Public Document Pack

Agenda for Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Group Tuesday, 23rd January, 2024, 10.00 am



Members of Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Group

Councillors: P Arnott (Vice-Chair), B Bailey, M Chapman, A Hall, M Hall, P Hayward, N Hookway (Chair), J Whibley, D Wilson, G Deasy and O Davey

Venue: Online via the Zoom app

Contact: Sarah James;

01395 519978 Email: sjames@eastdevon.gov.uk

(or group number 01395 517546)

Monday, 8 January 2024; reissued 16 January 2024

East Devon District Council
Blackdown House
Border Road
Heathpark Industrial Estate
Honiton
EX14 1EJ

DX 48808 HONITON

Tel: 01404 515616

www.eastdevon.gov.uk

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Minutes of the previous meeting held on 7 November 2023 (Pages 3 5)
- 3 Declarations of interest

Guidance is available online to Councillors and co-opted members on making declarations of interest

4 Public speaking

Information on public speaking is available online

- 5 Progress update on Exmouth Town and Seafront (Pages 6 13)
- Formation of a Subgroup and amending the Terms of Reference for the Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Group (Pages 14 20)
- 7 WSP Presentation (Pages 21 54)
 - i. The previous presentation (7 November 2023)
 - ii. The Placemaking Plan framework
 - iii. Approach to Delivery
 - iv. Business Case
 - v. Next Steps

Members of the public exercising their right to speak during Public Speaking will be recorded.

Decision making and equalities

For a copy of this agenda in large print, please contact the Democratic Services Team on 01395 517546

EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Group held at Online via the Zoom app on 7 November 2023

Attendance list at end of document

The meeting started at 10.00 am and ended at 12.08 pm

Minutes of the previous meeting held on 12 September 2023

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 12 September 2023 were noted as a true and accurate record.

15 **Declarations of interest**

Cllr M Chapman – Minute 17; Affects Non-Registerable Interest: Member of Exmouth Town Council.

Cllr T Dumper – Minute 17; Affects Non-Registerable Interest: Member of Exmouth Town Council.

Cllr N Hookway – Minute 17; Affects Non-Registerable Interest: Member of Exmouth Town Council.

Cllr A Toye - – Minute 17; Affects Non-Registerable Interest: Member of Exmouth Town Council.

Cllr J Whibley – Minute 17; Affects Non-Registerable Interest: Member of Exmouth Town Council.

Cllr D Wilson – Minute 17; Affects Non-Registerable Interest: Member of Exmouth Town Council.

Cllr Davey wished it to be recorded that he is on the membership of the PETS Group in his capacity as Portfolio Holder Strategic Planning, Exmouth Ward Member and as Chair of Exmouth Town Council.

16 Public speaking

No members of the public had registered to speak at the meeting.

17 The Draft Placemaking Strategy

The Project Manager – Place and Prosperity (Exmouth) introduced the draft Placemaking Strategy which sets out a vision for the future for Exmouth Town and Seafront.

Ms Gayatri Suryawanshi, WSP's Placemaking Consultant, then delivered a presentation outlining at length the emerging placemaking plan framework, and the proposed actions to deliver the following strategic objectives:

- Harness availability of land for development and tourism opportunities
- Connected and continuous public realm to strengthen the relationship between the town centre and the seafront

- Activation and meanwhile activities and events to create year-round interest
- Active lifestyle offer in the town centre and the seafront for all age groups
- Encouraging active and sustainable transport in the town centre and the seafront
- Enhance and celebrate the rich biodiversity and natural assets of Exmouth

Members were asked to consider the draft Strategy, and to recommend to Cabinet to support the approach set out therein.

Discussion and clarification included the following points:

- One Member questioned whether Foxholes was an appropriate location for an Arts Hub and suggested the Pavilion would be more suitable, and closer to the town.
- The beach needs to be family-friendly; some Members were concerned that families should be able to paddle in areas free from boats and jet skis, and questioned whether the Plan includes enough attractions for families.
- Concern was expressed that there is no provision in the Plan for secure storage for electric bikes.
- In trying to build Exmouth as a destination, the Council needs to work with South West Water to get the seas clean.
- Careful thought will need to be given to any development along the seafront and shoreline, given the climate emergency, and money needs to first be found to shore up the sea wall.
- There needs to be a focus on the town's heritage, and particularly its maritime history.
- The baseline review at stage one of the Placemaking process took account of a raft of
 existing studies and strategies together with associated documents. The baseline study
 arising from the review is a comprehensive document from which progress is measured
 and a copy will be circulated to PETS Group Members, for reference.
- The Pebblebed Heaths and the Exe Estuary are special nature conservatory locations and concern was raised that there is a focus in the Plan on promoting watersports, but that wildlife and watersports do not generally go together.
- Whilst the Plan seeks to reduce the dominance of cars, car parking space on the seafront
 will need to be available for people with limited mobility and for those transporting
 equipment for watersports. It was noted that there is provision in the Plan for some car
 parks to be expanded.
- A number of the proposals in the Plan will require co-operation from Devon County Council (DCC) and consideration will need to be given to how this is achieved.
- It was proposed to establish a steering group with representatives from DCC and Exmouth Town Council, to take the Placemaking Plan forward. It was suggested the steering group could include representatives from Stagecoach, with a view to ensuring a good local bus service.
- The Placemaking Consultant advised that the proposed strategy links to and is compatible with the Levelling Up project for Dinan Way and the Exmouth Gateway.
- Consideration should be given to a Park and Ride facility for lorries, coaches and
 motorhomes on the outskirts of town. One Member was of the view, however, that
 consideration should be given to possibilities more generally, since lorries are likely to
 need parking facilities only, and users of motorhomes might not want to use Park and
 Ride.

RECOMMENDED to Cabinet:

- 1. That the draft Exmouth Placemaking Plan be fully supported.
- 2. That a steering group be formed consisting of Exmouth Town Council, East Devon District Council and Devon County Council, to oversee and co-ordinate the Placemaking
- 1. That a Park and Ride facility be considered on the outskirts of Exmouth which provides necessary space for motorhomes, coaches and lorries.

Attendance List

Councillors present:

P Arnott (Vice-Chair)

M Chapman

A Hall

P Hayward

N Hookway (Chair)

J Whibley

D Wilson

O Davey (Exmouth Town Council)

G Deasy (Exmouth Town Council)

Councillors also present (for some or all the meeting)

I Barlow

G Jung

M Rixson

T Dumper

P Fernley

C Nicholas

E Rylance

A Toye

C Fitzgerald

E Wragg

M Howe

Officers in attendance:

Sarah James, Democratic Services Officer Gerry Mills, Project Manager Place & Prosperity (Exmouth) Alethea Thompson, Democratic Services Officer Anita Williams, Principal Solicitor (Deputy Monitoring Officer) Tim Child, Assistant Director Place, Assets & Commercialisation

Councillor apologies:

M Hall

Chair:	Data:
Chan.	Date.

Report to: Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Group

Date of Meeting 23rd January 2024

Document classification: Part A Public Document

Exemption applied: None Review date for release NA

Progress Update on Exmouth Town and Seafront

Report summary:

The purpose of this report is to provide Members with a summary of progress with Placemaking in Exmouth that the Place and Prosperity Team is involved in since the last update on the 7th November 2023.

is the p	proposed	decision	in	accordance	with:
Budget		Yes	\boxtimes	No □	

Policy Framework Yes ⊠ No □

Recommendation:

Budget

a) That members of the Group note the progress and preparation for the new season.

