



Latest news from the Northgate project team

July 2021

## First traders offered places in Chester's new Market

Over 80% of the existing Chester Market traders that applied have been offered a place. These 17 businesses will be joined by 10 new traders who will be offered a place in the first round. They are all independent businesses, overwhelmingly local and include a mix of established small businesses and recent start-ups.

To apply for a place in the new market, traders were asked to complete an application form and provide evidence of their trading history or provide an optional business plan. Each application was scored against a wide set of criteria which included their experience, marketing strategy and business viability; in order that the process could be as fair and equitable as possible. 53 applications were received.

The evaluation panel was made up of the Council's Markets Team and independent external advisers. The Council is obliged by law to achieve best value in all its property transactions and the evaluation process ensured that this obligation could be met.

For those traders that were unsuccessful, individual feedback was offered on their application. The Council has alternative markets or retail premises that can be offered to help relocate existing traders.

Although a number of existing traders did not apply for a place in the new market, some have taken the opportunity to use the market as a springboard to opening their own high-street premises or consolidate into more direct to customer businesses, whilst a small number have elected to retire rather than move to the new market.

Further details of the successful trader line-up will be announced once their leases have been concluded.

See FAQs for more information: [www.newchester.market/trade](http://www.newchester.market/trade)

## Have you submitted a name yet?

More than 800 names have been suggested for our new square and arcade so far. The closing date is 16<sup>th</sup> July, please submit at [www.chesternorthgate.com](http://www.chesternorthgate.com). A public vote on the shortlist will follow later in the year.

## Sponsored walk raises over £1,700



Our VINCI site team recently took to the hills for a challenging trek to Moel Famau from Ruthin, raising funds for the Hospice of the Good Shepherd – well done!

## Queen's School visit



A group of Y5 pupils visited the site to learn more about the archaeology and construction. They will be back to bury a time capsule in the autumn.