre at the top of Howard Street. Access to the Customer First Centre & Beacon Centre will be maintained at all times during the works. However, there will be a slight alteration to the pedestrian diversion (pictured right).



Pedestrian diversion

Approx. area of footpath works/closure

Additional information

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

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.

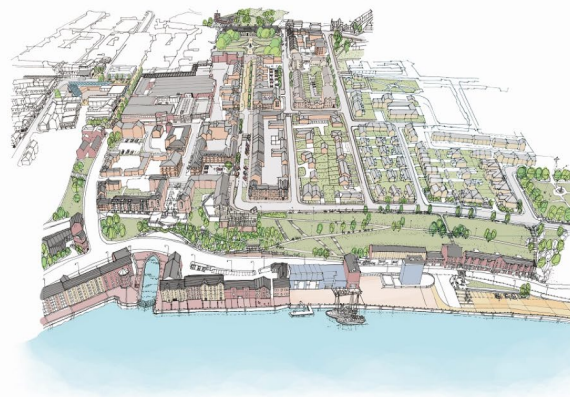
Digital story map

We've created a new 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.

Ambition for North Shields and the Fish Quay

Transforming the town centre and riverside into an environment where people choose to live, work and spend their leisure time



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

Tyne Brand factory

As a council we may have to rely on compulsory purchase powers to help kick-start the regeneration of a derelict factory site in North Shields.

The former Tyne Brand factory on Tanners' Bank has been a derelict eyesore for more than four decades.



The building occupies a 2.5 acre site at the 'gateway' to the Fish Quay and is one of three sites identified for housing under the council's Ambition for North Shields Masterplan, aiming to transform the town centre and riverside into a place people want to 'live, work and visit'.

Once the UK's largest canning factory, Tyne Brand employed hundreds of local people and exported products around the world, but it has been vacant since it closed in 1976.

Previous efforts to redevelop the site have stalled, with complex issues around land ownership and the condition of the land. However, the council continues to negotiate with private landowners to acquire the site, so that plans can be brought forward.

At its meeting last month, the council's Cabinet agreed the use of compulsory purchase powers (CPOs) to acquire the land interests if deals cannot be agreed to buy the remaining parcels of land. Any final decision on a compulsory purchase would rest with the Secretary of State.

North Shields High Street HAZ update

The third edition of our North Shields High Street Heritage Action Zone (HAZ) newsletter will be out soon and will feature:

- A reminder of what the scheme is all about
- Third Party Grand update
- HAZ public realm update
- Enhancing the street – the Howard Street curtilage
- What's coming up in 2022
- Heritage Skills in North Shields High Street Heritage Action Zone
- North Shields Heritology Project
- A look back at North Shields' tramlines
- Make it Happen: The Takeover

The newsletter will be delivered to all properties in the HAZ area but you will also be able view it on [our website](#) (search 'North Shields HAZ') or email AmbitionNS@northtyneside.gov.uk if you would like a copy sent to you.

Morph Art Trail



The world's first ever Morph art trail hit the streets of North Tyneside last month.

Twenty individually designed Morph sculptures can be seen in various locations around the borough's town centres until April 3.

Morph's Epic Art Adventure will see colourful life-sized models of the Aardman favourite found in Whitley Bay, Wallsend, Killingworth, Forest Hall, Tynemouth, North Shields and Cullercoats.



The trail is inspired by the iconic clay character who made his TV debut in 1977 on the BBC children's art programme Take Hart, alongside artist and presenter Tony Hart.

There are few located around North Shields town centre and Fish Quay, so keep your eyes peeled.

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