

SUSTAINABILITY ACHIEVEMENT

Chatham Maritime, North Kent

Chatham Maritime has undergone a tremendous transformation since the Royal Navy left Chatham in 1984, ending 400 years of naval history. Since then a new sustainable community has been created at this 140-hectare site in the heart of the Thames Gateway. Now two-thirds complete, it is home to 5,000 residents, provides thousands of jobs and houses three universities.

The South East England Development Agency (SEEDA) is responsible for the regeneration of Chatham Maritime. Countryside Properties and SEEDA have developed St Mary's Island at Chatham Maritime under the banner Countryside Maritime Ltd (CML).

To date in excess of £400 million of public and private funds have been spent at Chatham Maritime – a massive commitment.

Environmentally friendly new housing

- 161 CML-built homes on the Island have a 'Good' or better BRE **EcoHomes rating** awarded by the Building Research Establishment. All new homes on the Island will be built to a 'Very Good' EcoHomes rating.
- Homes are energy efficient, some having solar panels, etc.
- CML's **affordable housing** is among the most environmentally friendly and cheapest to run on the Island.
- **Affordable housing** is carefully integrated throughout the development and makes up 25 per cent of the dwellings on all new schemes.

Community facilities

- A **convenience shop** (a Co-op 'Community Store') and 'fish and chip' shop – both within close walking distance of St Mary's Island.
- A three **GP doctors' surgery** on St Mary's Island.
- Plan to open a **new pharmacy** on the Island within about two years.
- A multi-hall **community centre** on St Mary's Island run by Moat Housing for CML. Steering group comprised mostly of residents.
- A **community liaison manager** is employed by CML to help youth groups etc get started.
- Multi-purpose venue the **St George's Centre** available to hire for meetings, exhibitions and fairs.
- Rochester-based Arethusa Venture Centre provides **sailing courses** for children in former Basin Two.
- **Twenty acres of dedicated open space** and three purpose-built play areas for younger children on St Mary's Island.
- An **all weather sports pitch** for all age groups located in the centre of the Island, close to the community centre.





Local education and community engagement

- **Jigsaw day nursery** for children aged three months to five years.
- **Primary school** recently expanded to take up to 420 children.
- **Church** within the primary school.
- Thriving **university campus** in Pembroke, Chatham Maritime, made up of three universities and a Further Education college.
- Within the campus a 7,000m² **Learning Resource Centre/Library** open to students, tutors and members of the public.

Leisure facilities

- **Dockside Outlet Centre** featuring more than 80 shops and restaurants.
- **Multi-screen cinema** due to open in 2006.
- **Dickens World visitor/entertainment attraction** – expected to become the second biggest visitor attraction in Kent – opening in 2007.
- A **300-berth marina** created in the former Basin One (including berths for historic visiting vessels).
- Plans to build a number of **bars and restaurants** around the award-winning marina within the next two to three years.
- Shepherd Neame **pub, hotel and restaurant** situated in the listed 'Ship and Trades' building (overlooking the marina).

Sustainable transport

- **Three bus operators** currently run services to St Mary's Island (previously none).
- Bus service running **every 10 minutes** to Chatham Town Centre and Chatham Railway Station.
- Over 3km of **safe, new cycleways and footpaths** on the Island connected to a network serving the rest of Chatham.
- A **boardwalk and mile-long riverside walk** enables visitors to stroll around the Island (previously closed to the public for 400 years).

Employment opportunities

- SEEDA has created a **premier business location** at Chatham Maritime, with 100,000m² of office space providing 3,500 new and retained jobs.
- Companies that have moved to Chatham Maritime include Micro Medical, Halifax plc, Natwest Bank plc, Medway Council, Kent Police Constabulary and mhs homes.

