

MARGATE TOWN DEAL

Walpole Bay projects

Welcome to this public engagement event for Margate Town Deal's Walpole Bay projects.

£3.55m has been allocated for **Coastal Wellbeing**, one of four themes of the Margate Town Deal, with £1.8m of this delivering projects for Walpole Bay.

Margate Town Deal investment – £22.2m

Coastal Wellbeing (Walpole Bay projects)

Testing New Uses

- Building new beach facilities to support sea swimmers and water users at Walpole Bay, creating commercial opportunities.
- Creating an indoor space for testing ideas to improve residents' health and wellbeing.
- Coastal wellbeing programme to test new uses and activity at Walpole Bay.

Access Walpole

- Improved access to Walpole Bay and the tidal pool.
- Reinstating the Grade II-listed lift.

Details of **all** Margate Town Deal projects can be found at margatetowndeal.co.uk

Access Walpole

The Access Walpole Project aims to improve access to the bay and the tidal pool. There will be improvements to the tidal pool and surrounds, refurbishment of the steps between the cliff top and lower promenade, and the reinstatement of the Grade II listed Walpole Bay Lift.

The lift was originally installed by the Ministry of Health in the 1930s to encourage people to enjoy the benefits of living by the coast. This included swimming in the nearby tidal pool or walking along the shoreline – activities that improved people’s health and wellbeing.

Without access to a working lift, some people are limited to exploring the clifftop. Bringing back the lift will bring the sea and clifftop communities together, achieving access for everyone.



The plan is that the running of the lift and maintenance will be supported through new commercial opportunities within the beach facilities at the bay.

Works to the mechanics of the lift are anticipated to start in **early 2024**, while listed building consent is sought for works to the lift structure and exterior.

What improvements can be made to the tidal pool itself are being considered within the constraints of the site designations and given it is a listed structure.

Engagement with Natural England, Historic England and access groups are taking place to see what solutions will be taken forward to improve how the pool can be accessed.

Improvements to vehicle access at Hodges Gap are being explored, and how the promenade space can be shared safely and enjoyably by growing numbers of pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles. As part of this, options around parking are being considered.

Testing New Uses – timeline



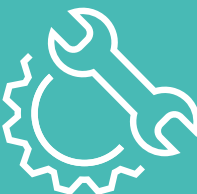
Inception
Creating a project brief, and appointing a project team.

Concept design
Developing a design and collecting public feedback. The aim is to have a fixed design by **early 2024**.



Strategic Design
Using feedback from today's event, changes will be made to the design. Extra engineering consultants will also be appointed.

We are here



There will be further public engagement here

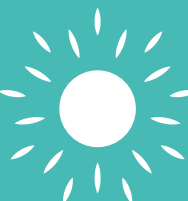
Planning
Thanet District Council will apply for full planning consent in **mid-2024**. Another public engagement event will be held before planning application is submitted.



Construction
Once planning consent is received, a contractor will be appointed, and construction will begin in **late 2024**.



Completion
The new facilities are expected to be open for public use by **Summer 2025**.



Meet the project team



Sponsor

Natalie Glover
Project Manager

Natasha Brown
Coastal Wellbeing
Coordinator



Lead Design Team

Wayne Head
Company Director

Anastasia Kalaitzi
Senior Architect

Mark Attmore
Senior Architect



External Project Management Team

David Gair
Director

Joshua Preater
Apprentice Project
Manager



Thank you for coming to this public engagement event. We hope you now have a better idea of the Margate Town Deal projects at Walpole Bay.

If you would like to have your say on the projects, please scan this QR code and complete our survey.



Margate Town Deal – themes and projects

Coastal Wellbeing

- Creating new beachside facilities at **Walpole Bay** and delivering a **participation programme** to test new activities to promote health and wellbeing
- Making the **Walpole Bay Lift** functional again
- Improving the coastal environment, including a new **skatepark** on Ethelbert Crescent

Creative Production and Skills

- Improving the **Theatre Royal** and surrounding area
- Establishing a **Creative Land Trust** for Margate
- Running **outreach activities** to connect local people with the creative industries

Active Movement and Connections

- Improvements to the highway and **public realm** in Margate to help people move around the town more easily
- Installing improved **wayfinding** in the town
- Improving **public toilet facilities**

Diversifying Heritage Assets

- Testing the market to ensure a viable future for the **Winter Gardens**
- Developing a new venue in The Sunshine Cafe to compliment the **Dreamland** amusement park and unlock significant private investment

To sign up for the latest news and updates about the Margate Town Deal, go to thanet.gov.uk/get-involved-mtd