Reason for recommendation:

To ensure that members are informed on the type of work that the team is undertaking and any work that is relevant to their ward.

Officer: Gerry Mills Project Manager Place and Prosperity (Exmouth) gmills@eastdevon.gov.uk

Tel 01395 519960

Portf	olio((s) (d	check	k whicl	h appl	y):
		_	_		_	

- □ Coast, Country and Environment
- ☐ Council and Corporate Co-ordination
- ☐ Communications and Democracy

- ☐ Strategic Planning
- □ Sustainable Homes and Communities
- □ Culture, Leisure, Sport and Culture

Equalities Impact Low Impact

Risk: Low Risk; The report is to note an update on progress since our last meeting

Climate change Low Impact

Risk: Low Risk; The report is to note an update on progress since our last meeting.

Links to background information

a) Appendix A Exmouth Active Travel Promotional Material

Link to Council Plan

Priorities (check which apply)

- ⊠ Better homes and communities for all
- ⋈ A resilient economy

Report in full

1.1 General Update

- Following an end of season meeting with the traders we have received requests from 4 out of the 5 pitches on Queen's Drive to renew for another season.
 Colleagues in Asset Management and Legal Services are currently preparing the leases.
- We are currently costing some 'facelift' work at Queen's Drive from existing budget
 this is mainly the covers over the tables and potentially some lighting which doesn't
 stand the weather well in this location.
- The Vacant Pitch on Queen's Drive will be marketed in January by Asset Management colleagues to try to ensure full occupancy for this season.
- The Events Space will be Marketed in January by our colleagues in Streetscene in the hope of attracting a reliable operator – we have received at least 2 informal expressions of interest prior to marketing the pitch.
- Council staff have agreed to work with the traders to try to put together a launch day for the season and also to facilitate entertainment in the traders area (around the food pitches).

1.2 Levelling up Fund Bid – Destination Exmouth

- Council officers met with Devon County colleagues on the 11th of December to discuss the Levelling up Project (AKA Exmouth Active Travel Improvements).
- A further consultation commenced on the 6th of December with 2 in-person events in Exmouth and some revised promotional material (shown at Appendix 1) and there is also an online link for respondents to give their views.
- EDDC Officers
- The project, led by Devon County Council, is now gathering baseline data in preparation for developing the design for the Exmouth Gateway.

Financial implications:

There are no new financial implications identified.

Legal implications:

There are no legal implications requiring comment at this time.



Exmouth railway station.

By encouraging more active travel, particularly for shorter journeys, we can help reduce congestion on our busy roads and improve connectivity across the town.

Along with improvements to the public spaces around the station, the proposals are designed to make the area safer, more welcoming, and a more pleasant place for all.

The scheme proposes to deliver the following benefits:



Improved connectivity



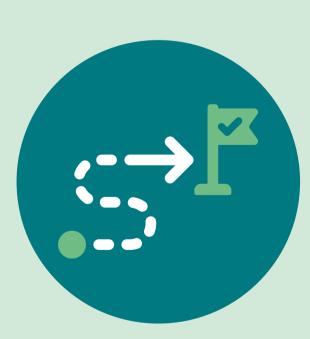
A warm welcome



Helping local businesses



Safer streets



Faster journey times and less congestion



To find out more and complete our online survey, please scan the QR code or visit our website below.

www.devon.gov.uk/haveyoursay/consultations/ exmouth-active-travel-improvements













These proposals form part of the Destination Exmouth project, which is funded by the Government's Levelling Up Fund, Devon County Council, East Devon District Council and Exmouth Town Council. The project aims to create an Exmouth Gateway – a transport interchange that enables people to travel across town by bicycle, on foot or by bus more easily and creating an improved experience for people arriving in the town.

The bid also includes the extension of Dinan Way to join up with the A376 to remove traffic from unsuitable residential and country lanes.

Public engagement

Earlier this year we asked for your feedback on our early ideas for the area. We met with stakeholders, held a public drop-in event and received over 850 responses to our online survey.

867
responses
(including survey, email and letter)



Proposals with the highest level of support were better signage and widened footways

The feedback during the early engagement period has been carefully analysed and used to update the proposals:

- It is now proposed that a shared path be introduced for use by both cyclists and pedestrians, rather than a segregated path that keeps cyclists and pedestrians separate.
- The crossing outside the railway station is now proposed to be upgraded from a zebra crossing to a signalised toucan crossing.
- It is now proposed that the flower bed and part of the wall near Marks & Spencer and the leisure centre would be retained.













The Proposals

The proposals include:

- Better signage in the area outside the railway station, so that travelling from the station to the town, estuary and seafront is easier for visitors.
- The closure of the existing subway and access ramps, creating space for a widened shared path for cyclists and pedestrians. Without this, it would not be possible to provide many of the proposed improvements because of limited space.
- Modifications to the Imperial Way roundabout, including upgraded crossings designed to help traffic flow and improve pedestrian and cyclist safety.
- Reconfiguration of the access road (part of The Royal Avenue) to the small car park outside the leisure centre. Changes include a raised table being introduced at the top of the road and the widening of the footpath along the road to encourage lower vehicle speeds and to improve safety.













Subway

Part of the proposals is to close the subway and access ramps near the railway station. Although closing the subway was opposed by almost 60% of respondents to the public engagement period, we are proposing to close it for a number of reasons:



Scheme delivery

Removal of the subway access ramps would create space to widen existing paths near the railway station.



Usage

A count carried out in September 2023 to compare the number of people using the subway to the zebra crossing showed that 82% (2520 of a total of 3079) of pedestrians and cyclists used the zebra crossing.



Safer and more convenient

The crossing would make it safer and more convenient for people walking and cycling between the train station and town centre, particularly anyone with a disability. Pedestrian subways are widely associated with anti-social behaviour. This perceived danger can prevent pedestrians from using the subway, particularly vulnerable users at night.



Cost

The subway periodically floods, requiring costly maintenance work. It is estimated that the cost of closing and infilling the subway with a suitable material will be approximately £220,000, representing a cost saving for Devon County Council in the long term.













Get Involved



We would like to hear your views on the proposals and are holding a seven-week consultation to collect your feedback. For more information, scan the QR code below or visit:

www.devon.gov.uk/haveyoursay/consultations/exmouth-active-travel-improvements

This will allow you to:



Read our proposals for the area around Exmouth railway station



Complete the online survey

The survey is open for responses until Friday 5 January 2024.

Next Steps

Following the end of the consultation period, we will analyse your feedback and produce a report on the findings. The comments we receive will help inform the detailed design stage.

Construction is currently estimated to begin late 2024 and be completed by Spring 2025.











Report to: Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Group

Date of Meeting 23rd January 2024

Document classification: Part A Public Document

Exemption applied: None Review date for release NA

Formation of a Subgroup and review of the Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Group Terms of Reference.

Report summary:

This report sets out the draft Terms of Reference for the formation of a Placemaking Subgroup and also sets out some recommendations for the review of the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Group (PETS).

ls	the	pro	posed	dec	cision	in	accordance	with

Budget	Yes $oxtimes$ No $oxtimes$
Policy Framework	Yes ⊠ No □

Recommendation:

- a) That members of the PETS Group recommend to Cabinet the Draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for the formation of a PETS Subgroup.
- b) Subject to a) that the Council write on behalf of the Leader to invite nominees from both Devon County Council and Exmouth Town Council to sit on the subgroup.
- c) That Members recommend to Cabinet the revised Terms of Reference for the Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Group under the review clause set out in the paper of the 3rd of May 2022.

