WHAT ARE THE KEY ISSUES THE PLAN NEEDS TO ADDRESS?
Plymouth Plan Topic Paper Strategic Overview

Strategic Overview .................................................................................................................. 2
What is this topic paper about? .............................................................................................. 3
Why do we need the Plymouth Plan? .................................................................................... 4
How will the Plymouth Plan deliver a shared vision for Plymouth? .................................. 5
How will the Plan consider the regional context? ................................................................. 7
What will Plymouth be and look like as a city in 2031 and beyond? ................................. 11
Pulling the key issues together .............................................................................................. 12
  Plymouth as an international city: ......................................................................................... 12
  Plymouth as a growing city ................................................................................................ 13
  Plymouth as a welcoming city: ........................................................................................... 16
  Plymouth as a healthy city .................................................................................................. 18
Where will growth happen? .................................................................................................. 23
What happens next? .............................................................................................................. 26
  List of key Plymouth Plan evidence base documents for strategic overview of Plymouth Plan. .................................................................................................................. 26
Strategic Overview

Make your comments on this paper and other information as part of Plymouth Plan Connections before 25 October 2014. www.plymouth.gov.uk/plymouthplan
What is this topic paper about?

This topic paper is part of the Plymouth Plan Connection time. It sets out key strategic issues that will be considered in the development of the Plymouth Plan. It is the first in a series of topic papers being published to inform and support the Council’s ongoing discussions with local people and organisations about the future of the city.

This paper provides a context for each of the other papers being prepared. To view a list of all the topic papers and find out more about the Plymouth Plan go to www.plymouth.gov.uk/pptopicpapers
**Why do we need the Plymouth Plan?**

Plymouth has a radical growth agenda, driven by its ambition to become one of the most vibrant waterfront cities in Europe where an outstanding quality of life is enjoyed by all of its citizens. Since 2004, when the ‘Mackay vision’\(^{(1)}\) was adopted into the city’s planning policy through an interim planning statement, it has been on a course which will see the city increase its population, through economic growth, by over 20 per cent. This sees the population grow by over 50,000 people to over 300,000.

**Growth can be good if it improves people’s lives. Growth of the right type and quality will build upon the city’s unique cultural, heritage and environmental assets, to deliver facilities and services that help drive and sustain the economy, meet the needs of its people for homes and services and enable people to enjoy health and a strong sense of wellbeing. The agenda is to deliver high quality and sustainable growth.**

The delivery of Plymouth’s vision is a long term venture. Transformation of a city does not take place by accident or overnight. It needs careful planning and persistent delivery, keeping the vision in sight at all times. It requires key decisions about investments and priority interventions to be strategically informed, so that they complement one another and work together to secure quality outcomes. It depends on partnership and cooperative working with local people, businesses, developers, and a plethora of agencies and organisations, including neighbouring local authorities.

A long term strategic plan which sets a framework and direction of travel, and provides a shared vehicle for working together to deliver the city’s vision, is of crucial importance. This is the role that the Plymouth Plan will play.

Plymouth is on a course to see its population grow from 258,000 to over 300,000 people.

---

How will the Plymouth Plan deliver a shared vision for Plymouth?

The Plymouth Plan will be a single strategic plan for the city, looking ahead to 2031 and beyond. It is intended therefore that it will bring together all of the city’s long term strategic plans into one place. It will deliver a full review of the current Local Development Framework Core Strategy, which was formally adopted as part of the statutory development plan in April 2007. However, it will also incorporate the strategic policy elements of the Local Transport Plan, the Local Economic Strategy\(^2\), the Waste Strategy, Health & Wellbeing strategies, the Children and Young People's Plan, the Sustainable Communities Strategy, the Visitor Plan, Vital Spark Cultural Strategy and a range of other longer term plans and planning processes that have previously been developed separately. This more coordinated approach will enable the city to project a single voice on its strategic priorities whilst helping all of the key partners to pull in the same direction.

The Plymouth Plan Delivery Diagram explains how the Plymouth Plan will be used to drive delivery of the city’s vision. An important principle is that local people and communities of place and interest are at the heart of guiding the direction of the Plan and how it is implemented. An Investment Plan and Investment Prospectus will be prepared alongside the Plan to identify and prioritise key infrastructure and other investments needed over the short, medium and long-term. Service specific delivery plans of Council departments and other organisations will be aligned to the objectives of the Plan. Community-based initiatives, such as neighbourhood plans, will be given a strategic context by the Plan so that they help move the city towards delivery of its vision. Monitoring and review will be an integral part of the Plan implementation process and will lead to regular updating.

