



**THE
PLYMOUTH
PLAN
2014-2034**

**CLIMATE EMERGENCY
DISCUSSION PAPER
SEPTEMBER 2020**

PLYMOUTH PLAN - AN UPDATE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

WHAT IS THIS DOCUMENT ABOUT?

The Plymouth Plan is the one strategic plan for the city and sets a shared direction of travel for the long term future of Plymouth. Since the latest version of the Plymouth Plan was adopted a lot has happened! In March 2019 the Council declaring a climate emergency and in December 2019 the Council made the decision to undertake an early review of the Plymouth Plan with our partners. This decision was taken to ensure the Plymouth Plan is responding to the climate emergency and the actions Plymouth needs to take to become carbon neutral by 2030.

Since then a first scoping analysis of the Plymouth Plan has been undertaken and the supporting [Plymouth Plan Review Scoping Paper](#) sets out what has been done so far.

WHAT WE HAVE FOUND OUT?

The current Plymouth Plan is already supportive and proactive in reducing carbon emissions within the city, however we believe there's more which could be done. The vision and a number of strategic outcomes, strategic objectives and policies have been identified which may require some changes. These changes are to ensure the Plymouth Plan is consistent with the climate emergency agenda and the climate emergency action plan.

The scope of this review is limited purely to climate emergency and this consultation document presents a series of questions to act as prompts which need to be considered. They highlight the sections of the Plymouth Plan the scoping exercise has identified may need updating and we would welcome your views.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

The easiest way for you to comment is through our consultation portal, however we will also accept comments by:

Email: plymouthplan@plymouth.gov.uk or

Post: City Planning Team, Plymouth City Council, Ballard House, West Hoe Road, Plymouth, PL1 3BJ

If you have any trouble making comments please call planning policy on 01752 305477.

Keep in touch

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VISION

Plymouth's vision was conceived through an extensive period of partnership working and engagement in the early part of the 2000s and since then it has been at the heart of policy and plan-making within the city.

Plymouth's vision is to be **one of Europe's most vibrant waterfront cities where an outstanding quality of life is enjoyed by everyone.**

In 2014 work was undertaken to amplify what this vision means and three strategic themes were identified to capture the essence of Plymouth's future and build upon the city's unique assets. 'Glimpses' of what this might look like in 2034 for Plymouth were written:

- [Plymouth as a healthy city](#)
- [Plymouth as a growing city](#)
- [Plymouth as an international city](#)

QUESTION 1

In light of the Climate Emergency, are there any other outcomes or initiatives of the glimpses of Plymouth as a healthy, growing or international city that you would like to suggest?

If so, please also provide further information about the outcome/initiative.

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STRATEGIC OUTCOMES

Strategic Outcomes in the Plymouth Plan set out what Plymouth will look like in 2034; they identify the key changes we want to achieve in order to make the city vision a reality which is for Plymouth to be one of Europe's most vibrant waterfront cities where an outstanding quality of life is enjoyed by everyone.

The City has adopted two strategic themes which identify the kind of place Plymouth wishes to be identified as. These two themes act as 'golden threads' that run through the entire plan and are a part of every decision made in the city.

[Theme 1: A Welcoming City](#)

This theme emphasises that the Plymouth Plan is ultimately about people and meeting their needs. It aims to ensure that delivery always occurs in a way which expresses the highest value to the very people the policy is designed to support.

[Theme 2: A Green City](#)

This theme recognises that Plymouth provides some of the best environments and opportunities for quality of life of any city in the United Kingdom. The City aspires to be amongst the greenest and most sustainable places in Europe and this theme looks to protect this status.

QUESTION 2

In light of the Climate Emergency, do you believe that Theme 2: A Green City should refer to the Council's target of Plymouth being carbon neutral by 2030?

Are there any other changes to the themes or new themes you would like to suggest?

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STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Strategic Objectives set out in greater detail what the Plymouth Plan is seeking to deliver, and how. Three strategic objectives are within the Plymouth Plan to capture the essence of Plymouth's future and build upon the city's unique assets of people and place and key points have been identified which may need review.

Strategic Objective 1: Delivering a healthy city

This is about enabling all of the city's people to enjoy an outstanding quality of life, including happy, healthy, safe and fulfilled lives.

The key point for consideration is point 7 which promotes low carbon lifestyles.

Strategic Objective 2: Delivering 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.

The key points for consideration are 3, 7 and 8 which seek to deliver a sustainable and resilient approach to energy, transport and waste management.

Strategic Objective 3: Delivering the international city

This is about how the city projects itself to the wider world, to people who might invest in or visit the city, the sense of pride that local people take in their city and how Plymouth's businesses engage with an increasingly global market place.