Reason for recommendation:

Supporting the recommendations will:

□ Sustainable Homes and Communities

- Enable better communication between the 3 stakeholder Councils in the delivery of Placemaking in Exmouth.
- Broaden the remit of the Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Group to include stakeholder input through the delivery phase of the Placemaking Plan.

Officer: Gerry Mills Project Manager Place and Prosperity (Exmouth) gmills@eastdevon.gov.uk
Tel 01395 519960

Portfolio(s) (check which apply):
□ Coast, Country and Environment
☐ Council and Corporate Co-ordination
☐ Communications and Democracy
⊠ Economy
⊠ Finance and Assets
☐ Strategic Planning

Equalities Impact Low Impact

Risk: Low Risk; The report is aimed at reducing the risk of non delivery by enhancing communication between the 3 Stakeholder Council and giving the PETS Group a wider more inclusive remit as it moves towards the delivery phase of Placemaking.

Climate change Low Impact

Risk: Low Risk; The report will not directly impact on our climate change strategy.

Links to background information

Agenda for Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Group on Tuesday, 3rd May, 2022, 10.00 am - East Devon

Appendix A Draft Terms of Reference for the Placemaking subgroup

Appendix B Draft revised Terms of Reference for the Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Group

Link to **Council Plan**

Priorities (check which apply)

- ⊠ Better homes and communities for all
- ⋈ A greener East Devon
- ⋈ A resilient economy

Report in full

1.1 Formation of a Placemaking Subgroup

Members of the Placemaking Group recommended to Cabinet that a subgroup be formed at their meeting of the 7th of November 2023. Cabinet agreed to the recommendation with some minor changes, namely:

"That a subgroup be formed consisting of Exmouth Town Council, East Devon District Council, Devon County Council and other stakeholders".

Following this meeting and in discussion with the Chair a draft Terms of Reference have been drawn up which are attached at Appendix A.

It was also felt prudent by the Chair to review the Terms of Reference for the PETS Group simultaneously in time for its scheduled 2-year review which was set out in a paper on the 3rd of May 2021 ie (Appendix B)

"Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Group will be subject to review in two years' time to assess need for continuation and/or whether any changes are appropriate".

One of the issues members raised in their discussion about the formation of a subgroup at both PETS and Cabinet was the need to avoid duplication and it was also questioned if another group was needed.

In considering the two groups is it suggested to members that they consider the subgroup's role to be mainly political and senior colleagues of the 3 Stakeholder Councils meeting to deliver on their shared goals on placemaking and specifically in overcoming the shared challenges at a strategic, political level Appendix A). There is also some inbuilt flexibility allowing for the Chair to be able to invite specialist and stakeholders on an ad hoc basis.

Additionally it is suggested that as we move towards the delivery phase of the placemaking plan that we need the additional representation and support from stakeholders and they should be invited to attend the PETS group on a regular basis as appropriate (Appendix B).

Financial implications:

There are no new financial implications identified.

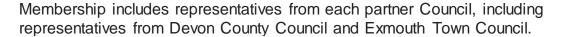
Legal implications:

There are no substantive legal issues to be added to the report.

Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Subgroup Terms of Reference

The role of the Subgroup is to enhance communication between elected members and senior officers of East Devon District Council, Exmouth Town Council and Devon County Council in an open and transparent way, particularly on issues of mutual significance in respect of the development and delivery of the Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Placemaking plan. The subgroup is to act as a 'critical friend' throughout the project. Subgroup meetings to achieve these tasks may be held face-to-face or online. The Subgroup will meet as often as necessary the following initial key tasks are to:

- Establish the Subgroup, review the terms of reference, and agree how the Group will work.
- Provide local views on the challenges and opportunities of Exmouth Town and Seafront, to inform the implementation of the Placemaking Strategy.



Terms of Reference – (Subject to Cabinet Approval)

To provide an advisory subgroup of County, District and Town councillors and stakeholder with officer support to inform progress and advise East Devon District Council's Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Group to enable it to take forward the successful delivery of The Placemaking Plan for Exmouth Town and Seafront.

- To receive briefings and reports from officers and to act as a point of reference for the successful delivery Place Making in Exmouth Town and Seafront.
- To advise on and input to external expert and professional consultancy
- To support further engagement of public and stakeholders
- To promote best practice, help overcome barriers and promote optimal outcomes for the benefit of Place Making in Exmouth Town and Seafront
- To promote the objectives and successes of Place Making in Exmouth Town and Seafront

The Subgroup may, invite individuals with relevant expertise to attend on a 'one-off' basis to discuss a particular issue.

To ensure that there is public awareness of the **Placemaking in Exmouth Town** and **Seafront Group's** activities, discussions and project progress, notes of meetings will be publicly available and published as part of the District Council's Cabinet agendas.

The Subgroup will be subject to review in two years' time to assess need for continuation and/or whether any changes are appropriate.

Membership

Membership of the group is set out below.

- 3 EDDC Councillors (Inc Chair and Vice Chair of PETS)
- 2 Town Councillors
- 2 County Councillors

Membership may alter throughout the committee's lifetime to reflect this.

Secretariat

The District Council will provide the secretariat service for the Project Group.

Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Group – Revised ToR

Terms of Reference

- To provide a reference group of district and town councillors and stakeholders with officer support to inform progress and to make recommendations to East Devon District Council's Cabinet to enable it to take forward the successful delivery of Exmouth Queen's Drive Redevelopment.
- To provide a reference group of district and town councillors and stakeholders with officer support to make recommendations to East Devon District Council's Cabinet on the development and management of Place Making in Exmouth Town and Seafront including the Ocean building.
- To receive briefings and reports from officers and to act as a point of reference for the successful delivery Place Making in Exmouth Town and Seafront.
- To monitor progress on achieving the delivery of the Place Making in Exmouth Town and Seafront
- To advise on and input to external expert and professional consultancy;
- To support further engagement of public and stakeholders;
- To promote best practice, help overcome barriers and promote optimal outcomes for the benefit of Place Making in Exmouth Town and Seafront
- To promote the objectives and successes of Place Making in Exmouth Town and Seafront
- To liaise with and share information with Exmouth Town Council and relevant Stakeholder groups as appropriate'.

To assist the Delivery Group they may, through the Chair, invite individuals with relevant expertise to attend on a 'one-off' basis to discuss a particular issue. The District Council will provide the secretariat service for the **Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Group**.

The **Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Group** will be open to the public (Part A) but may have a private part to the meeting (Part B) to discuss confidential and sensitive matters.

To ensure that there is public awareness of the **Placemaking in Exmouth Town** and **Seafront Group's** activities, discussions and project progress, notes of meetings will be publicly available and published as part of the District Council's Cabinet agendas.

Placemaking in Exmouth Town and Seafront Group will be subject to review in two years' time to assess need for continuation and/or whether any changes are appropriate.

Membership:

From East Devon District Council;

Ward Member from Littleham (Chair), Leader (Vice Chair), Portfolio Holders for Economy & Assets and Strategic Planning, Ward Members from Brixington (x1), Halsdon (x 1), Littleham (x 2 incl Chair), Town (x 2) and Withycombe Raleigh (x 1).

From Exmouth Town Council;

The Mayor and one further Councillor

One person from each representative group of Stakeholders to be invited as required and relevant at the request of the Chair.

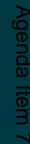
Stakeholder members are non-executive ie cannot vote.

Support officers;

Service Lead (Place, Assets & Commercialisation), Principal Solicitor & Deputy Monitoring Officer, Clerk of Exmouth Town Council.