---

\(^2\) Plymouth’s Local Economic Strategy Review 2013/14 can be found at [http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/localeconomicstrategy.htm](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/localeconomicstrategy.htm)
How will the Plymouth Plan deliver a shared vision for Plymouth?
How will the Plan consider the regional context?

Plymouth is one of the UK’s key cities and the most significant urban area in the far south west. Plymouth’s economy is worth £4.5 billion (in terms of Gross Value Added) and supports 105,000 jobs. Plymouth’s population in 2012 (ONS mid-year estimate) was 258,026, representing about a 7 per cent increase since 2001. This figure relates only to Plymouth’s tightly drawn administrative area boundaries and does not include the population of places such as Woolwell which function as part of Plymouth and are included in the Principal Urban Area (see below). Plymouth is the major city of the far south west, over twice the size of the next largest city (Exeter, with a population of 119,397), and second only to the metropolis of Bristol in the region.

Plymouth occupies a key position in the south west of England. As described in the current Plymouth Core Strategy, it performs a critical and complementary role to Bristol which is at the opposite end of the region. Bristol is at the north of the region, providing connections to the West Midlands, South East and Wales. Plymouth is the economic hub of the far South West, meeting the needs of its sub-region, as well as providing links to Europe, and contributing to both regional and national prosperity.
Plymouth Plan Strategic Issues topic paper

A key issue for the Plymouth Plan will be to ensure that it sets in place a local strategy which complements and helps to deliver the Strategic Economic Plan of the Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership.

Plymouth is part of the Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership (HoSWLEP), which published its Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) 2014-2030 in March 2014. The LEP’s vision is to transform the reputation and positioning of the area nationally and globally, with the key strengths of the Heart of the South West seen as ‘key assets of UK plc.’ As for Plymouth, the LEP aspires to deliver transformational levels of growth, and has three core aims.

- Creating the conditions for growth
- Maximising productivity and employment
- Capitalising on our distinctive assets

These core aims are underpinned by cross-cutting aims of environmental sustainability and addressing social inclusion.

The Plymouth Plan must not only continue with current approach to planning policy that seeks to deliver transformational growth, but must also help deliver the key interventions and projects identified in the SEP and its associated Growth Deal submission for 2015/16. These include:

- The Plymouth and South West Peninsula City Deal initiative, which will drive forward the growth of the marine sector (Marine and offshore R&D, manufacturing and services – including ship building, both defence related and leisure, and marine renewables across the whole Peninsula, in partnership with Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly LEP).
- The strategically significant growth opportunity of Plymouth’s Derriford area and Northern Corridor, and in particular the delivery of key strategic transport infrastructure projects to unlock growth potential.
- An exemplar Growth Hub to support businesses, with physical projects in Plymouth including an Innovation Centre in the City Centre and Phase 5 of Plymouth Science Park.
- Improvements to the strategic connectivity of the region (see below).

These initiatives are all proposed in the flagship interventions set out in the Plymouth Local Economic Strategy Review 2013/14.

A key issue for the Plymouth Plan will be to promote and enhance Plymouth’s strategic connectivity so that it not only supports the social and economic well being of the city and its sub-region but that it also fulfils its wider economic role.

---

3 www.heartofswlep.co.uk/strategic-economic-plan
4 http://www.heartofswlep.co.uk/growthdeal
Strategic connectivity is a hugely significant issue for Plymouth, and for both the HoSW and Cornwall & Isles of Scilly LEPs. The need to enhance resilience of the rail network and to improve journey times is of particular significance. This came to a head during the winter storms of 2013/14, with huge disruption to people’s lives and the economy of the South West through major flooding events and damage to the main railway routes. In relation to journey time, mainline rail journeys to London from Plymouth are slower than to all other English cities over 100,000 population. It is estimated that every one hundred minutes travel time from London reduces productivity by six per cent. The SEP prioritises improvements to strategic connectivity (see below).

Strategic connectivity from Plymouth to the wider economy is achieved digitally and through road, rail, sea and air travel. The Plymouth Plan will have a key role in ensuring that plans are in place to maintain and enhance the city’s strategic connectivity. Key measures will be needed, including for example:

- Working in partnership with Network Rail to upgrade and redevelop Plymouth railway station as a regional hub station. Plymouth Station is the tenth fastest growing railway station in the country, with a footfall increase from 1.3m to 2.4m in the period 2001-2011.
- Continue delivering improvements to the resilience of Plymouth’s strategic road and rail network, especially along the Plym estuary.

