

100 DAYS OF ACTION

Cabinet



Work has begun to deliver a fairer, greener city where everyone does their bit, making Plymouth a great place to grow-up and grow old, whilst minimising the impact of the cost of living crisis.

Plymouth remains a city with so much to offer, but for many, those opportunities can feel a world away.

As we mark the first 100 days of action under the new administration, the council is committed to tackling deep-rooted inequalities and has already delivered changes to help achieve a fairer Plymouth - one where all of our residents feel part of Britain's Ocean City.

Immediate Action on Armada Way

Within hours of becoming the Leader of the Council Councillor Evans OBE overturned the decision of previous Leader, Councillor Richard Bingley, in relation to the Armada Way scheme.

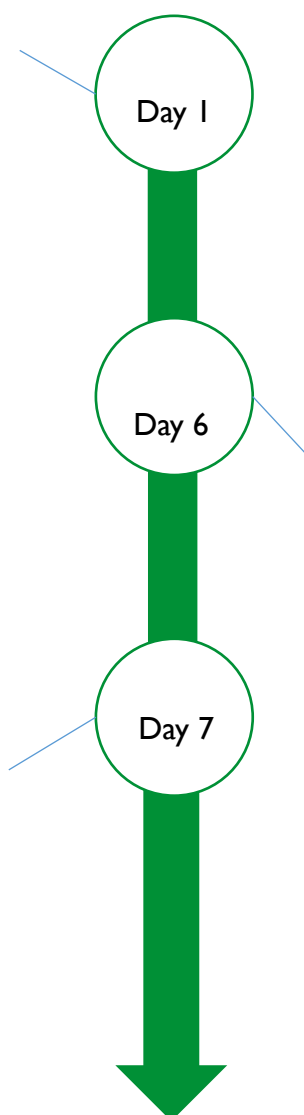
This means the current scheme will not be implemented and new options to [regenerate Armada Way](#) would come forward.

Heritage Improvements

Landmarks across Plymouth's waterfront are getting some TLC as part of the National Marine Park's ambition to encourage more people to use them.

Important heritage features at Tinside Pool, Mount Batten and the Garden Battery at Mount Edgcombe Park will receive significant but sensitive makeovers designed to reinvigorate these amazing waterside locations and show off these stunning buildings and open them up to a new generation of users and uses

Council Leader Tudor Evans OBE said: "These features play a huge part of our history and it's only right that they are being looked at with fresh eyes to make sure they are part of our future.



Day 1

Day 6

Day 7

Derriford District Centre

Work will start imminently on the much-anticipated Derriford District Centre following an investment deal to close a funding gap.

Council leader Tudor Evans signed a decision worth just over £1 million which will unblock the project which has been hit by rising construction costs.

The project is being forward funded by the Council to the tune of £18.9 million.

Council leader Tudor Evans OBE said: "This administration is all about getting things done and attracting new investment into the city. We have quickly reviewed a number stalled projects and this decision will be the first of many to get the city's investment pipeline flowing again.

Household Support Fund

Plymouth City Council has received more than £4.5 million of funding to use over the coming year through the Household Support Fund to support residents affected by the cost of living crisis.

The funding will support those most likely to be affected including families, single adults and people with disabilities that are on low incomes, pensioners, care experienced young people, unpaid carers and people living in temporary accommodation.

Councillor Chris Penberthy, Cabinet Member for Housing, Cooperative Development and Communities, said:

“Plymouth residents are struggling with the rising cost of living, we have just heard of ongoing double figure inflation in basic food stuffs. For many the very basics are becoming unaffordable, with many parents worrying about how they will feed their children in the school holidays. The fund will enable us to support vulnerable people of all ages, including those who fall through the gaps because they are exempt from benefits or other forms of support.



Day 8

Platinum Parkway Wins Award

The recently opened Platinum Parkway, one of Plymouth's biggest ever transport improvement schemes, has won another regional award. The scheme, has been named Transportation Project of the Year in this year's CIHT (Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation) South West Regional Awards. Councillor Mark Coker, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure, said: “We're really proud to have received this accolade. The awards celebrate the very best the region offers in highways and transport and the contribution that projects like this can make to our daily lives.”

