



Oversight and Governance

Chief Executive's Department
Plymouth City Council
Ballard House
Plymouth PL1 3BJ

Please ask for Democratic Advisor

T 01752 668000

E democraticsupport@plymouth.gov.uk

www.plymouth.gov.uk

Published 30 September 2022

GROWTH AND INFRASTRUCTURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Monday 10 October 2022

5.30 pm

Council House

Members:

Councillor Riley, Chair

Councillor Coker, Vice Chair

Councillors Finn, Goslin, Hendy, Holloway, Luggar, Partridge, Poyser, Salmon, Tippetts and Tofan and a Conservative Vacancy.

Members are invited to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business overleaf.

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Tracey Lee

Chief Executive

Growth and Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee

1. Apologies

To receive apologies for non-attendance submitted by Councillors.

2. Declarations of Interest

Councillors will be asked to make any declarations of interest in respect of items on the agenda.

3. Minutes (Pages 1 - 6)

To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting held on 22 June 2022.

4. Chair's Urgent Business

To receive reports on business which in the opinion of the Chair, should be brought forward for urgent consideration.

5. Policy Updates: (Pages 7 - 12)

6. Risk Review: (Pages 13 - 20)

7. City Centre Update: (Pages 21 - 46)

8. Update on The Box: (Pages 47 - 60)

9. Work Programme: (Pages 61 - 64)

10. Tracking Decisions: (To Follow)

Growth and Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Wednesday 22 June 2022

PRESENT:

Councillor Riley, in the Chair.

Councillor Coker, Vice Chair.

Councillors Finn, Goslin, Hendy, Holloway, Partridge, Poyser, Salmon, Tippetts and Tofan.

Apologies for absence: Councillor Luggier.

Also in attendance: Anthony Payne (Strategic Director for Place), Jamie Sheldon (Senior Governance Advisor), Paul Barnard (Service Director for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure), Councillor Drean (Cabinet Member for Transport), Councillor Stoneman (Cabinet Member for Climate Change), Councillor Shayer (Cabinet Member for Finance and Economy), David Draffan (Service Director for Economic Development), Amanda Ratsey (Head of Economy, Enterprise and Employment)

The meeting started at 2.00 pm and finished at 4.10 pm.

Note: At a future meeting, the Panel will consider the accuracy of these draft minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of that meeting to confirm whether these minutes have been amended.

46. **To note the appointments of the Chair and Vice-Chair for the Municipal Year 2022 - 2023**

The Committee noted the appointment of Councillor Riley as Chair and Councillor Coker as Vice Chair of this Committee for the forthcoming municipal year 2022/23.

47. **Declarations of Interest**

In accordance with the code of conduct, the following declarations of interest were made by Councillors -

Name	Minute Number	Reason	Interest
Councillor Tippetts	Shared Prosperity Fund	He is a student at the University of Plymouth	Personal
Councillor Goslin	Shared Prosperity Fund	He is an employee of the University of Plymouth	Personal
Councillor Poyser	Shared Prosperity Fund	He is an employee of City College Plymouth	Personal

48. **Minutes**

The Committee agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 23 February 2022 were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

49. **Chair's Urgent Business**

There were no items of Chair's Urgent Business.

50. **Growth and Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee Terms of Reference**

The Committee noted the terms of reference for the Growth and Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

51. **Policy Update (To Follow)**

The Chair referred Members to the Policy Update contained within the agenda pack.

Members noted the Policy Update.

52. **Climate Emergency Action Plan 2022 and Corporate Carbon Reduction Plan 2022 - In Year Monitoring Reports**

Councillor Stoneman (Cabinet Member for Climate Change) briefly introduced the Climate Emergency Action Plan 2022 and Corporate Carbon Reduction Plan 2022 – In Year Monitoring Reports.

In response to questions raised it was reported that –

- (a) the Cabinet Member acknowledged that the report focused upon current reflections other than a broader strategic approach and confirmed that he was to work with officers to identify long-term solutions;
- (b) the list of Council developments for various allocated sites within the city was listed in the Joint Local Plan; the Council had been discussing with utility companies how to better coordinate infrastructure planning across the board so the delivery of the projects could be better managed;
- (c) the Council was working on an enhanced partnership with bus companies to encourage bus use and sustainability – that would be reported to Cabinet later in the year; the Council was ambitious in its bid to Government for funding for the bus service however was unsuccessful – Officers would continue to bid for available funding;
- (d) positive feedback had been received to date with regards to the water storage project in Trefusis Park; the Council was in the process of finalising designs and securing funding; a separate briefing on the project would be provided to Councillor Tippett's outside of the meeting;

- (e) the Council was unsuccessful in securing funding for Tranche 3 of the Active Travel Fund as the bid was oversubscribed. As of yet no detailed feedback had been received as to why the Council's bid was unsuccessful however this would be provided to Members via a written response once received;
- (f) the Plymbridge Road Scheme and Central Park Improvements Scheme were to be funded as part of the overall capital programme as the bid to the Active Travel Fund bid was unsuccessful;
- (g) the Council's transport team were analysing bus patronage figures to assess the impact on bus services as a result of the pandemic; CityBus recorded transactions at the shop and this data was shared with the Council;
- (h) Officers were looking into a possible location for a rapid charger for the hackney carriage fleet in Plymouth; there were concerns that if a charger was installed in a taxi rank it would prevent taxi drivers moving forward throughout the rank until their vehicle was fully charged;
- (i) in terms of bus patronage levels and the impact of the pandemic upon concessionary bus fares, it was highlighted that a review was currently being undertaken. The Council was working with bus companies in terms of the viability of bus routes and patronage; funding for concessionary fares was set as part of the council tax setting process however this would be considered in the context of other budgetary pressures the council was facing. It was accepted that challenges to the viability of commercial routes was to be considered going forward. Councillor Drean, as Cabinet Member, highlighted that he was prepared to ring-fence money for the concessionary bus fare budget;
- (j) there were plans for Crownhill Road to go back to two carriageways with one being a dedicated bus lane – the Cabinet Member for Transport would investigate the possibility of a car free day to help with the reduction of carbon emissions and encourage public transport use;
- (k) standardisation for electric vehicle charging points was built around private sector investment; infrastructure was set against standards the industry was designed to meet. Ease of use was a key factor, as well as the scale of the infrastructure to support long and short distance travel. Plymouth had installed 53 pop-up chargers in the city with the programme standing at 715 chargers. It was expected that 800-900 chargers were required to support the city's usage;
- (l) the benefits of the introduction of the new Cabinet role which focused upon climate change would shine a light on one of the biggest issues currently facing society. Cross party work and collaborative working would be a key focus as this issue was considered to be too big to be political. The Cabinet Member would work with all Cabinet colleagues with a strategic focus upon climate emergency within the council in order to reach the Council's goal of being net zero by 2030. The Cabinet Member's biggest area of concern was the transport element the city faced;

- (m) the Council was still waiting for guidance and legislation from Government with regards to the handling of waste. The waste agenda and the potential changes would have a fundamental impact as to how the council operated. The importance of reuse and prevention of waste build up in the first place was to be considered;
- (n) the engagement of communities in the tackling of the climate emergency was already underway and would be relied upon to ensure that everyone played their part in reducing carbon emissions. The Council's existing communications structure would be used as well as libraries which were to be community hubs.

Members agreed:

1. that Councillor Tippetts would be provided with a separate detailed briefing on the water storage project in Trefusis Park;
2. that the Committee would be provided with a written response as to why the Council was unsuccessful in securing tranche 3 of the active travel fund once feedback was provided from the Department for Transport.
3. to accept the Cabinet Member's offer to ring-fence the money within the concessionary bus fare budget should there be a surplus (whilst being mindful that budget pressures and priorities may change moving forward);
4. to note the Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP) 2022 Monitoring Report, details of which are set out in Appendix A;
5. to note the Corporate Carbon Reduction Plan (CCRP) 2022 Monitoring Report, details of which are set out in Appendix B.

53. **Shared Prosperity Fund (To Follow)**

Councillor Shayer (Cabinet Member for Finance and Economy), David Draffan (Service Director for Economic Development) and Amanda Ratsey (Head of Economy, Enterprise and Employment) presented the Shared Prosperity Fund report and highlighted the following key points:

- the Shared Prosperity Fund replaced European funding however the allocation received didn't match previous investments; Plymouth had been allocated £3m which was a third of that previously allocated. It was considered that the formula the Government had used to allocate money disadvantaged Plymouth and this had been flagged with local MPs;
- the Council had to produce an investment plan as part of the requirements of the fund setting out how to approach how the money was to be spent. The £3.14m would be spread out over three years with the majority of the money back-loaded into the final 18 months. Officers considered it would be better to undertake a fewer number of better projects, due to the small

sums involved, other than a larger amount of cheaper projects, in order to achieve best impact;

- currently 'net zero' was a cross cutting theme for projects to be considered as a result of discussions with local businesses and organisations.

