

## PLYMOUTH CITY COUNCIL

**Subject:** Completed Pledges  
**Committee:** Cabinet  
**Date:** 12 February 2019  
**Cabinet Member:** Mark Lowry  
**CMT Member:** Giles Perritt, Assistant Chief Executive  
**Author:** Andrew Loton, Senior Performance Advisor  
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**Ref:**

**Key Decision:** No  
**Part:** 1

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### **Purpose of the report:**

To provide a “pledge on a page” overview of pledges recently completed;

- **Pledge 19** We will start a programme to improve access for people in wheelchairs by providing more dropped kerbs and make it easier to get around.
- **Pledge 24** We will continue to roll out 20mph zones around our local schools and residential areas to keep pedestrians safe.
- **Pledge 39** The life-saving lifejacket scheme for Plymouth fishermen has been copied by many other councils. We will continue to give it our full support.
- **Pledge 44** Plymouth has an international reputation for marine science and technology. We need more children and parents to seize these opportunities and so we will offer schools the chance to showcase the best of Plymouth’s commercial and research experience in the classroom.
- **Pledge 72** Plymouth has the oldest Ashkenazi synagogue in the English-speaking world, and the recently listed Jewish cemetery (one of the oldest in the UK) means the Jewish community has deep roots here. That’s why it is time to make Holocaust Memorial Day a major Civic Event.
- **Pledge 77** Plymouth has too few blue plaques that celebrate and commemorate our city’s long history and high achievers. We will start a People’s Choice competition for new blue plaques that enable nominations, voting and crowd-funding of new blue plaques.
- **Pledge 88** We are committed to not charging organisations like Park Run to use Plymouth City Council land for major events.
- **Pledge 99** We will continue to deliver more renewable power generation and fight fuel poverty across the city. We will look for other opportunities for renewable energy generation across the city, including micro-generation.

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### **Corporate Plan**

The 100 Pledges have informed development of the Corporate Plan and therefore the Pledges have been adopted by the Council as part of delivery of the Corporate Plan and its associated performance management framework.

Pledge completion is undertaken fully in line with the Council's values.

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**Implications for Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:  
Including finance, human, IT and land**

All resource implications have been considered and incorporated within the MTFS and Business Plans.

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

Pledge completions complement the Council's existing policy framework with respect to the above.

**Equality and Diversity**

Where potential equality and diversity implications are identified from the implementation of any new activities arising from the pledge completion, assessments will be undertaken in line with the Council's policies.

**Recommendations and Reasons for recommended action:**

For Cabinet to note completion of pledges 19, 24, 39, 44, 72, 77, 88, 99.

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**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

None:- This update forms part of the Council's agreed performance management framework.

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**Published work / information:**

**Background papers:**

Title	Part I	Part II	Exemption Paragraph Number							
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Completed Pledges										

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**Sign off:**

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Originating SMT Member Giles Perritt													
Has the Cabinet Member(s) agreed the contents of the report? Yes													

# FOR KEEPING PLYMOUTH ON THE MOVE

## Pledge 19 – Provide more dropped kerbs to improve access for people in wheelchairs

**What we said we would do:** We will start a programme to improve access for people in wheelchairs by providing more dropped kerbs and make it easier to get around.

**What we wanted to achieve:** Programme for more dropped kerbs on key routes.

**What we have done:** Funding has been allocated and a new policy and prioritisation evaluation matrix is being developed in partnership with Plymouth Area Disabled Access Network (PADAN). A prioritised schedule has been developed for the re-profiling of existing defective dropped kerbs to make them suitable for use by people with disabilities, as well as the provision of new dropped kerbs. Delivery on the new dropped kerbs has commenced.

An application has been made to the Heritage Lottery Fund in respect of an accessibility audit by a professional auditor, in conjunction with PADAN of the Mayflower 2020 trail, with a view to implementing recommended dropped kerbs. The waterfront and city centre digital trails are likely to be audited separately.

Disabled access, including dropped kerbs, is being designed into and/or constructed within all of Plymouth City Council's major projects, including The Box, Derriford Transport Scheme, Forder Valley Link Road and Millbay Boulevard.

Plymouth City Council officers are also ensuring the adequate provision of disabled access, including dropped kerbs, in all third party development schemes.

**What's next:** We will continue to work closely with PADAN to finalise the policy and evaluation matrix, and in shaping and developing future programmes of dropped kerb provision and improvement.

We will seek to deliver trails that are accessible to all and continue to pursue funding opportunities to improve accessibility in the city.