5 ‘Meeting the productivity challenge’ (2005) University of West of England and University of Bath.
Plymouth Plan Strategic Issues topic paper

- Safeguarding and supporting future investment in Plymouth’s port, including the development of a cruise liner facility to boost the visitor economy.
- Considering how regeneration and development can support continued improvements to Plymouth’s digital connectivity.

In relation to air travel, Plymouth’s airport, which had been in operation since 1925, was closed in December 2011. This was following the submission of a non-viability notice by the operators Plymouth City Airports, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sutton Harbour Holders. Since then Plymouth’s air travel needs have had to be met from alternative airports, with Exeter the closest in terms of travel time (about 1 hour). However, the Council remains supportive of achieving a viable commercial airport in Plymouth to optimise the city’s connectivity. The current Plymouth Core Strategy actively promotes airport expansion, and it will now be the role of the Plymouth Plan to update its planning policy for the airport into the future. An Airport Study will establish the need and the opportunity for securing future air services from the city, and this will inform the policies to be set out in the Plymouth Plan. This Study has been carried out with extensive engagement with stakeholders including Sutton Harbour Holdings and Viable, and will be published as part of the Plymouth Plan Connections.

A key issue for the Plymouth Plan will be ensuring that there is a strong sub-regional spatial framework in place which enables the City to grow strongly and sustainably, whilst safeguarding the sub-region’s exceptional environmental assets and the sustainability and local distinctiveness of market towns and surrounding rural communities.

It has long been an objective of strategic planning policy to seek to optimise Plymouth’s economic performance to strengthen the role it plays in supporting the regional economy. Plymouth’s economy is recognised to have a crucial inter-relationship with Cornwall and Devon in particular. However, Plymouth does not only support its hinterland through economic support; it plays a crucial role socially as a centre for a wide variety of services. For example, Plymouth hosts a hospital, universities, colleges, a major shopping centre, a national theatre and a strategic sports and leisure centre, all of which are significant at a regional scale.

The reality is that the communities and businesses around Plymouth need the city to deliver a high-quality economy and services and Plymouth needs a prosperous hinterland of high environmental quality and local distinctiveness. The aim of the Plan will be to achieve Plymouth’s growth substantially within the city, but this also will require significant investment in strategic infrastructure such as transport, schools and parks and open spaces and a co-ordinated approach to development in the sub-region. A sub-regional strategy which has been put together co-operatively with adjoining councils needs to be a vital ingredient of the Plymouth Plan and neighbouring local plans.
What will Plymouth be and look like as a city in 2031 and beyond?

Plymouth’s long term vision is to be one of Europe’s most vibrant waterfront cities where an outstanding quality of life is enjoyed by everyone. This vision statement was conceived through an extensive period of partnership working and engagement in the early part of the 2000s, during which time the ‘Mackay Vision’ was prepared. The vision statement was first adopted by Plymouth’s Local Strategic Partnership in 2004\(^7\). Later (in 2007) it was included in the Partnership’s Sustainable Community Strategy\(^8\) and formally adopted into planning policy through the Local Development Framework Core Strategy.

A key issue for the Plymouth Plan will be to build on the vision statement to provide greater clarity of what Plymouth will look like and be like when it is one of the finest waterfront cities in Europe where everyone has an outstanding quality of life.

There is a danger with any vision statement that it will try to cover everything and please everyone with no way of knowing when we have arrived. It will be a key role of the Plymouth Plan to set out how to deliver the vision, identifying strategic interventions and priorities, and to set out how we will know whether we are moving in the right direction. Our hope is that discussions during the Plymouth Plan Connections will make a positive contribution to this aim.

---

8 [http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/brsustainablecommunitystrategy.htm](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/brsustainablecommunitystrategy.htm)
Pulling the key issues together

We do not start with a blank sheet of paper, there have been many years of engagement, consensus building and policy development around Plymouth’s vision. The Core Strategy 2007 itself provides important amplification of the vision. This background has been used to set some pointers for the potential direction, structured around four themes which seek to capture the essence of what the vision might look like in reality.

