



Our Market

December 2024

First phase of Market Place improvements take shape



The first phase of town centre regeneration work in the upper section of Market Place is nearing completion – with the new yorkstone paving and restored and re-laid cobbles now in place, helping to make the area more accessible.

The structure of the new and improved market stalls is taking shape, and visitors to the town centre will have spotted the first of the new frames going up.

They will be part-clad in wood and, once complete, the stalls will be crowned with lovely new canopies in traditional heritage colours. The new stalls will be wider which will help provide more space and shelter for traders and shoppers.

Phase one of this work in the upper half of Market Square is expected to be complete by the end of January, and our contractor, Thomas Bow, will then move on to complete the upgrade in the lower half of the market square from February 2025. In the meantime, works will continue in the High Street to grout and clean the existing cobbles.

Together with work to make the most of the historic Town Pump as a more striking feature in the market place, there will be new digital signage to provide more local information about what's on

in the town centre. The Market Place phase of the town centre transformation is due to be complete in mid-2025.

Please note that some of the construction work will be paused over the Christmas period. Some of the market traders currently located in temporary locations on the lower half the market, or in other spots around the town centre, will be set up in their new permanent stalls, in the completed upper half of market square in February 2025.

All town centre businesses and market stalls remain open as usual, and we're continuing to work closely with market traders and businesses as the works progress.

“It's an exciting time for Chesterfield. There is still some way to go but the town centre transformation – together with the major refurbishment of our historic theatre and museum – will help attract more visitors and ensure the town centre can thrive for generations to come.”

Councillor Kate Sarvent, cabinet member for town centres and visitor economy



Revitalising the **Heart** of Chesterfield

Please note that since the original publication of this newsletter in December 2025, there is a small delay to the expected completion date of this first phase – and we're now anticipating that the works in this area will be completed by the end of February.



It's more than just cobbles!

The restoration and re-laying of our historic market cobbles has continued to be the talk of the town this year.

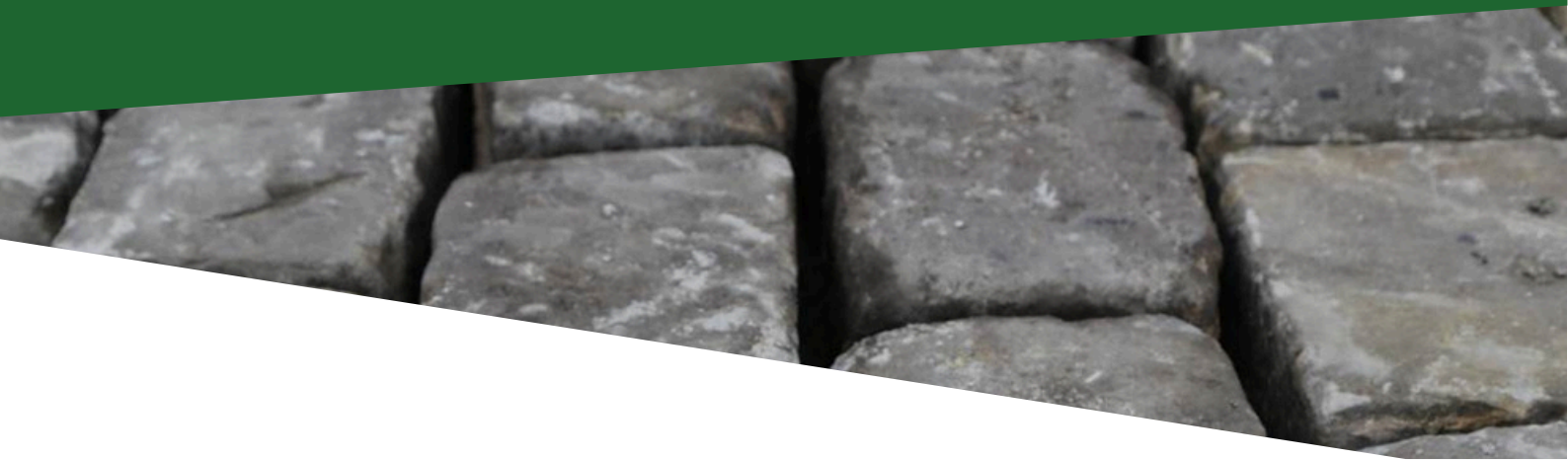
And while they are a key part of maintaining the character of our town centre – and work is improving accessibility for people – the Revitalising the Heart of Chesterfield programme is about much more than just what is underfoot!


Work in the Market Place is just the first phase of the wider regeneration of Chesterfield town centre, which will improve the look, feel and flow of key public spaces across the town centre, and revitalise the town's historic market.

In summer 2025 our planned improvements for New Square will begin. This will create an attractive and flexible space that will complement the main market and speciality markets, but can also be used to host festivals, events, cultural celebrations, and community gatherings.

Further phases will see Rykneld Square transformed to create a green and welcoming space from which to enjoy our much-loved Crooked Spire, with these works set to commence in the summer as well.

There will also be improvements to Corporation Street to create a new gateway to the refurbished Stephenson Memorial Hall, which houses the Pomegranate Theatre and Chesterfield Museum. This multi-million pound investment will help Chesterfield town centre thrive for generations to come.





Shining a light on our beautiful buildings

We have some unique and striking buildings in our historic town centre – and we think they deserve an even bigger spotlight in which to shine.

As well as physical improvements to our public spaces, the Revitalising the Heart

of Chesterfield project is investing in new feature lighting in selected spots of the town centre.

This includes new energy efficient external lighting and projection systems that will mean we can better illuminate the outside of our much-loved Crooked Spire – adding to the drama and beauty of this iconic landmark. This will improve the general lighting of the churchyard, but will also help create a special ambience during events or celebrations.

The façade of our beautiful Victorian Market Hall, which was built in 1857, will also benefit from new external lighting as part of the improvements – helping it stand even more proudly in between our two revamped market squares.

In addition, the new market stalls will be equipped with new, energy efficient LED lighting which will improve the facilities for traders and shoppers – and help create a more welcoming environment during evening and nighttime events in the squares.

Revitalising the
Heart of Chesterfield



Transforming our theatre and museum

Work to refurbish Stephenson Memorial Hall and create an exciting new heritage and performing art venue is forging ahead – and it promises to be landmark destination for residents and visitors alike.

In the auditorium the changes are significant. The circle has been stripped back, with the decorative panelling being safely stored ready to be reinstalled in pride of place once the project is complete.

New steelwork has been installed to improve facilities in the backstage area.

On the Corporation Street side of the building, part of the roof has been removed and a striking new extension has been created – this will contain a new link gallery and a flexible space that can be used for things like events and community activities.

New openings have been made which will help unite the museum and theatre – making it possible for guests to explore the whole building for the first time in many years.

Lift shafts have been built, to make sure all guests can access every floor of the building, including the circle which will have new accessible seating, and the basement where a Changing Places toilet will be created.

Work to restore the outside of the building to its original splendour is also underway, including the cleaning of the brickwork and some re-pointing to protect it from damage.



More information

If you have a question about the about the regeneration work, please email:

rhocenquiries@chesterfield.gov.uk

Visit the website for more information about the Revitalising the Heart of Chesterfield project

www.chesterfield.gov.uk/revitalise

Revitalising the
Heart of Chesterfield



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