Mount Wise Pool

Charges that had been planned for the popular Mount Wise swimming pools will not be introduced, says the new Council administration.

As part of the 2023/24 budget proposals, it was announced last year that swimmers could be charged to use the outdoor pools this summer. However, in one of its first decisions, the new Council administration has scrapped the proposals, keeping the Mount Wise pools free to access during the cost-of-living crisis.

Councillor Sally Haydon, Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Libraries and Cemeteries and Crematoria, said: “Things are really tough for so many families across the city. Many can't afford to have days out and trips with the family. Where we can keep things free or low-cost, we really should try.

Family Hubs and Start for Life

Plymouth City Council has been awarded a share of £300 million that the Government has set aside for 75 local authorities to support the development of Family Hubs and establish Start for Life support that will help families as their children grow. The Start for Life offer, supporting pregnancy through to four years old, is the first stage of the Family Hub programme to go live.

Councillor Jemima Laing, Deputy Leader of Plymouth City Council, said: "We want all children in Plymouth to have the best possible start in life and to ensure that parents and carers feel supported by their communities. The first few years of life are absolutely crucial so it's fantastic to be launching the new Start for Life offer at four of our new Family Hubs.

Day 14

Ageing Well in Plymouth

Plymouth is set to become a more welcoming city for older people in new plans laid out by Plymouth City Council. The Council is committing to ambitious plans for Plymouth to become a city where people age well, where older residents are supported and empowered to live life to the fullest.

A city-wide steering group will be created to develop an ageing well programme for Plymouth.

Councillor Mary Aspinall, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care, said: "I'm really excited by the potential that this has to make sure that Plymouth is an accessible and inclusive city where everyone can thrive regardless of their age. Let's face it, we are all getting older, and we all deserve a good quality of life, whether you are as fit as a fiddle, or have daily challenges to face. The plans we are going to be developing will help to make sure that residents are supported to age well, to have a good quality of life and play an active role with friends and families, and in the community.

Day 15

Cost of Living Crisis

Plymouth City Council's new administration is to step up support for families impacted by the rising cost of living, Council Leader Tudor Evans has pledged.

A report to new administration's first Cabinet meeting outlined a renewed approach to responding to the cost of living crisis, including launching a new cost of living working group to oversee an action plan for supporting those most affected.

The Council works closely with a wide range of partners and specialist agencies to identify those who need support, signpost help that is available and work to address the barriers that prevent people receiving all the support they are eligible for.

Day 18

Plymouth Marine Business Technology Centre

Plymouth Marine Business Technology Centre is bowing out on top after delivering an impressive set of results that puts Plymouth and South Devon at the forefront of marine innovation.

Council leader Tudor Evans OBE said: "This centre has turbo-charged a really exciting sector where Plymouth is building a reputation for world class innovation. "I secured the City Deal in 2014 which led to Oceansgate becoming a hub for marine industries and the Marine Business Technology Centre was developed as a service to support existing tenants and would be tenants. It has laid strong foundations for the success of the Plymouth and South Devon Freeport and 80 per cent of the pipeline of businesses that are looking to invest have come from the programme. That's skilled green and marine jobs secured and developed for this area."

Purple Flag

The city has been awarded the prestigious Purple Flag accreditation for its evening and night-time economy for another culture, whilst promoting the safety and wellbeing of visitors and residents.

A large number of organisations work together to make Plymouth a welcoming and successful destination including the Council, Devon and Cornwall Police, pubs, restaurants, sports and entertainment venues, retail and transport operators, dedicated street pastors and taxi Community Safety, Libraries, Cemeteries marshals

Councillor Sally Haydon, said: “We are delighted that the city has been awarded the Purple Flag accreditation for another year, and to be recognised for all of the initiatives that we have in the city is amazing news. “We have worked collaboratively across the city with different organisations to help keep Plymouth safe at night,.

Community Diagnostic Centre

Plymouth has been announced as a site for one of eight new Community Diagnostic Centres due to open. The new Diagnostic Centre will be located in Plymouth’s West End, helping regenerate the city centre and provide wider access to critical diagnostic tests.

