

CITY WIDE COMMENTS

Sustainable Neighbourhood Development Plan
Document Consultation 16/02/2011- 30/03/2011



SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

Seven individuals have submitted representations that are of general interest, or have wider implication than individual neighbourhoods. These do not fit into the neighbourhood template so each is briefly summarised under subject headings below.

Historical heritage

- Greater efforts should be made to increase awareness of Plymouths heritage including its historical fortifications.
- Plymouth Museum and Devon Records Office are valuable assets with interesting collections. The latter however needs better facilities.
- Greater use should be made of a well designed interesting web site to promote plymouth and its unique heritage
- Greater passion and innovation is needed to promote Plymouth world wide as well as locally.

Environmental considerations

- Neighbourhoods should have well defined and sustainable centres.
- The distinct individual features of each area should be protected and promoted. Inappropriate development should be resisted.
- Greater use made of river or coastal areas for residential, leisure and public access, also views to the moors protected.
- Industrial or unsightly development should be sited appropriately, and screened.
- Major roads should not impede pedestrian, cycle or public transport routes.
- Utilities should be sited to avoid disruption.
- Car parks should be underground.
- Green transport infrastructure (cycle storage, vehicle charging points etc) should be planned into new development, and where possible transport goods by rail or water.
- Promote local food initiatives.
- Use design competitions for significant new development.

General Considerations

- Concern that no provision has been made for Gypsies and Travellers.
- The adopted Greenspace strategy should be implemented.
- All footpaths should be designated as public rights of way.
- Enforce protection for natural environment.
- Improve access to greenspaces for the disabled.
- Greater controls required over changes of use to and standards for houses in multiple occupation.

Full Name ID	3b - If not, what would you like to change?	Q2 - How are you connected with this city	Other comments - Please add any other comments you would like to make...	Upload - Please upload any additional information such as maps, images or letters here:
Miss Rachel Bust SNDPD78	(Coal Authority)			File Attached
Ms Sarah Crielesi SNDPD132	<p>I welcome your suggestion that efforts should be made to improve awareness of the historic fortifications in Efford. Certainly enhancing the role of the historic fortifications could create a neighbourhood landmark that increases the sense of place but this is only one of the spin-offs of making everybody aware of our fascinating heritage.</p> <p>Plymouth is a city with a rich and vibrant history that goes back a very long way. We need to plan to preserve this heritage, make people aware of it and also use it to promote our city as a world class tourist destination for everybody interested in history. Careful planning to make the various historic sites around our city more welcoming, accessible and “magical” , creating an atmosphere that inspires people to think about and imagine what life was like here in the past, is needed in all areas of the city, not just Efford.</p> <p>More importance and space should be given to the City Museum service and its collection, much of which is stored away and therefore hidden from public view. The Devon Records Office urgently needs re-housing and the new location needs to be not only equipped for the serious researcher and family historian, but also to have welcoming and interesting display rooms for tourists to visit.</p> <p>September 6th 2020 marks the 400th anniversary of the sailing of the Pilgrim Fathers in the Mayflower to America. This anniversary provides a golden opportunity to raise awareness of our historical heritage and attract visitors, particularly from America.</p> <p>Somebody with passion about our historical heritage, vision and enthusiasm, should be appointed to identify everything the city can offer the discerning visitor who is interested in history. Here I am not just referring to the Mayflower Steps and Sir Francis Drake!</p> <p>The “Sustainable Neighbourhood Development Plan” should make provision to ensure that all our historic sites are accessible and welcoming. We also need a Plymouth website with a “wow” factor (conspicuously</p>	A general comment for consideration...		