Meetings: A minimum of four times per year

Quorum: Four District Councillors





Placemaking Plan for Exmouth Town and Seafront

Contents

- 1. Previous Presentation
- 2. Placemaking Plan
- 3. Approach to Delivery
- 4. Business Case & Investment Strategy

5. Next Steps

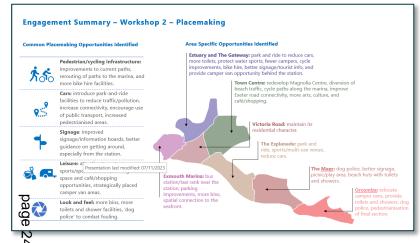




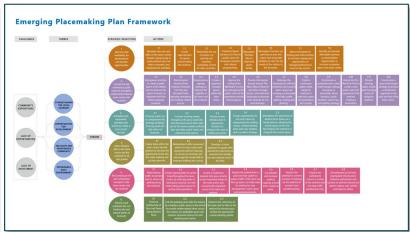


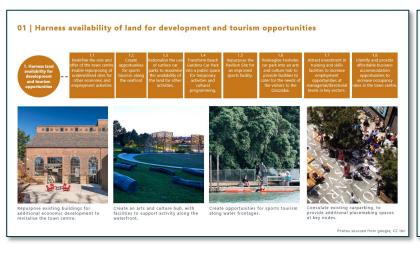
What we discussed at the previous presentation