### Find out more!

Check [Newsroom](#) for our press release coming in February about our work on dropped kerbs.



# FOR KEEPING PLYMOUTH ON THE MOVE

## Pledge 24 – Roll out 20mph zones around our local schools and residential areas

**What we said we would do:** We will continue to roll out 20mph zones around our local schools and residential areas to keep pedestrians safe.

**What we wanted to achieve:** More 20mph zones/schemes/limits aimed at improving road safety for vulnerable road user journeys and quality of life for local residents.

**What we have done:** We have implemented traffic calming measures, by way of speed humps, to improve speed compliance in West Down Road. This is to ensure that motorists drive within the existing 20mph limit in this residential area. We have identified two further schemes, one of which is within the vicinity of a school. These schemes have completed designs and are now in the process of being consulted upon.

Our Civil Enforcement Teams are also focusing their efforts outside of school sites to ensure safe and compliant parking. They are advising motorists, in the first instance, of any potential offences that they may be committing. This creates a safer environment for school children to cross and move around the road space whilst travelling to and from school.

Our approach to this pledge is in line with the Council's 'Three Es' framework: Engineering, Education and Enforcement.

**What's next:** We will soon be implementing a new 20mph speed limit in North Prospect Road through the use of speed cushions and speed limit repeater signs as a traffic calming measure. We are also looking to implement 20mph speed limits and electronic flashing advisory signs in Furndale Road.

We will be working closely with schools in the future to identify further sites outside of schools where it would be appropriate to implement 20mph speed limits and other associated traffic calming features, and we will continue our 'Three Es' approach in order to keep pedestrians safe.

Continued funding for 2019/20 has been allocated in order to continue the prioritisation of the rolling programme of 20 mph zone schemes.

### Find out more!

Here is a news story about our work to deliver the pledge:

<http://plymouthnewsroom.co.uk/council-invest-pavement-repairs-20mph-zones/>



# FOR PLYMOUTH'S MARINE AND MARITIME ROLE

## Pledge 39 – Support the lifejacket scheme for Plymouth fishermen

**What we said we would do:** The life-saving lifejacket scheme for Plymouth fishermen has been copied by many other councils. We will continue to give it our full support.

**What we wanted to achieve:** Plymouth fishermen will all have lifejackets to increase their safety.

**What we have done:** A scheme to keep fishing boat crews safer at sea has proved so successful that the Council is hoping to expand the project. A total of 250 life-jackets with personal locator beacons were given to people who earn their living at sea and contribute to Plymouth's economy as part of a scheme to help reduce loss of life and accidents within the local fishing industry.

The project has cross-party support, as well as support from the Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authorities, RNLI, Maritime Coastguard Agency and the fishing communities. The Council was awarded £77,000 from the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and the Maritime Management Organisation (MMO) to help fund the project, which includes personal fitting and training carried out by supplier MarineCo.

**What's next:** A second opportunity for applications has been held and the Council received a further 60 applications. A quote for 60 units and the list of applicants has been submitted to the MMO to extend the original programme.

The Council has received enquiries from several organisations across the UK about how our scheme has worked and we have shared information, which has been well received.

### Find out more!

Here is a news story about our work to deliver the pledge:

<http://plymouthnewsroom.co.uk/successful-life-jacket-scheme-expand>



# FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

## Pledge 44 – Showcase Plymouth’s commercial and research experience in the classroom

**What we said we would do:** Plymouth has an international reputation for marine science and technology. We need more children and parents to seize these opportunities and so we will offer schools the chance to showcase the best of Plymouth’s commercial and research experience in the classroom.

**What we wanted to achieve:** Young people, teachers, and parents/carers have more exposure to our marine activity, including commercial and research experience in and out of the classroom, to raise awareness of the value of this to our city, regionally, and nationally, as well as helping to sustain and enhance our international reputation for marine science and technology.

**What we have done:** Our city-wide STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) co-ordinator has been in post since September 2018 and has started to deliver our STEM strategy based on growing, keeping and attracting STEM talent, which includes marine science and technology as key components.

We have designed and implemented innovative approaches of delivering outreach across the city with our 5E STEM Excellence model, which includes engaging with our young people and parents. We have also designed and implemented our calendar of marine and science technology events across the city as part of our STEM activity.

Additionally, we have engaged with school leaders regarding the importance of our marine heritage and the value of it to Plymouth in the Plymouth Challenge; showcased the value of our marine science heritage through the heralded ICE film; and established links with our new Marine Business Technology Centre (MBTC) at Oceansgate in order to promote the value of this and the opportunities that it brings locally.