In response to questions raised it was reported that:

- in terms of the percentage decrease in funding received in comparison to previous allocations, Plymouth was now categorised in a less favoured area due to being joined with Devon and Somerset. Because Plymouth was in a larger block with wealthier places within it the calculation and funding formula wasn't as sensitive. Approximately £9m worth of projects were sent in as part of the expression of interest however approximately £6m was lost from the local economy because the UK Government had not funded schemes to the same level;
- the loss of funding received by Plymouth could be reconciled by bidding for other funds; Plymouth had done exceptionally well over the past few years by successfully bidding for over £185m;
- Officers considered the best approach for the fund was to undertake a smaller number of larger projects; only 4% of the fund was to be spent on the administration of it therefore, due to the small allocation received, more money would be available for the project itself if it was approached in such a way;
- the business communities reaction to the funding allocation was pragmatic; the Council would continue to work together with local businesses and communities to successfully move projects forward where possible. It was highlighted that the Council didn't rely on one pot of funding for success and that a proportionate amount of time would be spent on the fund;
- Officers considered all projects received and on occasion melded projects together to make them viable; a rules based approach was directed by Government therefore the Council was limited in what actions it could take. Officers were disappointed in the amount of funding received and the opportunities available however would prepare for other funding in the future.

The Committee agreed to note the report and recommend that Officers focus upon a fewer number of projects in their approach due to the limited funding received as part of the Shared Prosperity Fund.

54. **Tracking Decisions**

Members noted the tracking decisions contained within the report.

55. Work Programme

The Chair introduced the work programme for 2022/23. Members discussed the following:

- the potential inclusion of sustainable transport and bus delivery improvement at the September meeting;
- the Strategic Director's recommendation that the Freeport and National Marine Park were considered at the December 2022 meeting;
- the inclusion of the city centre regeneration, the British Arts Show and the Box Annual Review at the September meeting;
- the impact of the Environmental Bill;
- annual updates on the Culture Plan and Visitor Plan;
- that previous meetings of the panel were 3.5 hours – this was considered too long for a committee meeting therefore meetings would be approached differently in order to make them more efficient;
- how task and finish group meetings could be used to scrutinise issues; there was a risk that a wider view wouldn't be considered as those sitting on the committee would have a specific interest in that item;
- disappointment that the work programme wasn't already populated with subjects for scrutiny and that meetings were important because Councillors were accountable to the public;
- how the scrutiny prioritisation tool should be used to help populate the work programme

Members noted the work programme.

Growth and Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee



Date of meeting: 10 October 2022
Title of Report: Policy Brief - October 2022
Lead Member: Councillor John Riley (Chair)
Lead Strategic Director: Anthony Payne (Strategic Director for Place)
Author: Lucy Davis – Policy and Intelligence Advisor
Laura Hill – Policy and Intelligence Advisor
Contact Email: lucy.davis@plymouth.gov.uk
laura.hill@plymouth.gov.uk
Your Reference: PB 101022
Key Decision: No
Confidentiality: Part I - Official

Purpose of Report

To provide the Growth and Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee with the latest national picture in respect of policy announcements and legislation.

Recommendations and Reasons

For Scrutiny to consider the information provided in regard to their role and future agenda items.

Alternative options considered and rejected

N/A

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

Delivery of the Corporate Plan and Plymouth Plan needs to take account of emerging policy and the legislative picture.

Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

N/A

Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

N/A

Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:

* When considering these proposals members have a responsibility to ensure they give due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not.

N/A. No EIA has been completed as no decision is being taken. The item is for noting and to inform the Growth and Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee work plan.

Appendices

*Add rows as required to box below

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	Growth and Infrastructure Policy Brief – October 2022							

Background papers:

*Add rows as required to box below

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are unpublished works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Sign off:

Fin	N/A	Leg	N/A	Mon Off	N/A	HR	N/A	Asset s	N/A	Strat Proc	N/A
Approved by: Giles Perritt, Assistant Chief Executive											
Date approved: 30.09.22											


POLICY BRIEF - OCTOBER 2022

Growth and Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee



The information within this Brief is correct at the time of approval for publication and contains relevant recent announcements made by Government and its departments and regulators.

GOVERNMENT POLICY, LEGISLATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS

Date of publication	Growth and Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee	 GOV
26 September 2022	Department For Business Energy and Industrial Strategy – Government launches independent net zero review Former Energy Minister Chris Skidmore MP will lead a review of the Government’s approach to delivering its target to reach net zero by 2050.	Environment
23 September 2022	HM Treasury - Chancellor announces new Growth Plan 2022 The new Growth Plan sets out how the Government plans to achieve its target of 2.5 per cent growth. The Plan aims to tackle energy costs, bring down inflation, support businesses and help households. It has three priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reforming the supply side of the economy • Maintaining a responsible approach to public finances • Cutting taxes to boost growth Key announcements include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The introduction of Investment Zones across the UK. The Investment Zones will offer targeted and time limited tax cuts for businesses and liberalise planning rules to release more land for housing and commercial development. Plymouth City Council is one of 38 local and mayoral combined authority areas in early discussions with the Government on establishing Investment Zones. • The Government has stated that it remains committed to the progress of the Freeports programme and will work with local partners involved in current and prospective Freeports to consider whether and how the Investment Zones offer can help to support their objectives. • A Planning and Infrastructure Bill will be introduced to accelerate priority major infrastructure projects by reducing the burden of environmental assessments; making consultation requirements more proportionate; reforming habitats and species regulation and; increasing flexibility to make changes to a Development Consent Order once it has been submitted. • A list of infrastructure projects that will be prioritised for acceleration in sectors like transport, energy and telecoms has been published. • The Health and Social Care Levy will be cancelled but funding for health and social care services will be maintained at the same level as if the levy was in place. 	Business and industry

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Energy Bill Relief Scheme will be extended to public sector organisations such as schools, hospitals and care homes. From April 2023, there will be a single higher rate of income tax of 40 per cent and the basic rate reduced from 20 per cent to 19 per cent from April 2023. The nil rate band for Stamp Duty will increase from £125,000 to £250,000. <p>Cabinet Ministers will announce further supply side growth measures in October and early November, including changes to the planning system, business regulations, childcare, immigration, agricultural productivity, and digital infrastructure. On the 23 November, the Chancellor will set out the Medium-Term Fiscal Plan alongside the Office for Budget Responsibility's (OBR) forecast. The Chancellor also confirmed that there will be a Budget in the Spring with a further OBR forecast.</p>	
21 September 2022	<p>Department For Business Energy and Industrial Strategy - Government outlines plans to help cut energy bills for businesses</p> <p>Through a new Government Energy Bill Relief Scheme, the Government will provide a discount on wholesale gas and electricity prices for all non-domestic customers (including all UK businesses, the voluntary sector like charities and the public sector such as schools and hospitals). This support will be equivalent to the Energy Price Guarantee put in place for households.</p>	Business and industry
08 September 2022	<p>Department For Business Energy and Industrial Strategy - Government announces Energy Price Guarantee for families and businesses while urgently taking action to reform broken energy market</p> <p>A new 'Energy Price Guarantee' will supersede the existing energy price cap which limits the price suppliers can charge customers for units of gas. This will mean that a typical UK household will pay up to an average of £2,500 a year on their energy bill for the next two years from 01 October. This is in addition to the £400 energy bills discount for all households.</p>	Business and industry
05 September 2022	<p>Department for Transport - Transport update: £2 bus fare cap on a single bus ticket</p> <p>The Government is providing up to £60 million over 3 months to subsidise operator costs and incentivise greener travel for commuters.</p>	Transport
02 September 2022	<p>Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities - A Decent Homes Standard in the private rented sector: consultation</p> <p>This consultation seeks further views on how to apply and enforce the Decent Homes Standard in the private rented sector where it is not already being met. The consultation closes on 14 October 2022.</p>	Housing, local and community
26 August 2022	<p>Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs - New targets to reduce sewage spills for water companies</p>	Environment
26 August 2022	<p>Environment Agency - Sutton Harbour maintenance rescheduled for April 2023</p>	Environment
25 August 2022	<p>Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs - Better flood protections for new homes</p> <p>Planning guidance has been updated to help councils make sure developments in locations at risk of flooding meet strict criteria before they are approved.</p>	Housing, local and community
22 August 2022	<p>Department for Transport - Walking, wheeling and cycling to be offered on prescription in nationwide trial</p> <p>Eleven local authority areas in England, including Plymouth, will benefit from a share of £12.7 million in multi-year funding. Social prescriptions, including walking, wheeling and cycling, will be offered by GPs as part of a</p>	Transport

	new trial to improve mental and physical health and reduce disparities across the country.	
19 August 2022	Department for Transport - 130 million to protect bus services across the country as the Bus Recovery Grant is extended to the end of March 2023	Transport
18 August 2022	Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs and National Highways - Package of measures introduced to improve air quality Local councils will have a new strengthened framework to improve air quality, under new plans announced by Defra.	Environment
15 August 2022	Department for Transport, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, Home Office, Ministry of Defence - New 5 year maritime security strategy to target latest physical and cyber threats The Strategy sets out how the UK will enhance its capabilities in technology, innovation and cyber security. It will officially recognise environmental damage as a maritime security concern to address modern issues such as illegal fishing and polluting practices. It also seeks to improve the quantity and quality of seabed mapping data available to expand knowledge and help identify emerging threats.	Maritime and the environment
02 August 2022	Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy - Green upgrades for public buildings Up to £635 million of funding will be made available to public sector organisations so they can install low carbon heating, such as heat pumps, and energy efficiency measures including double glazing and loft insulation.	Energy efficiency
29 July 2022	Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities - New homes to be more accessible for older and disabled people All new homes will be required to have step-free access to all entrance level rooms and facilities.	Housing, local and community
22 July 2022	Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy - Licence update for businesses to serve food and drink on pavements and pedestrianised roads	Business and industry
21 July 2022	Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities - Letter to chief planning officers, nutrient neutrality and habitats regulations assessment	Environment
20 July 2022	Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport - Government response to the independent review of Destination Management Organisations in England	Tourism
05 July 2022	Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities - Residents and business owners to be given final say on proposed street name changes	Local government

CHANGES TO RELEVANT LEGISLATION GOING THROUGH PARLIAMENT

[Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill](#) (introduced 11.05.22) – **Committee Stage, next sitting**

13.10.22 HoC

The Bill lays the foundations for delivering the Government's levelling up agenda. The Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Committee [wrote](#) to the then Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Greg Clark MP setting out the Committee's initial findings following scrutiny of the Bill.