<p>lacking in the current PCC website!) that showcases our heritage and will inspire people from all over the world to want to come here on holiday. Leaflets promoting our city should be available for the public to read and take away in the consular sections of British Embassies abroad. Without spending a fortune, with passion and dedication, our heritage could be the key to revitalising our economy, bringing in tourists and creating jobs in the city.</p> <p>The history of Plymouth begins in the Bronze Age when a trading post developed for the Roman Empire; however, the fossil heritage discovered at the very beginning of the 19th Century has uncovered bone caves of ancient Homo Sapiens that are at least 140,000 years old. This remarkable discovery is one of the most important finds in Europe. Several more caves have been unearthed with ancient fossils in Plymouth which add to this unique discovery.</p> <p>http://www.plymouthcity.org</p> <p>Details of the relevant geological and archaeological evidence can be seen on the Devon Karst website:</p> <p>http://www.devonkarst.org.uk/Bone%20Caves%20of%20Plymouth%20&%20District/CAThp.htm</p> <p>Our city museum has a small collection of bones from the bone caves (sadly some of the collection was destroyed during the Blitz) but these bones are incredibly important just because of their age. The bone caves themselves are worthy of more tender loving care and poor planning decisions (eg the concrete block factory) make this remarkable site, which attracted many visitors in the Victorian age, unwelcoming for tourists today. Very careful thought needs to be given to ways in which awareness of this fossil heritage can be improved.</p> <p>http://www.thisisplymouth.co.uk/displayNode.jsp?nodeId=181429&command=displayContent&sourceNode=133464&contentPK=17095687</p> <p>I mention the bone caves only as an example. Around our city are many historic sites that should be given more prominence and importance in the Sustainable Neighbourhood Development Plan. They are not only our heritage; they could also be a source of revenue for our future.</p>			
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<p>Mrs Janet Vosper SNDPD122</p>		<p>See general comments at the end of form to apply to all relevant neighbourhoods.</p>	<p>Thank you very much again for addressing the Plymouth Civic Society on the Sustainable Plans for the areas without AAPs.</p> <p>I would like to register the following points which might be regarded as applicable to all such plans, rather than to any plan in particular. I would hope that these points would be taken into account wherever relevant to each of the plans. The sequence of the points is not intended to indicate importance; all are seen as equally important.</p> <p>1 All areas the subject of the local plans should have a defined neighbourhood centre providing local amenities including local food shops, cafes, bars, meeting space, integrated and reliable public transport links from early morning to late at night and places of local employment and business of a scale appropriate to the neighbourhood. Each local centre should include residential property and should be within ten minutes walk of schools for all age groups, health centre facilities, library, public meeting, play and sports areas, quality managed public green space, well-designed high quality sustainable housing from one to four or more bedrooms, no dark or non-overlooked elements, lots of trees along all streets and priority for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport.</p> <p>2 The distinctive and positive individual characteristics of each local area should be preserved, protected and promoted in terms of all historic buildings, all iconic features, all green areas, tree preservation, vista preservation and encouragement of wildlife. Streets or terraces of houses of particular Georgian, Victorian, Edwardian or other quality period characteristics should be protected and conserved and inconsistent or insensitive development or external alteration should be strongly resisted.</p> <p>3 River or coastal waterfrontages should be prioritised for residential, leisure and public access; industrial and commercial activities should be restricted to inland or non-waterfront sites (but note point 16 below which would imply some wharfing requirements). Also, views to the moors and hills in the Plymouth hinterland should be protected from visual blight due to incentive industrial or commercial development.</p>	
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			<p>endeavour. The local centre should provide convenient facilities for interchange of local produce and for regular "farmers' markets".</p> <p>14 Any significant new development in a local area should be open to design competition, with the local residents having the opportunity to specify design criteria and to judge the competing designs. Criteria should include sustainable energy and waste disposal arrangements, as well as aesthetic and functional qualities.</p> <p>15 Street and public area lighting should be low energy and movement-sensitive.</p> <p>16 Transport of goods to or from Plymouth should wherever possible be via rail or water.</p> <p>I hope these comments may be prove useful. I would be grateful if you could make sure they get to the appropriate people in the City Council. I would also be grateful if you would acknowledge receipt, as I have been having problems with my email server recently.</p>	
Mr Clive Goodman SNDPD342	(Fulfords)	Please see attached general letter.		File Attached
Ms Katie Pratt SNDPD326	<p>I would like to make a formal response to consultation being carried out on Local Development of Plymouth and the Urban Fringe bordering with South Hams and Devon County. I would specifically like to raise concerns about the lack of mention of what provision will be made for Gypsies and Travellers in and around the City.</p> <p>My response is in an individual and professional capacity, as both a resident of Plymouth and the CEO of the regional equality and human rights body, Equality South West.</p> <p>The inequalities experienced by Gypsy and Traveller communities are widely documented (EHRC Research Report No 9: 2009, EHRC Triennial Review: 2010) and I was involved with the work that Plymouth City Council itself led to the asses the needs of Gypsies and Travellers across the Devon county area, including Plymouth. The attached report (http://www.southwest-ra.gov.uk/media/SWRA/RSS20Documents/Gypsies_and</p>	General comment regarding Gypsy and traveller provision across the City		

