



GRAVESHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL LAUNCHES SEARCH FOR DESIGN FOR GRAVESHAM PARTNERS.

Gravesham Borough Council has launched its search for an exemplar team of place-makers to create Design for Gravesham, a borough-wide design code.

The creation of the code is part of Gravesham's ambitious programme of community and place-led regeneration. The code will reflect to the borough's unique character and heritage and responds to the Government's Levelling-up and Regeneration bill.

The successful team will have experience of similar codes and working with local authorities and a commitment to meaningful community engagement, co-design and social value.

Design for Gravesham will be used, as a policy document and guide for those looking to invest in Gravesham. It will promote Gravesham's expectations for community and place-led regeneration and quality, place and climate - supporting our Corporate Plan commitment to deliver for people, place and progress and our target of being operationally net zero by 2030.

Tom Reynolds, Gravesham Borough Council's Assistant Director (Strategic Regeneration), said: "We are proud to be Gravesham - it is a unique place, with an incredible community and rich history.

"Design for Gravesham needs to capture this uniqueness, supporting community and place-led regeneration in the borough. The code will add the vital Gravesham layer, supplementing recognised design guidance and setting the benchmark for quality, place and climate to steward buildings and spaces that engage, deliver and contribute to Gravesham's unique character."

Gravesham is a prime location for investment with 11km of Thames riverfront, excellent river, road and rail connections, vibrant urban areas in the historic towns of Gravesend and Northfleet, and idyllic countryside at the gateway to the Garden of England.

Despite this, Gravesham is in much need of levelling-up, with principally a low GVA, wage and skill economy and town centre wards experiencing high levels of unemployment, crime and health inequalities.

Moreover, Gravesend town centre faces challenges from reduced footfall, the changing face of retail, fluctuating vacancy rates and the pandemic.

Design for Gravesham will provide the place anchor to support the council's ambitious regeneration plans for Gravesham Riverside, which includes projects in development, delivery, and the pipeline.

These include The Charter, 242 homes in the heart of Gravesend town centre due to complete in 2023 and part of a pioneering partnership between Rosherville (the council's property development company) and property developers Reef; Albion Waterside by Joseph Homes; and Clifton Slipways by Quinn Estates.

The ITT has been launched through the Kent Business Portal, <https://www.kentbusinessportal.org.uk/> Comments and clarifications can be raised through the portal.

The closing date for submissions is noon 9 September 2022.