

# Drop-in plan to explore public's views

10/4/01

**STROUD people will get their chance for a say on the future of the town's landmark Hill Paul building during a public consultation day this weekend.**

Local residents will be able to a former motoring shop in the Merrywalks Shopping Centre, on Saturday, that will be used as a showcase for ideas for the redevelopment of the former factory and its neighbouring land at Cheapside.

The aim is to reach people who prefer not to attend public meetings, but who still have a lot to contribute to regenerating Stroud, said event spokesman Carlos Ordonez.

Both the Hill Paul Regeneration Group, which recently exchanged contracts to buy

**by Stroud Reporter  
Jo Barber**



the derelict building, and the Stroud Task Force are behind the day.

"There will be maps, models of the site, photographs and drawings to help people to give their ideas of what they want to see develop in Cheapside, and what services, shops, employment, housing etc. they would support," said Mr Ordonez.

## Map

Many exhibits will be based on simple, easy-to-use techniques to encourage people to use maps and drawings to spell out what they want.

"There will be a giant map, covering the

whole wall of the shop," said Mr Ordonez.

The Regeneration Group is trying to raise the £1.3 million to buy Hill Paul by the end of the year.

Its campaigning members saved the building from imminent demolition after clinching the purchase deal just after the Christmas holidays.

The task force, set up by Stroud MP David Drew after a visit by urban task force architect Lord Rogers, aims to work with local professionals to stimulate and support regeneration in the Stroud district.

It has set up a community development initiative for Stroud, which has chosen Cheapside for its initial focus.

The consultation day will run from 10am until 4pm and at the start there will be a children's Easter egg hunt.