



Ashton Old Town



Ashton Market Square and Market Hall



Ladysmith, The Arcades and Ashton Market



A Public Realm Strategy for Ashton-under-Lyne, Phase 1 - Market Quarter

A catalyst for further regeneration

Have your say

On the plans and ideas to improve Ashton town centre

What is Happening?

This document gives you an understanding about the ideas that we are exploring for improvements to the town centre.

A wider public realm strategy is currently being prepared for the town centre. The focus for this consultation will be on Phase 1: Market Quarter (including the outdoor market) with later phases to follow.

Your ideas will help to shape the plans and improve the area you live, shop and visit with friends and family.

“ We are looking to create a fantastic town centre for Ashton-under-Lyne. We are creating a plan to breathe new life into Ashton, to bring more shops, people, and homes, and create a healthier town centre for all people. ”

HAVE YOUR SAY

Let us know what you think of the draft proposal that we have been working on with your input. You will have until Friday 2nd December to let us know your views.



Levelling-up Fund 2021

The Council has gained further grant funding to continue this comprehensive transformation of the town centre and has recently been successful in its £19.87m Levelling Up Fund bid to support the next stage of regeneration.

- A. Land remediation of the former interchange site
- B. Cycling and public realm improvements
- C. Restoration of Ashton Town Hall
- D. Further development of St Petersfield into a cutting edge business park for innovation and tech firms
- E. Residential, leisure and the delivery of a wider diversity of town centre uses with increased town centre living.

The Story so Far

The Love Ashton engagement event took place on Saturday 13th March 2022, at Ashton Market Hall, your feedback is important and has shaped our plans.

Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council appointed Planit-IE and Civic Engineers to undertake a Public Realm and Movement strategy for Ashton-under-Lyne Town Centre. We gathered the public's initial ideas and thoughts about how they wanted to see improvements in the town centre, the feedback has helped to shape our proposal.

Key Comments

- Market square is characterless-missing the vibrant atmosphere from the past. It should be an attraction and destination rather than a cluttered space.
- Generally unkempt, with deteriorating materials, and lack of greenery.
- Market stalls are unattractive, impractical and in bad condition.
- Safety issues in the square, related to anti-social behaviour, poor lighting and visibility.
- Accessibility from public transport should be improved, as well as connections to St. Petersfield and the rest of Ashton Town Centre.

Improve signage to the town

Market stalls are unattractive and not practical

Make the area more of a community hub where meetings can take place forums and maybe even as a wedding venue.

