



How the planned visitor centre could look.

Events and heritage within castle's walls

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HAVERFORDWEST Castle will become easier to access from the town centre under new regeneration plans from Pembrokeshire County Council.

Since 2015, Pembrokeshire County Council has been working with local groups, businesses and volunteers on ambitious plans to bring the castle back into use for the regeneration of the county town.

The plan has multiple phases, with the first costing £4 million, and PCC is pledging £475,000 as match funding towards the vision.

Mike Cavanagh, head of culture, leisure and registration, said he sees this work



A concept sketch of the castle and town.

as vital to the transformation of Haverfordwest and PCC's vision of making the town a destination of choice.

"Although the castle is very centrally placed, it does not look or feel close to the town centre. You can see the castle looming above but it soon disappears and it is very

hard to know how to get to it from the town centre," said Mr Cavanagh.

The council will create easier ways to walk up to the castle and a perimeter wall walk around the outside of the medieval fortress.

It also plans to build an outdoor events space in the cas-

tle grounds with a capacity of around 500.

The events space will have an all-weather cover, hosting comedy, music, theatre and even markets.

Mr Cavanagh added: "The castle redevelopment can help regenerate the town by bringing both local people and tourists to Haverfordwest. It really can become a cultural showpiece.

"We know that towns cannot survive on retail alone these days.

"They need high quality leisure opportunities to draw people back into our destinations."

The second phase of the scheme for the castle will see the prison building in the castle grounds, formerly Pembrokeshire Archives, transformed into a visitor centre based around the heritage of the county.