

## Decision date set for amended plan



SUS-150916-111132001

published

**08:00** Friday 16 October 2015

**A planning application to regenerate the North Street and Phoenix Industrial Estate area of Lewes will be considered by the South Downs National Park Authority in December after final amendments were submitted this week.**

Lewes District Council and Santon North Street submitted the application in March 2015 after three years of public consultation, and these latest amendments reflect points of clarity raised through the formal comment period over the summer months.

The scheme for the 15 hectare brownfield site will deliver 416 new homes, 40 per cent of them affordable, as well as completing the town flood defences, a riverside walk and cycle way linking the town to the countryside and new public squares and gardens overlooking the river.

It includes 140,000 sq ft of flexible employment space accommodating 475 full-time registered jobs and, responding to local business demand, has introduced subsidised rents for small creative start up businesses for half of the workspace included in the North Street Quarter, offering it at around 50 per cent of market rate, through a Section 106 agreement.

A covered 'pay on exit' public carpark with 330 spaces, replacing the existing car parks, will support the new quarter and town centre shoppers and tourists, and a new Health Hub will serve 26,000 patients in the town and wider region, with attractive riverside gardens and including a heritage exhibition centre.

Cllr Andy Smith, Leader of Lewes District Council, said: "I am delighted with the final regeneration scheme being proposed for this brownfield site in the heart of Lewes.

"We have the opportunity to create a vibrant, mixed use neighbourhood which will reconnect this run down area to the heart of Lewes, providing the sustainable homes and jobs we need, as well as supporting the town centre and attracting more visitors."

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comments



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Clive Wilding, project director at Santon North Street, added: "Our proposals have evolved enormously over the past three years in discussion with the local community and informed by statutory authorities and technical studies.

"The majority of feedback on the scheme has been very positive. We have, however, made several further amendments in response to local concerns. The amended proposals clarify the transport strategy much more clearly, during construction and after the scheme is completed."

The amended plans will soon be available both from the South Downs National Park Authority's online public access system and in paper form at the Lewes District Council offices at Southover House in Lewes and Park Authority's office in Midhurst.

Public consultation will then take place over a four-week consultation period, starting on October 19. Site notices will be posted in the area and notifications will be sent to those who responded earlier this year.

The application will be considered at a meeting of the SDNPA's Planning Committee on Thursday, December 10 at County Hall in Lewes.

The detailed planning documents will be on the SDNPA website in the coming days and summary information can be seen at [www.northstreetqtr.co.uk](http://www.northstreetqtr.co.uk).