

Carrickfergus Regeneration Project



Left The Knights of Carrickfergus.

Below The regeneration of Carrickfergus will help improve the town for locals and visitors alike.



These boards outline our public realm planning application to redesign and upgrade public spaces in the centre of Carrickfergus. They will create spaces and squares that are more attractive, accessible, and better connected to the town's outstanding heritage.

This is a Belfast Region City Deal project, funded by the UK Government, the Northern Ireland Executive, and Mid and East Antrim Borough Council offering a once-in-a-generation investment in Carrickfergus.



CARRICKFERGUS
A STORY REIMAGINED

Carrickfergus Regeneration Project



This is part of a wider programme of investment that will establish Carrickfergus as a must-visit destination and the Gateway to the Causeway Coastal Route.

These boards set out the full proposals for your review. Your feedback matters: this is your opportunity to shape how your town centre looks and feels for generations to come.

Top A CGI image of what the area around the Castle will look like.

Left The regeneration of Carrickfergus will help improve the town for locals and visitors alike.

What this project will deliver:

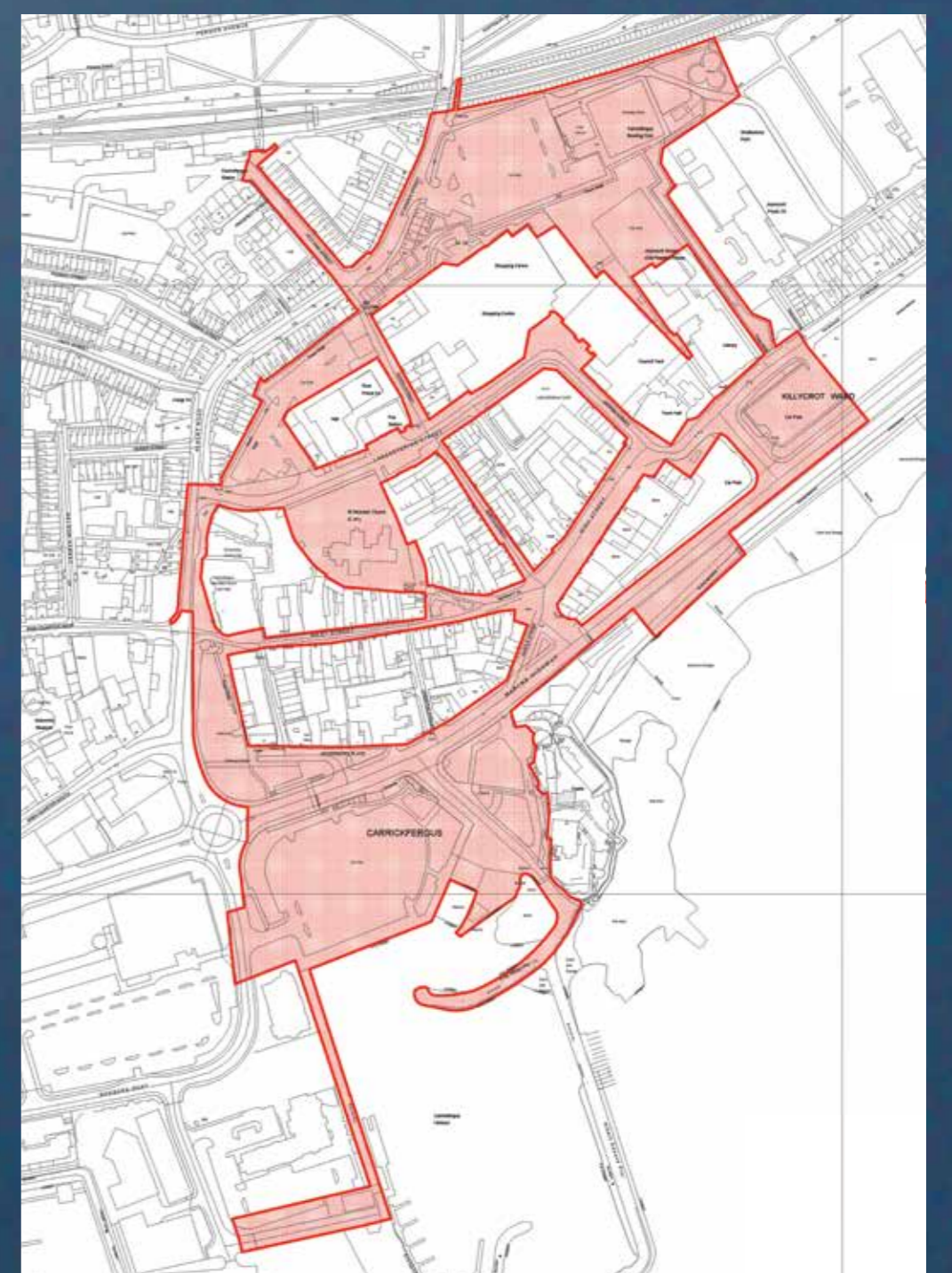
- Attractive, welcoming public spaces for residents and visitors alike
- Stronger connections between the town centre and its historic landmarks
- Increased footfall and new opportunities for local businesses
- Long-term regeneration of the town centre.