[Energy Bill](#) (introduced 06.07.22) – **Committee Stage, 3rd day TBC HoL**

The Bill aims to increase energy reliability, while supporting the UK's climate change commitments and minimising consumer costs, by leveraging investment in clean technologies and maintaining the safety, security and resilience of energy systems.

[Procurement Bill](#) (introduced 11.05.22) - **Committee Stage, next sitting 24.10.22 HoL**

The Bill aims to simplify the procurement process and enshrine in law the objectives of public procurement including: delivering value for money, maximising public benefit, treating suppliers equally and without discrimination, and acting, and being seen to act, with integrity.

[Northern Ireland Protocol Bill](#) (introduced 13.06.22) - **2nd Reading, 11.10.22 HoL** (The Bill completed its HoC stages on 20 July)

The Bill aims to allow ministers to disapply parts of the Northern Ireland Protocol and relevant parts of the Withdrawal Agreement in UK law.

[The Seafarers' Wages Bill](#) (introduced 06.07.22) - **Committee Stage, next sitting 12.10.22 HoL**

The Bill aims to make provision in relation to the remuneration of seafarers who do not qualify for the national minimum wage.

[Financial Services and Markets Bill](#) (introduced 20.07.22) - **Committee Stage, TBC HoC**

The Bill aims to make provision about the regulation of financial services and markets and will implement the outcomes of the Future Regulatory Framework Review.

[UK Infrastructure Bank Bill](#) (introduced 11.05.22) - **2nd Reading, TBC HoC** (The Bill completed its HoL stages on 11 July)

The Bill includes establishing the UK Infrastructure Bank in law with clear objectives to support regional and local economic growth and deliver net zero. It also provides the Bank with the necessary powers to lend directly to local authorities and the Northern Ireland Executive, enabling the Bank to play a key role in delivering public sector infrastructure projects.

[Trade \(Australia and New Zealand Bill\)](#) (introduced 11.05.22) - **Committee Stage, next sitting 12.10.22 HoC**

The Bill is an important step in ratifying the negotiated Free Trade Agreements with Australia and New Zealand. The Bill will change the UK's rules on procurement which in turn will widen access for UK suppliers to procurement opportunities in Australia and New Zealand and allow their suppliers rights to access the benefits of the Agreements.

[Retained EU Law \(Revocation and Reform\) Bill](#) (introduced 22.09.22) **2nd Reading, TBC HoC**

The Bill will sunset the majority of retained EU law so that it expires on 31 December 2023. The Bill aims to enable the Government to create regulations tailor-made to the UK's own needs and support businesses to invest, stimulating economic growth across the UK economy.

Growth and Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee



Date of meeting:	10 October 2022
Title of Report:	Risk Monitoring Report
Lead Member:	Councillor Mark Shayer (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Economy)
Lead Strategic Director:	Giles Perritt (Assistant Chief Executive)
Author:	Robert Sowden
Contact Email:	Robert.Sowden@plymouth.gov.uk
Your Reference:	RS/RM
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

Purpose of Report

The attached report provides an update on the Strategic risk register pertinent to the committee. The register offers additional information including detail on Key Controls and Sources of Assurance and how progress against mitigation will be measured.

Recommendations and Reasons

The Growth and Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

1. Note the current position.
2. Consider whether any risks identified should be programmed for further discussion by the Committee.

Reason: As part of the Committee's responsibility for monitoring the implementation and ongoing processes for identifying and managing key risks of the authority.

Alternative options considered and rejected

Effective risk management processes are an essential element of internal control and as such are an important element of good corporate governance. For this reason alternative options are not applicable.

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

The Strategic Risk and Opportunity Register includes links to the Corporate Plan priorities – monitoring of control action for strategic risks therefore contributes to the delivery of the council's core objectives.

Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

None arising specifically from this report but control measures identified in Directorate Operational Risk and Opportunity Registers could have financial or resource implications.

Financial Risks

None arising specifically from this report but control measures identified in Directorate Operational Risk and Opportunity Registers could have financial or resource implications.

Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

Failure to deliver against actions in the Climate Emergency Action Plan and Corporate Carbon Reduction Plan are included on risk registers.

Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:

* When considering these proposals members have a responsibility to ensure they give due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not.

The risk registers specifically supports the council's overall governance arrangements.

Appendices

*Add rows as required to box below

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		1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Background papers:

*Add rows as required to box below

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are unpublished works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Sign off:

Fin	BA22. 23.71	Leg	EJ/38 851/1 1.7.22	Mon Off		HR		Assets		Strat Proc	
Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Giles Perritt											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes Date agreed: 14/07/2022											
Cabinet Member approval: Councillor Mark Shayer (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Economy) Date approved: 13/07/2022											

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Risk Analysis & Scoring

Once risks have been identified they need to be assessed systematically and accurately. The process requires managers to assess the level of risk by considering the probability of an event occurring - 'likelihood' and the potential outcome of the consequences should such an event occur - 'impact'. Managers will assess each element of the judgement and determine the score. The tables below give the scores and indicative definitions for each element of the risk ranking process:-

Score	Likelihood	Threat / Risk
5	Almost Certain (80-100%)	Is expected to occur in most circumstances. Will undoubtedly happen, possibly frequently e.g. Annually or more frequently. Imminent/near miss.
4	Likely (50-80%)	Will probably occur in many circumstances. Will probably happen, but not a persistent issue e.g. Once in 3 years. Has happened in the past.
3	Possible (25-50%)	Could occur in certain circumstances. May happen occasionally, e.g. Once in 10 years. Has happened elsewhere.
2	Unlikely (10-25%)	May occur only in exceptional circumstances. Not expected to happen, but is possible e.g. Once in 25 years. Not known in this activity.
1	Rare (0-10%)	Is never likely to occur. Very unlikely this will ever happen e.g. Once in 100 years.
Score	Impact	Threat / Risk
5	Catastrophic Risk	Risks which can have a catastrophic effect on the operation of the Council or service. This may result in critical financial loss, severe service disruption or a severe impact on the public. Examples:- Unable to function without aid of Government or other external agency; Inability to fulfil obligations; Medium - long term damage to service capability; Severe financial loss - supplementary estimate needed which will have a catastrophic impact on the Council's financial plan and resources are unlikely to be available; Death; Adverse national publicity - highly damaging, severe loss of public confidence; Significant public interest; Litigation certain and difficult to defend; Breaches of law punishable by imprisonment; Very significant exposure of public funds with funding being managed across organisations and complex reporting; Total project budget in excess of £5,000,000.
4	Major Risk	Risks which can have a major effect on the operation of the Council or service. This may result in major financial loss, major service disruption or a significant impact on the public. Examples:- Significant impact on service objectives; Short - medium term impairment to service capability; Major financial loss - supplementary estimate needed which will have a major impact on the Council's financial plan; Extensive injuries, major permanent harm, long term sick; Major adverse local publicity, major loss of confidence; Litigation likely and may be difficult to defend; Breaches of law punishable by fines or possible imprisonment; Relatively large budget £1 - £5M.
3	Moderate Risk	Risks which have a noticeable effect on the services provided. Each one will cause a degree of disruption to service provision and impinge on the budget. Examples:- Service objectives partially achievable; Short term disruption to service capability; Significant financial loss - supplementary estimate needed which will have an impact on the Council's financial plan; Medical treatment required, semi-permanent harm up to 1 year; Some adverse publicity, needs careful public relations; High potential for complaint, litigation possible; Breaches of law punishable by fines only; Budget between £500k - £1M
2	Minor Risk	Risks where the consequences will not be severe and any associated losses will be minor. As individual occurrences they will have a negligible effect on service provision. However, if action is not taken, then such risks may have a more significant cumulative effect. Examples:- Minor impact on service objectives; No significant disruption to service capability; Moderate financial loss - can be accommodated at HOS level; First aid treatment, non-permanent harm up to 1 month; Some public embarrassment, no damage to reputation; May result in complaints/litigation; Breaches of regulations/standards; Budget within delegation.