Plymouth as an international city:

This is about how the city projects itself to the wider world, to people who might invest in or visit the city, and the sense of pride that local people take in their city. It is also about how our businesses engage in trading terms in an increasingly global market place.

Plymouth is growing in self-confidence and becoming more outward-looking. It has a strong recent history of partnership working to provide overall city leadership; a strong consensus around its aspirations to be recognised at an international level for being a waterfront city; a university with world-wide reputation and world-class assets in relation to marine science and technologies; one of the finest regional theatres in the country (The Theatre Royal); and a maritime heritage of world-wide significance, including Francis Drake and the Spanish Armada, and the sailing of the Pilgrim Fathers (whose 400th anniversary will be in 2020).

These and other unique assets need to be used to Plymouth’s advantage.

However, as the LES Review 2013/14 highlights, Plymouth’s businesses are on average comparatively insular, with a low propensity to export. The city has considerable marine and advanced manufacturing strengths, with a number of international businesses, and there is clearly potential for businesses to do more to reap the economic rewards from international trade.

So how we will know that Plymouth has realised its vision as an ‘international city’? The Plymouth Plan will need to describe some of the key things that will have been achieved by 2031. Some ideas in relation to this are set out in the box below.
By 2031 as an ‘international city’ we want to see:

- Plymouth’s *Britain’s Ocean City* branding has provided a clearly identifiable narrative for the city, securing a competitive advantage for Plymouth. This branding is not just about how the city is marketed and communicated, but how it has physically developed and improved.
- A comprehensive approach to enhancing Plymouth’s strategic connectivity has been addressed at local, regional and national levels, with Plymouth properly acknowledged as a major destination and part of the network of Strategic National Corridors.
- Plymouth’s waterfront has been transformed through improvements to public spaces and key heritage assets, such as The Hoe and Mayflower Steps; water transport improvements between key sites, sensitive and appropriate development to optimise the benefits of locations such as Sutton Harbour, Millbay, Royal William Yard and Drake’s Island.
- The Marine Industries Production Campus is fully developed and driving wider investment in the city’s economy and helping establish Plymouth’s reputation as a world leader in the marine science and technology sector.
- Plymouth University’s campus has expanded and supported the regeneration of the City Centre.
- The Plymouth History Centre is developed as a unique new asset in the city, creating great pride in the city amongst local people, and raising Plymouth’s profile to investors and visitors from other parts of the country and world.
- The Mayflower 2020 Anniversary celebrations have created a visitor economy legacy.

Plymouth is recognised internationally as a leading sustainable city globally through its environmental credentials.

Are these the right things Plymouth as an ‘international city’ should achieve by 2031? Are there any things that you feel are missing?

Are these the right measures of success to realise Plymouth’s vision as an ‘international city’?

- Inward investment.
- Growth in visitor economy and employment.
- Increased City Pride.

Plymouth as a growing city

This is about using Plymouth’s economic, social and environmental strengths to drive quality growth which transforms the city’s long term prosperity, so that the needs of all of its people are met and they benefit from the highest quality of services and facilities.
Since 2003 the ‘Mackay vision’ Plymouth has aspired to grow to a city in excess of 300,000 population, based on sustained economic improvements. Although there is no precise science to this figure, it is understood that to sustain high quality services throughout the city for all people, there needs to be a sufficiently high-level of demand for services. For example, large and prosperous cities and hinterlands can sustain a high-quality shopping and leisure offer in a way that smaller cities with less prosperous hinterlands cannot.

The Strategic Housing Market Needs Assessment for the Plymouth’s Housing Market Area\(^9\) has identified two employment-led growth scenarios for Plymouth, the lower (by Oxford Economics) which will grow Plymouth’s population to 289,173 by 2031 (significantly short of the 300,000 aspiration) and the higher (by Experian) which will lead to a population of 309,173 by 2031. The housing requirement that the Plymouth Plan should adopt will be considered more fully in a separate topic paper. This will deal not just with the overall housing requirement but with the changing demography of the city, which impacts on the type of housing needed. However, the growth target included in the Plan could be expected to respond to the city’s vision and its high level of aspiration for growth which is so crucial to that vision.

An economy led growth strategy requires a strategic approach to economic development. The LES Review 2013/14 highlights six areas of focus to help address the city’s low productivity (and subsequently deliver economic growth):

- Enterprise and Entrepreneurship
- Indigenous and Inward Investment
- Innovation and the Knowledge Economy
- Employment and Skills
- Economic Rebalancing
- Connectivity.