Councillor Mark Lowry, Cabinet member for Finance said: “On the first day of our administration we submitted our application for this project and from that moment we have worked non-stop to get this project back on track. Clearly this is great news for the city centre and for the health of our residents.

Day 20

Preventing Plastic Pollution

Our amazing Preventing Plastic Pollution Project has come to an end on World Oceans Day.

Here in Plymouth we’ve achieved so much to help keep our city, and crucially our seas, free of plastic pollution.

Councillor Tom Briars-Delve, Cabinet member for the Environment and Climate Change, said: “The Preventing Plastic Pollution Project has made such a difference in Plymouth and while it’s sad that it has come to a close, we should be immensely proud of all it has achieved.

Day 21

PWC Good Growth Report

The latest report produced by PwC has ranked Plymouth’s economy at 5th highest in the UK for Good Growth, with particularly strong performance in income distribution, work-life balance and transport.

In addition, Plymouth was also ranked 1st for the most improved city, with the highest overall change in the Good Growth score from last year to the current year.

The work undertaken by this Labour Authority in our Resurgam Programme and Inclusive growth was mentioned as a case study.

Day 22

Dental Taskforce

Task force is being set-up to tackle the city’s growing dental crisis, following a commitment from the new Council administration.

There are currently over 21,000 people in Plymouth waiting for an NHS dentist. This is an increase of nearly 120% over the past five years.

Councillor Mary Aspinall, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care at Plymouth City Council, said: “The time for posturing is over. We need action. We need to increase access to urgent and emergency dental care, we need to improve access to services for the most vulnerable children and adults and those with complex needs and we need to expand current oral health improvement initiatives.

Day 25

Armada Way

The Leader of Plymouth City Council, is calling for an end to the current judicial review process, enabling the Council to crack on with the much-needed regeneration.

Councillor Tudor Evans, said: "The city centre is looking awful and whilst we obviously want to move forward with the clean-up of the felled trees and stumps as soon as we can, we don't want to be held-up any further once that is done.

"We must not conflate what happened in the past with the future. We must rebuild and focus on how we can make our city centre, green, attractive and buzzing for the businesses."

NetZero – UK100

Plymouth City Council's new administration has renewed its commitment to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2030 by committing to UK100.

UK100 is a network of ambitious local leaders who have pledged to lead a rapid transition to net zero - with clean air in their communities - ahead of the government's legal target of 2050.

Councillor Tom Briars-Delve, Cabinet Member for the Environment and Climate Change, added: "Net Zero is a monumentally important task and the collaboration with other local authorities offered by UK100 membership will help Plymouth reach it.

Action to support our Armed Forces

Coinciding with Armed Forces Week, the Skills Launchpad Plymouth team hosted their first military employment showcase event. The event helped connect over 80 serving members of HM Armed Forces, veterans and their families with local employment opportunities.

Councillor Sally Cresswell, Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Apprenticeships said: "Skills and jobs are a key priority for Plymouth, we recognise that the high-level transferrable skills of members of HM Armed Forces as they career transition from the services can provide fantastic solutions for our local employers who are seeking to grow their skilled workforce."

Day 26

Mayflower Street Reopened

A programme of work included the installation of new large bus shelters as well as a new bus stop to make more space available for buses as well as changes to the pavements and kerbs. The scheme is designed to improve public transport infrastructure, bus journey times as well as reduce emissions.

Councillor Mark Coker, Cabinet Member for Transport said: "This new administration is committed to making the city centre greener whenever and however we can. If we are serious about changing travel habits, we need to make greener forms of travel a more attractive option.

"I would like to thank the shops and traders in and around this street for being so patient while the work to improve Mayflower Street has been carried out."

Day 28

Action on Potholes

Innovation continues to be explored by Plymouth City Council in its fight against potholes, with the trial of a new, quick, low carbon, road patching system.

A six month trial has begun to trial a Velocity road patching system, a machine that can carry out permanent, durable repairs at a fraction of the cost and, because there's no excavation, no waste and no heat involved, it creates a significantly lower carbon footprint. Today, Councillor Mark Coker, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport, He said: "We made a promise to fill more potholes more quickly to help keep our roads safe and the city moving.