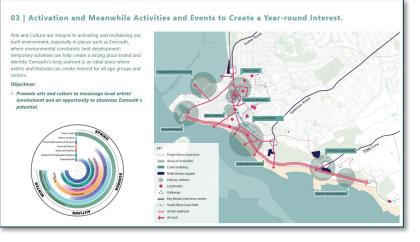












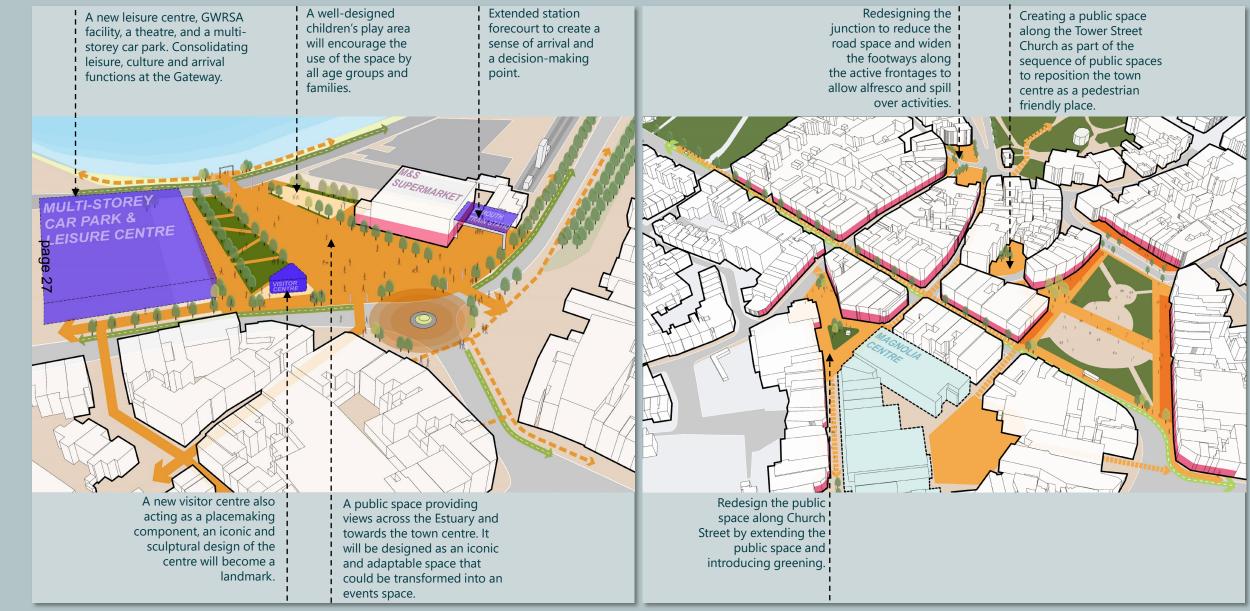






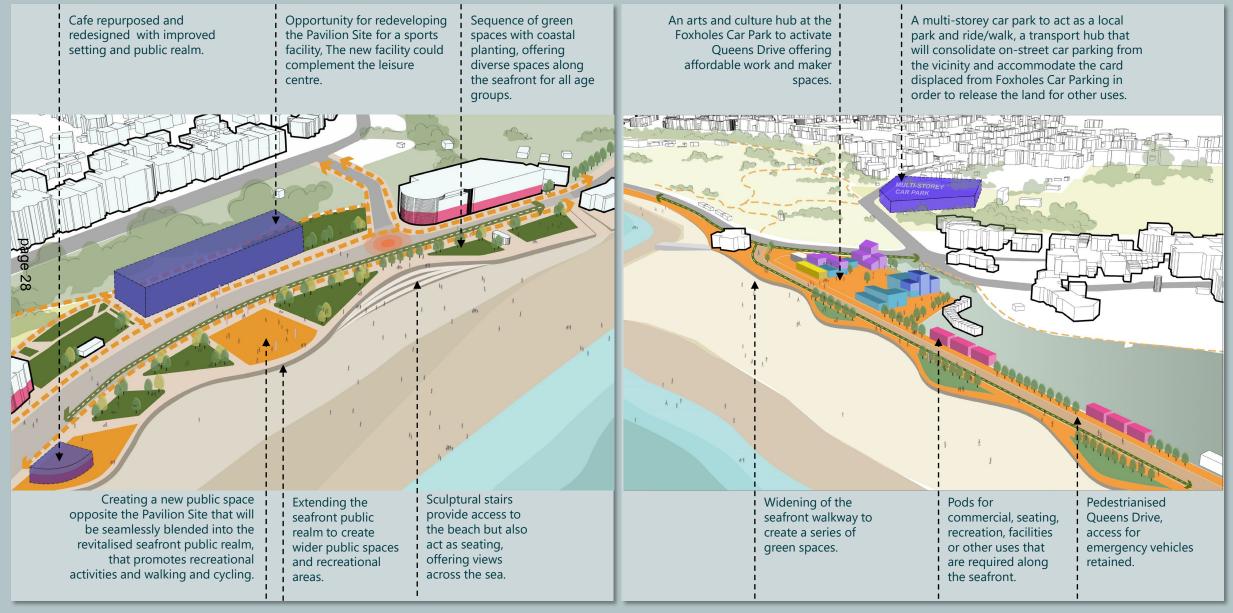
Placemaking Plan Framework





Placemaking Plan Framework





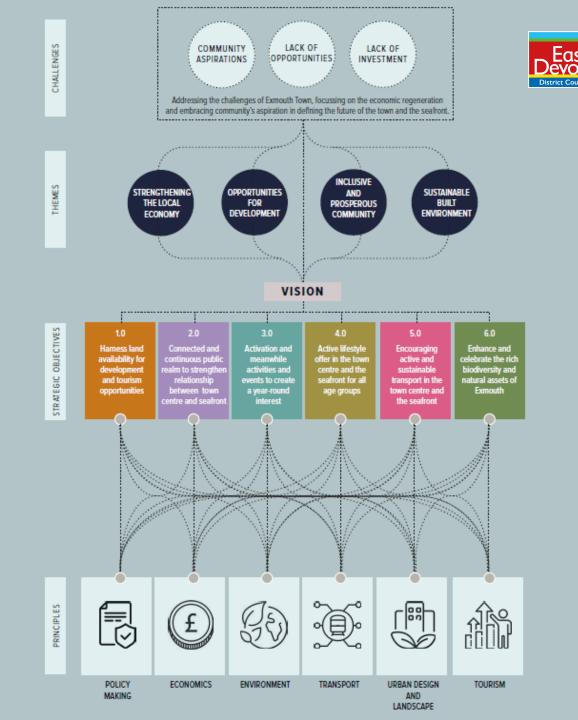




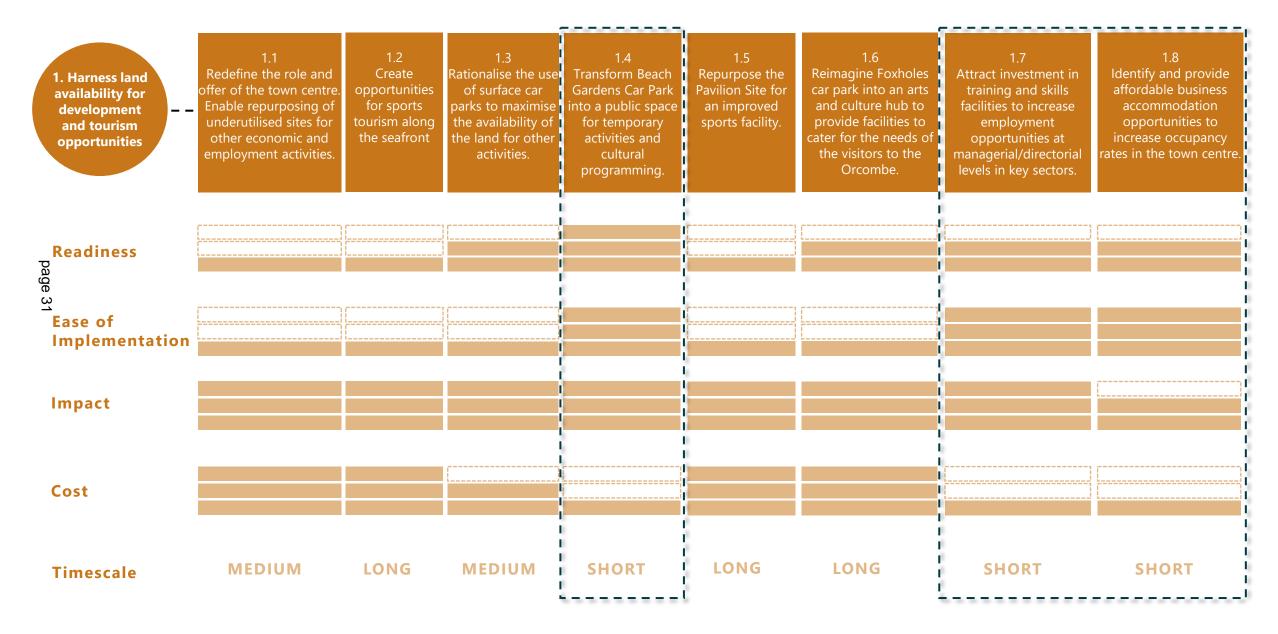
Placemaking Plan Framework

The approach to delivery considers the complexity of all interventions by determining the following parameters:

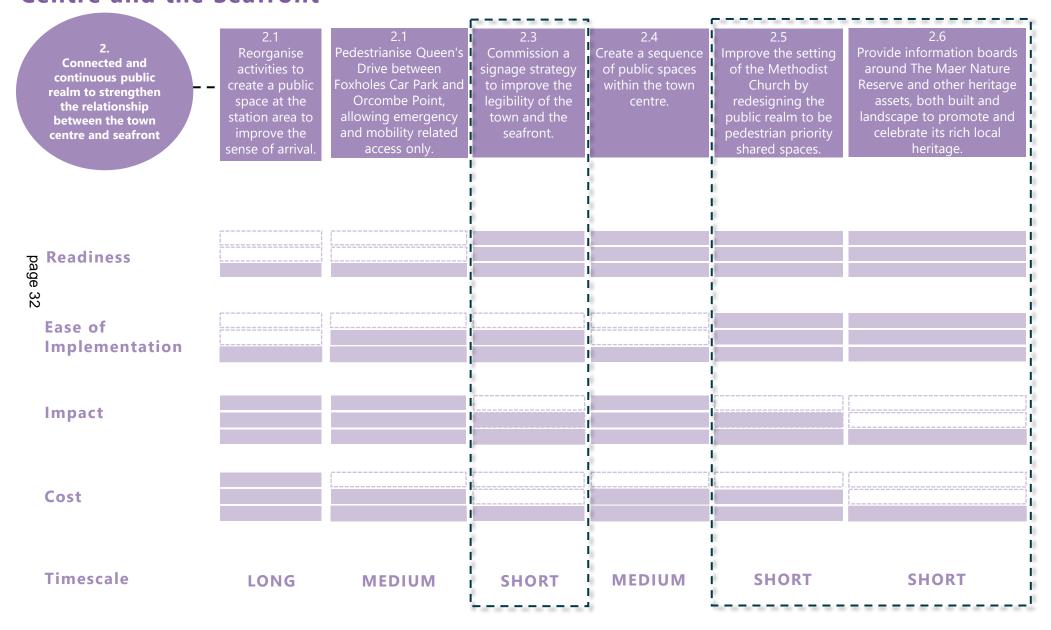
- The readiness and ease of implementation of the interventions are determined by our understanding of the existing condition and its dependency on other initiatives before creating a conducive setting for the specific action to take place.
- Readiness and Ease of Implementation: measured as High, Medium and Low
- The impact of the interventions is assessed by their capability to catalyse the transformation and unlock the potential of Exmouth.
- · Impact: measured as High, Medium and Low
- The high-level estimated costs indicate the level of investment required, which will help bid for funding and allocate resources to translate the actions into projects.
- · Impact: measured as High, Medium and Low
- The timescale is defined by understanding the readiness of the place for the specific action and funding availability.
- Timescale: measured as short (0-3 yrs), medium (3-8 years), long (8-15 yrs)



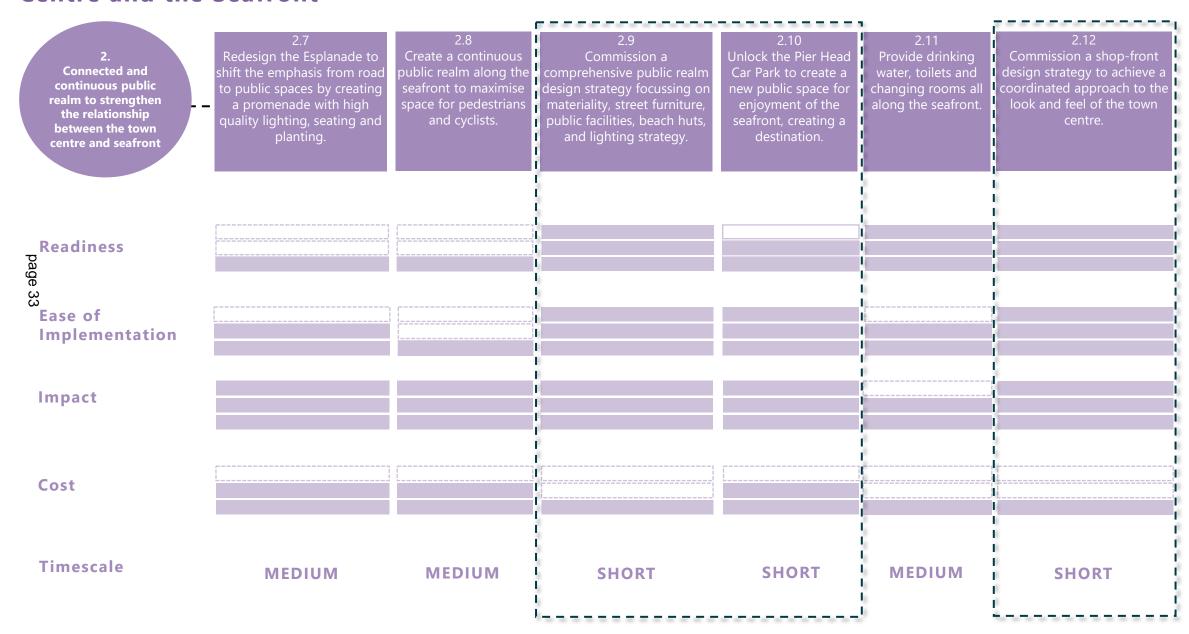
01 | Harness availability of land for development and tourism opportunities



