

MAKING CONNECTIONS

IMPLEMENTING THE

MORECAMBE AREA ACTION PLAN

The opening of the Bay Gateway and the improved access this provides is a huge opportunity for Morecambe. The local councils and the soon to be up and running Morecambe BID team are working hard to best present the town centre to visitors and customers. This latest edition of our 'Making Connections' newsletter provides an update on some of the projects we're currently working on.

Seafront at Euston Road

As the main way into the town centre for pedestrians, the seafront at Euston Road is a crucial 'shop window' for visitors. It's therefore vital that we make the best first impression.

Works are underway to provide a new wide zebra crossing direct across Marine Road Central to Euston Road, replacing the pelican crossing further west.

This will be on a 'raised table' to slow traffic and should make it much easier for pedestrians to move to and from the seafront and the town centre.

The improved crossing is funded by Lancaster City Council and works are being undertaken by Lancashire County Council.

It is the last piece in the jigsaw of improvements to the seafront completed early this year as part of the 'Connecting Eric' project, which included the new play area, and to streets in the town centre completed this summer as part of the 'Connecting Victoria Street' project.

Together these improvements represent over £900,000 of investment to improve public spaces in central Morecambe.



Street Cafes

One of the hallmarks of a successful town or city centre is the sense of vibrancy you feel.

This can be encouraged in a number of different ways, one of which is the provision of street cafes.

These help to create a vibrant destination for residents and visitors alike.

The city council wants to encourage more street cafes where there is sufficient space and cafes can be run properly.

To help with this it has granted planning permission along parts of Euston Road, Market and Victoria Streets.

Traders along these streets who are interested in operating a street café will not need to themselves obtain a specific planning permission in addition to a street café licence.

Individual businesses will, however, need to apply for a licence if they want to take advantage and open up a street café.

The city council's licensing team administer the licensing system - for more information on how to apply visit www.lancaster.gov.uk/licensing.

Please note that outside of these areas, separate planning permissions will still be required.

Euston Road and New Town Square

The city and county councils have been working together on designs to improve the pedestrian section of Euston Road and New Town Square.

This is the second main phase of works to streets in the town centre and follows the successful improvements to 'Royalty Place' (pictured right) earlier this year.

Starting in February, the next phase will lift the tired appearance of the public realm (pictured below) along Euston Road and in New Town Square.

This work will see investment by the two councils of just over £300,000, with some two thirds of this from the county council and one third from the city.

Details are currently being finalised and the city council will then make the plans available for public inspection.



The aim is for Lancashire County Council Highways to start work in the week beginning February 5.

Prior to this, we have been asking property owners in these areas to put their properties in a good state of repair under the Section 215 initiative – www.lancaster.gov.uk/s215.



News in Brief

• Queen Street

Lancashire County Council Highways will start work early next year to upgrade the footways along the length of Queen Street. Nearer the time the county council will write to residents and traders along the street to give more details.

• Pedder Street

It remains the intention to deliver street work improvements here, but this is now unlikely before autumn 2017.

• Bay Arena Art Park

Earlier this year the city council successfully bid for £50,000 from the Coastal Revival Fund to help make the former Dome site a more welcome venue for festivals, arts and leisure.

Scrub clearance works are now well underway and the refurbishment of the art deco style feature walls is complete in preparation for artwork installation. Access improvements are due to start shortly and details of the art commissions will follow.

• Next issue

Coming up in our next issue in January 2017:

- Pedestrian signing
- Extending improvements along Victoria Street
- Latest news on the next phase of the wave reflection wall

Businesses please note.
During all streetworks pedestrian access will be maintained to all business premises during trading hours.