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Scan the QR Code to access these images and the digital public consultation feedback form.

This red line boundary shows the scope of the planning application.



Community Consultation



PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

5 Public Consultation Events



500+ Attendees

SCHOOLS

1 Primary School

1 Secondary School

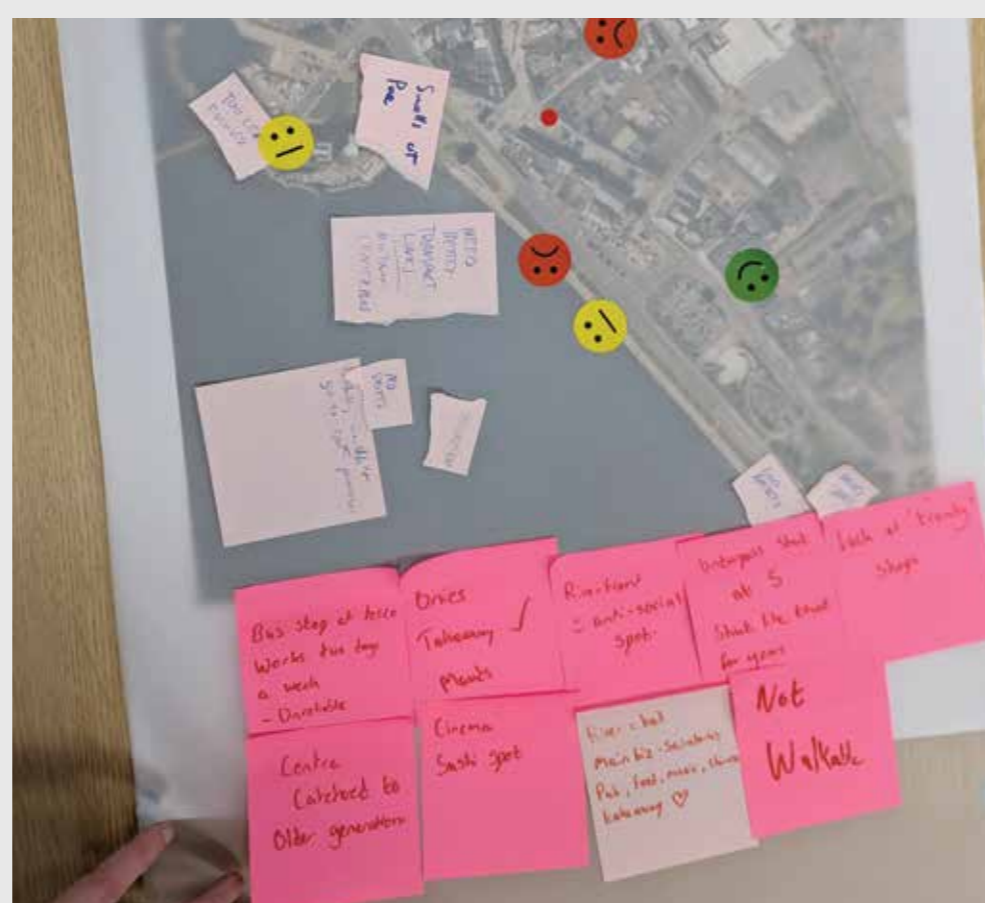
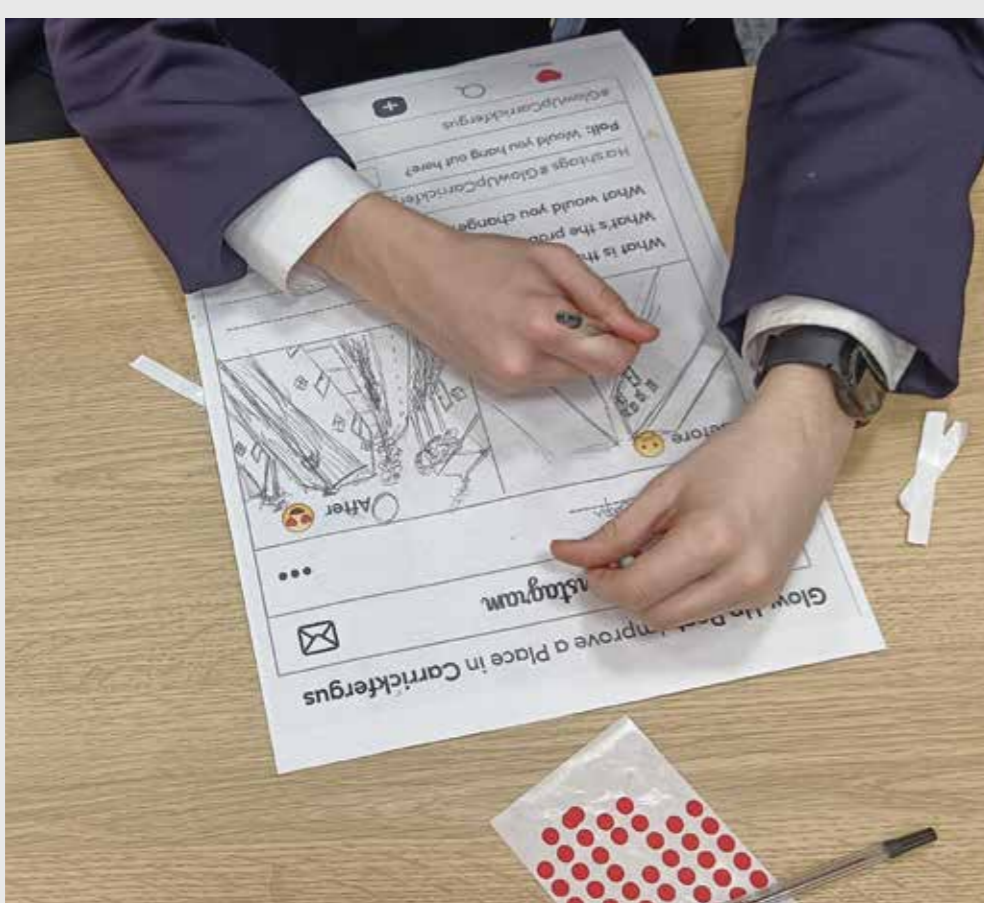
1 Third Level



