

# **Brighton & Hove City Council - Video transcript**

## **£12 million government funding towards new Brighton & Hove venue**

Video release date - February 2017

### **Transcript begins**

The video starts with footage of the derelict Black Rock site and then shows how it has been used in the past as an ice rink. Footage then moves to the seafront, looking across the A259 towards the current Brighton Centre and cinema complex, then returns to Black Rock. Councillor Warren Morgan speaks to camera from Dukes Mound, the Black Rock site and the new flats being built at Brighton Marina are in view behind him.

### **Commentary**

Plans to create a world class conference centre and entertainment venue at Black Rock, next to Brighton Marina, have received a boost, with over £12 million of government funding just awarded to the project.

The money has come via the Local Enterprise Partnership. It'll make a significant contribution to the high costs of redeveloping a site which has been derelict for over 30 years. That could include things like improving sea defences and clearing foundations from the former Black Rock Lido.

The Black Rock development is part of the city's huge Waterfront regeneration project. This would see the current Brighton Centre demolished, along with the cinema complex next door. The site would be redeveloped, including extending Churchill Square shopping centre to the seafront and radically improving public spaces in the area.

A replacement conference centre and 10,000 seat entertainments venue would be built at Black Rock. Council leader Warren Morgan says this latest £12 million is a step in the right direction.

### **Councillor Warren Morgan speaks**

It's a tremendous boost for the Waterfront project, specifically the Black Rock site, where we're hoping to build a world class conference and entertainments venue. And it'll put us back at the top of the table in terms of conference and entertainments venues across Britain.

The next step is to conclude our deal with Standard Life Investments. It's a half a billion pound deal that involves not just this site but the extension of Churchill Square shopping centre down to the seafront. And it's the business rates from that extension to Churchill Square that will fund the borrowing to enable this project to be completed.

By unlocking this site at Black Rock, which has been derelict since the 1970s, we can regenerate the whole eastern section of Brighton seafront, which means that the Madeira Terraces will be restored and revitalised. There will be jobs, business rates and a whole range of economic activity, which can only be a good thing for the city of Brighton & Hove.

Transcript ends

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