



Final design for the Strand

The Strand enhancement scheme proposals have been the subject of a detailed consultation process which started in June 2008. A series of events and meetings took place, involving the local community and businesses, culminating in an exhibition in April 2009. We have listened to all the comments made during the process and made changes to reflect the views expressed. These now include: retaining a greater number of the existing trees; planting over 20 new trees for the benefit of future generations of Exmouth residents and visitors; an increased amount of grassed area and plenty of space for plants and seasonal displays; an increase to the proposed length of the taxi rank with additional rank space allocated within the town centre; more loading bays; the proposed water feature has now been removed from the scheme following concerns expressed by the public about location and future maintenance.

Key elements of the new scheme:

- creation of a flexible space at the heart of the town centre suitable for markets, outdoor cafes, performances and more space for Remembrance services
- enhanced setting for the listed War Memorial
- removing traffic from key areas, resulting in greater space for pedestrians and improved, safer routes which link the Strand to other parts of the town centre and estuary
- an attractive, modern and vibrant space at the heart of the town centre which will improve the business and tourist environment in the area and the wider town centre
- enhancement of the Strand as a green lung within the town centre, with more grass and new trees for the future to complement existing mature trees
- the use of quality materials throughout the scheme, with street furniture which will improve the setting of the adjoining buildings and War Memorial;
- a new lighting scheme to create an attractive and safer environment, highlighting features, such as the trees and War Memorial to add dramatic impact to the space
- a new glazed structure, replacing the existing shelter, providing waiting facilities for bus stops; a stage for performances and a possible location for an information hub or other public use
- a solution to the drainage problems in the area

Building the Scheme

The final plans for the regeneration of Exmouth Strand will go before Devon County Council's Cabinet and East Devon District Council's Executive next month and, if approved, work is expected to start next February. The scheme is a partnership, with Devon County Council providing two thirds of the funding and East Devon District Council the remaining third. Prior to the implementation of the scheme Traffic Orders will be advertised. The contract for the building work will go out to tender and will be awarded early in the New Year. Work will start in February 2010, with phased construction expected to last around nine months. The County Council will supervise the contract and will work closely with Exmouth Town Council and businesses in the area

to ensure disruption is kept to a minimum. Regular progress bulletins will be issued during the period of construction and site boards will display progress information. **Plans are available to view at Exmouth Town Hall; Library or at www.devon.gov.uk/exmouthstrand**

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