**What’s next:** We will deliver our ambitious programme under the name of ‘Plymouth STEM Summer Spectacular’, which will be a month long celebration.

With the support of stakeholders and partners across the city, we will make use of our natural assets in the promotion of our marine science collateral, and we will hold one of our first competitions and celebrations of STEM using the Lido for two days in July 2019. July will also see our first STEM conference being held, which will show to our school and education partners the value of what we have achieved so far and the contribution that marine science makes to the city, as well as outlining our intentions for this year and for Mayflower and beyond.

We will develop further links and education programmes with the MBTC, both with young people and parents. We will also link schools with industry experts and the winning designs will be tested in the coastal wave tank on 6 November 2019. We will be developing our own Big Bang event in the city for the benefit of our young people and parents, with marine science as a key feature of this. A M400 Community Sparks funding application has been submitted for a M400 celebration day, work readiness programme, primary school teacher CPD day, and specific events.

In discussions with the Blue Foundation, we will be piloting the introduction of a marine science qualification into the curriculum, which will enable our young people to take advantage of and benefit from this wider offer.

### Find out more!

Look out for [news stories](#) about our work to deliver this pledge.

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# FOR A SAFER, WELCOMING CITY

## Pledge 72 – Make Holocaust Memorial Day a major Civic Event

**What we said we would do:** Plymouth has the oldest Ashkenazi synagogue in the English-speaking world, and the recently listed Jewish cemetery (one of the oldest in the UK) means the Jewish community has deep roots here. That's why it is time to make Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) a major Civic Event.

**What we wanted to achieve:** We wanted to ensure that HMD 2019 was an event that attracted more people than ever before and that it concentrated on the many different communities that have been affected by both the Holocaust and subsequent genocides. We wanted an event that showed Plymouth will always stand up and support all communities.

**What we have done:** Residents in Plymouth were invited to participate in this year's Holocaust Memorial Day commemorations. There was a special public ceremony at the Peace Garden on Plymouth Hoe on Sunday 27 January 2019, the date of HMD, to remember all those who have died in the Holocaust and subsequent genocides. The ceremony was attended by over 200 people, with speakers from a wide range of different faiths and communities. The national theme of 2019's HMD was 'Torn From Home' and the year also marked the 25th anniversary of the genocide in Rwanda in 1994 when around one million people were murdered, so among the speakers at the event was the Rwandan born Rev. Osee Ntavuka.

Holocaust Memorial Day marks the anniversary of when, in 1945, the notorious death camp at Auschwitz-Birkenau was finally liberated and the true scale of what became known as the Holocaust, was recognised. Led by the Holocaust Memorial Trust, Holocaust Memorial Day remembers the six million Jewish men, women and children who died in ghettos, mass-shootings, and concentration camps before any survivors were liberated by allied troops in 1945. Gypsies and travellers, gay men, lesbians, black people, disabled people, trade unionists, and other minority groups were also persecuted by the Nazis. Locally, the event was recognised and organised on behalf of Plymouth City Council by the Plymouth Centre for Faiths and Cultural Diversity, supported by Transforming Plymouth Together and the Plymouth Council of Faiths.

**What's next:** We will use this year's event as a stepping stone to an even bigger Civic event for HMD 2020.

### Find out more!

Here are some news stories about our work to deliver the pledge:

<http://plymouthnewsroom.co.uk/torn-home-plymouth-comes-together-mark-holocaust-memorial-day/>

[www.plymouth.gov.uk/holocaustmemorialday](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/holocaustmemorialday)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yuBNrWiVNk0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BZQtzufSYKI>

<https://www.hmd.org.uk/activity/commemoration-event/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yuBNrWiVNk0>

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# FOR A SAFER, WELCOMING CITY

## Pledge 77 – Start a People’s Choice competition for new blue plaques

**What we said we would do:** Plymouth has too few blue plaques that celebrate and commemorate our city’s long history and high achievers. We will start a People’s Choice competition for new blue plaques that enable nominations, voting and crowd-funding of new blue plaques.

**What we wanted to achieve:** We have held a consultation with the Hoe Neighbourhood Forum regarding plaques, particularly around the 100 years women’s vote. As part of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the vote for women in 1918, four locations were identified to highlight the contribution of the suffrage movement in Plymouth:

- Home of Alison Vickers Garland, suffragist, author, playwright and pioneer of the women’s political movement in Plymouth and Devon on Leigham Terrace, now part of Citadel Road
- Lodgings of four notable suffragette residents in Alfred Street
- Suffragette shop, meeting place and Maud Salter’s typing school on Tavistock Road
- Portland Square, site of the home and surgery of Dr Rosa Bale, first women doctor in Plymouth and chair of local suffrage meetings.