COMMUNITY GROUPS



25+ Local Community Groups

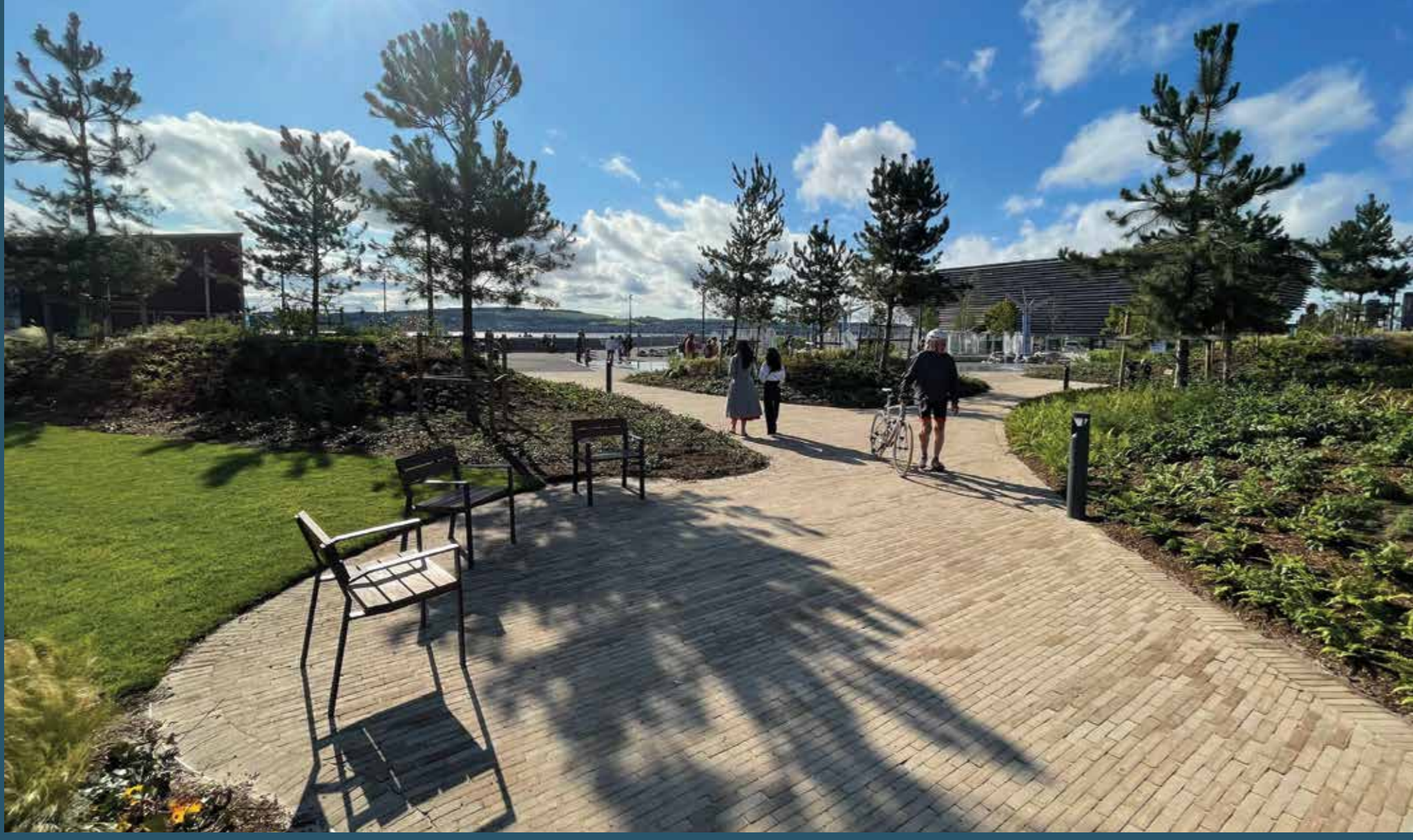


Five rounds of engagement have taken place as part of the wider Carrickfergus Belfast Region City Deal programme, ensuring that local voices have directly informed the design at every stage.

Alongside this, we worked with Queen's University Belfast planning students and pupils from Carrickfergus Academy to understand how young people experience the town centre today, its strengths, its shortcomings, and their ambitions for its future.

Above Local people shared ideas and feedback at consultation events, helping to shape the design proposals.

