

## Chatham – the natural city centre

Chatham is destined to be the heart of the new City of Medway. Public consultation on development briefs for Chatham's three key regeneration sites – Chatham Waterfront, Station Gateway and The Brook – is now complete.

Masterplans were submitted for adoption by the council early in 2008.

As the regeneration programme gathers pace, private sector interest in Chatham has never been stronger.

Clearest evidence of this was the sale of The Pentagon Shopping Centre for more than £80million. Four years ago it sold for £50million. Its new owners plan a £160million expansion and refurbishment.

The council's regeneration unit, Medway Renaissance, is talking to major retailers keen to invest in Chatham's future.

Ambitions for the key Chatham Waterfront regeneration site, masterplanned by leading architect Dr Ken Yeang, include striking

apartments, a hotel and a landmark arts and entertainment venue.

### Progress on other key sites

Major progress is reported on Medway's other waterfront regeneration sites.

At **Strood**, compensation claims arising from compulsory purchase of the site have been agreed.

**Gillingham's** blueprint for the future – its town centre development framework – has been adopted by Medway Council.

And on **Temple Waterfront** significant progress has been made with the tripartite landowners' agreement. All three parties are keen to move towards comprehensive redevelopment of the site with a view to submitting a planning application in summer 2008.

### Checking into Medway...

Hotel operators are set to check into Medway with 500 rooms across at least five sites, investing an estimated £50million.

The first, a 90-bedroom Ramada Encore at Chatham Maritime, opened November 2007.



The 'Big Blue' hotel site



Chatham Waterfront

Temple Waterfront regeneration site

