



Tholsel



Key heritage assets



Main street



Restricted access



Changes in character

The Public Realm Plan for the Medieval Walled Town of Fethard was commissioned in the summer of 2007 by The Heritage Council and South Tipperary County Council, as part of the town's membership of Irish Walled Town Network (IWTN)'

Through a process of research and consultation, the appointed consultants (The Paul Hogarth Company and ERM Ireland) found that whilst Fethard has a considerable wealth of historic features, including the magnificent town walls, the potential to attract visitors to the town has yet to be fully realised. In addition, development pressure has led to an urgent requirement to safeguard for future generations, the physical elements of the town that combine to give the Walled Town of Fethard its unique and fascinating character.

Accordingly, The Public Realm Plan for the Walled Town of Fethard proposes 15 specific initiatives of varied scale and remit. Individually each project will improve the quality of the town's publicly accessible environment. Combined, they can bring about a significant transformation with long term social, cultural, environmental and economic benefits for the town and its people.

FETHARD

PUBLIC REALM PLAN





View from Market Hill

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Balancing transport modes

The 15 specific initiatives are as follows:

- 1 'Wall Walk' & Conservation - Designation of a walking route around the Town Walls, conservation & interpretation of the structures.
- 2 Walled Town Gateways - Improvement projects to accentuate the location of the town's historic gateways and enhance the sense of arrival.
- 3 Approach Road Improvements - Environmental improvements to improve the arrival experience into Fethard.
- 4 River Park Extension - Proposals to improve & enlarge the town's principal green open space as a riverside as well as a setting for the Town Walls.
- 5 Streetscape Improvements - A series of streetscape projects to upgrade the quality of materials & design of the town streets & squares.



Urgent need for change



Significant potential

- 6 Chapel Lane Regeneration - Proposals for the transformation of this historic medieval laneway to play a central role in the tourism offer of the town.
- 7 Lighting Strategy - Proposals to improve the quality of Fethard's night-time environment, increasing safety & maximising its historic landmarks.
- 8 Neighbourhood Open Space Strategy - A strategic look at all the town's small open spaces to define their future role, design & management.
- 9 Frontage Programme - A coordinated initiative to improve shop and house fronts along the Main Street & Burke Street, collectively improving the visual quality of the area.
- 10 Historic Features - Site specific proposals to help support & develop the town's main attractions.

- 11 New Tourism Gateway - Comprehensive proposals to provide centralised parking facilities for visitors.
- 12 Tholsel (Town Hall) - Proposals to sensitively turn this historically important building into the hub of future civic and tourist activity.
- 13 Interpretation & Orientation Strategy - Measures to improve the visitor experience providing orientation between its attractions and interpretation of their significance.
- 14 Rural Strategic Linkages Project - A series of measures to strengthen the physical relationship of the town with its environs and beyond.
- 15 Equestrian Visitor Facility - A visitor attraction to tell the story of the area's equestrian heritage & economy.