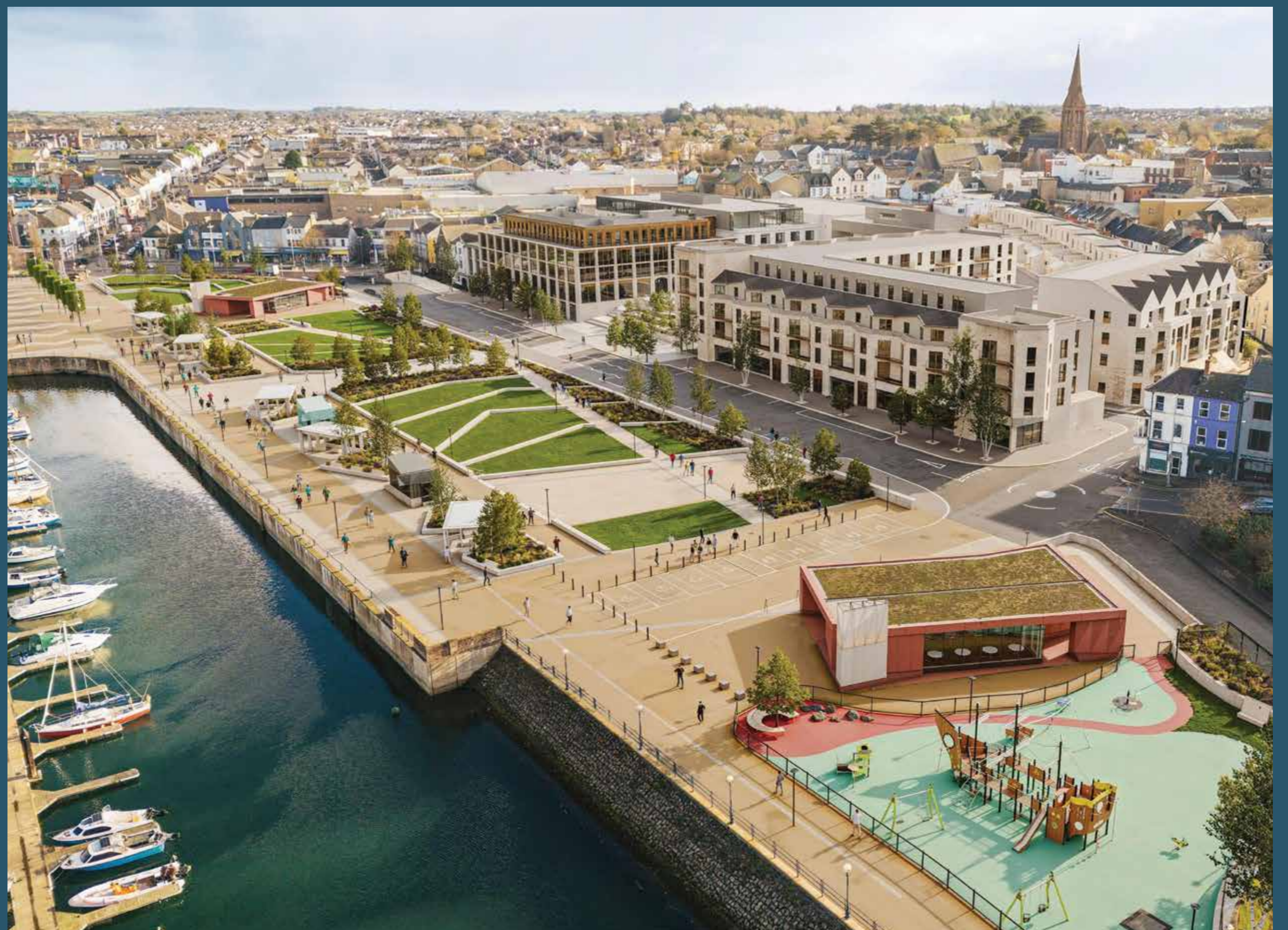
Precedent Projects



These examples show how other historic towns have used regeneration projects to bring new life to their streets, attract visitors, and create better places for local people.



Above Waterfront Place, Dundee, Scotland
Below & Right Bangor, existing and proposal
Bottom Coastal Planting, Newcastle



Castle Park Plans



Above A CGI of the new Castle Park, which will create a welcoming space around the Castle and harbour for local people and visitors.

Below & Right The images show the proposals for the park, with an urban beach reconnecting Carrickfergus with the harbour and waterfront.

Plans include a public park and an urban beach. Together these will reconnect Carrickfergus with the water and create a place to walk, relax and enjoy the harbour.





Irish Gate



Top See how the historic town walls will be re-imagined.

Above Current View.

A sculptural gateway will mark where Irish Gate once stood, telling the story of Carrickfergus's historic town walls and the generations who passed through this entrance.

Stepped access will be replaced with an inclusive route, so this area can be enjoyed by all.



Left New totems will guide your way and share stories of the Walls.

Above Inlaid paving will bring lost sections of the town wall to life.



North Gate Pocket Park



- Town wall walking route
- Train to town centre pedestrian route



The North Gate 'Pocket Park' will be an improved public space and a nice place to stop, with new seating, landscaping and interpretation.

It will open up the area and better connect the town walls.

Top & Left A look at the North Gate pocket park design.

Above Interpretation, including town models and totems, will help orientate visitors and show the complete experience around the town walls.



