

Ellesmere Port Regeneration Update

Latest news from the project team

February 2026

First phase of market transformation revealed

The Market has now reopened following the first phase of its refurbishment, with traders moved to newly restored stalls and two new exhibits celebrating the town's history.



A large 3D artwork called **Fantastical Port**, left, has been created by students from Ellesmere Port Catholic High School which brings the history of the town to life using archives maps and images with paintings by the students.



A 1964 Vauxhall Viva, above, is also on display by the entrance from the Port Arcades and was one of the first vehicles made at the Ellesmere Port factory. The Viva set new standards for small lightweight family cars and over 1 million Vivas were produced at the factory between 1964 and 1979. The refurbished market's colour scheme has also been inspired by a Vauxhall paint colour chart from the 1970s featuring Tasman Orange, Sunspot and Crystal Green. The popular children soft play area has now been relocated into the refurbished section of the market opposite The Corner, a new tiered seating area. The second phase of works on the remaining hoarded off areas and in the Flea Market will continue through the spring. Work has also commenced on the public realm space in front of the market which will create a new al fresco area and landscaping along with cycle parking and seating.

Councillor Nathan Pardoe, Cabinet Member for Inclusive Economy, Regeneration and Digital Transformation said: "The opening of the newly refurbished areas marks a major milestone in the transformation of the market, we are grateful for our customers' and traders' support in enabling us to keep the market open during the works; please bear with us during the second phase of the refurbishment and while we work on the public realm in front of the market. We have created interest from new businesses that wish to trade in the market and are also keen to recruit new traders to the refurbished market, where you will be surrounded by experienced, knowledgeable traders with whom you can share ideas and insights with, as well as benefiting from expert advice from our award-winning market management team." Anyone interested in trading from the market can register their interest via markets@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

The refurbishment works are currently expected to complete in late summer when the entire market area will reopen. The Ellesmere Port Town Centre regeneration project is funded by the government's, Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government.

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Market traders settle into new stalls

Traders are now benefitting from refurbished stalls that have been repainted and fitted with new shutters, electrical connections and partitions alongside a new layout to improve movement around stalls. Meet all the traders on the Market [website](#)



Active Travel Update

Work on new active travel routes to provide improved walking, wheeling and cycling links is now on site and under construction. This project will deliver a safer cycle route from Ellesmere Port rail station to the town centre. We apologise for any inconvenience during these works – [more information](#)

The cycle route along Cromwell and Wellington Road North includes a new mini roundabout and traffic calming to reduce speeds and make on-road cycling safer. This scheme will also provide new secure cycle parking outside the market entrance.

Provision of a new signalised pedestrian crossing at the top of Cromwell and Whitby Road, together with dropped kerbs at side roads along Whitby Road will make the walking route accessible and support more physical activity in daily lifestyles. The programme for the remaining works is as follows;

- Whitby Road, one way closure, from 20/01/2026 to 10/04/2026
- Victoria Road, road closure, from 09/04/2026 to 10/04/2026
- Exeter Road, lane narrowing, on 09/02/2026
- Cromwell Road & Wellington Road N, 4-way traffic lights from 13/04/2026 to 21/04/2026 and road closures (except for access) on Sundays.

