

## Council set to demolish Ramsgate port building

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AN OLD Ramsgate port building is to be demolished after being condemned by Thanet council.

A council spokesman said: "We are currently preparing a project to demolish one of the older buildings on the port which was constructed in the early 1980s.

"This building played a part in providing duty free shopping to port customers in the 1980s and 1990s. However, it is no longer economic to maintain the building, which has reached the end of its design life.

"The main terminal building including check-in area will not be affected by this proposed work. There will also be no negative impact on future cross-Channel ferry opportunities."

Ramsgate mayor and Ukip councillor Trevor Shonk said: "Before anything is done Ramsgate Town Council should have a site visit and look at the building to be demolished."

The port is due to be back in business following the announcement in October of a new car transporter service by transport and logistics company GEFCO.

GEFCO reached the deal with Thanet council.

Council leader Chris Wells said at the start of October he expected the service by GEFCO to start in a "matter of weeks". But the authority is still in discussions to arrange when GEFCO will begin shipments.

A spokesman for the council said: "Arrangements for the commencement of sailings to Ramsgate Port are still ongoing. Although timings have changed, positive negotiations are still ongoing."

The council says its long-term goal remains to attract a **ferry** operator

See <http://www.thanetgazette.co.uk/building-set-demolition-ramsgate-port/story-28385144-detail/story.htm#Y3ds2WjTCW1IVmP1.99>