The Plymouth Plan will need to set out a strategic policy framework which supports these key economic outcomes.

A key challenge will be to ensure that growth does not damage the city’s special qualities but instead responds to what is already good about the city – its local community spirit, its unique assets, such as its exceptional waterfront and green spaces, and its culture and heritage., in order that these help drive high quality growth. Few places can rival Plymouth for its rich natural assets. It has an enviable location on Plymouth Sound and the Tamar estuaries complex (designated as a European Marine Site). It is surrounded by an attractive rural hinterland, and is adjacent to Dartmoor National Park and the South Devon and Tamar Valley Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. 42 per cent of the city’s land area is green space.

Growth also provides the opportunity to support a low carbon economy and respond to the challenge of climate change and make Plymouth more resilient to its impact. Cities that proactively respond to the business challenges and opportunities presented by the shift to a low carbon economy will be more competitive and resilient in the long term. The city already has a substantial reputation for sustainability, being recognised as one of Forum for the

---

\(^9\) Strategic Housing Market Needs Assessment Main Report, Plymouth City Council, South Hams District, Council, West Devon Borough Council, Cornwall Council and Dartmoor National Park Authority, July 2013

http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/strategic_housing_market_needs_assessment.pdf
Future’s leading ‘green’ cities. Research has shown that the city’s low carbon and environmental industries will outstrip growth in other industries by a significant margin over the decade to 2025."(10)

By 2031 as a ‘growing city’ we want to see:

- The targeted number of homes and jobs are delivered (currently the Core Strategy has a target of delivering 1,000 new homes a year until 2016; 1,450 homes per annum until 2021; and 1,800 new jobs a year until 2021). These targets will be updated through the Plymouth Plan.
- Plymouth’s primary economic centres of the City Centre and Derriford, and its key economic strengths and assets, such as the marine and maritime sector and the visitor economy, have seen strong and sustained growth over a protracted period, driving the sub-regional economy.
- Graduates have stayed and entrepreneurialism is on a strong footing, supported by the Growth Acceleration and Investment Network (GAIN), and as a Growth Hub bringing together business infrastructure, world-class research facilities and expertise, and through physical infrastructure such as a City Centre Innovation Centre.
- Key strategic transport and other infrastructure projects needed to create the this growth are built. This includes an Ocean City Infrastructure programme made up of projects critical to create the right environment for growth and investment in the marine industries, knowledge-based industries and the visitor economy, and supports the growth centres of the City Centre and Derriford.
- The Central Park masterplan and major new strategic parks at Derriford and Saltram are completed. The value of Plymouth Sound and the estuaries is optimised in a way which maintains its environmental status.
- Radical carbon reduction targets achieved, with a reduction of the city’s carbon footprint and measures implemented to prevent and reduce the adverse social, economic and environmental impacts of climate change. This will be looked at in more detail in a separate topic paper.

Are these the right things Plymouth as a ‘growing city’ should achieve by 2031? Are there any things that you feel are missing?

Are these the right measures of success to realise Plymouth’s vision as a ‘growing city’?

- City population reaches 300,000.
- Productivity levels substantially increased.
- High levels of employment / skills.
- Strong housing offer for all sectors of community secured.
- Plymouth’s carbon footprint substantially reduced.
- Increased visitor dwell time/spend/jobs.

Plymouth as a welcoming city:

This is about the services the city provides, the quality of its public spaces and physical environment, and events. It is also about fairness and inclusion.

If Plymouth aspires to be an international and a growing city, it must also be a welcoming. A welcoming city expresses values that should affect every aspect of Plymouth’s governance.

For example, it should provide for opportunities created by economic growth and development to be shared fairly among the city’s resident population, and support a strengthening of community cohesion, fairness and inclusion. In this respect, the Plymouth Plan will need to actively respond to the work of the Plymouth Fairness Commission, which has been set up as an independent body to help make the city a fairer place to live and work.

Other examples of a welcoming city include:

- When people arrive in the city by car, bus, coach, train or boat, they should know that they are arriving in a city which values their presence and leave with a positive impression of the city.
- When students go to college or university in Plymouth, or entrepreneurs seek to plant or grow a business, they should be given the encouragement and support they need.
- Children should be given every opportunity to aspire, attain skills to contribute to a growing city, feel valued and welcome in the wider community.
- Residents that are less able to help themselves are supported by their communities and the city’s growth.
- The needs of different communities of interest and geography are respected, celebrated and are enabled to do things to contribute to the city.