North East Bastion



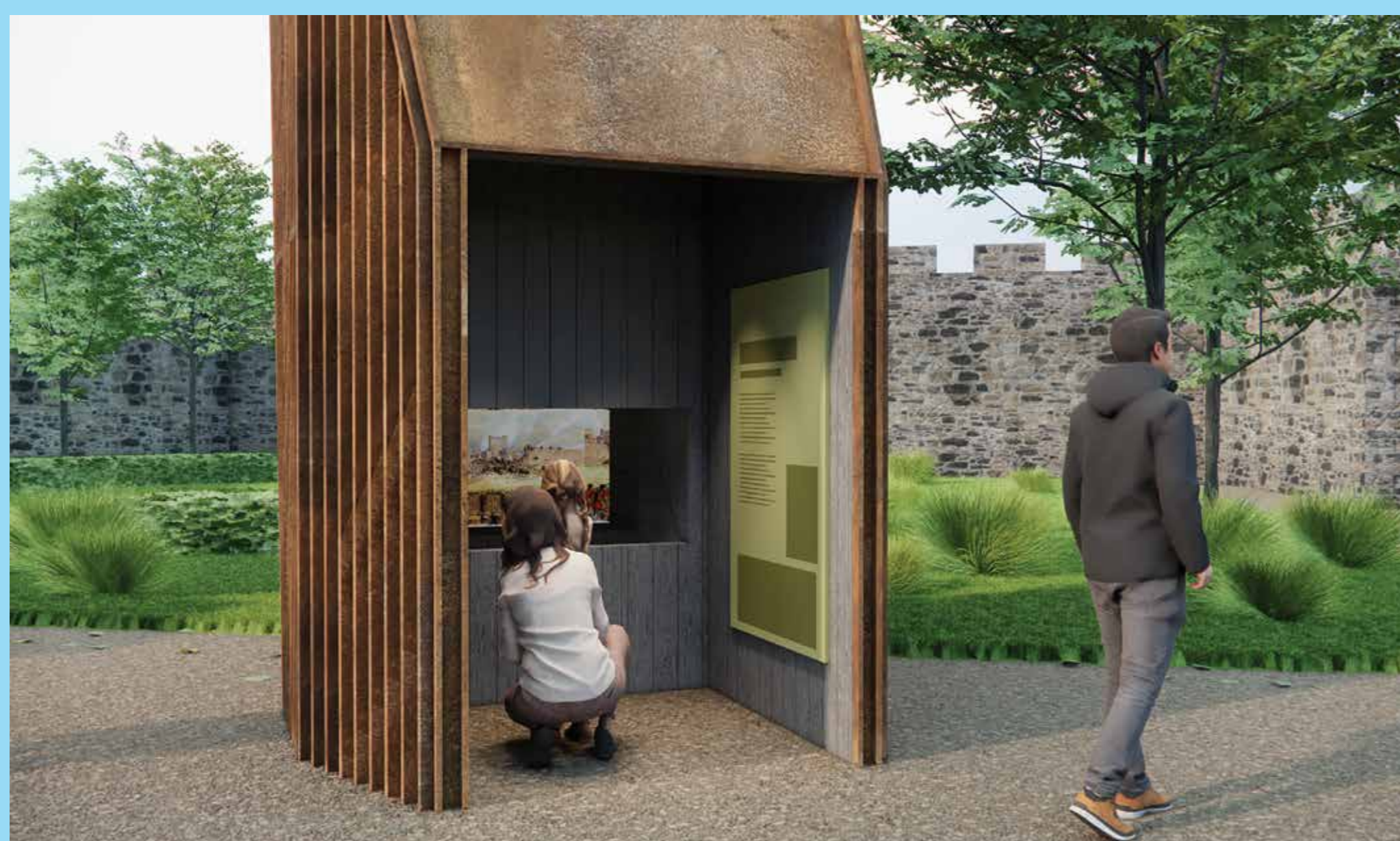
Left Step into the North East Bastion and imagine the town under siege.

Above The North East Bastion will become a key experience, bringing this impressive standing section of the walls to life.



