



## TOWN CENTRE EXHIBITION 2008

The next 15 years are set to be a time of real change for Bedford town centre. By 2021, the town centre will have seen major redevelopment to create new and improved shopping, leisure and cultural facilities, new housing, jobs and new public spaces.

The Borough Council is continuing to make a major effort to keep you informed about the Town Centre. Your response to the previous three exhibitions was a great help in deciding priorities and in shaping the projects that have been completed. Now you have a fourth opportunity to influence how the Town Centre will change.

If the Town Centre is to remain competitive and grow, there is an urgent need to get on with the task and responses from the public will assist greatly. Only if you express your views can they be taken into account.

How strongly do you agree that the following developments should be undertaken?

Please tick one circle per row.

### 1. Key Areas of Change

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree
1 An office, administrative and residential development of the <b>Kingsway Quarter</b> , in particular, to increase the employment capacity of the town centre.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2 Comprehensive redevelopment of the <b>Bedford International Station Quarter</b> to create a quality transportation and office gateway to the town, including residential provision and perhaps a hotel.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3 Redevelopment of the <b>Lime Street</b> area to provide new urban living space, offices and leisure uses, perhaps a hotel or space for creative industries.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4 Complete redesign of <b>St Marys Quarter/Bedford College</b> to improve the quality and variety of facilities across the campus as well as an adjacent public art installation.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5 Public realm improvements to the <b>High Street</b> including the restoration of buildings/shop frontages, public art, colourful awnings and potential detrafficking, to improve future vitality.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### 2. Riverside – The Jewel in the Crown

6 Redevelopment of <b>Riverside Square 'Phase II'</b> , including residential provision above a new state-of-the-art rowing club.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7 Comprehensive redevelopment of the Town Hall Complex, replacing existing buildings to form a new " <b>Charter Square</b> ", allowing the full majesty of the listed buildings to be revealed and improving connectivity between the town centre and the river.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree
8 Improvements to the riverside <b>Charter Walk</b> potentially incorporating a boardwalk, feature lighting and new riverside café.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9 A new elegant building on the west side of the High Street (known as the ' <b>Bank Building Site</b> '), at its meeting of the town bridge, to incorporate a restaurant/café with balconies overlooking the river.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### 3. Reclaiming the Streets

10 To open up and extend the pedestrian space at <b>St Peters Street/Broadway</b> incorporating new landscaping and street furniture, and possibly further public art, to provide a stunning entrance to the town centre.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11 Environmental improvements to <b>Allhallows</b> to complement investment in Church Square including the 'dry plaza' water feature.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
12 Consider as part of a " <b>Bedford: A Town of Undiscovered Treasures</b> " initiative:					
a A new network of shopping lanes linking Clair Court, Lime Street and The Arcade	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b The promotion of a niche, distinctive shopping experience	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c Heritage Trails – telling Bedford's story	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
13 Creating a better space for pedestrians at the main walkways in the town:					
a <b>Lurke Street</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b <b>James Street</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c <b>Castle Lane</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d <b>Lime Street</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
14 Revitalise <b>Midland Road West</b> via public realm improvements to improve pedestrian movement and safety, also incorporating heritage interpretation features.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
15 Refurbish the currently vacant building at <b>104 Midland Road</b> to provide office space for new business start up ventures and bring a redundant building back into effective use.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
16 Enhance <b>Silver Street</b> as a key gateway into the town centre, incorporating public art.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
17 Transform <b>Mayes Yard</b> service area with an "atrium meeting place", perhaps as a pre-show venue.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
18 Refurbishment of the <b>Saxon Centre</b> in Kempston, offering the potential to add vibrancy and footfall.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

#### 4. Retail Improvements

- 19 Investigate new investment opportunities in the town centre:
- a **Dane Street area**
  - b **Beales Corner - Silver St/Harpur Square**
  - c **'Beehive' Centre - Midland Rd/River St**
- 20 Transform the area behind **North Parade Neighbourhood Shopping Parade** into a small residential scheme in partnership with BPHA.
- 21 Improved catering provision at **Longholme Boating Lake**, with a seating area expanding over the lake itself.

#### 5. Cultural/Heritage Initiatives

- 22 Refurbishment of the **Cecil Higgins Art Gallery and Bedford Museum** to unite the facilities as a joined-up first class visitor experience.
- 23 A new complementary scheme adjacent to the Gallery/Museum complex to provide, as part of a small residential scheme, the provision of **small creative units** for a range of artists to display their works.
- 24 Do you think any of the **public art** proposals displayed would be best suited to other areas of the town centre?
- If so, what and where?  
*(Please add further details on space on last page)*
- 
- 25 Installation of mosaics around the town centre, as part of a **"Bedford: A Town of Mosaics"** initiative, depicting the town's heritage and its connections, perhaps in the form of a trail.
- 26 Refurbishment of the **Civic Theatre** offering potential for performances, exhibition space or an Arts Centre in the heart of the Town Centre.

#### 6. Transport Initiatives

- 27 The provision of a new river crossing at **Batts Ford** connecting Kingsway to River Street as part of a package of improvements for the town centre.
- 28 Additional **24-hour taxi ranks** located in St Loyes Street and Beckett Street to supplement the existing provision in the town centre.
- 29 Improved conditions for **cyclists** through better connected routes, reduction of traffic in certain streets and better facilities.

30 Please tell us in more detail what you think about what you have seen at the exhibition and what else would you like to see included as part of the emerging town centre developments.

## 7. General

The information below is optional:

- |    |                               |         |                            |                         |            |
|----|-------------------------------|---------|----------------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| 31 | Gender (please circle one)    | Male    |                            | Female                  |            |
| 32 | Age (please circle one)       | 16-24   | 25-34                      | 45-64                   | 65 or over |
| 33 | Ethnicity (please circle one) | White   | Asian/<br>Asian British    | Black/<br>Black British | Mixed      |
|    |                               | Chinese | Other (please state) ..... |                         |            |

If you have any further comments or suggestions, please email [shughes@bedford.gov.uk](mailto:shughes@bedford.gov.uk) or write to Trevor Roff, Head of Economic Development & Regeneration, Town Hall, St Paul's Square, Bedford, MK40 1SJ.