Furthermore, Plymouth should continue to build upon its unique assets, such as the sea and its panoramic views of Plymouth Sound, its heritage and it spaces, to provide high quality events that welcome hundreds of thousands of people to the city. In recent years this has included hosting major sailing events such as the Americas Cup, MTV’s music festival and the National Fireworks Championship.
By 2031 as a ‘welcoming city’ we want to see:

- A full range of high quality and accessible services and facilities for its people, businesses and for visitors, covering culture, the arts, education, employment, skills, health, sports, leisure and shopping, enabled by sustainable economic and population growth that provides a secure financial footing for the city.
- Plymouth’s young people have skills for productive employment through an ‘employer-led’ skills system which has built on the momentum generated by the Plymouth and South West Peninsula City Deal, including a physical ‘hub’ and a website.
- Key public transport gateways into the city have been radically improved, including Plymouth Railway Station, Plymouth Coach Station and Millbay waterfront, including a new cruise liner terminal.
- The City Centre is enhanced and regenerated as a vibrant modern mixed-use regional shopping centre appropriate scale for prevalent retail patterns, with high levels of internet connectivity; high quality high density urban living, and a hub for culture and leisure to serve the wider city.
- Plymouth optimises the events potential of its unique setting and heritage, through how its waterfront and open spaces are designed and managed.
- Investment has taken place to refresh and de-clutter public spaces in the City Centre and Waterfront, creating high quality spaces that everyone can feel comfortable in and where cultural and arts activities can thrive.
- High quality public transport (both rail and bus) is on all routes in and to the city, with cleanliness, comfort and information about the city.
- New high quality hotel development has been provided.

Are these the right things Plymouth should have achieved as a ‘welcoming city’ by 2031? Are there any things that you feel are missing?

Are these the right measures of success to realise Plymouth’s vision as a ‘welcoming city’?

- High satisfaction with Plymouth as place to live, work and visit.
- Improved linked public transport/water taxis.
- Strong graduate retention.
- Strong attainment levels in the city’s schools.
- Strong business start-ups.
- More hotel stock increased visitor spend/jobs.
Plymouth as a healthy city

This is about enabling all of the city’s people to enjoy an outstanding quality of life, including healthy, safe and fulfilled lives. Quality of life is essential to health and wellbeing. It relates to every facet of life. For example, the lack of skills needed to secure productive employment; an unfit and poorly insulated home; poor access to public open space; not having access to affordable healthy food; fear of crime; or a lack of social interaction and sense of community. These can all contribute to problems with physical and mental health. They can also contribute to dysfunction in families and communities.

Disadvantaged communities in some neighbourhoods of Plymouth result insignificant disparities in individuals health and well-being.

A key challenge of the Plymouth Plan will be to improve health and well-being in the city overall as well as to reduce health inequalities across the city. This is a key outcome of the agenda for creating healthy communities. Such communities are places where basic needs of good housing and employment are met, and where the social and physical environment enables children to get the best start in life. This drives change and supports high levels of aspiration amongst children and adults alike, and supports a positive sense of community and social interaction.

As a city a healthy Plymouth will bring wider benefits to the economy of the city, for example a healthy workforce will enhance productivity.

People now live longer, but this does not necessarily mean that they enjoy improved quality of life. A healthy community will be a place where an ageing population can live independently, reducing the need for residential care or hospitalisation, and continue to make a valuable contribution to society. The Plan will still need to respond to the huge challenge of an ageing population, which will bring increased demand for access to good quality local health and care services.
By 2031 as a ‘healthy city’ we want to see:

- Plymouth’s overall health and well-being has been significantly improved and health inequalities significantly reduced through a targeted and integrated approach of key agencies, driven by the Health and Wellbeing strategic framework of tackling mental health, healthy weight, substance misuse (including alcohol) and health and social care integration.
- The regeneration of neighbourhoods such as North Prospect, Devonport, Millbay and the East End is completed, and a variety of communities facing challenges particularly in the North West of the city have sought to improve their own neighbourhoods through completing neighbourhood plans.
- Older people are living independently for longer and contributing positively to the city. Housing provision in the city enables this to happen.
- Programmes and initiatives to address the cost and efficiency of energy in homes have helped to eradicate fuel poverty.
- There is good access to local employment opportunities in every neighbourhood.
- Every neighbourhood has local centres in the right locations, with a range of daily services, including access to healthy and affordable food.
- Good access to informal green space, allotments and local food is available to all.
- Balanced and sustainable communities are achieved, where new housing meets local needs for affordable housing and everyone has a decent home, the education environment and infrastructure supports high levels of attainment and each neighbourhood is well-connected, both digitally and in terms of transport accessibility.

