

## St. Paul's Square and Harpur Square Regeneration



### Overview of St. Paul's and Harpur Square Regeneration

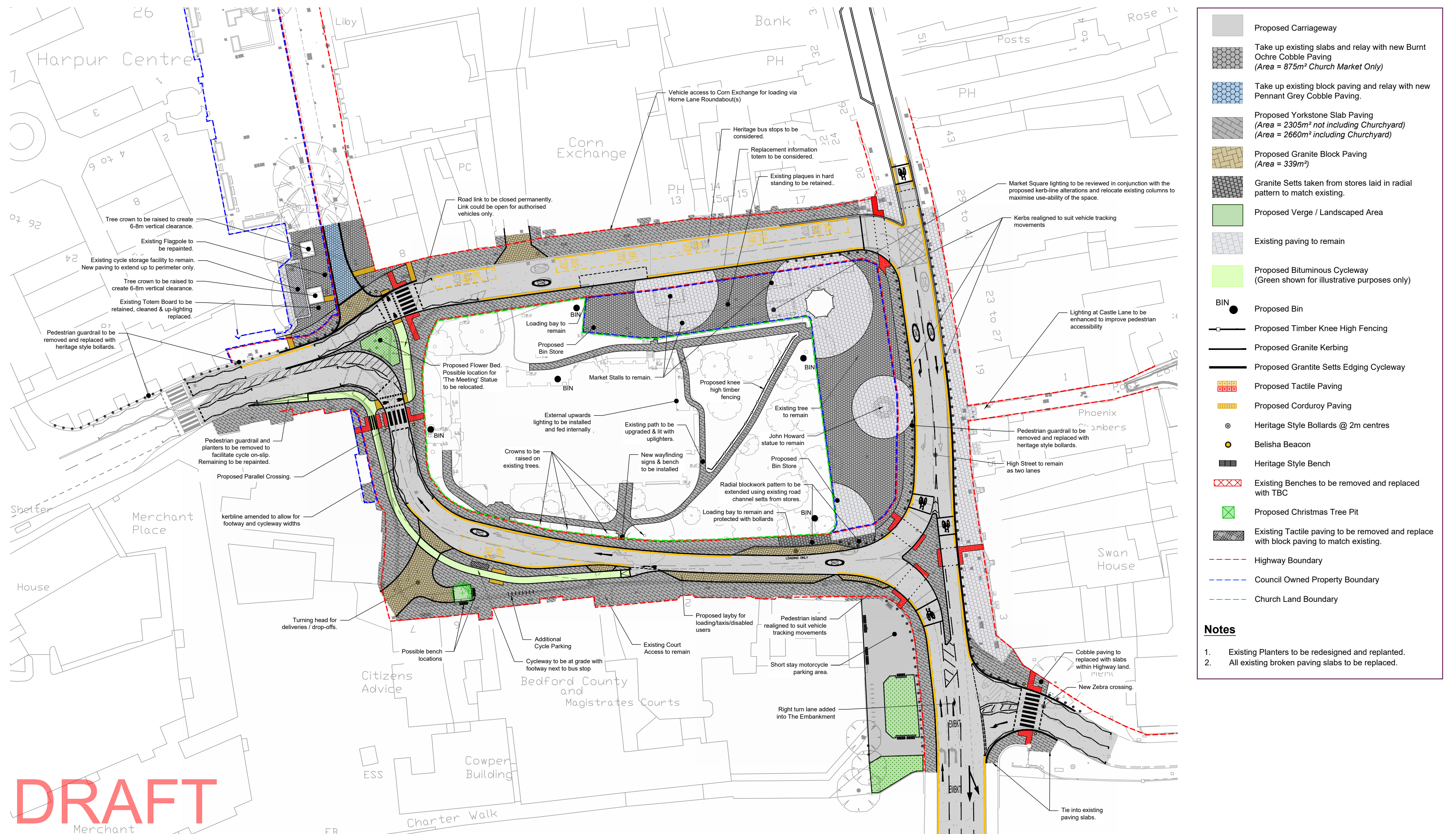
- Bedford was awarded £22.6million through the Towns Fund.
- Objective: Boost economic growth, improve connectivity, and enhance public spaces.
- Includes significant public realm improvements and connectivity projects, enhancing Bedford's attractiveness as a cultural hub.
- St. Paul's Square and Harpur Square are central projects.

### Vision for St. Paul's and Harpur Squares

- Increase vibrancy and footfall.
- Promote Bedford as a cultural destination.
- Enhance infrastructure for events and outdoor performances.
- Improvements include:
  - New public spaces.
  - Better pedestrian and cyclist connectivity.
  - Revamped event infrastructure.
- Enhanced lighting, water infrastructure, and upgraded paving to support outdoor activities and improve the public realm.



## Proposed Plan



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## Project Details



- **St. Paul's Square:**
  - Pedestrianisation and enhanced walkways.
  - Segregated cycleway for active travel.
  - New event and lighting infrastructure.
- **Harpur Square:**
  - Removal of plinths for flexible event space.
  - Repaving and additional utilities for events.
- **Funding:**
  - Total cost of £4.98million fully funded by the Towns Fund.





## Community Benefits



- **Key Outcomes:**
  - Upgraded public event space.
  - Increased accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists.
  - Boost to local businesses and cultural sector.
  - Improved nighttime economy through better lighting.
- Encourages active travel through enhanced pedestrian and cycling routes.
- Boosts the local economy by improving connectivity and supporting cultural activities.
- Enhances connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists across Bedford.
- Provides safer, mostly traffic-free routes for active travel.
- Links key employment sites, recreational spaces, and the town centre.
- Promotes a healthier and more sustainable lifestyle.



## Supporting Bedford's Future

### Alignment with Strategic Goals - Local Plan 2030 and Town Centre Vision

#### Urban Regeneration:

- Revitalizes St. Paul's Square and Harpur Square, enhancing town centre vitality.
- Creates vibrant public spaces that attract visitors and residents.

#### Sustainable Transport:

- Promotes walking and cycling through improved infrastructure.
- Reduces car dependency, supporting environmental objectives.

#### Economic Growth:

- Increases footfall, boosting local businesses and the economy.
- Enhances Bedford's appeal as a destination.

#### Cultural and Social Enrichment:

- Provides venues for events and community activities.
- Strengthens cultural offerings and community engagement.

#### Improved Accessibility and Inclusivity:

- Upgrades pathways and amenities for all abilities.
- Aligns with commitments to an inclusive environment.

#### Environmental Sustainability:

- Incorporates energy-efficient lighting and green spaces.
- Supports sustainability and climate resilience goals.

#### Enhanced Connectivity:

- Links key areas like the Cultural Quarter and Riverside Bedford.
- Supports a well-connected and navigable town centre.





## Timeline and Delivery



### **Key Milestones:**

**Start Date:**  
17 February 2025



**Completion Date:**  
December 2025