



e Leader of Medway Council, Cllr Rodney Chambers, interviewed by TV Ro n news: "When the economic upturn comes. Medway will be ready."



over down and new £5m bus station news: "When the economic upturn comes, Medway will

design champion before he became design champion for the Thames Gateway as a whole. In his report *Five Towns Make a City*, he says Medway has a "once-in-a-generation opportunity" to transform itself through the redevelopment of spectacular sites along seven miles of waterfront.

On Rochester Riverside, one of the Gateway's most striking regeneration sites, Crest Nicholson and green-living specialists Bioregional Quintain have been selected to build the first phase of 2,000 homes. Chatham's waterfront, which looks across the River Medway to Rochester's castle and cathedral, is also seen as having vast potential for redevelopment.

Medway's new city

Chatham is seen as Medway's future city centre. Home to four universities and 10,000 students - an important source of skills for the years of economic growth ahead - major infrastructure work is underway in Chatham. Chatham's biggest eyesore, the Sir John Hawkins Flyover, is being demolished and the road system is being remodelled, boosting traffic flow and freeing up the town centre and the waterfront for massive private and public sector investment. Alongside major plans for the future Chatham's history is being preserved; a World Heritage Site bid is being prepared for Chatham Historic Dockyard and its Napoleonic defences.

Other key sites and developments:

- 70-acre Temple Waterfront, where Lafarge Cement UK has submitted plans for 600 homes in a £100m scheme
- Strood Riverside
- Gillingham Waterfront, where
 Berkeley First is creating Victory Pier
- Former Ministry of Defence land at Chattenden, where Land Securities plan to build 5,000 new homes
- Medway Park a regional centre of sporting excellence - is being created as the centrepiece of the area's links with the 2012 Olympics.

High-tech and high-speed

The regeneration in Medway is already attracting businesses. Start-ups and high-tech companies are signing up for 'phase two' of Innovation Centre Medway (ICM2) - a partnership between BAE Systems, Medway Council, Royal Bank of Scotland and Kent and Greenwich universities. Facilities include office space, conference rooms and a secure data centre.

Medway is also set to benefit from new high-speed rail services. From December 2009, Medway will be boosted by the start of High Speed 1 commuter trains. Two trains an hour will serve Chatham, Rochester and Strood, cutting journey times to London to as little as 33 minutes.

Medway has a strong reputation for delivery. Now the ambition is to turn Medway into a successful river city of 300,000 people at the heart of the Thames Gateway.



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