

New Mills MTI Healthcheck and Action Plan

High Peak Borough Council and New Mills Town Council

Task

BE Group was commissioned by High Peak Borough Council and New Mills Town Council to undertake a Market Town Healthcheck and develop an Action Plan for New Mills.

New Mills developed as a mill town during the industrial revolution. Textile mills, based on waterpower, were built in the Torrs, a rocky gorge formed by the Rivers Goyt and Sett. Today many of the original buildings are either in disuse or have been converted to housing.

The town is just inside the boundary of Derbyshire surrounded by the stunning Peak District countryside.



Activities

Extensive consultation with:

- Parish councils
- Business survey
- Public event at New Mills Town Hall
- Interactive map based exercises with local schools and youth groups
- Key stakeholders, community groups and local organisations, such as High Peak Borough Council, Derbyshire County Council and East Midlands Development Agency

Researched a range of statistical and physical audit data

Established a New Mills Partnership to take forward and formulate projects, this process also included the creation of eight sub groups specialising in key sectors:

- Community, voluntary and elderly
- Transport
- Access
- Health
- Town centre
- Heritage and tourism
- Business
- Youth and schools.



Outcome

A total of forty three projects were devised themed on:

- Employment and economic development
- Community facilities and services
- Tourism
- Transport and infrastructure
- Young people.

These projects included: creating attractive gateways to the town; regenerating the Peak Forest Canal Basin; environmental enhancement of Meal Street; establishment of a young carers support group; redevelopment of Torr Vale Mill; improving the Sett Valley Trail, to encourage cycling; improving information and advice for young people.

