



Latest news from the Northgate project team

February 2022

First 22 new Market stalls announced

We can now reveal the first allocation of stalls that have been contracted or are under offer to trade in the new Chester Market when it opens in October at the heart of the new Northgate development. A further six traders, including other current and new market traders, are in the process of concluding their leases.

Fifteen of the stalls being announced in the first round will be relocating from the existing market, including Buckingham Palace, NiceBites, Vinyl Ritchie, MRKT Café, Jap Tech (phone repair), Geoff Hughes Family Butchers, Purely Pots (plants), Thai by Thai (Thai street food), The Sandbar (seafood shack), My Trophy Dog (pet shop), Pastry Pedaleur (gourmet pastries) and Guroma (Bangladesh street food); with some traders taking more than one stall.

Seven stalls will be opened by traders new to the market, all small independent businesses, including a new central and satellite bar operated by iKO Ventures, pizza specialist The Mercato Pizza Company, Cheshire Farm Ice Cream, coffee bar Bean & Cole, cheese-based street food Cheesy Bandits and opticians Pop Specs.

The council will also be seeking tenants for the new market's remaining stalls; any potential trader wishing to be considered should contact the market letting agents, Barker Proudlove via Jessica Swain email: jessica@barkerproudlove.co.uk As further leases are completed, more trader details will be announced.

Councillor Richard Beacham, Cabinet Member for Inclusive Growth, Economy and Regeneration, said: "There is a great deal of interest in Chester's new market, so I am delighted that we are now in a position to make our first announcement about traders – they represent a fantastic mix of both current traders and new expertise. The vision for the new market has always been to create a modern traditional market, a stunning new home for local independent businesses and creative entrepreneurs, all built around new and unique communal spaces right in the heart of our city."

Final phases of lifting Clockwise diversions to begin on 20 February

Following the completion of the drainage tunnel works along the inner ring road, and first phase of reverting Nicholas St. to two-way traffic in October, (plus the reopening of Nuns Rd. in December); the second and third phases of lifting the Clockwise diversions have been designed to allow traffic to safely return to normal after over twelve months of diversions. See maps right and www.clockwisechester.com

Phase 2: From 20 February

Southbound traffic will be able to complete a full section of the inner ring road from the Fountains Roundabout to the Grosvenor Roundabout along St. Martins Way and Nicholas St., with fully reopened junctions at Hunter St., Princess St. and Watergate St.

Phase 3: From 27 February & 6 March

To ensure drivers can adjust to the changes, only one lane westbound will be open around the amphitheatre from Love St. to Pepper St. Then from 6 March traffic will fully revert to two-way between Love St. and Pepper St. and all Clockwise diversions will be lifted.

Drivers will need to take extra care during this process to become familiar with the changes. This is especially critical for the stretch around the amphitheatre where traffic has been flowing one-way in both lanes westbound.

Additional signs and lane markings will be installed as part of the process, and a 20mph speed limit will remain in force. Please note these changes are subject to bad weather or further Covid-19 restrictions impacting on the works.

Regrettably the effects of the Covid pandemic on skilled labour availability and material shortages have resulted in these works taking longer than planned. We would like to thank everyone impacted by the drainage tunnel works for their patience and understanding and appreciate they have at times resulted in significant delays and inconvenience.

Overnight Closure: Lower Watergate St. 11 & 12 February

Required for further reinstatement works; between the junction of Lower Watergate Street with St. Martins Way and the Nicholas Street Mews junction. On Friday 11 and Saturday 12 February from 8pm to 6am. Full diversions will be signed.

