

FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Pledge 43 – Increase the number of young people taking STEM subjects

What we said we would do: Plymouth needs more engineers, mathematicians and scientists. We have world-class STEM employers. The city council will look to work with the Plymouth Manufacturers Group and Women in STEM to increase the number of young people taking STEM subjects at school, college and university. We will work with major manufacturers and large businesses to give school children an insight into how factories, manufacturing, digital and creative industries, STEM roles and other major Plymouth employers work. We will also support people to improve their STEM skills throughout their career.

What we wanted to achieve: We wanted to develop the foundations for greater links to employers and schools, ensuring that our young people, parents and older people understand the amazing opportunities that STEM skills open up for careers and jobs.

What we have done: We have produced our Plymouth STEM Strategy and appointed a Plymouth STEM Coordinator, who makes the links between schools, young people, parents and older people and coordinates a programme of STEM activity across the city. We have formed the Plymouth STEM Board, which is supported by the Plymouth STEM Operations and Delivery Group and comprises key STEM stakeholders and employer representation from the Plymouth Manufacturing Group (PMG), Women in STEM and the Plymouth Employment and Skills Board. The Plymouth STEM Funding Group to help support activity with funding opportunities, and the Plymouth STEM Invest Group to address how we support investment and attract talent to the city have also been developed.

The Plymouth STEM Calendar has been launched to effectively coordinate STEM activity across the city, while STEM coordinators are capturing activity via the STEM Learning Contract. The Plymouth Post-16 Plan is in place and underpinning developments with the heart of the South West Careers Hub. As a STEM Board, we have agreed a city-wide programme including high profile, high footfall events for students, teachers, parents and the community, and other programmes such as Building Plymouth Adopt a School. We have delivered a Plymouth STEM Conference, developed the Big Splash, and arranged a Marine Careers Conference. During this academic term, thousands of local students and teachers from primary, secondary and post-16 have been involved in various STEM activities across the city. High footfall, high profile events include the following:

- During June and July, over 300 students and teachers took part in various Lego projects (aimed at 4 to 9 year olds – <https://vimeo.com/348571822>)
- 1,682 primary and secondary students received a STEM workshop, showcasing the amazing STEM career opportunities in the city
- 768 students, teachers and parents attended the South West Marine Careers Conference on 12 July 2019 (aimed at 14 to 24 year olds – <https://vimeo.com/350100387>)
- Over 1,500 students, teachers and parents took part in the Big Splash event at Tinside Lido on 16 and 17 July (aimed at 9 to 13 year olds – <https://vimeo.com/349634893>).

What's next: Our plans for the remainder of the year include the continued delivery of STEM workshops across the city and the implementation of the annual STEM competition. The Plymouth STEM Board will publish the objectives and metrics for each STEM working group via an annual STEM report in January 2020. Key STEM events for 2020 include the Transformation Work Experience Pilot for year 10 students (June 2020); Big Splash (July 2020) for 1,000+ students; STEM Conference for 200+ delegates (July 2020); large scale Plymouth Careers Conference for 2000+ 14 to 24 year-olds (October 2020); continuation of workshops until November 2020 (target 15,680 students); and a programme of Augmented Reality, Virtual Reality and Mixed Reality throughout the year across the city.

Find out more!

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

<http://plymouthnewsroom.co.uk/school-standards-plymouth-discussed-scrutiny/>



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FOR FIGHTING POVERTY

Pledge 65 – Review progress on Plymouth Fairness Commission recommendations

What we said we would do: We will review the progress made in implementing the recommendations of the Plymouth Fairness Commission.

What we wanted to achieve: To measure the progress of previously unachieved recommendations from the 2016 Plymouth Fairness Commission's annual review and identify which categories still require further action to ensure Plymouth is a fairer city.

What we have done: Having conducted a progress review, we have been able to identify a number of key recommendations that have made notable progress over the past three years. Significant achievements have been made both locally and nationally, particularly within the categories of Individual and Family Wellbeing, and Strengthening the Local Economy. Our continued lobbying for better funding in transport has seen the city being awarded £7.6 million from the Transforming Cities Fund, whilst our Inclusive Growth strategy is creating a framework to make Plymouth a more inclusive city.

Key themes including Loneliness and Discrimination have also progressed. The development of the Loneliness Action Plan (Pledge 55) has worked towards addressing and tackling loneliness within our city, with befriending groups and wellbeing hubs set up as a consequence. We have also been successful in securing £149,000 from the Controlling Migration Fund, which will be used to support increased community cohesion in a bid to tackle discrimination.

What's next: Although there have been key developments in the progress of many recommendations, more can be done to make Plymouth a fairer city. We have identified and will focus on four key themes from the report that we feel would make Plymouth even fairer. Councillor Kate Taylor, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care, will be leading on combatting loneliness across all ages, whilst Councillor Chris Penberthy, Cabinet Member for Housing and Co-operative Development, will be leading work to address the implications of an ageing population (which will be the focus of a dedicated Cabinet subcommittee), developing a strategic approach to financial inclusion and becoming a city that tackles discrimination.

Find out more!

Here is a link to all the documents relating to the original Fairness Commission and its review:

<http://web.plymouth.gov.uk/fairnesscommissionreports>



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