The key point for consideration is point 7 which seeks to enable Plymouth to be viewed internationally as a leading green city leading green city.

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QUESTION 3

Do you think the strategic objectives and key points listed above go far enough to help Plymouth become a healthy, growing, or a green city?

If not, what else do you think needs to be considered and why?

POLICIES

The Plymouth Plan sets out a further 26 detailed policies which support the three strategic objectives of a Healthy, Growing and International city. These policies identify what the Council, and where appropriate, its partners will do to ensure the strategic objectives are met.

These policies are often cross-cutting and so have been grouped into the following themes: greenspace and environment; getting around and living and housing.

GREENSPACE AND ENVIRONMENT

[Policy GRO7: Reducing carbon emissions and adapting to climate change](#)

This policy includes wording on energy demand reduction measures, renewable and low carbon energy generation capacity, exemplar low carbon development, delivery and expansion of district energy networks, efficient local energy markets, sustainable modes of travel and promoting development that reflects the risks posed by climate change.

The key points for consideration are 1 to 7.

QUESTION 4

Do you think Policy GRO7 should be updated to refer to the target of Plymouth being carbon neutral by 2030?

If yes please set out which parts of the policy you think should be updated and why.

[Policy GRO9: Minimising Plymouth's waste](#)

This policy includes wording on waste prevention, reuse and recycling, recovery, municipal waste management, waste management hierarchy and the processing of incinerator bottom ash.

The key points for consideration are 1 to 6.

QUESTION 5

Do you think Policy GRO9 should be updated to refer to climate emergency goals, particularly around reuse and recycling?

If yes, please set out which parts of the policy you think should be changed and why.

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Policy INT6: Enhancing Plymouth's 'green city' credentials

This policy includes wording on managing climate change and sea level rise, pursue ambitious carbon reduction emission targets and proactive natural network management, marine renewable energy, sustainable travel options, green and sustainable solutions, natural infrastructure delivery, sustainable living and developing a 'green' culture.

The key points for consideration are 1 to 3 and 5 to 8.

QUESTION 6

Do you think Policy INT6 should be updated to refer to climate emergency goals?

If yes, please set out which parts of the policy you think should be changed and why.

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GETTING AROUND

Policy HEA6: Delivering a safe, accessible, sustainable and health-enabling transport system

This policy includes wording on delivering safe and convenient facilities for walking, cycling and public transport, air quality, carbon emissions and noise pollution, sustainable travel choices, facilitating and encouraging walking and cycling, delivering the Strategic Cycle Network and a public transport system that everyone can use, ensure that each neighbourhood is well connected to the city's Public Transport Network, electric vehicle charging network, community transport and working with regional partners, agencies and public transport operators to deliver an integrated transport system across all modes.

The key points for consideration are 1 to 10.

QUESTION 7

Do you think Policy HEA6 should be expanded to link to climate emergency goals ?

If yes, please set out which parts of the policy you think should be changed and why.

Policy GRO4: Using transport investment to drive growth

This policy includes wording on improving and creating more resilient local rail services, improving facilities and services to encourage cycling, maintaining and expanding the network of Public Rights Of Way and trails, Community Transport schemes, car sharing and the establishment of coordinated car clubs, Intelligent Transport Systems, use of smarter choices and travel planning to provide and promote travel choice, efficient freight movements and developing and delivering targeted infrastructure interventions.

The key points for consideration are 4 to 10 and 12 to 15.

QUESTION 8

Do you think Policy GRO4 should refer to climate emergency goals, particularly transport infrastructure investment?

If yes, please set out which parts of the policy you think should be changed and why.

Policy INT3: Positioning Plymouth as a major UK destination

This policy includes wording on enhancing the overall experience of visitors in travelling to and within the city through delivering high quality strategic and low carbon local public transport, transforming the gateways to the city and ensuring the City Centre is suitable for active travel modes, is well connected to green and blue spaces, and is actively promoted to prospective visitors.

The key point for consideration is 3.

QUESTION 9

Do you think Policy INT3 should refer to climate emergency goals, particularly around low carbon public transport and electric car charging?

If yes, please set out which parts of the policy you think should be changed and why.

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LIVING AND HOUSING

[Policy HEA8 - Meeting local housing needs](#)

This policy includes wording on tackling fuel poverty through supporting supplier switching, fuel debt relief, and community-led energy supply services, and promoting domestic and non-domestic energy efficiency.

The key point for consideration is 4.

QUESTION 10

Do you think Policy HEA8 should refer to climate emergency goals particularly around energy efficiency?

If yes, please set out which parts of the policy you think should be changed and why.

QUESTION 11

Are there any other policies or other parts of the Plymouth Plan you think need updating to reflect the climate emergency?

If yes, please set out what you think needs changing and why.

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