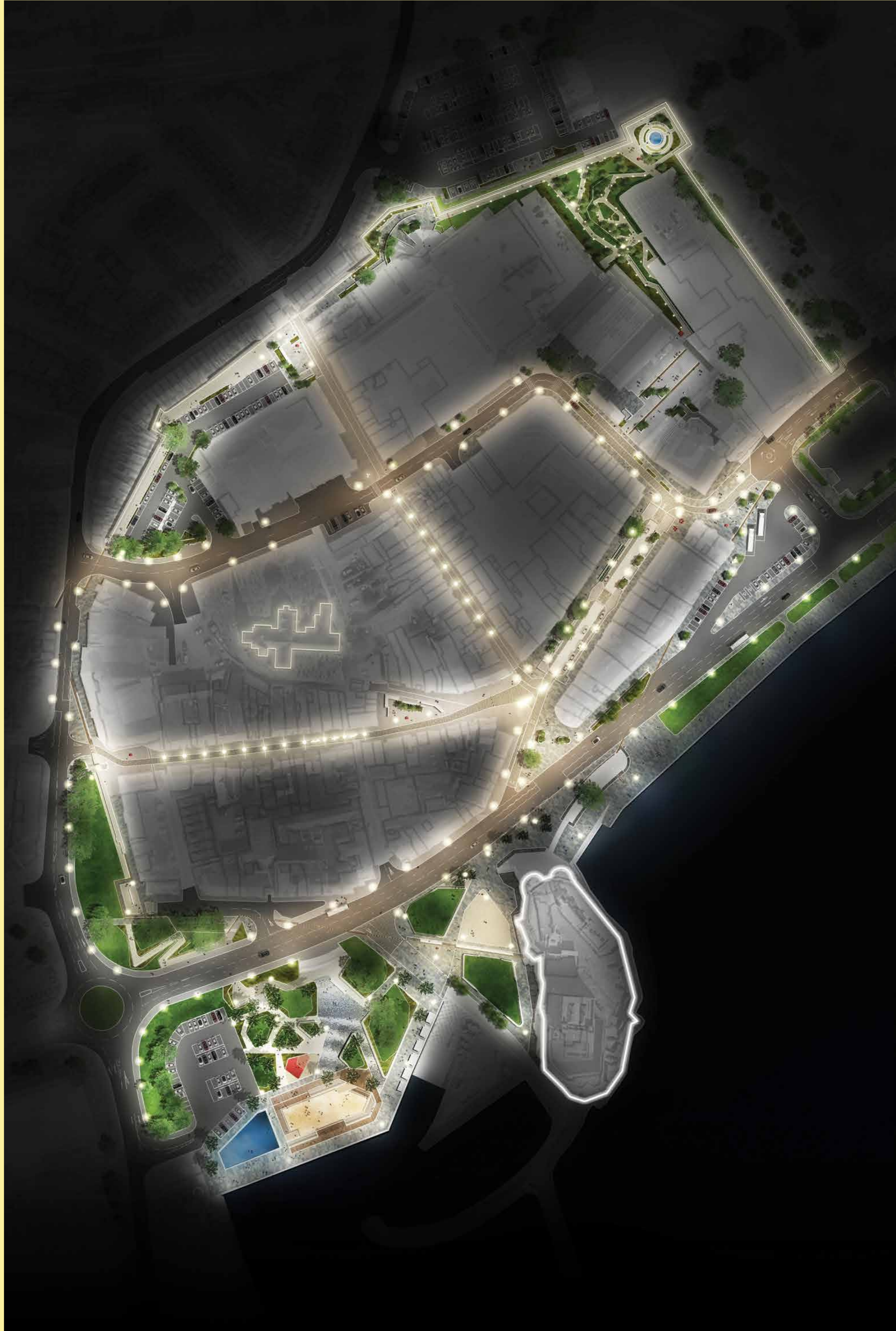
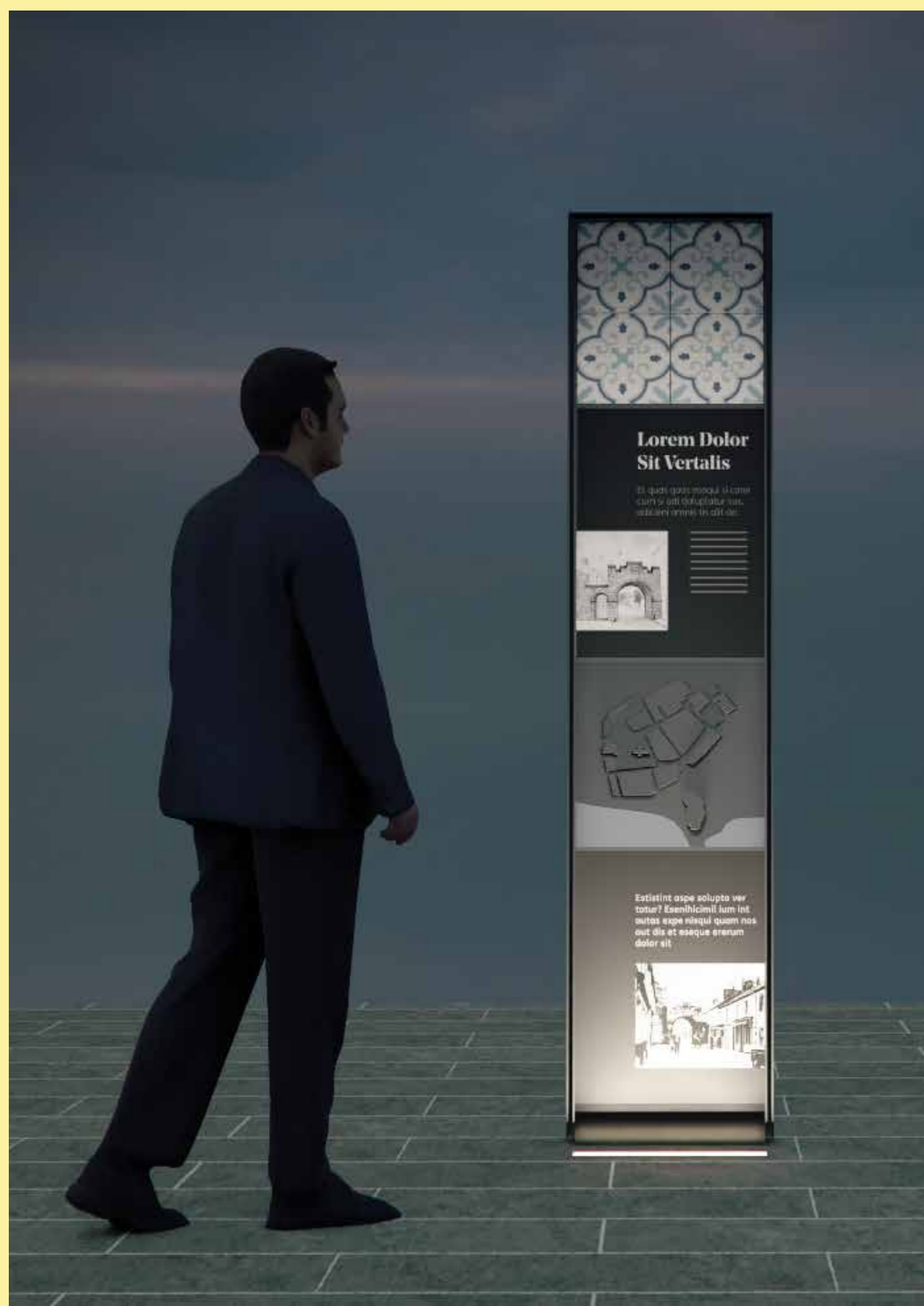
The North East Bastion will be opened up as part of the town wall walk.