"This new machine means there's no excavation, no waste, often no need for road closures, and repairs are ready to drive on in minutes. The repairs cost a third of the price of traditional techniques, and because there's no heat involved, it's also exceptionally low on carbon emissions.

Day 32

Day 32

Cultural Ambassadors Visit City

Key cultural ambassadors from city and towns across the country were in Plymouth this week to hear all about the city's stellar cultural journey.

As the Box prepared to open its major new exhibition of the life and works of Sir Joshua Reynolds, members of the Local Government Association's Culture Sport and Tourism board were here to get the low down on why culture matters as well as see the scale of work going on in Britain's Ocean City.

Sustainable Transport – Beryl Bikes

"Plymouth people have well and truly got on their e-bikes with 15,000 journeys made on Beryl bikes since their launch. Councillor Mark Coker, Cabinet Member for Transport, said: "This scheme has got off to a flying start. Together all these users have cycled over 40,000km, that's equivalent to around the world. Connect Plymouth has been funded through the Department of Transport's Transforming Cities Fund, which aims to change people's travel habits by making it as easy as possible for people to choose low carbon options to get about.

Day 36

Council Leader Tudor Evans OBE said: "Art and culture is a key driver for us – in whatever form it takes. Culture is critical to a thriving, exciting city where people want to live, where they go out, do stuff, see stuff, encourage families, children, communities to get involved in performing or creating and learn be curious.

Day 40

A new partner for the Fireworks Championship

Celebrating half a century in business, Brittany Ferries has partnered with this year's British Firework Championships, which will once again be hosted in the city of Plymouth on the Hoe. Jemima Laing, Deputy Leader of the Council, and Cabinet Member for Events at Plymouth City Council said: "We're so grateful for the support that Brittany Ferries – who are currently celebrating their 50th year of service - are providing for the event.

Housing Care Experienced Young People
 Young people who have been in care in Plymouth will benefit from a new accommodation facility which gives them a taste of adulthood and independence while ensuring there's support on hand. Plymouth City Council has transformed a disused building into self-contained flats for young people who are ready to live more independently, with a mix of four 'training flats' for 16 and 17 year olds, and eight flats for young people aged 18 and over. The accommodation will have a 24-hour staff presence to offer support and guidance to the young people living there, enabling those who are leaving care to still be supported but to manage their own homes. Councillor Jemima Laing, Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care, visited the new flats this week as they undergo the finishing touches and said: "These new flats are absolutely fantastic, offering a brilliant new accommodation option for care experienced young people in Plymouth as they begin their journey to independence."

Money for Potholes

Pothole repairs have been given a major financial boost after Council Leader Tudor Evans released money to the highways maintenance budget.

The new administration pledged to prioritise investing in repairing more of the city's potholes more quickly and the £4.5m capital budget and maintenance programme has been realigned to release money to tackle potholes using more innovative and cost-effective repair techniques.

Councillor Tudor Evans, Leader of Plymouth City Council, said:

"I know that the state of our roads and pavements is a huge concern for people in Plymouth, it dominates my inbox. We have promised to do all we can to carry out repairs and keep our city moving, the budget allocations support this commitment.

Day 42

Action on Armada Way

The stumps of the felled trees in Armada Way are being removed and heras fencing will be further pulled back this week, as part of the new administration's push to clear up the city centre.

Leader of Plymouth City Council, Councillor Tudor Evans said:

"We took control of the Council just last month and since then we have been pushing forward to take control of Armada Way and sort out the current mess.

"I know that local traders are frustrated at the length of time it is taking to clean it up and the impact it is having on their businesses. I absolutely share their sense of frustration.

Day 43

Progress against Priorities

Plymouth City Council's new administration has hit the ground running in delivering its commitments to the city, a progress report to Cabinet shows.

A new Corporate Plan setting out the Council's new priorities for Plymouth was agreed by the Full Council but work to deliver them has been under way throughout the six weeks the new administration has been at the helm.

Council Leader Tudor Evans OBE said "Plymouth faces a number of significant challenges and we have not wasted any time in getting stuck into addressing them through the renewed priorities for the city. We have made great progress in just six weeks of being in charge and with so much to do, we have no intention of slackening the pace.