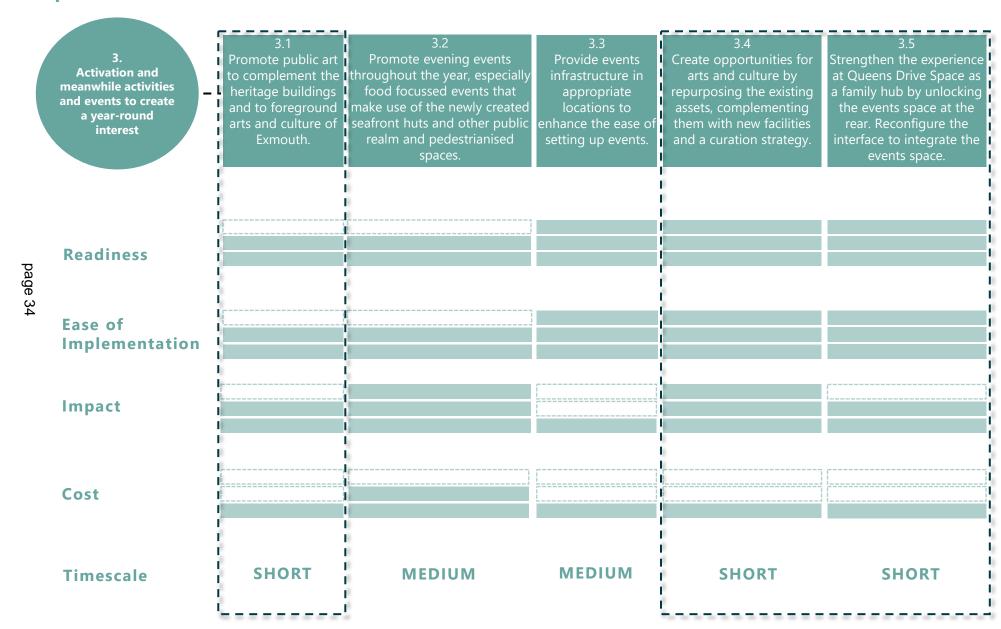
02 | Connected and Continuous Public Realm to Strengthen the Relationship Between the Town Centre and the Seafront



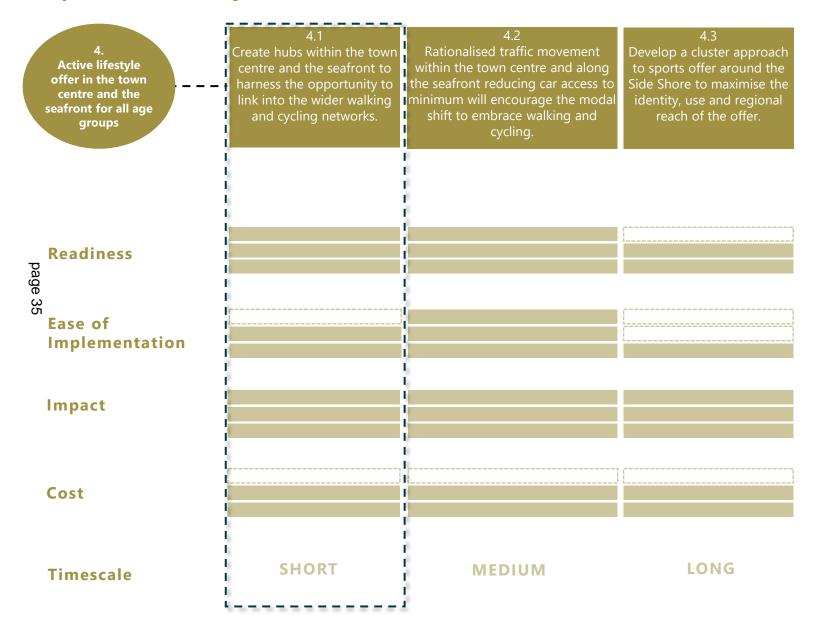
02 | Connected and Continuous Public Realm to Strengthen the Relationship Between the Town Centre and the Seafront



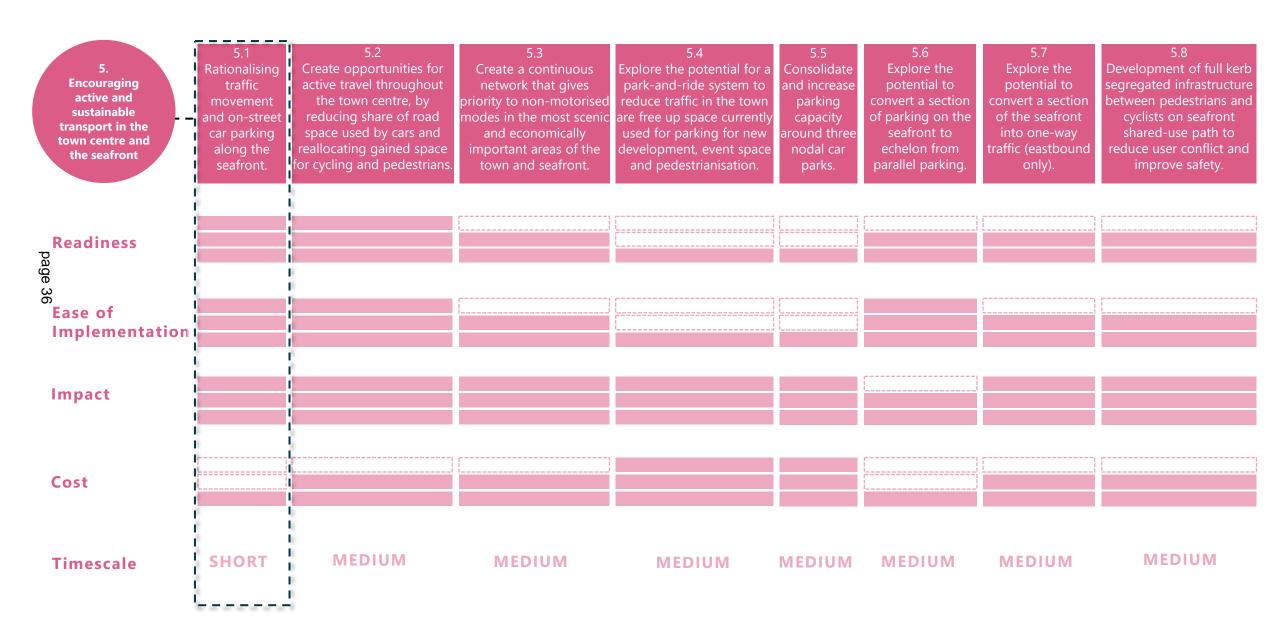
03 | Activation and Meanwhile Activities and Events to Create a Year-round Interest.



