

Ashford is characterised by a stable, skilled workforce with an historic level of low unemployment, and is poised to create thousands of new jobs.

The planned growth of Ashford will greatly expand the labour market potential. This expansion will be coupled with greatly enhanced opportunities for skill development with the establishment of the Ashford Learning Campus.

A number of major initiatives are already well underway in Ashford, covering everything from work, home, travel and education to leisure, retail and the environment.

Last year alone saw the opening of the multi-million pound remodelled Stour Leisure Centre; completion of £7 million improvements to Junction 10 of the M20, and completion of the first 50,000 sq ft of 1.25million sq ft of development at Eureka Business Park.

Other key aspects of Ashford's investment programme include a £65m extension of County Square Shopping Centre which opened in spring 2008; a multi-million Ashford Learning Campus; the development of large scale residential developments and a £24m investment to improve water supplies.

Ashford is leading the way when it comes to studying the environmental impact of its growth plans, launching an Ecological Footprint study to ensure sustainability.

Ashford. Best Placed for Living

One of the most attractive aspects of Ashford is the quality of life. Ashford is a thriving town, where people enjoy the best that life has to offer.

A multi-million pound investment scheme is rapidly creating a town centre that will combine modern shopping malls and pedestrianised streets with first-class leisure facilities and popular cultural attractions that complement Ashford's existing heritage.

Beyond the town centre, Ashford has a wealth of natural heritage and woodland areas waiting to be explored. It offers everything from charming villages to the protected Romney Marsh which stretches as far as the coast.

With ready access to rural countryside; and with Paris just two hours away, Ashford is the natural choice to live life to the full.

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County Square Shopping Centre extension