Lack of greenery

Missing the once vibrant market stalls and atmosphere

Thank you for your feedback so far, it has helped to shape our ideas and plans

Residents need safe and attractive walks



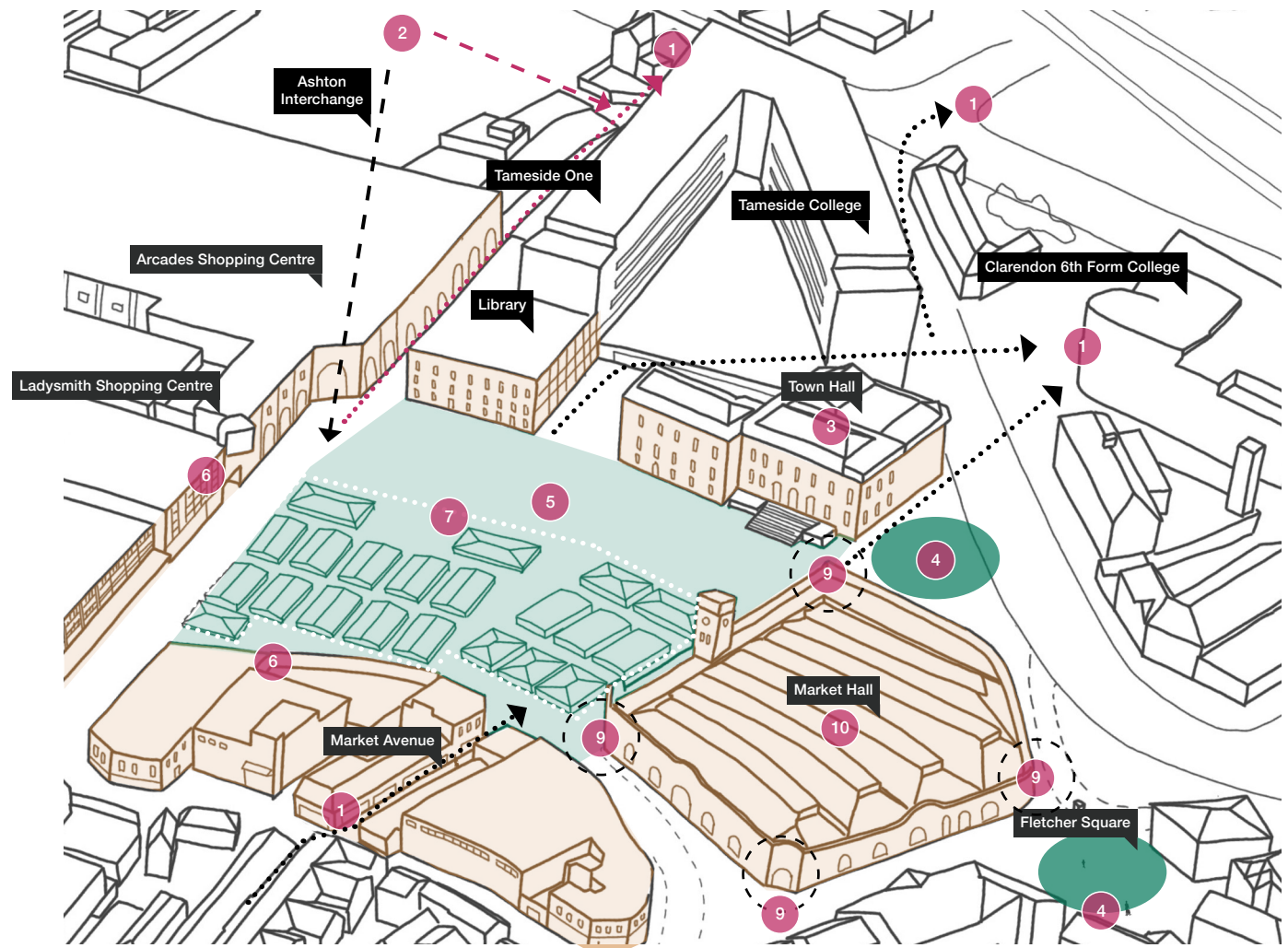
Market Quarter

The regeneration of the Market Quarter presents an exciting opportunity for Ashton town centre as a new modern market town offering space for different types of events. Our plans consider the Markets strengths and weaknesses.

The Market Quarter includes the Market Square, the impressive Market Hall and Town Hall. The public realm has the potential to enhance the market and the cultural and leisure offer in the town centre.

Revitalising the Market Hall to connect the inside with the outside Market Square will encourage footfall and create a space for a variety of events. The Grade II Listed Town Hall will be refurbished and its heritage celebrated. Activities will spill out into the Market Square and encourage footfall and future investment.

Tameside One College and Clarendon Sixth Form College are within easy reach of the Market. The proposal to regenerate of the Market as the heart of the town will encourage students, young people and adults to visit and spend time in Ashton.



Contextual Analysis and Development

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| 1. Improve visual connectivity | 4. Opportunity for play, for families and students | 7. Re-orientate market stalls to simplify space | 10. Opportunity to enhance existing food offer inside and outside |
| 2. Enhanced transport hub connections | 5. Generous Market Square size creates opportunity for events | 8. Improve anti-social behaviour | |
| 3. Town Hall activity encourages footfall | 6. Opportunity for ground floor uses to engage with the street / public realm | 9. Potential to create defined entrance to Market Hall | |

Market Quarter

Market Quarter, You've Said, We've Listened. Your feedback has been considered and has shaped the design proposal.

Ashton Market is the beating heart of the town. A modern market for everyone, a destination attracting locals and visitors, hosting a range of entertaining events.

The vision includes the following key design elements:

- A flexible space to support a programme of entertainment and cultural events to attract visitors into the town centre.
- Accessible and inclusive. A robust and durable single unified surface to meet modern accessibility standards.
- A layout to encourage permeability of visitors through the space, considering connections to the surrounding streets.
- Increased outdoor seating and tables for eating and drinking to support and enhance spill out from the market hall.
- A new canopy to provide a designated under-cover area for markets to include flexible and durable market stalls
- New trees and planting to create an attractive environment and improve air quality and carbon sequestration.
- An improved waste management system, improved public toilet facilities, and designated storage for stallholders.



The Market Square as it is today:



Town Hall building currently closed to the Market Square



Opportunity for anti-social behaviour issues within kiosks



Stalls and kiosk structure block views to heritage

Our emerging Vision for the Market Quarter



ASHTON MARKET HALL 1867

Our emerging Vision for the Market Quarter



Get in Touch!

Your views and opinions are important to us and we would appreciate your input into the survey to shape our proposal, this will ensure that the most appropriate scheme comes forward for the community and its surroundings.

The consultation period will run for six weeks to give people time to consider and comment on the ideas included in the Ashton public realm strategy. The consultation period will run for 4 weeks.

There will be further occasions to give feedback and comment as the design progresses following this consultation.

In terms of the draft proposal for Ashton Market Quarter:

What changes would you like to see in Ashton Market Quarter?

What kind of events/activities would you like to see in Ashton Market Quarter?

Looking at the consultation material, do you agree with the design in the draft proposal for the Ashton Market Quarter?

Contact Details

Other ways you can obtain more information and give your views:

By email:

ashton.publicrealm@tameside.gov.uk

By post:

Gregg Stott, Assistant Director
Tameside One
PO Box 317
Ashton Under Lyne
OL6 0GS

By phone:

0161 342 5500 (Monday to Friday 8.30am to 4.00pm)

In attendance:

View proposal at the Market Hall.

Next Steps

- Public consultation: End of October/beginning of November 2022 for a period of 4 weeks
- Technical survey work: December 2022- February 2023
- Early Market Square works commence: May 2023
- Procurement of contractor: February 2024
- Main construction phase: February 2024 - March 2025

→ HAVE YOUR SAY

Let us know what you think of the draft proposal.

Please give your feedback answering the questionnaire