New landscaping, interpretation and an immersive outdoor experience will bring one of the best surviving sections of Carrickfergus's historic walls to life.



Town Lighting Strategy

A new lighting plan will highlight Carrickfergus's historic buildings and streets. Better lighting will also make the town feel safer and more welcoming after dark.



Above Lighting proposals will make the town more welcoming and enjoyable after dark, helping improve the night-time economy.

Journey around the Walls



Key stories along the route

Walk the oldest surviving upstanding town walls in Ulster. The transformed route will have new interpretation, lighting, and improved access to create a destination that draws visitors beyond the Castle and deeper into the town.

- 1 The Castle and first settlement**

Carrickfergus Castle was built by John de Courcy in the 1100s. A town soon grew around it, protected by early defences.
- 2 The growth of the town defences**

Over time the defences became stronger: changing from earth banks and wooden stakes to the stone walls that still survive today.
- 3 Life inside the walls**

The walls were guarded by soldiers, but they also surrounded a busy town. Markets, homes and workshops filled the streets inside the gates.
- 4 The Siege of 1689**

During the Williamite War, the town came under attack. Cannon fire breached the walls (a gap which was temporary filled by cattle!) and the garrison was forced to surrender.
- 5 A town connected to the sea**

Carrickfergus grew through trade and travel by sea. The town gates linked to the harbour and waterfront.
- 6 Stories from the streets**

Merchants, traders, soldiers and families lived inside the town walls. Their stories shaped the character of Carrickfergus for centuries.



Above Suite of proposed interpretation furniture that will be located around the town walls.



North East Bastion

North Gate Pocket Park

Irish Gate & South West Bastion

Carrickfergus Town Centre

Visitor Centre

The Castle

Castle Park

— Town wall walking route
— Train to Visitor Centre pedestrian route

A connected Carrick

This central map shows the projects in the scope of the planning application.