Get Fit and Fed

The popular Fit and Fed programme is returning to Plymouth this summer, supporting families by providing funded holiday club places for eligible children. The aim is to provide children and young people with the chance to get active and try new activities, as well as to provide them with a healthy nutritious meal.

Councillor Sue Dann, Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Customer Services, Sport, Leisure and HR and OD, said: "We know that families are really feeling the pressure of the rising cost of living and this is something we're working to tackle by developing a new Cost of Living action plan that will support Plymouth residents.

Independent Living

Plymouth City Council is set to make a commitment to older residents who need more help to live independently.

More than 160 people currently live in the city's seven Extra Care housing schemes which give people who need some extra support the opportunity to maintain and enjoy an active, independent life

Councillor Mary Aspinall, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care, said: "These services are so important to older residents in Plymouth, with supported housing schemes helping to bridge the gap between living completely independently and needing residential or nursing care. Supporting people to age well is an absolute priority for us, and these plans ensure we're helping our residents to make choices to enable them to thrive as they grow older.

Day 43

Refugees and Asylum Assistance

Plymouth's long and proud history of accepting and settling refugees and asylum seekers is set to continue with the commissioning of a Resettlement Support Service.

this service will provide help and support with access to housing, improved English language skills, increased self-sufficiency via employment and community integration.

a business case setting out over £4 million of investment of Home Office funding through a new, nine year period will go before the Cabinet next week.

Councillor Chris Penberthy, Cabinet Member for Housing, Cooperative Development and Communities, said: "Plymouth is a welcoming city; it is a compassionate city, so it gives me great pleasure to ensure that we are providing essential services for some of society's most

Day 46

Tackling anti-social behaviour

Plymouth is celebrating a national campaign to tackle anti-social behaviour (ASB) and keep people in Plymouth safe this week.

Over the course of the week, our Safer Communities Team will be joined by partner agencies including Devon and Cornwall Police and the city's housing associations, in road shows across the city.

Councillor Sally Haydon, Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Libraries, Cemeteries & Crematoria, said: "This week is a really good chance to shine a light on anti-social behaviour its effects on communities and what can be done to reduce it.

"We're lucky to live in a relatively safe city but where there is anti-social behaviour, it's really important that residents don't suffer in silence.

Freeport

Plymouth City Council is planning two new multi-million pound investments in the Plymouth and South Devon Freeport, members will hear this week as part of the Freeport's annual update.

Plans are being developed for £15.6 million of new investment across two Freeport sites in the Council's ownership.

Councillor Tudor Evans OBE, Leader of Plymouth City Council, said:

"This is an historic opportunity for Plymouth to fully orientate our economy into delivering more skilled jobs and become a core international trading location. It is my priority now to make sure it delivers, driving forward our plans to create at least 3,500 jobs across the city.

National Marine Park Activities

More amazing activities to get people in, on, under and around Plymouth Sound are in the pipeline as the team behind the park outlines an epic programme of events they want to roll out next year.

The Council’s Growth and Infrastructure Scrutiny Committee heard what’s been happening as well as a taster for what’s to come subject to a successful bid to The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

The programme of work included the activity plan, major improvements to historic features, nature restoration, a digital park and interpretation to enable the new sustainable relationship with the sea. There will be a focus on working alongside communities that currently have little or no engagement with the NMP.

Councillor Tudor Evans OBE said: “Festivals, mass participation events, major opportunities for our young people – we have spent time talking and listening to what people want to see and now we are getting ready for action.

Active Travel

We have been awarded £1.24 million by Active Travel England to deliver an exciting programme to enable more people to take up walking and cycling for their health and well-being.

The funding is being used to deliver a programme of ‘socially prescribed’ walking and cycling, where health providers, link workers and service providers work together to help people meet their personal activity needs and goals.

As part of the project link workers within GP practices and health and wellbeing hubs will be able to direct people to a range of exciting walking and cycling activities,

Councillor Mark Coker, Cabinet Member for Transport, said: “Through the project we will be providing an exciting high quality package of walking and cycling initiatives delivered through community engagement which will allow active travel to be part of people’s everyday lives directly improving the health and well-being of residents in Plymouth.”