<p>_Travellers/Devon_GTAA.pdf) was produced to highlight specifically what the accommodation and broader needs of Gypsies and Travellers in and around Plymouth are.</p> <p>This report (partly funded by Plymouth City Council in partnership with the other local authorities making up the county of Devon) found, based on the best practice model for calculating need, developed in Cambridgeshire, that an additional 40 pitches would be required in Plymouth by 2011.</p> <p>Plymouth made significant progress in identifying land suitable for the development of additional Gypsy and Traveller pitches, despite the intensely anti-Gypsy political and public opinion of the time, in Efford and identified other locations within and bordering the city that had potential. For this I believe the work of Plymouth City Council is to be applauded, it therefore concerns me greatly, that the recent consultation on key future development in and around the city fails to make any mention of what provision will be made to meet the current and future accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers.</p> <p>The identification of appropriate sites was a significant achievement given (to quote a recent submission from Friends, Families and Travellers to the All Parliamentary Group on Gypsies and Travellers) "there is enormous prejudice from people in the settled community against Gypsies and Travellers. A MORI poll conducted in 2003 on behalf of Stonewall showed that over a third of respondents admitted to be prejudiced against Gypsies and Travellers. Wherever a new site is proposed it is inevitable that a vociferous and hostile opposition will be mounted by members of the local settled community. The normal pattern is that, whatever the original intentions of the local authority, local politicians will get cold feet once the anti-placards start to appear and the proposal will be dropped or refused planning permission."</p> <p>We are fearful that these challenges will worsen through recent proposals to replace the duty on local authorities to identify and provide sites with plans to 'encourage local authorities, in consultation with local communities, an appropriate number of sites'. Equality South West has real concerns that the voices of minority groups, like Gypsies and Travellers, will not be heard within the new concept of the Big Society. I hope that Plymouth City Council will not be making</p>			
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	<p>decisions on whether to develop sites for Gypsies and Travellers, based on if there is enough public support for such sites?</p> <p>Plymouth itself has a resident population of Gypsies and Travellers, both at the Chelson Meadow site and numerous more families living in bricks and mortar accommodation across the city. The current provision will not sustain the expansion of these existing families. In addition, Travellers and Gypsies from across the country visit Plymouth on an annual (sometimes more often) basis to visit family, to holiday and to work. There is currently no provision in the form of stopping places or transit sites to meet this need. Plymouth City Council could find itself in breach of the Equality Act 2010, which places a duty on all public bodies to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not (Gypsies and Travellers are protected by this legislation through the protected characteristic of their race) if you do not make provision for these protected communities.</p> <p>The business case for the provision of appropriate, small (as Gypsy and Traveller communities themselves have said they prefer) and safe sites is clear. It is an inefficient and ineffective use of local authority, police and education budgets to adopt a policy of non provision but instead evicting families from lay-bys, car park and verges until they leave the city. The arrival of Gypsies and Travellers in the city only serves to increase community tensions and by not providing suitable stopping places where good relations could be fostered, Plymouth City Council could be deemed to be fuelling these tensions.</p> <p>I and Equality South West urge the local authorities involved, and in particular their Leaders, to be progressive in their policies on this matter and identify suitable sites for Gypsies and Travellers.</p> <p>If you would like to discuss any of the above in further detail or have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.</p>			
Mr Ray Fairchild SNDPD339	(Local Access Forum)	Please see attached information including general points for consideration and specific issues for Plymstock and Higher Compton.		File Attached

<p>Sue Rouse SNDPD368</p>	<p>N/A this is a general comment covering HMOs in Stonehouse that I would like considered as part of this process.</p>	<p>Stonehouse Neighbourhood Manager</p>	<p>Residents at a recent Stonehouse Neighbourhood Meeting set as a priority action to address the impact they experience from the number of bedsits and HMOs in the North Stonehouse Area.</p> <p>Requests raised by residents are summarised as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -North Stonehouse be included in that work and be subject to any possible Article 4 direction to manage future planning applications to add further small flats and bedsits (additional applications have been submitted recently and there are a number of dilapidated properties in the area that are likely to be of interest to investors hoping to do the same) and for BASS and other 'halfway house' type accommodation (where possible) - Greater attention paid to planning applications to ensure that realistic access to external areas and appropriate waste storage is provided for residents. -Planning constraints within the conservation area of Wyndham Square and Wyndham Street be enforced to retain the architectural integrity of the area. - The area be targeted for licensing inspections/check that properties subject to HMO licensing are identified and that they do comply. - Same for ensuring private rented accommodation complies with decency and landlords are meeting their responsibilities -Friends of Wyndham Square would welcome the opportunity for officers/councillors to attend their meeting to discuss their concerns and possible actions that could be taken to address issues. 	
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