1	Insignificant Risk	Risks where the consequences will not be severe and any associated losses will be relatively small. As individual occurrences they will have a negligible effect on service provision. However, if action is not taken, then such risks may have a more significant cumulative effect. Examples:- Minimal impact, no service disruption; Negligible impact on service capability; Minimal loss - can be accommodated at SAC level; No obvious harm/injury; Unlikely to cause any adverse publicity, internal only; Breaches of local procedures/standards; Budget within delegation and relatively small or within operational costs.
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2	Minor Risk	<p>Risks where the consequences will not be severe and any associated losses will be minor. As individual occurrences they will have a negligible effect on service provision. However, if action is not taken, then such risks may have a more significant cumulative effect.</p> <p>Examples:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minor impact on service objectives No significant disruption to service capability Moderate financial loss – can be accommodated at HOS level First aid treatment, non-permanent harm up to 1 month Some public embarrassment, no damage to reputation May result in complaints/litigation Breaches of regulations/standards Budget within delegation
1	Insignificant Risk	<p>Risks where the consequences will not be severe and any associated losses will be relatively small. As individual occurrences they will have a negligible effect on service provision. However, if action is not taken, then such risks may have a more significant cumulative effect.</p> <p>Examples:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimal impact, no service disruption Negligible impact on service capability Minimal loss – can be accommodated at SAC level No obvious harm/injury Unlikely to cause any adverse publicity, internal only Breaches of local procedures/standards Budget within delegation and relatively small or within operational costs

Growth and Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee



Date of meeting:	10 October 2022
Title of Report:	City Centre Update
Lead Member:	Councillor Richard Bingley (Leader)
Lead Strategic Director:	Anthony Payne (Strategic Director for Place)
Author:	Matt Ward
Contact Email:	matt.ward@plymouth.gov.uk
Your Reference:	n/a
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

Purpose of Report

To provide an update on plans to improve Plymouth city centre

Recommendations and Reasons

Recommendation: To note the work being undertaken and to support the plans for future investment

Reasons: The work proposed will improve the city centre, generating wider benefits for the city and its residents.

Alternative options considered and rejected

An alternative option would be to focus investment in other parts of the city. However, the city centre has been identified as one of the strategic growth areas in the Joint Local Plan and having a vibrant city centre helps to support wider investment in the city.

Another option would be to do nothing. However, the city centre is facing a number of challenges which would get worse with no intervention.

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

The vision for the city as set out in the Corporate Plan is for Plymouth to be “one of Europe’s most vibrant waterfront cities”. In order to achieve this it is essential for Plymouth to have an attractive and successful city centre where people want to live, work, shop and spend their leisure time.

Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

A number of existing projects have been approved and are already part of the capital programme. A number of projects have secured external grant funding. Separate business cases will be required for future projects, which may be funded in a variety of ways.

Sign off:

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Originating Senior Leadership Team member: David Draffan											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes Date agreed: 23/09/2022											
Cabinet Member approval: Councillor Richard Bingley (Leader) Date approved: 23/09/2022											

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Growth and Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee 10 October 2022

City Centre Update

Introduction

Plymouth's city centre was rebuilt after the Second World War and was planned as a centre focussed on retail. As shopping habits have changed over recent years (a trend which was accelerated as a result of the COVID pandemic), this has led to some difficult times for retailers across the UK. A number of large high street brands have gone into administration and some independent traders have struggled. This has led to an increasing number of vacant units across Plymouth city centre.

The number of people visiting Plymouth's city centre fell dramatically during COVID and whilst footfall has recovered to a certain extent it is still below 2019 levels (see Appendix 1). Notwithstanding, this data, there are some signs that Plymouth is recovering better than many other towns and cities. In a report on recovery of hotels published by Colliers earlier this year, Plymouth featured in the top 5 out of 25 destinations across the UK. And in research published at the end of September by retail intelligence organisation, Small Business Prices, Plymouth was found to have the busiest city centre in the UK by footfall.

However, despite those signs of positivity, 19% of the city centre's shops are vacant and Plymouth's retail footprint in the city centre is simply too large for today's consumers' requirements and there is a pressing need for diversification – there should be other reasons for people to visit and spend time in the city centre.

There are currently only around 1,000 homes within the city centre (as defined by its retail footprint) and many of these are social housing formerly owned by the Council and now owned by Plymouth Community Homes. A typical city centre of Plymouth's size would be expected to have around 8,000 homes. More new homes are therefore required, as these will help to create a more vibrant city centre – particularly outside of normal working hours.

Other reasons for people to visit the city centre are also required, including for health and wellbeing reasons, to work and to spend their leisure time.

But the city centre also needs to be an attractive place to visit. The quality of the public spaces is important, as is the condition of the buildings. The city centre should offer visitors and residents a welcoming environment where they are keen to shop, work, live, spend their leisure time and have fun!

Aside from the challenges around the decline in retail, property values in Plymouth are lower than other nearby cities such as Exeter and Bristol. This makes regeneration and development more challenging because projects are less likely to be financially viable or meet the parameters set by investors. Grant funding or innovative approaches to development finance will therefore be required in order to stimulate investment.

However, it should be noted that some of the city centre's physical characteristics provide a strong platform from which to progress – for example, the wide, largely pedestrianised streets offer a safe environment for the public, and the existing buildings (many of which now form part of the Conservation Area) are of high quality. The city centre is also well located, including being within close proximity to the city's train station and just a few minutes' walk from the waterfront.

City Centre Strategy

The work which is currently underway on the city centre is based on a number of existing plans and strategies, which have previously been through extensive public consultation, primarily:

- The City Centre Masterplan
www.plymouth.gov.uk/sites/default/files/PlymouthCityCentreStrategicMasterplan.pdf
- The Plymouth & South West Devon Joint Local Plan
<https://plymswdevonplan.co.uk/policy?areas=plymouth>

Work to improve the city centre is focussed on a number of inter-related areas and is being carried out by the Council in partnership with or working alongside various third party organisations, including Plymouth City Centre Company, Plymouth Culture, Destination Plymouth, Urban Splash, Historic England, British Land, the Theatre Royal and others.

The improvements being made to the city centre include:

- Physical regeneration / capital projects
- Improving public realm
- Improving existing buildings
- Reducing vacancies / meanwhile uses
- Cultural programme & events
- Business support / work of the Business Improvement Districts

Physical Regeneration / Capital Projects

The Council has already delivered:

- The Box
- The Barcode (in partnership with British Land)

And has supported the delivery of projects and investments such as the:

- New retail units in the former BHS
- Conversion of the former Derry's store to provide a 110-bed Premier Inn and 500 student apartments

New projects within the city centre and near vicinity include:

- New £44m health and wellbeing centre in the West End, providing space for 3 existing GP surgeries, outpatient clinics, dentistry, pharmacy, wellbeing and the voluntary sector. Planning consent granted, due to start on site March 2023 subject to final funding approval.

- Refurbishment of Civic Centre by Urban Splash to provide 144 apartments, as well as a range of commercial space on the lower floors. Supported by £10.5m from the Future High Streets Fund. Strip out works due to start in October, with main contract underway in early 2023.
- Modernisation of the Guildhall to improve the events space and attract more use. Supported by £1.5m from the Future High Streets Fund. Currently at the pre-application stage.
- Railway station redevelopment. This £100m project is well underway, with a new gateline having been provided, various internal relocations completed and University of Plymouth due to complete the conversion of Intercity Place to provide new teaching facilities for medical students by September 2023.
- Around 150 new homes to be provided by Plymouth Community Homes on land owned by the Council at Bath Street, currently at the pre-application stage.
- A new 150-bed Hilton Garden Inn and 142 apartments to be provided on land owned by the Council on the Hoe, currently at the pre-application stage.

Public Realm

Five major public realm improvement projects (£26.5m total) are currently being worked on for the city centre, with construction already started on site on one, and due to start on site on the other four:

- Old Town Street / New George Street: £7.5m project on site and due to complete July 2023
- Civic Square: £3m project due to start in November and complete July 2023
- Armada Way: £12.7m project due to start January 2023 and complete March 2024
- Royal Parade: £2.7m project running from January – August 2023
- Mayflower Street: £0.6m project starting in November and completing March 2023

These projects will improve cycling, walking and bus routes through the city, as well as improving the overall look and feel of the city centre.

Improving Existing Buildings

Supported by Heritage Action Zone funding from Historic England the Council is working to clean building facades and improve signage etc within parts of the city centre that are now designated as a conservation area.

Reducing Vacancies / Meanwhile Uses

Led by Plymouth Culture, working with the Council and Plymouth City Centre Company, a number of previously vacant units have now been occupied on a “meanwhile use” basis. This has helped to bring new activity and footfall to the city centre, as well as improve the look of the premises. Units that have already been brought back into use include:

- Vacancy Atlas, Cornwall Street
- Climate Hub, former Waterstones, New George Street
- Two units owned by British Land on Old Town Street, now used as exhibition space and a hub for bicycle deliveries

More meanwhile uses are in the pipeline.

Cultural Programme & Events

The Council, Plymouth Culture, Plymouth City Centre Company and other organisations have been working together to provide various events in or around the city centre, all of which have helped to drive footfall. These include the Hatchling, Flavour Fest, Plymouth half marathon, SailGP, Pirate Weekend, Lord Mayor's Day and the West End Carnival.

Future Investment

The Council is liaising regularly with potential funders, most notably Homes England in collaboration with the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, in order to identify opportunities to secure investment for new projects, especially on sites where financial viability is challenging. Ongoing conversations are also taking place with potential investors to ensure that they are aware of the opportunities that exist in Plymouth. Work is also underway to enhance further the way that Plymouth is marketed to investors, building on the good work that has already been done by the Invest in Plymouth team.