Plymouth – A co-operative Council

As first council in the country to develop a strategy to grow the co-operative sector, we are now reviewing our innovative approach, doing more to lead the change needed to respond to the cost of living, housing and the environmental crisis.

The council has committed to review existing strategies to develop a water-tight plan to encourage co-operatives to thrive, which was launched on 6 July 2024 on International Co-operative Day.

Councillor Chris Penberthy, Cabinet member for Housing, Co-operative Development and Communities said:

“By investing in the economic wellbeing of people in this city, we can help keep people in work and generate jobs. We can give people more control over the supply of goods and services they receive and a greater say in the place we all live in. We can help people tackle the climate and environmental emergency whilst keeping more of the money made in Plymouth here in our city. We know there are significant opportunities within the city to develop co-operatively owned initiatives around the green/blue economy, and this will be a focus of our future investment support.”

Dental Task Force

The first city-wide task force, set-up to tackle the city’s growing dental crisis, hit-the ground running with organisations committing to working together to improve NHS capacity.

One of the priorities of the new administration was to set-up a cross-party Dental Task Force, bringing together key stakeholders, local MPs and NHS leaders from across the city to discuss what can be done to improve dental provision in Plymouth.

Councillor Mary Aspinall, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care at Plymouth City Council, said: “Our poor dental provision is impacting the daily lives of some of our most vulnerable residents.” At the meeting, NHS Devon committed to working with the main providers of NHS dental care in Plymouth, to look at whether local underspends in other areas of NHS dental provision could be re-prioritised.

Day 47

Day 49

Day 50

Day 53

Free Activities during the Cost of Living Crisis

To help residents struggling during the cost of living crisis, Plymouth City Council is sharing details of all the free activities, events and things to do in the city.

This is a key element of the Council's new cost of living action plan, which is set to be launched in August.

Councillor Sue Dann, Cabinet Member for Customer Services, Sport, Leisure and HR and OD, who is leading the creation of the action plan, said: "We have made a commitment to tackling the cost of living crisis, and look forward to launching our new action plan later in the summer

Safer Places to Live – A loan to Young Devon

Some of the city's vulnerable young people will get a safer place to live, thanks to a Council loan.

Council leader Tudor Evans OBE has today approved a business case to lend £210,000 to Young Devon to buy a property which will become home for five young people.

Councillor Evans said: "We're using our borrowing power to help a charity work with some of our vulnerable young people who find themselves without a place to call their own.

"We know that good quality and affordable accommodation remains challenging in Plymouth. So imagine how tough it is for young people just starting out in life,"

Day 62

Fixing the Foreshore

Pebble Beach has now fully reopened to the public.

The popular beach, which sits between the Wet Wok and Maritimo restaurants and is accessed from Hoe Road, has been closed since late May after a survey revealed that the natural rocky outcrop that protrudes from the sea wall was unstable.

Chris Penberthy, Cabinet Member for Housing, Cooperative Development and Communities, said: "I'm really pleased to be able to open Pebble Beach, and in time for the summer holidays as we previously promised. The beach may only be small but we know how popular it is with families, swimmers, stand up paddle boarders, snorkelers... the list goes on!" "I look forward to see people enjoying it over the next six weeks and beyond

Investing in Schools

Plymouth City Council is investing more than £200,000 to support vital building work and repairs on five city schools.

The following schools will undergo major repair work:

- Cann Bridge School
- Mary Dean's CE Primary School
- Longcause Community Special School:
Laira Green Primary School
- Yealmpston Farm Primary School

The work is due to take place during the summer holidays, following a Cabinet decision.

Councillor Sally Cresswell, Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Apprenticeships, said: "All our pupils need a safe and functional school building in order to be able to get the most out of their school experience and to support their learning. Quality school buildings help to create a purposeful environment for both pupils and staff.

Café at the Crematorium

One of the most unique features of Plymouth's new crematorium is beginning to take shape.