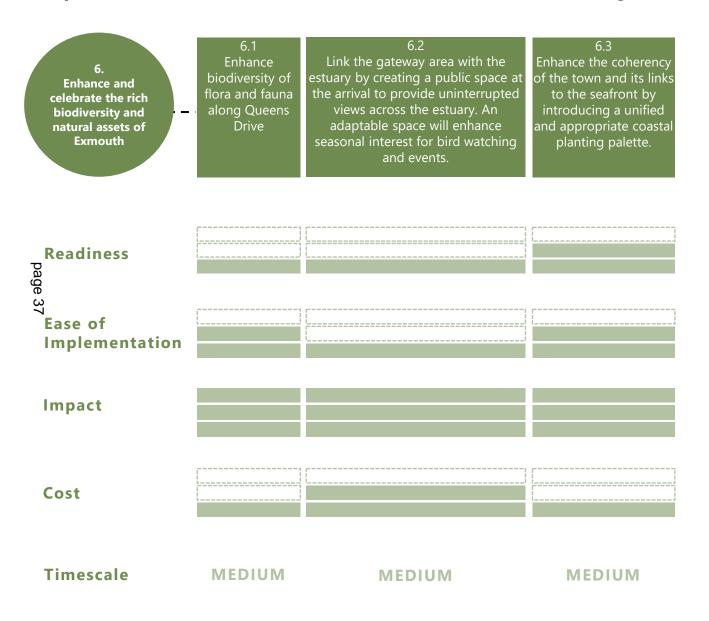
04 | Active Lifestyle Offer in the Town Centre and the Seafront for All Age Groups



05 | Encouraging Active and Sustainable Transport in the Town Centre and the Seafront



06 | Enhance and Celebrate the Rich Biodiversity and Natural Assets of Exmouth







Approach to Strategic Outline Business Case (SOBC) and Investment & Funding Strategy

Purpose of the SOBC is to articulate the strategic narrative for:

- The need for <u>short-term interventions</u> in the Exmouth Placemaking Plan
- Why Government and other funding support is needed
- Proposals for what EDDC can invest in to
 address challenges and barriers in
 Exmouth.

Purpose of the Investment & Funding Strategy Note is to:

- Understand the existing funding sources applicable to the EPP programme of interventions;
- Explore alignment of EPP interventions with existing and potential funding sources.



SOBC Approach adopts HM Treasury Five Case Model:

- **1. Strategic Case:** rationale for the EPP and alignment with local and central government priorities.
- **2. Economic Case:** appraisal of impacts of ST interventions to determine costs, benefits and value for money.
- **3. Financial Case:** appraisal of ST intervention costs, funding availability and affordability.
- **4. Commercial Case:** outlining potential commercial arrangements and procurement strategy.
- **5. Management Case:** outlining processes and controls to manage the implementation, and track and realise future benefits.

Strategic Outline Business Case: Strategic Case (1)



- Focus on short-term interventions to be implemented within the next 3 years.
- next 3 years.

 Strong alignment with EDDC and DCC Plans, as well as UKHMG's Levelling-Up and Regeneration Bill 2023.

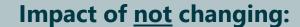
		Distri	ct Council
EPP ST interventions	EDDC Plan 21-23	EDDC Local Plan 20-40	DCC Plan 21-25
1. Signage strategy	0	0	0
2. Information boards around the nature reserve and other heritage assets	00	0	0
3. Town hubs linking to cycling and walking routes	00	000	00
4. Pilot study to promote public art	00	0	00
5. Shopfront design strategy	0	0	00
6. Pilot for rationalising traffic movement and on- street parking along seafront	00	00	00
7. Strengthen experience at Queen's Drive	0	0	00
8. Transform Beach Gardens Car Park into public space	000	00	000
9. Transform Pier Head Car Park into public space	000	00	000
10. Comprehensive public realm design strategy	000	000	000
11. Creating opportunities for arts and culture	0	0	00
12. Redesigning public realm at Tower Street Church	0	00	00
13. Study on business occupancy	0	0	00

Strategic Outline Business Case: Strategic Case (2)



The <u>need</u> for change in Exmouth:

1. Lack of economic dynamism, employment opportunities and challenging demographic profile.



1. Lack of economic opportunities, persistent unemployment, low valueadd to the UK economy.

2. Motor vehicle dominated streets and public realm.

page 41

2. Continued disjointed public realm and walking and cycling infrastructure, more traffic congestion and poorer air quality.

3. Lack of development opportunities, investment and innovation opportunities.

3. Persistent lack of investment and prospects for innovation, inhibiting environment for small-scale as well as larger interventions.

Strategic Outline Business Case: Strategic Case (2)



Key drivers for change in Exmouth:

Macro factors:

- 1. Cost of living crisis
- 2. Potential recession/low growth,
 - Changing consumer spend and working patterns,
- 4. The Climate Emergency (net-zero goals and targets),
- 5. Community preferences for open spaces, recreation opportunities and collective experiences.

Exmouth-specific factors:

- 1. The need to unlock the power of place;
- 2. To find 'the right mix' of land and activity uses;
- 3. To create meanwhile opportunities that suit changing social and economic dynamics; and
- 4. To ensure Exmouth's future climate resilience.

Strategic Outline Business Case: Economic Case (1)



Options	Short-term interventions within the option	
Option 1: Do Nothing	- No intervention -	
Option 2: Do Minimum – Improving Wayfinding around Exmouth	 Signage strategy Provide information boards Create town centre hubs 	
Option 3: Do Moderate – Improving quality of place using existing assets	 Promote public art to complement the heritage buildings Commission a shop-front design strategy Rationalising traffic movement Strengthen the experience at Queens Drive Space as a family hub PLUS Option 2 - 	
Option 4: Do Maximum – Creating new spaces and destinations through transformative projects	 Transform Beach Gardens Car Park into a public space Unlock the Pier Head Car Park to create a new public space Commission a comprehensive public realm design strategy Create opportunities for arts and culture by repurposing the existing assets Redesigning public realm at Tower Street Church Study on business occupancy 	
	- PLUS Options 2 and 3 -	

Strategic Outline Business Case: Economic Case (2)

Options alignment with EPP Themes and Critical Success Factors

-	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4
Description	Do nothing	Do Minimum	Do Moderate	Do Maximum
EPP Key Themes				
Strengthening the local economy				
Opportunities for development				
toclusive and prosperous				
\$ustainable built environment				
Critical Success Factors				
Strategic fit and meets local needs				
Potential value for money				
Achievability				
Capacity and capability				
Affordability and cost				
Summary	Not viable	Weakly viable	Viable	Preferred option

Preferred Option – Do Maximum

- Thinking strategically about Exmouth's public realm
- Improves wayfinding and signage
- Maximises the use of Exmouth's car parks
- Rationalises traffic movements and prioritises pedestrians and cyclists
- <u>Strategic fit:</u> Strong alignment with District and County Council plans.
- <u>Value for money:</u> Complementarity between options potentially improves the coherence of the town centre and linkages to the seafront.
- Affordability/ cost and Achievability: Potential funding via combination of existing EDDC capital budgets, central government funding, other grants, and local private investors.
- <u>Capacity/ capability:</u> Deliverable in 3-year timeframe provided strong stakeholder expertise and buy-in.