Are these the right things Plymouth should have achieved as a ‘healthy city’ by 2031? Are there any things that you feel are missing?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pulling the key issues together</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This table provides an overall summary of the perspective presented above as to what delivering Plymouth’s 2031 might look like. This does not attempt to be comprehensive but instead to give a flavour of some key things.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Are these the right measures of success to realise Plymouth’s vision as a ‘healthy city’?

- Decent homes for all.
- High employment levels.
- People feel safe in their local neighbourhood.
- Strong involvement in local neighbourhood.
- Accessible greenspace for all.
- High level of use of facilities which support healthy lifestyles - eg walking, cycling, sports.
- Strong local centres with mix of community facilities and availability of affordable healthy food.

This table provides an overall summary of the perspective presented above as to what delivering Plymouth’s 2031 might look like. This does not attempt to be comprehensive but instead to give a flavour of some key things.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unique assets of place</th>
<th>Key projects / initiatives</th>
<th>Key outcomes (specific targets still to be set)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>International City</td>
<td>World class waterfront</td>
<td>Britain’s Ocean City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plymouth Sound natural arena</td>
<td>Strategic connectivity</td>
<td>Growth in visitor economy and employment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plymouth University</td>
<td>Plymouth’s waterfront</td>
<td>Increased City Pride</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine science and technologies sector</td>
<td>Marine Industries Production Campus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maritime heritage and historic connections</td>
<td>Plymouth University expansion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Plymouth History Centre</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mayflower 2020 celebrations and legacy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Growing City</td>
<td>City Centre / Derriford growth axis</td>
<td>City population reaches 300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World class marine / maritime sector</td>
<td>Plymouth &amp; Peninsula City Deal</td>
<td>Productivity levels substantially increased</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical / health care sector cluster at Derriford, with focus on knowledge based industries</td>
<td>City Centre regeneration</td>
<td>High levels of employment / skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plymouth’s natural environment (42% greenspace).</td>
<td>Derriford District Centre &amp; new heart for north of city</td>
<td>Strong housing offer for all sectors of community secured</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Millbay waterfront</td>
<td>Plymouth’s carbon footprint substantially reduced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GAIN / Growth Hub / City Centre Innovation Centre</td>
<td>Increased visitor dwell time/spend/jobs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strategic parks programme</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Low Carbon infrastructure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Transport infrastructure programme for</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unique assets of place</td>
<td>Key projects / initiatives</td>
<td>Key outcomes (specific targets still to be set)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Northern and Eastern Corridors, and City Centre / Waterfront</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welcoming City</td>
<td>Plymouth’s natural environment, including at city gateway locations (eg Plym estuary, Millbay waterfront)</td>
<td>High satisfaction with Plymouth as place to live, work and visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>City Centre Abercrombie layout</td>
<td>Improved linked public transport/water taxis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Derriford hospital</td>
<td>Strong graduate retention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Deal for Young People</td>
<td>Strong attainment levels in the city’s schools;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Railway Station redevelopment</td>
<td>Strong business start-ups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Coach station relocation and redevelopment</td>
<td>More hotel stock increased visitor spend/jobs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cruise terminal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Public transport improved connectivity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Major events hosted</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>City Centre public realm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New hotel developments</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthy City</td>
<td>Plymouth’s natural environment (42% greenspace)</td>
<td>Decent homes for all</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strong network of local centres serving many neighbourhoods</td>
<td>High employment levels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Life Centre, and wider network of infrastructure to support healthy lifestyles (e.g. waterfront walkway; growing network of cycleways)</td>
<td>People feel safe in their local neighbourhood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Targeted interventions around mental health, healthy weight, substance misuse (including alcohol), and health and social care integration</td>
<td>Strong involvement in local neighbourhood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Priority neighbourhood regenerations programmes</td>
<td>Accessible greenspace for all</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unique assets of place</td>
<td>Key projects / initiatives</td>
<td>Key outcomes (specific targets still to be set)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stepping Stones to Nature, active travel and local greenspace initiatives</td>
<td>High level of use of facilities which support healthy lifestyles - eg walking, cycling, sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Strong local centres with mix of community facilities and availability of affordable healthy food</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Where will growth happen?**

The Plymouth Plan is much more than a statutory development plan. It aims to provide a single integrated strategy for the future of Plymouth that can be adopted by all key agencies and stakeholders. However, a crucially significant role of the Plymouth Plan will be to constitute the statutory development plan, replacing the current Plymouth Core Strategy, which was adopted in April 2007. As such the Plymouth Plan will be a spatial plan and its strategy for growth and change will needs to be represented spatially.