Over the past few weeks, the steelworks for the café and wake facility have been installed, giving a clear indication of how the building will look when finished. Located away from the main building, near the entrance to the site, the café will be open to serve refreshments for people attending funerals and also for those visiting the site to pay their respects. Crucially, though, it will also be available for families hire for wakes, with rooms to accommodate up to 40

Councillor Sally Haydon, Cabinet member for Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Libraries, Cemeteries & Crematoria, said: ""This is another crucial construction milestone on the journey to The Park, Plymouth's new, state-of-the-art crematorium. Although the café is only a very small part of the project overall, it's fantastic to see it taking shape

Getting Fit and Fed during the Summer Holidays

Free activities and food will be on offer to families at events taking place across Plymouth during the summer holidays.

Plymouth City Council is taking its Fit and Fed programme on tour, providing help to parents and carers dealing with the rising cost of living.

Councillor Sue Dann, Cabinet Member for Customer Services, Sport, Leisure and HR and OD, said: "We're delighted to once again be taking Fit and Fed on tour to a number of different parks across Plymouth. As the cost of living continues to rise, this will provide families with a brilliant free day out, including a nutritious lunch for any children attending. Tackling the cost of living crisis is an absolute priority for us and we'll soon be launching a brand new action plan which outlines all the support available in the city, and the steps that we'll be taking to help residents.

Freeport Expansion

International innovator in marine autonomy and defence contractor, M Subs, which operates in both Texas, USA and Plymouth, has signed a lease agreement to expand business operations into the Plymouth and South Devon Freeport.

M Subs design, build and operate crewed and un-crewed underwater vehicles and autonomous ships, including the Mayflower Autonomous Ship (MAS). Late last year the company successfully secured a multi-million-pound contract with the Royal Navy to construct the service's first crewless submarine

Leader of Plymouth City Council, Councillor Tudor Evans OBE said: "This is exactly the sort of company we want to see in the Freeport. Clean, green and at the cutting edge of marine technology. This is a company making extraordinary advances under the ocean and want to expand. This news means more skilled jobs for local people, it means more investment in other businesses through their supply chain it's great news for Plymouth.


Day 63

Another Award for the Platinum Parkway

The recently opened Platinum Parkway has won its second top award in only a couple of months. The scheme has just been named Civils Project of the Year in the Constructing Excellence South West Awards, having won Transportation Project of the Year in the CIHT South West Regional Awards

.It was shortlisted because it ‘significantly contributes to the built environment of the South West and can be celebrated as a remarkable demonstration of best practices’ and because it ‘delivers outstanding outcomes for all those involved in a construction project’

.Councillor Mark Coker, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport, said: “This scheme was years in the planning and a major engineering feat, delivered despite unprecedented challenges. It is fantastic to receive regional recognition not just of the link road and its benefits, but also the collaborative work of the whole project team and our partners



Day 64

Care Experienced Young People to Judge Fireworks Championship

Local care-experienced children and young people will play a key role in one of Plymouth’s most dazzling annual events.

This year a special group of young judges will have a central part in the judging process. Up to ten care-experienced children and young people will supplement the judging panel of industry experts to score the spectacular displays.

Jemima Laing, Deputy Leader of the Council, Cabinet Member for Events at Plymouth City Council and Portfolio Holder for the Council’s Children, Young People and Families Service, said: “We’re particularly pleased that this new award puts care-experienced young people at the heart of one of our city’s most exciting and colourful events and looking forward to hearing their views.”

Day 67

Clean-up crew tackles litter and grime in city centre

A 'clean-up crew' has been cleaning up parts of the city centre over the past two months, following a walkabout by the new administration.

Two months ago, the new Council Leader, Councillor Tudor Evans, along with Cabinet Members and Council officers, walked around the city centre to review each of the redevelopment projects and see what can be done to tidy-up the area whilst the works are ongoing.

As a result, a cleaning / maintenance team was deployed to tackle litter, grime and broken street furniture.

Councillor Tudor Evans, said: "I know that the large amount of works happening in the city centre is far from ideal. However, whilst some of the projects have seen unfortunate delays, I am committed to get them all moving as soon as possible. We have to move forward.

"We will continue to drive forward our ambitious plans for the city centre and I would like to thank all businesses, residents and visitors for their patience and understanding."