**What we have done:** Permissions from the relevant property owners were successfully secured and the four new plaques were installed in December 2018 to tie in with the centenary of women voting in a General Election for the first time. Unveiling events were also held at Plymouth College of Art and on the University of Plymouth’s campus to officially unveil the Suffragette Shop/Maud Slater typing school and Dr Rosa Bale plaques, respectively.

**What’s next:** We are now moving on to phase two of this pledge – a people’s choice competition. A list of 14 women (historic and contemporary) with connections to the city has been collated and the Plymouth Herald is keen to work with us to run an online poll. We would like to launch this as soon as possible, backed with a social media campaign that encourages the general public to cast their votes. We would then like to announce the top three on 8 March 2019 to coincide with International Women’s Day 2019.

### Find out more!

Here are some news stories about our work to deliver the pledge:

<http://plymouthnewsroom.co.uk/nancy-astor-honoured-blue-plaque/>

<https://plymhearts.org/2018/12/13/suffrage-plaque-unveiled/>

<https://plymhearts.org/2018/12/17/female-doctor-plaque/>





# FOR SPORT, CULTURE AND LEISURE

## Pledge 88 – Not charge Park Run to use Plymouth City Council land

**What we said we would do:** We are committed to not charging organisations like Park Run to use Plymouth City Council land for major events.

**What we wanted to achieve:** We will not charge community organisations whose events encourage health and fitness to use Plymouth City Council land.

**What we have done:** Plymouth City Council's terms and conditions for events taking place on Plymouth Hoe and in Central Park state that charges will not be made for community organisations, such as Park Run.

**What's next:** In 2019, Park Runs are taking place weekly in Devonport Park, Mount Edgumbe and Plym Valley, with no charge for the use of the land. In order to maximise the new events space at Central Park we are recruiting a new apprentice and will actively encourage further health and fitness events in all our spaces.

Events due to take place in 2019, with no charge, include: The Stroke Association Step Out; Crohn's and Colitis Walk IT; Cancer Research UK Race for Life; and the Alzheimer's Society Memory Walk.

### Find out more!

Read more about how we support health and fitness in Plymouth:

<http://plymouthnewsroom.co.uk/?s=sports>

<http://plymouthnewsroom.co.uk/?s=health+and+fitness>



# FOR A GREENER, CLEANER PLYMOUTH

## Pledge 99 – Increasing levels of renewable power and fighting fuel poverty

**What we said we would do:** We will continue to deliver more renewable power generation and fight fuel poverty across the city. We will look for other opportunities for renewable energy generation across the city, including micro-generation.

**What we wanted to achieve:** Tackle the causes of fuel poverty and play our role in combatting climate change by increasing the levels of renewable energy generation.

**What we have done:** We have allocated £350,000 to our Energy Company Obligation top-up grant fund to support up to 500 fuel poor households to make energy efficiency improvements in their homes. We have also launched a new £640,000 Warm Homes Fund programme to support 200 fuel poor homes to get new central heating systems, and secured an additional £200,000 from National Grid to work with Livewell Southwest to minimise the health impacts of cold homes.

Following work in 2018/19, we have now completed a review of the Council's corporate and commercial estate, and worked with Plymouth Energy Community (PEC) to offer businesses across the city solar energy at no upfront cost. This has identified new photovoltaics (PV) projects with cumulative potential to power 250 homes.

We have secured £500,000 of EU funding to explore how the integration of new technology and innovative purchasing arrangements can help to bring forward new community owned field-scale solar power projects.

In 2019, we have submitted a bid for EU funds to explore innovative business models linking Heat pumps and solar PV. We have also carried out exploratory drilling in the city centre to see if ground-sourced renewable energy (hot rocks) could help to heat offices and regeneration projects.

**What's next:** We will be working with PEC to ensure that low income and vulnerable households can benefit from grants available under the new round of Energy Company Obligation and we are submitting bids for further Warm Homes Funding from National Grid.

We will work with Urban Splash to finalise plans for the ground source heat solutions for the Civic Centre. We will also develop the business case for solar installations across the corporate estate and continue to work with PEC to promote its free solar offer to businesses before the end of the Feed-In Tariff.

### Find out more!

Here is more information about renewable power and fighting fuel poverty:

<http://plymouthnewsroom.co.uk/?s=energy>

<https://www.plymouthenergycommunity.com/>

