



## newhaven strategic network

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One year since the publication of the Masterplan and we are seeing a clearer picture of regeneration of Newhaven. Building work has commenced on both housing and business projects, in particular the long awaited Enterprise Gateway started on site in the autumn and should be ready for occupation in October 2007 which will add 2,000 m<sup>2</sup> of supported business space to Newhaven. The ferry line has been successfully tendered and is secure for at least a further 8 years. The two new ships commissioned are now operational and greatly improve the travelling experience. Newhaven Port and Properties is available for sale which includes all the land and its role as a port authority. This is very exciting news and, if the sale goes through, will mean the complete redevelopment of Eastside. NSN has continued to have strong links with our French partners.

There are also other large development plans for Newhaven in the pipeline. The major application is for the Marina and Railway Quay, plus there are other developments proposed. This Marina proposal includes 334 flats and redevelopment of the berths. At Railway Quay the proposal includes 188 flats, restaurants, an hotel and other leisure uses in the derelict listed buildings on the quayside.

The Action plan is a live document where projects develop at different speeds. Most importantly Newhaven is in a period of huge change and it is important that NSN exists to keep an overview of try where possible to make sure as many benefits as possible can be reaped and ploughed back into the Newhaven community.

The NSN board meets quarterly and gets feed back from the 12 Action Groups that monitor the 27 action points in the Masterplan and bring together relevant stakeholders to drive forward the Masterplan objectives and identify emerging new priorities. The executive committee meets quarterly to govern the Network.

The NSN website is under construction. It will keep local people informed of the work of NSN and will provide key links to other sites which are relevant to the regeneration of Newhaven.

NSN has responded to many consultation documents throughout the year, underling and promoting agreed objectives from the Masterplan. These include: The National Waste Strategy; The National Port Strategy; The South East England Development Agency's Coastal Strategy and Regional Economic Strategy; The South East England Regional Assembly's South East Plan; The Environment Agency's Flood Management Plans; East Sussex County Council's Community Consultation Strategy and Lewes District Local Strategic Partnership's Community Strategy.

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## Successful People.

### **1 (1.1) Support the education sector at all levels to improve student performance and attainment and address poverty of aspiration.**

All the schools heads meet regularly to work together to provide a better service across the schools. Tideway school is part of a new partnership with Peacehaven, Seaford Head and Sussex Downs College to facilitate the coming of the new 14-19 years Specialised Diplomas. The Local Partnership for Children meetings are attended by all the stakeholders dealing with 0-19 years in Newhaven.

### **2 (1.2) Ensure that all schools and other education and learning centres are an active part of the local community and that their facilities and services are fully utilised.**

All the schools are invited to become involved in community activities. The Denton Island Business and Training Centre meeting room is well used to offer training and seminars. The Hillcrest Community Centre has a variety of rooms available and can provide catering for events. During the year there has been a variety of events held across the town.

### **3 (1.3) Enhance basic skills in all age groups.**

Skills For Life courses are regularly available from Sussex Downs College at the Denton Island Training Centre. By most measures the Tideway school exam outcomes at 16+ in 2006 are the best on record.

### **4 (1.4) Provide high quality facilities and deliver services which meet local needs to improve educational and vocational performance at all levels.**

Plans for the new £10,000,000 school at Tideway have been agreed by Governors, construction will begin on July 2<sup>nd</sup> 2007 to be completed by October 2008. Negotiations are being held to establish an Interim Skills Centre on Denton Island, to offer courses from September 2007, in areas such as Construction and Health & Social Care.

### **5 (1.5) Continue the delivery of Children and Family Centre activities to provide child-care and parent support.**

The funding sources for activities at the Denton Island Children and Family Centre have changed over the year. Newhaven Community Development Association and the Primary Care Trust continue to deliver activities and provide child-care and parent support.

### **6 (1.6) Provide appropriate services to support those vulnerable in the community particularly the elderly, those with mental health problems or those with a physical or learning disability.**

Summerhayes has been refurbished during 2006. The Junction Project was delivered for part of 2006. Newhaven Community Development Association and the Primary Care Trust continue to provide support services within the community.

### **7 (1.7) Provide a dedicated Youth Centre and youth activities to support the young people of Newhaven in addressing their particular needs.**

A youth shelter was constructed at Fort Road recreation ground. Newhaven Children and Young Peoples Initiative will be revising the Youth Strategy in 2007 and raising awareness of the need for a dedicated Youth Centre in Newhaven.

### **8 (1.8) Provide the opportunity for a community network that will develop capacity and entrepreneurship so that they are able to bring forward sustainable arts, culture, social infrastructure and social enterprises.**

The Maritime Festival in 2006 was held with events throughout May, June and July. The NCDA Fish Festival was held on May 27<sup>th</sup> with many community organisations involved. NCDA aims to involve the community (including the 94 member organisations) through engagement in local activities.

### **9 (1.9) Involve local residents in Newhaven's regeneration & develop a range of community facilities to help improve quality of life.**

The aim to improve Physical Activities offered in Newhaven has led to NCDA working with the PCT and Brighton University to produce a Calorie Map. This includes 15 healthy walks in and around Newhaven for all levels of fitness. This is due for publication shortly.

# **Successful Business.**

## **10 (2.1) Provide a package of measures to employ, train and develop the workforce towards NVQ 2 and 3 and above and address the needs of those with no qualifications.**

Sussex Downs College is working towards with the Sussex Retail CoVE to offer courses to retailers.

## **11 (2.2) Support the development of Newhaven Chamber of Commerce for business to business support.**

The Chamber now has an administrator and shares offices with NSN. The weekly business breakfasts are regularly attended by more than 20 local businesses for valuable networking opportunities. Regular evening seminars are held.