Day 68

New marshals introduced to help keep nights out in Plymouth safe

New marshals will be patrolling some of the city's busier streets to keep nights out in Plymouth safe. The evening and night time economy marshals will be based mainly on the Barbican but will also be able to provide coverage around the Hoe. Councillor Sally Haydon, Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Libraries, Cemeteries and Crematoria, said:

"Plymouth's pubs, clubs and bars offer a great night out, but it is important that people feel safe out and about. We have all been working together to make this happen and it's great to see another initiative all aimed at keeping people safe."

Day 69

Consulting on Dog Control

We are asking residents across Plymouth their view on a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) designed to reduce dog fouling.

The PSPO, which covers dog control as well as enforcement options around fouling, is in place to balance the needs of dog owners with other people who also use the parks, open spaces and sports facilities in Plymouth.

Councillor Sally Haydon, Cabinet member for Customer Focus and Community Safety, said: "As a dog owner myself, I am constantly irritated by people who do not control their dogs or pick up after them.

"We have to continue to enforce against dog fouling. It's not only wholly unsightly and antisocial, it's also a health risk.

"But we do think it's important to listen to residents about dog control which is why we are making these proposals for comment.

Day 71

Coming together on Cost of Living

More than 80 representatives from businesses, charities and other organisations in Plymouth attended an event hosted by Plymouth City Council to discuss the cost of living crisis.

At the event, Councillor Sue Dann provided an update on the city's new Cost of Living Plan which will be launched in August and attendees were invited to contribute suggestions towards the plan.

Day 71

We've loved Love Parks Week

This year, Love Parks week was dedicated to celebrating our favourite parks and green spaces – to which Plymouth is blessed with an abundance of – and appreciating them for bringing communities together through nature. Over on social media, we were keen to find out what our residents' favourite parks and green spaces were. Kayley and family like to be on the Hoe. "Come rain or shine, the view, the lighthouse, the atmosphere makes it a very special place." Sara and her family's favourite green space is Poole Farm as they love being able to "spend time with the animals and make use of the space and also the amazing family days are so beneficial. We can't rate it enough."

Day 77

Council to sign charter to tackle antisocial behaviour and crime

The Council will sign up to the Community Safety Charter, where we will work towards a goal of eliminating harassment, antisocial behaviour, and intimidation in our city. Councillor Sally Haydon, Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Libraries, Cemeteries and Crematoria, said: "Signing up to the Community Safety Charter, shows we are committed to raising awareness, reporting of and tackling anti-social behaviour. The more residents understand about tackling this and realising that it will not be tolerated, the safer the city becomes."

Changes planned to power up city centre regeneration

Plans to power up the city centre's regeneration are being put in place with a new structure to push the case for investment with government agencies and the private sector. A strategic investment and regeneration board – made up of senior council officials and senior government and agency officials – is to be created to provide oversight of opportunities in the city centre and resolve issues. A city centre projects oversight and delivery board tasked with delivering existing in-train city centre projects is also being set up as well as a working group to focus on the day to day delivery of live regeneration projects. The aim is to create conditions to take forward further development and regeneration and ensure that the existing projects are delivered and that funding opportunities are focussed on the city centre's most important strategic priorities. Cabinet Member for Finance Councillor Mark Lowry said: "The city centre is absolutely critical to the growth and reputation of Plymouth. We are looking at this with a fresh pair of eyes and need to inject pace and enthusiasm into our city centre and to help unblock some of the developments that have stalled or slowed right down."

Day 78

Independent company to gather views on new Armada Way designs

An independent engagement company has been commissioned to deliver the consultation on the new scheme for Armada Way, later this autumn. Whilst work continues on the new proposed design for Armada Way, Plymouth City Council has engaged an independent company – ECF – to lead on the management, delivery and evaluation of the public consultation that will gather insight to help shape the final design. Working with external experts to deliver the consultation provides reassurance that the process will be fair, transparent and in line with industry guidance and best practice. Councillor Tudor Evans, Leader of Plymouth City Council, said: "Over the past few months we have been reviewing the previous consultations that have been undertaken regarding Armada Way. It is important that our new design considers this feedback, whilst bringing forward further ideas to help rejuvenate and bring life back to the city centre. "We want genuine consultation on those elements of the scheme that are different to the old scheme. We want this process to be beyond reproach and, importantly, to provide an opportunity for those seldom heard-from voices to have their chance to have their say."

Day 81