

DRAFT PLANS FOR THE NEXT SEVEN YEARS 2010-2016

For the Andover Vision to be a success, we must think about the long-term development of the town. It is always surprising how long it takes some initiatives to bear fruit, for example issues such as obesity don't just disappear with the first flush of activity. Equally, and just as surprising, is how long it can take to plan a major change or initiative. The regeneration of our industrial estates is a case in point.

Of course, the other thing that will dictate to some degree our pace of change in Andover will be money, we simply cannot afford to do everything we would like to do straight away.

A re-branding of directional signs, industrial estates and gateways to the town to give Andover a distinctive feeling, and to link into the Andover Vision.

First full academic year of our new landmark College of Further Education, inspiring all those who want to take learning further. There could even be university status for some of the courses.

Launch of the regenerated Walworth Industrial Estate for leisure, retail and wide ranging business uses such as hi-tech, logistics, distribution and food production.

Redevelopment of the Ford Cottage site behind the Chantry Centre, to include a new town centre hotel and a number of catering outlets.

From our existing library facility in town we will develop a new, multi-use Discovery Centre, incorporating a state of the art library with internet access.

Expansion of our Arts and Entertainment theme 'Andover Live', with focus on large-scale food fairs and festivals, antiques and crafts markets, sports taster days and, with private sector investment, new jazz and comedy clubs.

Unveiling of Lights of the South - four iconic light sculptures at each of the main gateways into Andover. These will attract interest in the town as a creative and progressive place to be (remember how the Angel of the North began the regeneration of Newcastle). All tied in, of course, to our mid-winter Festival of Light.

To encourage the local economy, we may see the introduction of an Andover loyalty smart-card scheme, offering discounts on cinema and theatre tickets and other incentives when goods are bought in town.

Further pedestrianisation of the High Street and better pathways through the town are also on the agenda to give Andover the ease of access that makes life a pleasure.

Completion of new housing developments at East Anton and Picket Twenty. Andover's population will increase by about 10,000 by 2016.

A modern Andover Leisure Centre with great sporting facilities.

These plans and more will form the backbone of how the Andover Vision will progress in the medium term.

We hope they will not be the only initiatives because we believe that continual feedback from our communities within Andover will add new ideas that take this plan even further. It really is open for each and every one of us to influence the way Andover Vision develops. It is not cast in stone, this document just gives us a good start and that is important.



St. Mary's Church, Andover