



## Shepway District Council

Shepway on the east Kent coast is changing rapidly. The district's main town of Folkestone is on the brink of major changes that will transform the face of the district.

"When I tell people about the scale of the exciting new developments happening in the area, and Folkestone in particular, all of their preconceptions are challenged" said Cllr Carole Waters, Cabinet member in charge of regeneration. "Of course, everyone knows about the fast train link coming in 2009, which will mean London is about an hour away, but there is so much more happening: a major redevelopment of the harbour with a marina, homes and leisure; an award-winning coastal park; a new shopping centre and an exhibition set to put Folkestone on the international contemporary art map."

### Conveniently located for business

Shepway is a genuine gateway to mainland Europe, conveniently close to London and France, with an unbeatable communications infrastructure.

A new 108-kilometre (68 mile) twin track rail line (High Speed 1) from St Pancras in London to Folkestone will mean by 2009 the capital is about an hour away.

Currently travel time to France is just 35 minutes through the Channel Tunnel. Dover, Ashford International Station and Lydd airport are also on the doorstep, while the M20 links Folkestone to the M25 in less than an hour.

With such outstanding transport links Shepway is in an enviable position for companies wishing to capitalise on UK and European business opportunities.

### Future developments and regeneration

**Folkestone harbour and seafront**  
The fast rail link and major developments already completed and in the pipeline are putting Folkestone and the district on the property and investor hot spot map.

Former chairman of Saga, Roger De Haan who bought Folkestone Harbour in 2004 has commissioned world-renowned architects Foster and Partners to produce a masterplan for its redevelopment. The plans for this unique 360-acre site include a marina, an expanded university campus and a range of outdoor leisure amenities, including an ice rink, water sports centre and skateboard park. It is expected that the regeneration of this prominent part of Folkestone will take place over the next five to ten years offering exciting opportunities for new business and inward investment.

### Regeneration through education and art

Improvements to education are at the heart of the regeneration of Shepway. The district has two Academy schools. Designed by award-winning architects Foster



A new High Speed 1 train

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