Strategic Outline Business Case: Economic Case (3) Summary of Cost-Benefit Appraisal

East Devon District Council



Monetizable benefits

Across 4 of 13 interventions, activating Exmouth's public space and transforming existing assets such as car parks into new areas of active public realm could potentially create:



14-35 net direct jobs, 4-11 indirect and induced jobs (mostly within retail and visitor economy sectors;



Between £257,000 and £640,000 per annum of gross-value added associated with employment creation;



Amenity benefits of £119,258 per ha per annum;



Public health benefits associated with the provision of new cycle infrastructure, including secure cycle parking and a cycle hub.

Non-monetizable benefits across the whole programme of interventions include:

- Attractiveness of seafront and Town increases footfall, visitor spend and increased job opportunities;
- A better place image for Exmouth and potentially greater investment from businesses;
- Labour market and skills generating new jobs for local people;
- Improved accessibility of the town centre and seafront through improved wayfinding and signage;
- Improved connectivity between walking and cycling transport routes;
- Public art enhancing public spaces and contributing to local distinctiveness and sense of place;
- Physical and mental wellbeing benefits from the creation of new public spaces and open space;
- Improved social cohesion and wider community benefits.

Strategic Outline Business Case: Financial Case

- Cost estimates based on desktop research, estimates from similar interventions elsewhere in the UK, and engagement with East Devon Council on EDDC employee and running costs.
- Base cost for Do Maximum option: £5.97 million over 2024-2026, with 73% of costs incurred in 2024.
- East Devon Council as the primary funding source via the Council's own capital funding, East Devon Council's Place and Prosperity Fund, UK Levelling Up Fund, and various East Devon programmes under the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.
- Other potential funding sources include:
 - Financial support from Devon County Council
 - Private sector funding, e.g. private investors with interests/operations in Exmouth
 - Grants from the National Lottery and Heritage Funds.

Base Costs for Option 4: Do Maximum	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Capital Costs	£4,119,000	£1,350,000	£0	£5,469,000
Revenue Costs	£167,800	£167,800	£167,800	£503,400
Total	£4,286,800	£1,517,800	£167,800	£5,972,400

Strategic Outline Business Case: Commercial Case

Preferred delivery route: Public ownership model

- Greatest role for EDDC and ability own the implementation process.
- Involves local authorities fully funding capital and operating expenditure, as well as external fees e.g. contractors and consulting services.
- Public realm infrastructure owned by EDDC, with back-office activities also implemented by EDDC or third party.
- Ability to ensure equity of access to the public realm and can incorporate wider social and environmental goals

Considerations:

- Risk mitigation and management of the delivery process
- Reaching agreements on assets not owned by EDDC, or jointly owned by EDDC and DCC

Preferred procurement route:

• Preferred model to be confirmed at next stage of the business case once delivery model also confirmed.

 Preferred route needs to align with key themes and processes in the EDDC Procurement Strategy 2022-2027.

Strategic
Procurement
Themes

DEVON
PROCUREMENT
SERVICES

Value for Money
and Benefits
Realisation

 Procurement route needs to align to EDDC Contract Standing Orders/Rules to promote good procurement practice, public accountability, commercial enterprise and deter corruption.

Strategic Outline Business Case: Management Case





Project management and governance

- EDDC to promote, administer and manage short-term interventions
- Place & Prosperity Team to lead delivery and collaborate with other EDDC teams to realise project outputs and objectives
- Designated PM within the Place & Prosperity Team.

Pgoject dependencies

- ទី Timely and sufficient funding for interventions
- Appropriate agreements reached where EDDC does not own assets
- Successful selection of consultants
- EDDC staff time for project coordination.

Risk management

- Follow EDDC risk management protocol and systems
- Process: Risk identification, assessment, management and reporting
- Establish a risk register

Role	Responsibilities
Senior Responsible Owner	Owner and PM, who is responsible for overall delivery of the programme of interventions within the EPP.
Steering Group	Council Programme and Exmouth Placemaking Plan oversight
Working Group	Detailed oversight at intervention level
Other teams within EDDC	Support for delivering interventions.

Remaining tasks	Timescales	Delivered by
Strategic outline business case submission and approval	Q1 2024	EDDC
Outline business case and full business case submission and approval	Q2 2024	EDDC
Implementation of ST interventions	2024-2026	EDDC and suppliers

Investment & Funding Strategy Note (1)

Funding type	Funding source	Funding amount and duration	
	East Devon County Council – Capital funding	Various	
Local authorities	Place and Prosperity Fund (East Devon County Council)	£20mn total, max. £5mn per project	
	Devon County Council	Various	
	One Public Estate (Devon County Council)	£75,000-£150,000; various durations	
	Levelling Up Fund	£15.7mn	
Central government	UK Shared Prosperity Fund	£1.8mn; 3 years (2022-2025)	
	Community Ownership Fund	£150 million over 4 years; Fund closes in March 2025	
	Awards for All England	£300-£20,000; up to 2 years	
National Lottery Community Fund	Reaching Communities England	£20,001 +, up to 5 years	
	Partnerships	£20,001 +; up to 5 years	
Heritage Fund	Grants for Heritage	£3,000-10,000; up to 1 year	
Arts Council England	Cultural Investment Fund	£30.2 million total for 2022/3; grant range of £2-5 million (next round expected in Spring 2024); typically up to 3 years	
Private funding	Various	Up to £400,000, various durations	

Investment & Funding Strategy Note (2)

Key points for short-term interventions

- EDDC and DCC could provide funding within the next 3 years;
- UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) nextmost potential funding source
 - Shopfront strategy, Queen's Drive and Beach Gardens Car Park aligned with UKSPF Cultural Programme EDDC keen to promote cultural/leisure offers.
- Smaller interventions could be suitable for National Lottery funding.

Key points for medium-term interventions

- **EDDC could provide funding** within the next 6 years.
- Place & Prosperity Fund could fund interventions that:
 - redefine the purpose and role of the town centre,
 - · create open spaces within the town centre, and
 - Improve the coherency of the town centre and its links to the seafront.
- Several interventions could be aligned with DCC funding including:
 - rationalising traffic movement within Exmouth
 - a potential park-and-ride system, and
 - consolidating existing car parking space.
- UK SPF Leisure and Towns Feasibility Programmes, and Active Travel Fund all relevant funding sources.

page 50

Investment & Funding Strategy Note (3)

Key points for long-term interventions

- Principal funding sources would need to be EDDC and Devon County Council.
- **UK SPF Leisure Programme** relevant to:
 - Repurposing Pavilion Site for improved sports facility;
 - Reorganising activities to create a public space at the station area; and
 - Developing a cluster approach to sports offer around the Side Shore.
- Opportunities for interested private investors to explore investment into reimagining Foxholes Car Park into an arts and culture hub.
- Potential for developer contributions such as through Section 106 contributions and Community Infrastructure Levies.

Conclusions and Next Steps

- Public funding alone may not be sufficient, potential for interventions to be funded through public, private and charitable sources.
- Swift action is needed to explore securing funding.
- National Lottery funding is a complementary option to other funding sources.
- EDDC can consider a future role as an enabler and facilitator for leveraging private finance into Exmouth.





Refinement of the Placemaking Plan
Delivery
Framework

Finalise the
Strategic Outline
Business Case of
the selected shortterm actions agreed
by the client team

Finalise the Investment and Funding Strategy

Prepare Development brief and HRA Guidance

> Final Placemaking Plan