## **12 (2.3) Provide appropriate support to those vulnerable or disadvantaged in the labour market.**

Small Rural Towns funding is being sought to enable NewCEP to continue valuable work with helping unemployed people into work and training. East Sussex Economic Partnership (ESEP) have undertaken a study which shows long term financial savings created by projects such as NewCEP and the report recommends programmes be rolled out across the whole county.

## **13 (2.4) Support construction of the Newhaven Enterprise Gateway including local customisation through Area Investment Framework funding.**

The Newhaven Enterprise Gateway project under Jon Yon has been funded for a further three years. The Enterprise Gateway building is being constructed by Lewes District Council. The Area Investment Framework funding has been sought to fund Photovoltaics, a rain-water harvesting system, smart meeting space, broadband access and suitable access equipment for businesses to use locally.

## **14 (2.5) Work to create 30,000m<sup>2</sup> of employment land and 1,000 jobs at Eastside Business Park and ensure that the next phase of the port access road is built to service the area.**

East Sussex County Council are working to make a start on the port access road as planning permission expires in September 2007. A feasibility study for development of Eastside Business Park has been published by Lewes District Council as the Eastside Masterplan, supporting it being used for employment land. This will be pursued further once the new ownership of the port is established.

## **15 (2.6) Create a transport interchange at Newhaven Town Station with a feasibility study completed by the end of 2006.**

There is still full support of this programme, but until the new owners have been established, the sale of the land cannot be negotiated.

## **16 (2.7) Promote Newhaven as a key commercial port in Sussex, ensuring that business across the region take full advantage of the port's position to bring economic growth to the town.**

Newhaven Port and Properties (NPP) is being sold by the French. Apollo Bannertown were selected as the preferred successful tender and are completing a four month due diligence process. Transmanche has been offered for tender and LD lines have taken over the line. The line has two new ferries and the service will be expanded to include Newhaven-Le Havre

## **17 (2.8) Develop and maintain relationships with French partners particularly Dieppe and the regions of Seine Maritime and Haute Normandie and build economically fruitful relationships as appropriate with new EU accession countries, for example with Malta.**

A project to enhance tourism promotion across the region has led to plans for exchanges and visits for businesses and markets.

## **18 (2.9) Capitalise on local tourist attractions and activities and increase accredited guest accommodation.**

Paradise Park won the Argus Award for Sussex attraction of the year 2006. Newhaven Fort held a varied calendar of events throughout the summer including a music festival Fort Rox. Attracting new bed and breakfast businesses is being supported through Lewes District Council. The Enjoy Sussex Visitor guide was launched in January 2007. A tourism website is being funded by Newhaven Town Council.

## **19 (2.10) Continue to bid in particular for EU Inter regional (INTERREG) funds to support economic activity including the tourism sector.**

An Interreg project will be providing some tourist signage within the town and market projects are being arranged for Summer 2007.

**20 (2.11) Support local retailers in developing their skills and capacity to meet changing consumer demands.**

Through the business development action group, a separate group has been established to offer support to retailers and work closely with the partners within the Retail CoVE.

**21 (2.12) Develop key sites with iconic buildings and creating a concentration of shops and community activities attractive to residents and visitors.**

The proposed developments at Saxonholme and Railway Quay are bold and include a variety of amenities. The development of a choice of range of shops, coffee shops and restaurants will need careful balancing with offering support to existing retailers and businesses in the town centre.

**22 (2.13) Investigate the viability of developing the old Post Office site, or a suitable alternative, to provide an enhanced library service with learning access.**

Discussions are being held with developers to include a new Library within the Saxonholme development. The development is likely to also include a small retail outlet. The old building has been demolished. The Post Office building is being considered for development. It is essential to keep an operational sorting office close to the town centre, to keep local jobs secure and maintain services for local people.

## **Sustainable environment.**

**23 (3.1) Provide adequate and appropriate housing to accommodate both existing and new residents.**

A variety of housing projects are being developed within the town. French Colonial style apartments were built in Church Hill. Phase two of West Quay is providing 111 apartments at The Cape. This is likely to attract new residents to Newhaven. Plans have been displayed at public forums showing developments for the Marina, Railway Quay and the Saxonholme sites.

**24 (3.2) Ensure that sufficient and appropriate services are available to residents wherever they live in the town and when growth occurs to ensure that existing services are augmented through the application of developer contributions policies.**

Developers are being asked to consider the infrastructure of the town when submitting plans.

**25 (3.3) Promote riverside development by working with landowners to realise high quality housing and leisure development in key areas near the river in order to attract new residents and stimulate economic growth.**

Phase 2 of West Quay is being built and includes an extension of the riverside walk. Plans for phases 3 and 4 (the Marina and Railway Quay) are likely to be submitted within two months. Developers have been considering a project in Robinson Road.

**26 (3.4) Bring forward the sports village enhancement to Fort Road recreational area to provide sport and physical activity facilities.**

Detailed plans have been drawn up for the proposed sports village. No new home for the Football club has been identified, following the first choice of Eastside recreation ground meeting with opposition. It is hoped that LDC will be taking the plans forward through alternative means.

**27 (3.5) Establish an Open Spaces Trust, to provide high quality open spaces to the residents and visitors to Newhaven.**

NCDA have been successful in their bid for a £49,900 Heritage Lottery Planning Grant, to employ an Open Spaces worker. The Open Spaces worker will engage the local communities to develop conservation plans for Bollen's Bush, Meeching Down, Riverside Park and Valley Ponds. The Open Spaces Action group plan to establish an Open Spaces Trust for Newhaven.

Full reports against each action point are included on the website:

<http://www.newhaven-regeneration.org/documents/Matrix2006.pdf>

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