

# Surf's up for Partnership!

The Helensburgh Partnership, the body charged with regeneration of the town and surrounds, has launched a great new website detailing its aims.

[www.helensburghpartnership.co.uk](http://www.helensburghpartnership.co.uk)



The site's welcome page describes the turn of events which has brought the group into existence:

*"Helensburgh is one of the most sought-after places to live in the West of Scotland. It is close to the Glasgow conurbation, and yet is on the Firth of Clyde at the entry to the Highlands. This combination makes Helensburgh unique as both a popular commuter town and a tourist centre in its own right. At the 2001 census, Helensburgh had a population of about 14,600, but the town serves a much larger catchment area of close to 27,000.*

*"Despite these strong fundamentals, the town has not kept up with the times, and seems to have lost its way. There is certainly no shortage of opinion locally as to what is best for Helensburgh. Views have been expressed by a number of local organisations, including Argyll & Bute Council and various community and business groups. Consultants have been commissioned to carry out research and analysis – such as that carried out by Yellow Book Consulting. There has also been study work carried out by local*

*organisations such as the Helensburgh Vision Steering Group and the Helensburgh Study Group.*

*"However, up until 2006, there has never been a single body charged with uniting the various community groups and public agencies, attracting private-sector investment and facilitating the regeneration of Helensburgh. That vehicle now exists – the Helensburgh Partnership.*

Further in the site, they continue with a dynamic mission statement:

*"The Partnership is charged with delivering the physical, economic and social regeneration of Helensburgh Town Centre and Waterfront. This will be carried out in collaboration with the wider community. The Partnership is convinced that Helensburgh has tremendous potential. There are clear challenges, but the fundamentals are positive."*

The Partnership Board has a budget of £600,000 over three years, an independent Chairman, plus representation from community and business groups including the Community Council, the Chamber of Commerce and the Retailers' Association.