

FOR THE CITY CENTRE

Pledge 80 – Refresh the pedestrian areas of the city centre

What we said we would do: We will refresh the pedestrian areas of the city centre with a rolling programme of better pavements, street furniture and other features.

What we wanted to achieve: Working closely with the City Centre Company, we want to ensure that the streets help businesses to provide the best experience that they can by refreshing the pedestrian areas where there is a clear need. This can range from a good clean and fixing things that are broken to a more comprehensive refresh, working with businesses to redesign and replace the whole space to support and lever in major new investment.

What we have done: We have prepared the Better Places Plymouth Public Realm framework to provide a long term vision for the pedestrian areas of the city centre and to coordinate intervention where it directly supports businesses and private sector investment, as well as delivery of the City Centre Masterplan/ Joint Local Plan. In accordance with this, we have:

- West End: Completed a circa £500k refresh of Market Way, in partnership with Aspire Living and using funds from an [EU Regional Development Fund](#), and commenced a package of pavement and planting improvements around Frankfort Gate.
- Exeter Street: Invested nearly £1m into the newly completed public realm at the Barcode to support delivery of the £50m+ leisure complex by British Land, and £200k in repaving the north side of Exeter Street in parallel with the Charles Cross highways scheme to complete works in this area and avoid future disruption.
- Tavistock Place: Funding the creation of a new public square at the entrance to The Box, due for completion in April 2020.
- Millbay Boulevard: Commenced construction of the £3.52m Millbay Boulevard, linking Millbay to the city centre. Construction is due to be completed in October 2020.
- Mayflower Readiness: Initial phase includes repairs to paving around North Cross and on Armada Way to replace broken and loose pavers.
- Old Town Street/New George Street East: Secured planning consent and commenced detailed design for the major transformation of Old Town Street/New George Street East, in conjunction with British Land.
- Armada Way/New George Street West: Submitted a bid to the Transforming Cities Fund for £14.3m towards the upgrading of Armada Way and New George Street.

What's next: Activity over the following year includes:

- West End: Removal of the footbridge over Western Approach and improvement to the pedestrian crossing and paving at Frankfort Gate in spring/summer 2020.
- Old Town Street/New George Street: Delivery of improvements to commence and will be completed in winter 2021.
- Civic Square: A bid for £1m to the High Street Heritage Action Zone fund is to be submitted before Christmas and, if successful, will combine with £2.1m committed by Plymouth City Council for the comprehensive refurbishment of the Civic Square. If successful, construction could commence in 2021.
- Brunel Plaza – Plymouth Railway Station: Revamp of the pedestrian plaza outside the station and construction of a new pedestrian link and upper plaza.
- Royal Parade: A bid for £0.5m has been submitted to the High Street Heritage Action Zone fund for façade restoration and streetscape enhancements along Royal Parade. If successful, this programme will be worked up in conjunction with a £1.9m scheme for bus infrastructure improvements which is a current bid to the Transforming Cities Fund.

Find out more!

Visit plymouthnewsroom.co.uk for updates on our work to refresh the pedestrian areas of the city centre.

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