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St. Ives
Town Deal



NEWSLETTER | OCTOBER 2023

In September 2022 Cornwall received its first share of Town Deal funding from the Government.

One year on, six of the nine approved projects - St Ives Theatre, the Rugby Club Relocation and Housing, the Guildhall, Leach Pottery, the Enterprise Grants and St Ives Community Orchard - have been contracted and received their first grant payments, enabling work to begin on delivering these exciting and ambitious schemes.

We are continuing to work with the remaining projects and look forward to seeing their contracts issued later this year to enable them to move forward with their plans.

This is a fantastic achievement which has involved a huge amount of 'behind the scenes' activity from those leading the projects, St Ives Town Deal Board and Cornwall Council. You can read more [here](#).

We have also produced a short film about the first year of the St Ives Town Deal programme which you can view [here](#).

Updates from all our projects are available below.

UPGRADING AND PROVIDING NEW COMMUNITY SPACES

St Ives Community Orchard and Wildlife Reserve

Construction of the circular environmentally sustainable facility, which started in May, is set to be completed at the end of this year. Once open in early 2024, it will offer an environmental education programme including workshops, skills and nature-based training as well as community events to individuals, local groups and schools. [READ MORE](#)

You can watch a short film about what has been happening [here](#)



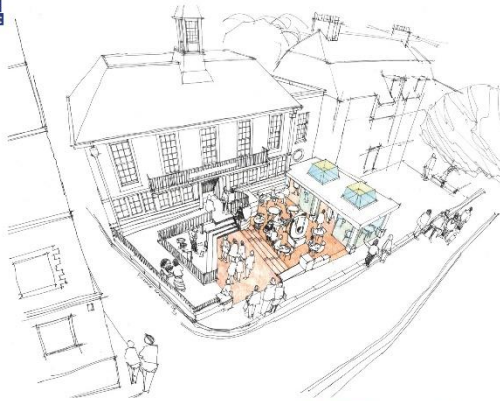
St Ives Town Council Guildhall Renewal project

The project received its first grant payment of £308,000 in July, marking an exciting step forward in the plans to restore the building and confirming its role as the civic and cultural heart of the town while re-imagining it for future generations. The Guildhall closed its doors to the public at the beginning of October, enabling work to begin on the transformation project, with the building currently due to re-open in spring 2025.

Markets on Mondays and Wednesdays are now taking place at The Island Centre, 2 The Rope Walk, St Ives TR26 1SY. [READ MORE](#)

You can watch a short film about what has been happening with the Guildhall project [here](#)

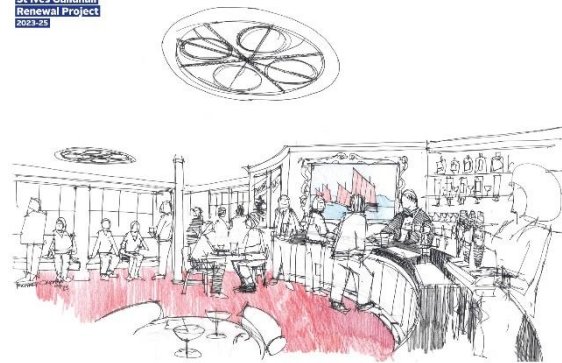
St Ives Guildhall
Renewal Project
2023-25



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St Ives

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St Ives

St Ives Theatre Regeneration

The project received its first Town Deal grant worth £109,000 at the beginning of October. The venue, run by Kidz R Us, will be closing their doors temporarily this winter to allow work to begin on the second phase of the refurbishment. The £1.5m project will see the historic building reconfigured and upgraded to provide an extended auditorium and new cafe / bar and reception area, with the aim of creating new jobs and increasing incomes for the charity. [READ MORE](#)



IMPROVING OUR TRANSPORT SYSTEM FOR A GREENER TOWN CENTRE

Low Carbon Transport

The team has been working closely with local stakeholder groups to develop initial proposals for the scheme. Public consultation will begin in November, with draft interventions due to be presented at a public exhibition at St Ives Library on 27 November to enable the local community to give their views on the proposals. [READ MORE](#)



SUPPORTING NEW SKILLS, JOBS AND BUSINESS

Enterprise Grants Scheme

Applications for the second round of grants between £2,500 and £50,000 officially opened on 9 October and will close on 6 November. 28 local businesses and organisations applied during the first round which closed last June to seek funding for improving their premises, building extensions or purchasing new equipment. Applications can be made [here](#).

The scheme is open to all small to medium businesses within the St Ives Town Deal area, with the Board keen to encourage applications from creative industries, technology and digital businesses, construction, trade and manufacturing, business and finance sectors, and marine and green businesses from all areas including Carbis Bay and the Penbeagle Industrial Estate, as well as from the town centre.

The team is also reviewing initial expressions of interest submitted for a £1 million fund to create a new flagship centre to provide high quality training, technology and digital skills opportunities in the town. [READ MORE](#)

Leach Pottery and Digital Trail

After securing planning permission for the first phase of the £4.9 million project to create a community hub with a new production studio and learning space at the world-renowned site, the project team received £530,000 from the Town Deal in June.

This funding is being used to secure additional external investment, with work on constructing the new buildings currently due to begin next summer (2024).

The team are currently asking the public what they would like to see included in the new museum. Visit <https://www.leachpottery.com/have-your-say> to take part in the consultation. [READ MORE](#).

You can watch a short film about what has been happening with the Leach Pottery project [here](#)



BUILDING NEW AND TRANSFORMED HOUSING

Old Vicarage Flats Affordable Housing

Discussions are continuing to finalise the contract with Cornwall Council, which will enable St Ives Community Land Trust to receive its Town Deal funding and start work on converting the building. In the meantime, preliminary works have been taking place to remove some internal walls and fittings. The team are planning to hold an Open Day to enable the local community to see what has been happening. Visit the CLT website - www.stivesclt.org.uk for details. [READ MORE](#)



St Ives LiveWest Low Carbon Retrofit

Work is continuing to finalise the contract for the energy retrofit housing programme which is being led by LiveWest. The scheme will see improvements to 200 social housing properties delivered through several phases across the next two years. [READ MORE](#)



Rugby Club and Housing

Following the signing of the contract in September, work on finalising the planning application is well underway. The repositioning of the clubhouse facilities will provide a modern clubhouse with two full size sports pitches for use by the club and local community at the same time as freeing up land for the potential delivery of extra care homes and affordable housing for local people. [READ MORE](#)



Next steps

Next year will be another significant year for the programme as more of our projects enter their construction phase.

Delivering these exciting and ambitious projects will revitalise our town, improving life for residents and creating sustainable communities now and into the future.

It has been a massive, combined effort to get the projects through to the stage that they're at now and we are looking forward to seeing all of them completed by the Government's Town Deal funding deadline of March 2026.



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About the St Ives Town Deal

In June 2021, St Ives secured a Town Deal of up to £19.9 million from the UK Government as part of its Levelling Up plans. Nine regeneration projects have been approved to receive funding from the Town Deal following the successful submission of the [Town Investment Plan](#).

View our [Frequently Asked Questions page](#) to find out more about the Town Deal Fund in St Ives.

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