Business Support / Business Improvement District (BID)

Plymouth City Centre BID was established in 2005 and works in partnership with the Council and many other organisations, as well as local businesses, in order to help the city centre to thrive. The work of the BID includes:

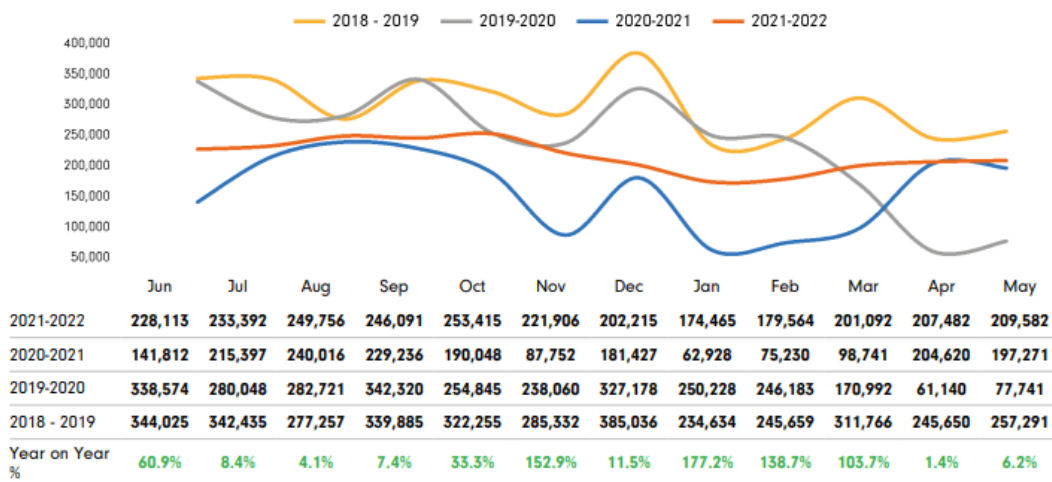
- Helping landlords and tenants find new uses for vacant units
- Pro-actively seeking new investment
- Improving connectivity between the city centre and the waterfront
- Marketing
- Organising and supporting a year-round programme of high quality events
- Improving public spaces to ensure they are clean, safe and welcoming
- Supporting businesses with services and grants to help reduce costs and improve customer experience.

The City Centre BID works closely with Plymouth Waterfront BID to ensure that activities of each organisation compliment one another.

Appendix I: Monthly Footfall across Plymouth’s Counters from June 2018 to May 2022

Footfall - rolling 12 months

The figures shown below are calculated using weekly averages.



Year on year % is calculated by comparing the 2021-2022 period with the 2020-2021 period i.e the figure for May compares May 2022 to May 2021

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PLYMOUTH CITY CENTRE



PLYMOUTH CITY CENTRE

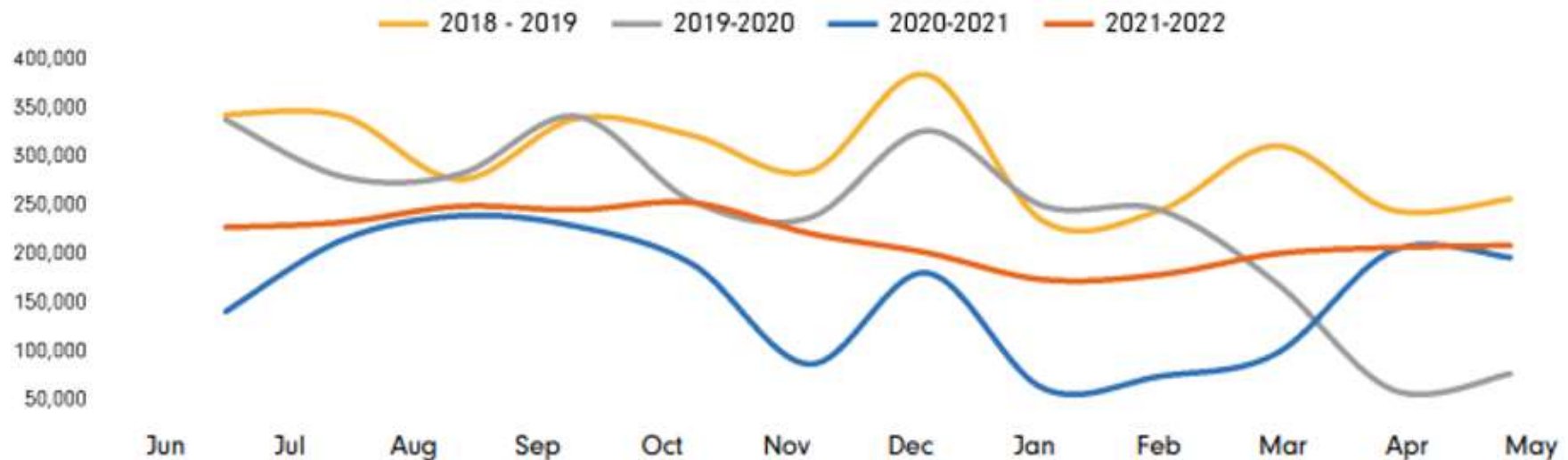


- Matt Ward, Head of Strategic Development Projects, Economic Development, Plymouth City Council
- Martin Ivatt, City Centre Regeneration Co-ordinator, Strategic Planning & Infrastructure, Plymouth City Council

SOME CONTEXT



- 1,000 homes
- Median house price 30% below regional median, office & commercial rents below other cities
- Wide, pedestrianised streets
- Heritage buildings

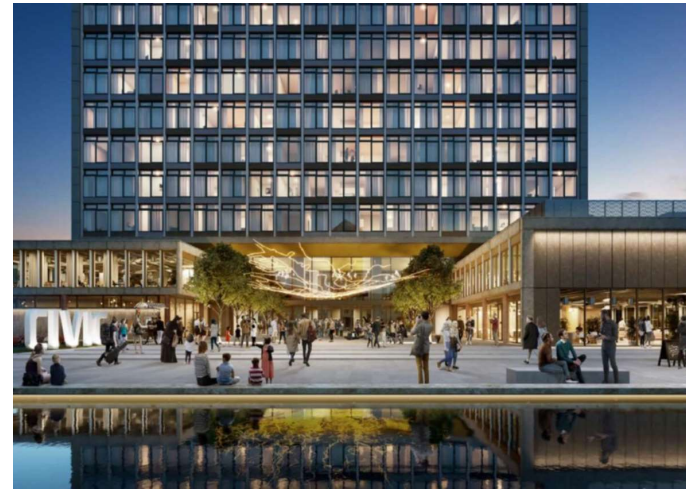


THE STRATEGY



- Existing strategies and plans
- Physical regeneration / capital projects
- Working with investors
- Improving public realm
- Improving existing buildings
- Reducing vacancies / meanwhile uses
- Cultural programme
- Events
- Business support

CAPITAL PROJECTS



CAPITAL PROJECTS



PUBLIC REALM

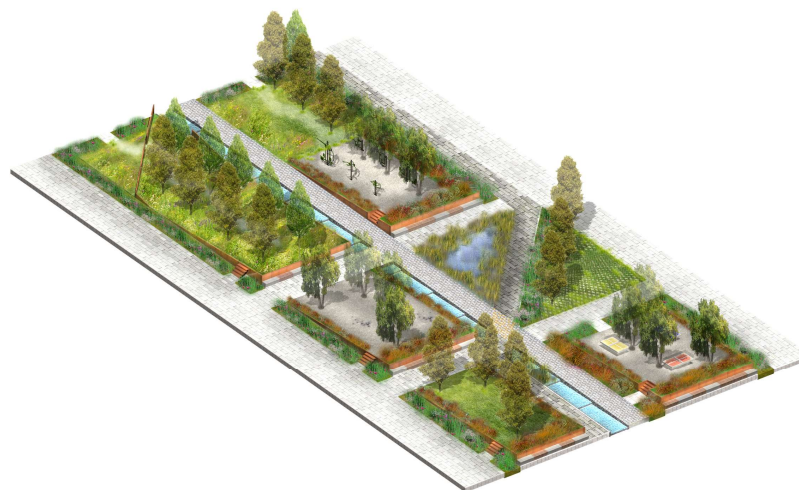


- Funding from the Council, Homes England and Transforming Cities Fund
- Old Town Street / New George Street: £7.5m
 - on site – complete July 2023
- Civic Square: £3m
 - work starting November with completion July 2023

PUBLIC REALM

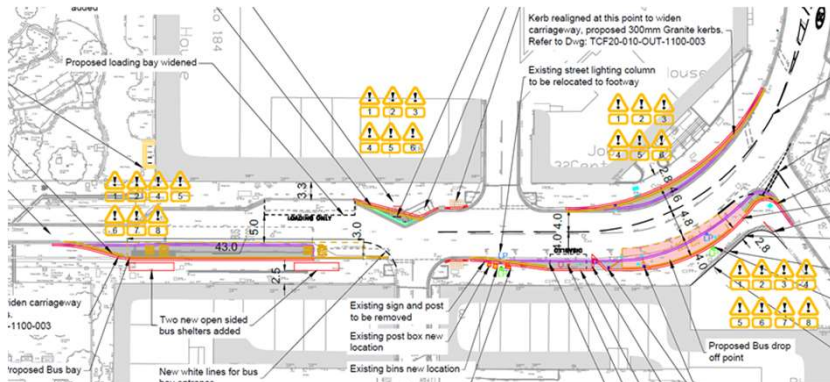


- Armada Way: £12.7m
 - General arrangement plan agreed - working with partners on technical design



- enabling work north of Mayflower St end of 2022
- construction starting Jan 2023 through March 2024


PUBLIC REALM



- Royal Parade: £2.7m
 - Technical design being finalised. Starting Jan 2023 with completion Aug 2023

- Mayflower Street: £0.6m
 - Technical design being finalised. Starting Nov 2022 with completion March 2023

HERITAGE ACTION ZONE



Lunchtime discussion with 20th Century Society


Come and join us for this month's conversation with the 20th Century Society C20 campaign to save outstanding buildings and designs that have shaped the British landscape since 1914. Find out why their attention has turned to Plymouth, and what they think of our wonderful City.

Thursday 28th Oct 12.30pm - 13.30pm

This will be a Zoom Presentation

Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9855171334>
Meeting ID: 985 517 1334

High Street Heritage Action Zone Plymouth, breaking life back into our city streets for future generations.



REVITALISING OUR DISTRICT

- £1.99m funding from Historic England to celebrate our Conservation Area
- CAAAMP adopted
- Façade restorations
- Public realm funding
- Culture and Community Engagement Strategy
- High Street Sparks

EVENTS



BUSINESS SUPPORT





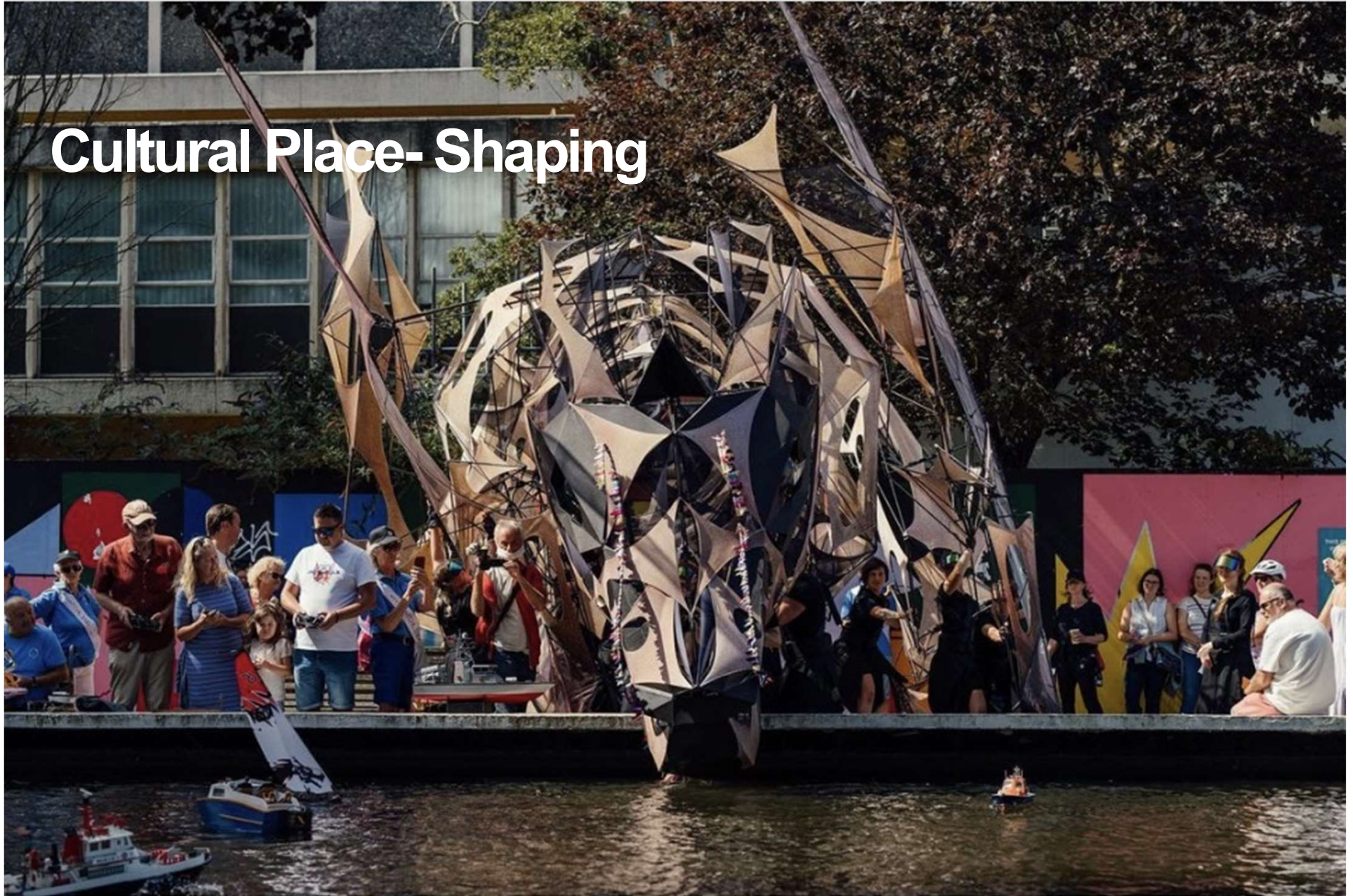
Meanwhile use





Meanwhile use

Cultural Place- Shaping



QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION



Growth and Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee



Date of meeting:	10 October 2022
Title of Report:	Update on The Box
Lead Member:	Councillor Pat Patel (Cabinet Member for Customer Services, Culture, Leisure & Sport)
Lead Strategic Director:	Anthony Payne (Strategic Director for Place)
Author:	Victoria Pomery
Contact Email:	Victoria.pomery@plymouth.gov.uk
Your Reference:	Click here to enter text.
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

Purpose of Report

The Box opened in September 2020 in the midst of the global pandemic. This report is an update on progress and performance. There will be a more detailed presentation at the meeting on British Art Show 9 which opens on 8 October 2022.

Recommendations and Reasons

The committee is asked to note the report.

Alternative options considered and rejected

The input and overview of the relevant scrutiny committee is essential to maintain openness and transparency in relation to the work of the Council.

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

Delivery of British Art Show9 supports the city's objective to Unlock the City's potential by creating an exciting cultural and creative place and a friendly and welcoming city. The exhibition will help the city to reposition itself and supports cultural place-making

Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

British Art Show9 is a longstanding commitment and costs are met from existing resources agreed through the budgeting processes. The city-wide partnership led by The Box secured some additional funding (c£200k) to support delivery of the exhibition.

Financial Risks

The exhibition has been budgeted. There is always a risk around increased costs particularly in the current climate eg for build and installation but the team and wider partnership has managed to contain all costs and we don't anticipate any further risk.

Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

This has been considered. Transporting works within the UK has an impact. Environmental implications have been mitigated for the exhibition build by using materials that can be recycled following the exhibition

Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:

** When considering these proposals members have a responsibility to ensure they give due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not.*

H&S issues are always considered. There are no concerns

BAS9 is a complex, technical build. We have procured the services of competent specialist contractors to undertake the work as per signed off risk assessments and method statements. Manual handling, working at height and using power tools are the key areas of risk that these RAMS have focussed on to ensure all reasonably practicable measures have been taken to minimise the identified hazards.

Appendices

**Add rows as required to box below*

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	Briefing report title							
B	Equalities Impact Assessment (if applicable)							

Background papers:

**Add rows as required to box below*

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are unpublished works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Sign off:

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Originating Senior Leadership Team member: David Draffan

Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes

Date agreed: 30/09/2022

Cabinet Member approval: *Councillor Patel, Cabinet member for Customer Services, Culture, Leisure & Sport*

Date approved: 23/09/2022



The Box

Update – September 2022

The Box opened in September 2020 in the midst of a global pandemic to critical acclaim. The initial months of operation were subject to many Covid restrictions. In addition, the organisation was obliged to close for significant periods of time in line with Government guidance. In spite of this, the performance of The Box has been phenomenally successful and has already earned a significant reputation.

We are committed to using our distinctive blend of museum, gallery and archive to ask questions about the world we are living in, exploring issues from representation to climate justice through our exhibitions and programming.

New gallery spaces showcase our rich collections spanning archaeology, social history, natural history, fine and decorative arts, moving image, contemporary art and more across seven permanent gallery spaces and five temporary exhibition spaces.

Over the past two years, The Box has attracted considerable local, regional, national and international media coverage and has won countless architectural awards. The media coverage has continued with reviews of many of our exhibitions in the national press. The Box also won a special commendation at the coveted European Museum of the Year award in 2022.

European Museum of the Year Award

The European Museum of the Year Award (EMYA) was founded in 1977 under the auspices of the Council of Europe. Its key aim is to recognise excellence within the European museum sector. EMYA is dedicated to promoting excellence in museum practice and encouraging networking and the exchange of ideas and best practice.

The two main awards are the EMYA and the Council of Europe Museum Prize. They have been awarded continuously since 1977. The EMYA award seeks to acknowledge the *'...creative and imaginative approaches to the production of knowledge, to interpretation, presentation and social responsibility - all from a transparent base of core values of democracy, human rights, and inter-cultural dialogue, a commitment to sustainability, a practice of inclusion and community participation, and a recognition of conflicts and the courage needed to confront them.'*

The Council of Europe Museum Prize is awarded to the museum *'...that has contributed significantly to upholding human rights and democratic citizenship, to broadening knowledge and understanding of contemporary societal issues, and to bridging cultures by encouraging inter-cultural dialogue or overcoming social and political borders.'*

Museum candidates are either new museums or established museums that have completed a substantial programme of modernisation and extension of their buildings and galleries

On average 50 museums apply each year from across the 47 member countries. This year, given COVID, applications were significantly higher and a total of 60 museums were nominated.

Special Commendations – of which there were seven this year – are given to museums that that have developed a new and innovative approach in specific aspects of their public service and can be seen as exemplars from which other museums can learn.

The Box's commendation read as follows;

The last special commendation goes to a remarkable regional museum with strong ambitions for its cultural, educational and social effects.

With outstanding exhibitions and easy access for all, it has created a new cultural asset for its city and region and is an active advocate for the social change it can bring to its communities.

[\(https://www.europeanforum.museum/en/news/emyatwentytwo-winners/\)](https://www.europeanforum.museum/en/news/emyatwentytwo-winners/)

Visit numbers and Performance

To date, we have welcomed more than 340,000 visitors to The Box. From the start of this financial year, the figure stands at 105,288 against an annual forecast of 200,000. The Box attracts a diverse audience with approximately 50% of our audiences drawn from Plymouth and the surrounding area. The Box has received consistently strong reviews from local and regional visitors (rating 4.5 and 4.6 on Trip Advisor and Google Review respectively). A broad public offer complements the programme with everything from talks to tours, live music to yoga. Recent comments include:

"Amazing place! First time I have been in here since the refurbishment, and I am very impressed with what they have done! I definitely recommend coming here."

“Absolutely beautifully done. Visually captivating, interesting stories being told and such imagination! Well done Plymouth a spectacular addition to the city and surprisingly free for everyone! A must-see for all the family!”

“Took my ten year old daughter today ...We weren’t disappointed and many of the displays have a National feel to them. There was so much to see that we stayed 5 hours. The digital interactive with supplied styluses were a huge hit. Highlights were the Mammoth Gallery, map table, 3d projection, periscope, tv studio, Mayflower family life lines and the shop. Children’s trails were also well done. Great staff and brilliant welcome. Best museum in SW and one of the best in country.”

A Cultural Learning Centre



Learning and Education is at the heart of our vision and our programme of events and activities engages with children and young people in formal education, families, community groups, FE and HE.

Since opening we’ve supported 8,000 visits from children and young people through our schools programme as well as activities tailored to everyone from early years to older people to underserved communities which have reached over 23,000 people. We run a regular programme of free family activities, including special sessions for Early Years, and were shortlisted for the Kids in Museums Family Friendly Award in 2021.

Our curriculum-linked schools programme offers sessions from EYFS to FE/HE including bespoke projects in partnership with national institutions such as the V&A. School workshops have reached children across 90% of the wards in Plymouth, including a significant number of sessions delivered for schools within the five most deprived wards. You can find out which

Plymouth schools have visited (and where they have come from) since The Box opened here <https://animoto.com/play/yACWwCq3QGwofC9SO1DN2Q>

Our learning programme supports people experiencing challenges in their lives with tailored wellbeing activities. 'The Box on The Box' live streamed content from our film archive alongside expert commentary to people living in care homes, residential setting and NHS wards throughout 2020. The project reached 3,000 people, winning a Silver in the iese Public Sector Awards and was shortlisted for the National Lottery Awards Project of the Year. We deliver regular activities that are proven to support wellbeing, from our group for people with dementia and their carers', to mindfulness sessions, to craft activities for people experiencing isolation and loneliness.

We are committed to amplifying marginalised voices and breaking down barriers to access and inclusion. 'Where am I?' was a recent exhibition co-curated with people from the LGBTQ+ community which examined our collections through their lens whilst special tours and creative sessions for people underrepresented within our audience profile take place throughout the year.

A short video sharing more on learning and engagement at The Box in 2022 - 2023 is available here: <https://animoto.com/play/CGW0vILvAXSU6adTnme2vg>

Developing skills



We are committed to supporting skills development at The Box across our team. We have over 160 volunteers who engage with visitors, support research and enable learning activities. Our volunteers provide significant support to The Box team – providing over 35,000 volunteering hours since opening – as well as benefiting from the skills and wellbeing benefits that volunteering at The Box provides:

"It's been a surprising experience – I've learned so much about interacting with all sorts of people. I've surprised myself with how much I know and how much more I can learn – so for those of you who suffer with self-doubt and anxieties, this can be an eye-opening experience to prove even to yourself what you've already achieved and what more you're capable of."
(Volunteer)

We are also developing skills and career development opportunities for young people. This includes several entry level career opportunities paid at Real Living Wage and targeted at people under represented within museum and gallery workforces, through to work experience and student placement opportunities with FE and HE providers.

Earned and Fundraised Income

The Box runs a shop, venue hire and a catering operation, contracted to Fosters. In 2021, The Box shop was shortlisted for the Museums and Heritage Awards 'Shop of the Year', one of only two on site shops shortlisted during a year focused on online activity. Our venue hire offer, from corporate events to weddings, has had increased interest since the end of Covid restrictions, meaning that more people can both 'mark the moment' and support The Box to continue to look after the city's heritage for the future.

However, like many visitor attractions, we are seeing a reduction in earned income caused by the cost of living crisis.

The Box receives revenue funding from Arts Council England (ACE) as a National Portfolio Organisation. In May we submitted an application for funds for the period 2023-26. This is a competitive process and we expect to hear the outcome from ACE at the end of October. In addition, we receive funding from the British Film Institute and several other trusts and foundations.

Partnership & Collaboration

Partnership and collaboration is vital and The Box has a number of significant strategic partnerships in place. Partnerships nationally, regionally and locally enable investment in Plymouth, ensure joined up thinking and maximise resources. Notable partnerships include the National Portrait Gallery and the V&A (both offering new opportunities for young people), organisations such as Nudge, Tate St Ives and AONB, (helping us to expand our digital reach through The Box on Screen) and we are connected with networks and initiatives across the city through National Marine Park, Plymouth Culture, FE/HE providers, RIO and POP+ working with them to offer a joined up and connected approach to cultural opportunity in the city.

Archive Accreditation

The Box has been awarded Archive Service Accreditation by the National Archives. This recognises good performance in all areas of archive service delivery and is the equivalent of a successful Ofsted inspection. Only 10% of all archives across the country achieve accreditation

The Accreditation Panel said:

'We're impressed by the enthusiasm and ambitions of the archive service, demonstrated through both delivery and continuing development of the service offer within its outstanding new premises... The Box has been a transformational opportunity for the collections of predecessor organisations, creating a genuinely new, engaging and integrated approach to sharing collections in ways which meet a range of audience needs. The digital and interactive

content as well as displays is particularly notable as outstanding in a national context... the level of use and engagement already demonstrated with The Box's communities is exemplary.'

2022 Summer Exhibition Highlights



Because the night belongs to us was a major retrospective of live music and experiences of the city at night, told by the people who were there.

16,865 people visited the exhibition in St Luke's Church during the summer attracting a strong local audience. This is an 88% increase on audiences in this space in the same period the previous year. 59% of people visited especially to see this exhibition. 39% of the audience hadn't visited The Box before.

Audiences told us what they enjoyed:

- *The celebration of Plymouth as a community and creative, inclusive city*
- *Lots from my youth, interesting info about Plymouth and fascinating insight into the music scene here in Plymouth, which ran along my own experience in my hometown of Cardiff. Films were all great, really interesting and thought provoking. Loved all of it. Been here for ages! Bowie for 60p, who'd have thought?!*
- *Happy memories of my time working on Union Street in the late 90's... This exhibition has taken me back to one of the happiest times in my life, it's been a joy. Thank you!*
- *As an ex clubber I wanted to come see it, it gave me so much more than I anticipated though and made me think about our city and it's clubbing/nightlife history in many ways I hadn't considered*
- *Who knew Plymouth has so much creative, challenging history. It helps understand where today's Plymouth is coming from.*

Dress Code showcased The Box fashion and textiles collection. 43% of the 79,115 visitors had not visited The Box before. Audiences told us what they enjoyed:

- *Connected to the past through material and visual history*
- *Made me feel lucky to live in less restricted age, but was amazing to see such historic pieces and imagine the people who wore them*
- *It's rare to see an exhibition on fashion history so thoroughly and well put together. I feel like I genuinely learned a thing or two from it.*
- *It made me feel proud of Plymouth and proud to be living in such a creative world*

The Local was a major exhibition by Turner Prize nominated artist George Shaw, who lives and works on Dartmoor.

The exhibition included several national and international loans and a series of new works produced by the artist for presentation at The Box. The exhibition was opened by Jonathan Watkins, Director of the Ikon Gallery in Birmingham, and attracted highly positive national and local press coverage.

The exhibition had 53,464 visitors from 4 June – 4 September 2022.

Feedback from audiences included the following:

- *Highly recommended and well worth a visit.*
- *Well done Box. Great exhibition. Uplifting. Intelligent.*
- *Absolutely loved George Shaw's show. I'd not seen his pictures before. I found them very moving.*
- *Illuminating and so beautiful!*
- *Incredible detail in his paintings.*
- *I loved the George Shaw exhibition at The Box!*

Programming connected to the shows have included everything from a fashion show featuring local students work to a late event featuring BBC R6 DJ Nemone alongside a range of talks connected to the exhibitions.

British Art Show 9

8 October 2022 – 8 January 2023

British Art Show 9 (BAS9) opens in Plymouth on Saturday 8 October 2022. This significant exhibition of contemporary art takes place every five years and is curated by guest curators working with Hayward Gallery Touring. Plymouth last hosted the British Art Show in 2011.

Plymouth is the final venue of the BAS9 tour which has seen a version of the exhibition in Aberdeen, Wolverhampton and Manchester. The work of 33 artists has been confirmed for this final stage of the national tour, which brings together the work of some of the UK's most exciting contemporary artists.

BAS9 is curated by Irene Aristizábal and Hammad Nasar and includes work that has been made since 2015. The exhibition is structured around three main themes – Healing, Care and Reparative History, Tactics for Togetherness and Imagining New Futures – and has evolved with every city, with a different combination of artworks and artists that respond to each location.

In Plymouth, the exhibition will be centred on the migration of bodies, peoples, plants, objects, ideas and forms; taking inspiration from and referencing the role that the city has played in Britain's colonial conquests, as well as the encounters between British and other cultures that have and continue to enrich our society.

The selected artists will present their work across four venues: The Box, KARST, The Levinsky Gallery at the University of Plymouth and MIRROR at the Arts University Plymouth. The exhibition is being delivered in partnership with Plymouth Culture. The exhibition (admission free) runs until 23 December at all venues, whilst BAS9 at The Box will continue until 8 January 2023.

The artists exhibited in Plymouth are:

Hurvin Anderson	Beatrice Gibson	Hardeep Pandhal
Michael Armitage	Patrick Goddard	Hetai Patel
Oliver Beer	Anne Hardy	Florence Peake
Maeve Brennan	Celia Hempton	Heather Phillipson
James Bridle	Andy Holden	Joanna Piotrowska
Helen Cammock	Marguerite Humeau	Abigail Reynolds
Than Hussein Clark	Ghislaine Leung	Margaret Salmon
Cooking Sections	Elaine Mitchener	Katie Schwab
Mandy El-Sayegh	Oscar Murillo	Tai Shani
Sean Edwards	Grace Ndiritu	Caroline Walker
GAIKA	Uriel Orlov	Alberta Whittle

Their works include film, photography, multimedia, painting, sculpture and performance. They're presented at a precarious moment in Britain's history, which has brought politics of identity and nation, concerns of social, racial and environmental justice, and questions of agency to the centre of public consciousness.

The exhibition includes:

- Six artists who are Turner Prize nominees (Hurvin Anderson, Cooking Sections, Sean Edwards, Heather Phillipson, Sin Wai Kin, and Alberta Whittle)
- Three artists who are Turner Prize winners (Helen Cammock, Oscar Murillo, and Tai Shani)
- Artists whose work is on show at the Venice Biennale; with Alberta Whittle representing Scotland and Michael Armitage's paintings on show in the main Venice Biennale exhibition
- Work by Abigail Reynolds, an artist who lives and works in the South West.

An ambitious programme of workshops, events, talks and targeted outreach activities has been developed, supporting people to engage with the exhibition and its themes. Highlights include:

- An ambassadors scheme

Six city ambassadors are supporting people in their communities and through their networks to visit and engage with the exhibition. The cohort represent a range of lived experiences (from those who have long made Plymouth their home to refugees new to the city to people with lived experience of care or disabilities for example) and so they will be sharing British Art Show

9 with and through their networks to ensure the show is accessible and inclusive for a range of people beyond our typical audience reach.

- *We Will* project delivered by Flock SW

Local artists Flock SW will be taking the themes of the show as the starting point for a series of workshops with targeted community groups. This includes with Out Youth Group (for young people from the LGBTQ+ community), with Devon and Cornwall Refugee Support Group, Barnardo's childrens group, Devon Ukrainian Association and with students in the city.

- Extensive free activities for families

A free family trail encouraging families to visit all four venues will be available. Several free, creative drop-in sessions will take place throughout the duration of the exhibition. On Saturday 8, Sunday 16, 22 – 23 and 25 – 29 October (covering the half-term period) and 26 November, 3 and 10 December. Sessions will include giant paper patchwork making (with families work later displayed at The Box to return to visit) and Gelli Plate printing (a YouTube sensation), a 'Big Draw' (a mass drawing session) and clay model making all inspired by the show. The Explore More stations will also have free BAS9 activities available every day.

- Special sessions for schools

Our schools programme includes a number of free BAS9 sessions for Primary and Secondary schools and an accompanying online resource. In addition a bespoke project in partnership with KARST and six local Primary schools (chosen according to deprivation indices) will see artists visiting schools and children visiting the show. Frequencies, a project by Turner prize winning artist Oscar Murillo, will also be taking place across a number of schools in the city and ARTiculation (a national public speaking competition in partnership with the National Gallery) will take place throughout the Autumn and into Spring 2023.

The Box will be delivering a range of community activities linked to the show. This includes:

- Always Welcome – mindfulness sessions linked to BAS9, participants can be both socially prescribed and self-refer to the sessions.
- Making Home – tours and creative sessions with audiences not typically represented in museums and gallery settings.
- Alberta Whittle – an artist led project working with communities with experience of migration
- Elliptical Readings – an artist led project by Abigail Reynolds which has convened an inter-generational reading group at The Box. Sessions are currently underway and will continue through the Autumn.
- Plain Speaking Tours – led by Take A Part, special workshops in communities will lead to a series of Plain Speaking Tours in venues. These will be led by the community for their community.
- *Curious about the British Art Show* – a series of sessions looking at archive film linked to the themes of BAS9 will begin in October. The project is funded by Film Hub North

delivered in partnership with Compass Presents and Plymouth Arts Cinema. Groups are currently being recruited for the sessions which will include three screenings at Plymouth Arts Cinema.

In addition, free introductions to BAS9 will take place at 11am daily at each venue giving an overview of the show for those new to contemporary art. Free 'Bitesize' talks will also take place across city venues as well as a series of artist talks and film screenings which will accompany the exhibition.

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Growth and Infrastructure
Overview Scrutiny Committee
 Work Programme 2022/23



Please note that the work programme is a 'live' document and subject to change at short notice. The information in this work programme is intended to be of strategic relevance.

For general enquiries relating to the Council's Scrutiny function, including this Committee's work programme, please contact Jamie Sheldon Senior Governance Advisor on 01752 668000.

Date of meeting	Agenda item	Prioritisation Score	Reason for Consideration	Responsible Cabinet Member /Officer
7 December 2022	Climate Change - CCRP and CEAP progress reports	(5)	Scrutiny recommendation to receive an update on progress	Councillor James Stoneman - Paul Barnard
	Freeport Mobilisation			Councillor Mark Shayer – David Draffan/Richard May/Caroline Cozens
	Culture plan annual update			Hannah Harris
	Visitor Plan annual update			Amanda Lumley
	Heritage Fund Activity Plan update			Caroline Cozens/Kat Deeney
1 March 2022	Climate Emergency Action Plan 2023-2025	(5)		Councillor James Stoneman - Paul Barnard
Items Raised by the Committee to be scheduled for 2022/23				
2022/23	Plymouth and South Devon Freezone	(5)	The impact of the Freezone for Plymouth (ongoing issue)	David Draffan

Date of meeting	Agenda item	Prioritisation Score	Reason for Consideration	Responsible Cabinet Member /Officer
2022/23	Environment Bill	(5)	Identified for consideration by the Committee at its July 2021 meeting	Paul Barnard
2022/23	Sustainable Transport in the City	(5)	Identified for consideration by the Committee at its July 2021 meeting	Paul Barnard
2022/23	Position statement UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement - Fisheries	(5)	Position Statement following scrutiny of this issue in February 2021	Kevin McKenzie
2022/23	Bus Service Delivery and Improvement in the City	(5)	Identified for consideration by the Committee at its February 2022 meeting	Paul Barnard
2022/23	Commerical Estate including Plymouth Airport	(5)	Identified for consideration by the Committee at its February 2022 meeting	
Issues Identifited for Select Committee Reviews				
2022/23	The Delivery of Taxi Services within Plymouth	(5)	The issues impacting the delivery of taxi provision within the city	Rachael Hind

Annex I – Scrutiny Prioritisation Tool

		Yes (=1)	Evidence
Public Interest	Is it an issue of concern to partners, stakeholders and/or the community?		
Ability	Could Scrutiny have an influence?		
Performance	Is this an area of underperformance?		

Extent	Does the topic affect people living, working or studying in more than one electoral ward of Plymouth?		
Replication	Will this be the only opportunity for public scrutiny?		
	Is the topic due planned to be the subject of an Executive Decision?		
	Total:		High/Medium/Low

Priority	Score
High	5-6
Medium	3-4
Low	1-2

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