A key issue for the Plymouth Plan is to provide clarity about what the spatial growth priorities are, identifying the parts of the city where most change needs to be driven and managed in order to realise the City Vision.

The Plymouth Core Strategy identified three spatial priorities for change and growth, namely the City Centre / Waterfront Regeneration Area; the Northern Corridor Opportunity Area (with Derriford is at its heart); and the Eastern Corridor Opportunity Area (which includes Plymstock Quarry but also Sherford in the South Hams). These were identified because of their strategic importance from an economic perspective and their great potential for change and growth. They remain the parts of Plymouth with the greatest opportunity for significant growth.

This is not to suggest that there will be no change in other parts of the city or that they are not important; nor that the Plymouth Plan should remain silent on these other areas. Indeed, the Plan will need to set a positive framework for development and change in all areas, especially where there is an urgent need for regeneration. It will use broad, high level Area Visions' worked up in consultation with local people to do this, as well as providing a framework for neighbourhood plans to be developed. However, in order to drive the scale of growth needed to transform the city’s long term prosperity, clarity is needed on where the greatest potential for that growth is.

The emerging spatial growth priorities map provides an interim view of the spatial growth priorities for the city, reflecting the growth figures set out in Plymouth’s current Core Strategy. Work to update growth targets is still in-hand. This reflects more recent thinking around key outcomes that the Plymouth Plan will need to drive and key interventions needed to deliver the growth potential. This spatial diagram will be amended and updated as the Plymouth Plan process advances, as further community engagement and evidence base work guides the development of the spatial strategy.

Do you agree that these are the parts of the city where most change and investment needs to happen?
The key themed outcomes identified in this diagram are:

- **Connectivity** – enhancing the strategic transport connectivity between Plymouth and external markets.
- **Innovation** - translating knowledge into successful business, new products and services.
- **Marine** – building upon Plymouth’s maritime heritage and its exceptional waterfront and marine assets and opportunities.
- **Enterprise** – supporting business start-ups/growth and overall ‘churn’ of business stock.
- **Housing and population** – growing the city’s population and meeting its housing needs.
- **Centres** – optimising the economic potential through intensive growth in key centres.
- **Employment**– addressing inequality, deprivation and worklessness for all sectors of the community.
- **Natural assets** – realising the potential of the natural environment to support sustainable growth.
- **Low carbon** – building the market in the low carbon sector as well as decarbonising our economy.
- **Health & well-being** – ensuring that all citizens are given the opportunities to enjoy quality of life and healthy lifestyles.

The spatial growth priorities map aims to highlight which of these key outcomes are particularly driven by the spatial priorities, as well as giving spatial representation to the key interventions needed.

Does the spatial growth priorities diagram reflect what you would see as the main opportunities for growth in the city and the key interventions needed in these locations? What changes would you like to see to the diagram?
What happens next?

Any comments received on this topic paper will be considered in the preparation of the Plymouth Plan. You can make comments at www.plymouth.gov.uk/PlymouthPlan or by email plymouthplan@plymouth.gov.uk. Alternatively, please post your comments to:

Strategic Planning & Infrastructure Department
Plymouth City Council
Ballard House
West Hoe Road
Plymouth
PL1 3BJ

The closing date for consultation responses is 25 October 2014.

List of key Plymouth Plan evidence base documents for strategic overview of Plymouth Plan.

- Strategic Housing Market Needs Assessment Main Report, Plymouth City Council, South Hams District, Council, West Devon Borough Council, Cornwall Council and Dartmoor National Park Authority, July 2013
- Plymouth and South West Peninsula City Deal, January 2014
- Plymouth Local Economic Strategy Review 2014/15
- Strategic Economic Plan 2014-2030 Final Submission: 31 March 2014, Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership
- Growth Deal 2015/16: 31 March 2014, Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership