



Portland Neighbourhood Plan High Level Aims
Discussion Review Report Oct 2014
Consultation Document

Purpose :

This document forms the basis for the next stage of consultation whereby the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group seek to share information received from surveys conducted and any updates in order to inform the next stages of the plan process. The next stage to be undertaken is where the scope, policies and strategies are drawn together to form a draft plan which will be subject to further agreement and consultation.

A survey form containing the vision statement and strategic objectives will be circulated for consultation. The form will refer to this document and the evidence base document which will be held on the website.

This phase of the consultation will end on the 31st December 2014

Vision for Portland (Derived from Local Plan)

In 2031 Portland: - Has maintained and enhanced the unique outdoor character of the island in terms of its built and natural assets, whilst thriving economically and socially for the benefit of residents and visitors. - Is the home of specialist maritime industries and other growth sectors that benefit from its unique location, providing it with a good supply of well-paid jobs that benefit the local community and wider area. Portland Port would have expanded its role as a port of national and international importance and a location for job creation. - Has a broad visitor offer including an evolving arts and culture provision that contributes to the public realm and attractiveness of the Island along with outdoor activities, international water sports and cruise ships that attract new overseas visitors. The themes will be developed to include significant destination attractions which will compliment the intrinsic sustainable visitor offer including water sports, climbing, walking and bird watching, - Has reduced the levels of multiple deprivation and has good education and skills base covering both academic and vocational opportunities. Has a balanced housing provision in terms of quality and lifetime need. Has a transportation network which promotes growth and a healthy lifestyle. Has planned for the impact of climate change.[DRAFT]

Key words

Unique location and character
 Good supply of well paid jobs that benefit the community and wider area
 Growth sectors that benefit from location
 Broad visitor offer based on sustainable tourism.
 Balanced housing levels to meet the demands for the elderly and local affordable (social) housing
 Appropriate levels of managed access
 Developing Arts and Culture

Community Survey General Responses (June to Sep 2014)

Portland must strive to grow internally to become a self supporting (sustainable) community Agree 77% Disagree 16%

How satisfied are you with your life on Portland ? Very 38%, Fairly 33%, Content 24%, Fairly dissatisfied 4%, Very dissatisfied 1%

Employed FT 33%, PT 13%, Self Employed 13%, Retired 30%, Unemployed 5%, Other 7%

Work From home 17%, On Portland 33%, Weymouth TC 5%, Weymouth Area 26%, Dorchester 6%, Dorset 7%, Other 6%

Manager 16%, Professional 40%, Technical 5%, Admin 11%, Skills 8%, Caring 13%, Sales /Customer Servi 4%, Plant 2%,Quarry 1%

Under 16	> 1 %	16-25	1 %	25-44	21 %	45-64	52 %	65-79	23 %	80+	2%
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Business Survey Profile (June to Sep 2014) Hotel and Accommodation 7, Marine Engineering 3, General Engineering 2, Café/BB 2, Retail 5, Fishing 2, Port 1, Hair and Beauty, Estate Agency, Legal, Elderly Care, Internet Design, Community Group, Sailing/Leisure, Art and Craft, Stone, Manufacturing all 1

How Old New Business (0-2 years) 16%, 3-5 years 28%, 6-10 years 16%, 10+ years 41%

Neighbourhood Plan Policies

	Yes	No	D/K
Should existing and employment locations and buildings be protected from change of use	53%	33%	13%
Should we be allocating more land for employment and business purposes	58%	23%	19%
Should we be converting existing redundant buildings into employment and business use ?	97%		3%
Should we be seeking to attract and accommodate higher value business such as advanced Manufacturing, digital business and renewable energy ?	84%	3%	13%
Should we be improving the transport network across the Island ?	63%	30%	7%

From a consideration of the survey returns to date which highlight some conflicting opinions or a lack of information the following further research is proposed :-

Housing Way Forward

A more detailed analysis of the housing supply available and its suitability to meet the needs of an ageing population including care provision and as well local social and affordable housing.

Economic Way Forward

An independent assessment of the business and growth potential of the main areas identified in the Neighbourhood Plan Evidence Base and the strong preferences for Economic Development direction including training, education and job skills for the young.

Young Persons Views

An analysis of the Young Persons survey (to be closed end November 2014)

2011 Census Data

A review of the latest releases of census data

Open Questions

A more detailed tagging and analysis of open question responses

More Details

- Refine the details and comments about the desire of protecting old buildings and heritage
- Test comments about Leisure facilities against user experiences
- The scope and content of the consultation on the Quarry Nature Park
- Review of Conservation Area Appraisal Report
- Ascertain best method of achieving an updated traffic flow impact assessment

Natural and Built Environment

Challenges abound here; there are few places in the United Kingdom where the natural environment is so closely linked to the built heritage as on Portland. There are constraints which impact fundamentally on the Island's potential future; so, how should Portland's development be directed?

Should we recognise that not all the Island's environment is as good as it could be? Some developments have potentially detracted from the local character. Could we improve this position? 'Central Government recognises the value of the natural and built environment and has established a series of initiatives to support the future of these. Recognition of a green Infrastructure network, the Portland Quarry Nature Park and the Island's conservation areas are examples.

With traditional quarrying, fishing in decline and engineering industry looking to its future how can this legacy best be managed? How important is our environment in developing industries such as tourism?

What of the future regarding climate change and coastal erosion, what constraints must we recognise here? With regard to our location, can we take advantage of sustainable solutions regarding energy and our use of it?

In short can the Island achieve a sustainable solution to its future, balancing all of these issues? Can the Neighbourhood Plan be part of a future sustainability?

Key Words

Close links between natural and built environment
Development constraints
Not all environment is as good as it could be ?
Quarrying and maritime legacy
Impact of climate change and coastal erosion
Sustainable energy for a sustainable future

Missing Information

A detailed review of Conservation area appraisals
Portland Quarry Nature Park Consultation

Key Questions and Messages for the Neighbourhood Plan

To what extent must any new development proposal be constrained by the special character of the local landscape and ecology?

Can we balance protecting the natural environment with providing opportunities for the enhancement and access to world and national class active leisure and economic development

We must consider the relative benefits and dis-benefits of mining against open cast extraction

Is there a narrow window of opportunity in which worked out quarries can be considered for development?

Can MEMO, JURASSICCA, MINACK all develop, survive, prosper and bring net benefits to Portland?

The historic environment should be protected, enhanced and marketed as an asset for residents and tourism

The expansion of Portland Quarry Park into the already restricted economic centre of the Isle should be carefully considered

We need an illuminated spinal and spurred cycleway through the Isle to facilitate children cycling to school as well as for tourism and leisure.

With a recent growth in horseriding and off road biking do we need more bridleways, or alternative ways of managing these developments

There is an increasing risk of flood and storms causing cliff/coastal path erosion

The 2013/14 winter floods have highlighted the need to plan for climate change

How can the neighbourhood plan contribute to the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change and the transition to a low carbon economy

Gaps in our Knowledge

General reactions to the proposals to expand a Quarry Nature Park

Portland Port intentions towards environmental areas and heritage assets within their land area

The longer term intentions of a number of landowners

The Local Nature Partnership's reaction to the Local Enterprise Partnership's strategies and policies, as they relate to Portland

The true position on negotiations linked to agreeing a new Mineral Core Strategy

Natural and Built Environment

What additional information has been received ?

- Local Plan Development Boundaries
- Permitted Developments policy changes
- Local Nature Partnership—Report . The State of Dorset’s Environment
- Strategic Housing Land Assessment—Land unsuitable for development.
- Mineral Liaison Meeting—Stone Firms trialling mining at Perryfield
- Areas which are mined are considered unsuitable for development
- Possible extension of mining extraction now both companies potentially mining
- Continued sensitivity of Southern Coastal Strip
- Proposals for Solar Power Farm and exploration of the potential for tidal power
- Conservation area appraisals have produced some relevant recommendations in particular restoration of quarrying areas
- Employment potential for Navitus Bay Wind Turbine project
- No 4 priority from the recent Ask Dorset survey was ‘ Dorset ‘s exceptional natural and historic environment

What are the community telling us ?

Open areas should be protected and kept free from development— 92% agree

We need to improve our parks and open spaces— 85% agree

We must protect our old buildings and heritage—95% agree

Wind solar and wave farm developments are needed and acceptable—73% agree

Ratings	Tophill	Underhill
Parks and Play Areas	G/A	A/P
Environment Generally	G/A	A/P
Improvements	Easton	Fortuneswell
More Green Spaces	34%	56%
Regular outdoor events	56%	39%

Areas of Further Investigation ?

Refine the details and comments about the desire of protecting old buildings and heritage

What are business telling us ?

See front sheet

Environment is an asset that needs to be marketed correctly in an joined up manner

Housing & People

“Home is not a building, home is a feeling,” an old adage certainly, but is it really true?

May we easily choose where we live or does the market dictate much? Certainly we may have links to Portland through family or work, but affordability and supply of the accommodation we seek affects us too. Should we encourage a more flexible outlook in our young people? Is it unreasonable to consider off Island solutions for accommodation of our elderly?

Understanding the economic and demographic issues within our communities is necessary for those who provide public services and infrastructure or for anyone proposing further development. To attain a sustainable future must we understand these issues well enough to have an informed opinion.

How does the heritage of our built environment affect our homes? With much of our housing lying in conservation areas, will we find upkeep of our homes or energy needs too costly in the future? Perhaps there is more potential value in conservation than we first realise or perhaps are we finding limitations that we could address?

Will competing demands for employment land and land dedicated towards protecting our natural environment draw a line under the level of housing that can be achieved? At what point does the Island become full?

Finally with statistics predicting changes of who will live here and the relative age ratios; will there be more demand on a finite housing stock? Will this affect Portland more strongly than other areas of Dorset? What if any, are the alternatives to accepting the pressure of market forces?

Key Words

Market forces or cap levels or other alternatives

More demand on a finite housing stock

Off Island solutions

Information to achieve informed decisions

Key Questions and Messages for the Neighbourhood Plan

Should we be encouraging or discouraging inward and/or outward migration?

The need for more affordable housing is evident and growing

What does affordability mean to Portlanders?

There are too many empty and poor quality houses on Portland e.g. system built housing

There is a shortage of available housing sites

More smaller housing units suitable for elderly households will be needed as well as sheltered accommodation and the provision for care.

Should retail and community space be lost through housing conversion?

Can the number of second homes be set within the context of providing a sustainable community?

Will more executive housing help the market as the Chamber of Commerce suggests?

To what extent can Portland’s housing issues be solved off the Island?

With the Local Plan determining a level of future housing provision required the window of opportunity that the Neighbourhood Plan has to influence the nature of housing provision on the Island.

Gaps in our Knowledge

The views and intentions of housing associations

The implications of conservation areas appraisals for the Underhill, Easton, Weston and the Grove

How developers view Portland’s housing market

What is the local housing need?

Why is Portland’s affordable percentage on new build at 25% when Weymouth’s is at 35% when we have the lowest wages in the area?

Social housing policies towards relocating people onto the Island and the allocation of housing to Portland residents

The impact of the partnership / ownership structure between Portland Stone Firms and Betterment Homes

What developers say about affordability and viability in the context of Portland .

The plans of sheltered accommodation providers and organisations providing care

Housing and People

What additional information has been received

Strategic Land Holding Review—Summary for Portland

Appendix	Table	Area	Units indicated		
A	A.3	Planning Permissions with consent at 1 April 2014	601		
B	B.1	Local Plan Allocations (without permission)	30		
C	C.2	Sites with Development Potential (within defined development boundaries)	1-5 yrs	6-10yrs	11-15 yrs
		Tophill East	88	3	23
		Tophill West	12	24	0
		Underhill	40	55	0
		Totals	140	82	23
D		Minor Sites with Development Potential	No specific references		
E		Rural Affordable Sites	30		
F		Maps of sites with development potential			
G		Rural Conversions	None		
H		Estimated Yield from Neighbourhood Plan	30		
I	Pages 26-30	Sites assessed as having no development potential	Site listing with rationales		

Oct 2014 Assessment of Report on Child Poverty Levels and Impact of Housing Costs in WPBC Wards

Dec 2014—Changes in Eligibility to Join the Housing Register

What is the community telling us ?

Agree Disagree

More houses appropriate for Islands current and future needs	28%	64%
We need more suitable and affordable housing for older residents	61%	20%
We need more affordable housing for local people	67%	23%
We need to convert shops into homes	22%	60%
There is a concern about the number of second homes	63%	11%
There are too many empty homes (no view 25%)	57%	18%
There are too many poor quality homes (no view 27%)	51%	22%

Current Housing Needs - are met 84% somewhere larger 9% somewhere smaller 6%

Profile	Current	Forseeable future
House 3 Bedroom	49%	33%
Bungalow 2 Bedroom	4%	17%
Bungalow 3 Bedroom	3%	8%

12% reported a need for own accommodation with 66% of these wanting to stay local

Type Social Housing 28%, Private Rental 30%, Shared Owners 24%, Supported Elderly Care 13%, Supported Other 4%

Areas of further investigation

A more detailed analysis of the housing supply available of the island its suitability to meet demographic changes. The number of empty homes and an assessment of the number of second homes to maintain a sustainable community

What are business telling us ?

Chamber view—larger homes to attract professionals

Business and Employment

Natural resources have historically funded Portland's economy but continue to change and diminish from their position in leading employment.

New industries should in time step in, but what is the best path to take in this transition?

Business and Employment provide the foundations for a community. On Portland the competing demands of nature and employment are particularly evident with considerable protection afforded to the natural environment. The consequence of this protection is limited availability of land for commercial activity and a measured management of the natural resource.

A successful Neighbourhood Plan should consider these competing demands within the context of the developing market.

Many factors will make demands on the local employment situation; changes in population, current and planned; possible changes to the business models proposed centrally; travel to work patterns and the potential for future industries and tourism themes.

With the limited land use changes that are possible on the Island, any decisions on its prioritisation for business and employment will be a key factor in the Island's culture and future prosperity.

Key Words

Transition from traditional industries – what path

Competing demands of nature and employment

Business and Employment provides the foundations for a community

Limited availability of land how should we prioritise ?

Gaps in our Knowledge

What are the economic strategy and development plans in adjoining areas and their implications?

What are the views and aspirations of local businesses?

What are the training needs?

Is there a hidden or localised under-employment problem?

How many jobs has Sailing Academy brought?

How does Portland Port intend to integrate their development plans into the needs of the local community?

To what extent the LEP attribute importance to this area as part of their overall strategy

Key Questions and Messages for the Neighbourhood Plan

To what kind of local economy should we aspire and how can it be made more sustainable?

Should Portland be viewed and treated as part of a wider employment market centred on Weymouth and Dorchester?

How can we help ensure that there is a continued supply of local jobs that will meet local employment needs and help increase prosperity?

What are the key growth sectors – in Portland terms?

Can we achieve an effective mix of economic development opportunities?

How can we ensure we have the right mix of land and buildings available to facilitate growth?

To what extent do we need to meet the aspirations of young people?

Is tourism development the answer?

How can we best make economic and environmental use of our quarrying legacy and the worked out quarries of the future?

To what extent does the low carbon sector, linked to wind, tidal and micro-power generation offer an avenue for sustainable economic growth?

How can we harness the area's tourism potential to increase its contribution to sustainable economic growth?

What can we do to increase wage levels?

Potential of the high-speed broadband to stimulate new forms of local economic growth

Become more involved with the LEP and LNP to both influence their policies and provide knowledge of the economic strategy and development plans in adjoining areas

The relevance of an Economic Strategy for Portland to accompany the Neighbourhood Plan

Business and Employment

What additional information has been received

- LEP Strategic Priority list has been slimmed down and an Increased Dorset presence on LEP Board
- LNP report stresses that natural environment should not be viewed as a constraint but the basis upon which growth and development can be sustained.
- Jurassica has received £300k from LEP for feasibility study and Memo is attracting international attention
- Port is continuing to expand cruise ship offer .More passengers visited the local areas this year
- Port has announced tender for maintenance of Breakwaters. A coastal flood protection review has been announced.
- Condor is withdrawing to Poole but still assessing future developments in Weymouth and Portland and how these may fit with their business plans
- The Crown Estate have announced plans to look at the potential for tidal power and proposals for solar farm in Independent
- WPBC have produced an employability strategy

What are the community telling us ?

	Agree	Disagree
More retail developments are acceptable	74%	20%
We need to encourage more national companies to come to the Island	60%	29%
We need to recognise a single Town Centre	33%	55%
We need to recognise individual areas and develop these	81%	9%
We need to recognise tourism and visitors as important part of the economy	91%	6%
Wind ,solar and wave farm developments are necessary and acceptable	73%	17%

Use of areas	Easton	Fortuneswell
Daily	21%	6%
Regularly but not everyday	47%	14%
Weekly	19%	7%
Monthly	6%	9%
Less than once a month	6%	29%
Never	1%	35%

Weston shops were the most frequently used other shopping area
With a significant percentage reporting no other areas used.

Improvement	Easton	Fortuneswell
Wider Variety of Shops	66%	87%
More Cafes/Restaurants	24%	39%
Longer Opening Hours	21%	13%
More pedestrian friendly	21%	54%
Public Art Installations	22%	20%
More Off Street Parking	55%	64%
More Green and Planted Areas	34%	56%
Regular Outdoor Events/Activities	56%	39%

Improvement	Easton	Fortuneswell
More Evening Activities	42%	35%
Information Boards and Signs	33%	31%
More Commercial Offices	6%	8%
Additional Meeting Spaces	10%	16%
Additional Community Rooms	10%	16%
More Seating Areas	31%	36%
Free Wi Fi Zone	43%	35%
More visible Policing	46%	45%

What types of employment should we be looking to attract to the Island ? Natural Environment 5%, Port Developments 5%, Retail Improvement/Crafts 10%, Skilled Technical 13%, Tourism 24%, More for young people 12%, Not specific 8%

What are business telling us ?

Barriers to Business Road Access 18% , Lack of Space Premises 8%, Communications 4%, Skills Issues 4%, Small Catchment 4%, Lower Business Rates 3%, Tourism Services 3%, Parking 3% - Total responses 65

Benefits of Location— Beauty,Environment,Safe,USP Location 71%, Local Support ,Resources 30%, Water Access and Port Location 14% - 29 Responses

How Portland to be marketed— Collectively, Up and coming , Strong basis to build on,Alternative Offer.Own PR and marketing— 25 Responses

Which would most benefit ? More Tourists 65%,Road Network 48%, Local Branding 45%, More Parking 45%, Buy Local 41%, Broaband Improvements 35%, Business Directory 32%, Business Club 22%, Hospitality Venues 13%, Better Bus 13%

Roads & Transport

Is the current road network a constraint on development? The effectiveness of the Island's road network creates strong debate.

We have an excellent public transport system; however we rely on cars because of our location, this creates a level of journeys on the access route to Portland comparable to other highly used A roads across Dorset. The recent winter storms have again highlighted the vulnerability of the Beach Rd.

Can we establish a managed approach to our footpaths and create bridleways and cycle ways? Can we reduce car usage? Do we need to create an effective park and ride system? Are there car parking issues that we need to address? Do we need to consider further changes to speed limits?

Has the removal of the Western Relief Rd (Wyke/Lanehouse by pass) and the Underhill By-pass plans restricted future viability commercial sites on Portland?

Would a new West Country rail/rapid transport solution help to underpin a number of projects on the Island, in particular the 'Destination Portland' concept which includes continued development of the Port. Is this a realistic option?

With so many questions here, at what point should a transport review be triggered? Should the Neighbourhood Plan be a prompt for such a review?

Key Words

Is the current road network a constraint ? How vulnerable is this to climate change.

Excellent public transport but reliance on the car

Issues of car parking .

At what point should a transport review be triggered

Key Questions and Messages for the Neighbourhood Plan

Can we reduce regular car usage by local people?

How can we manage and improve the footpath and road networks in the light of public sector budget cuts?

What role is there for park and ride?

Have we got sufficient car parks?

How can we encourage non-car travel?

Can we develop a safe cycle route network on the Island?

Gaps in our Knowledge

Current condition of footpath network and any agreed improvements

Accuracy of traffic flow information with anomalies in different sets of data

Traffic-modelling against potential developments

Up-to-date travel to work distance patterns

Viability of road network options

Any car parking strategies coming from review

Roads and Transport

What additional information has been received

An element of the funding allocated for the Jurassica feasibility study may have to cover sustainable access solutions.

A planning application for the Ferrybridge Inn area may be submitted shortly and similarly a consultation on the use of the tented camp at Mandeville Rd . Both of these could be on the route of the Western Relief Rd.

Condor / Port have cited poor access as a reason for not relocating their operations to Portland.

DCC are undertaking an archaeological study to inform conversion of parts of the Merchants Railway to a bridleway.

Representation has been made to First about increasing the period and frequency of the 501 service. This could be supported by additional housing and businesses in the Wakeham area coupled with increase in visitor numbers as well as a potential home to school issue for those attending IPACA campus in Southwell in Sep 2015.

Representation has been made under the Local Plan Inspection about consideration of sustainable access requirements to support the Portland Vision.

Natural England have requested that potentially additional housing identified in the Local Plan review will not require road access across protected land.

Dorset LEP have asked for a review of the absence of transport corridor routes in the Local Plan

Dorset LNP Vision includes a statement that the environment should be not viewed as a constraint but rather as the basis upon which growth and development can be sustained and therefore requires consistently both protection and enhancement to deliver such benefits.

It is reported that £30k of the funding allocated to Jurassica will finance a transport study

Number 1 priority following the recent Ask Dorset consultation was that Roads and Highways to be kept in good condition

What are the community telling us ?

Work from home	17%
Workplace on Portland	33%
Weymouth Town Centre	5%
Weymouth Area	26%
Dorchester	6%
Within West Dorset	3%
Elsewhere in Dorset	4%
Neighbouring Counties	3%
National	3%

I work from home and wish to continue to do so	13%
I work off the Island but would prefer to work on Portland if the right job was available	25%
I already work locally and wish to continue to do so	33%
I work locally but may have to commute to advance my career	3%
I don't work at present but I want to work locally	5%
I don't work at present and I am not seeking work	21%

	Agree	Disagree	No View
We need to further improve the scope and frequency of our bus services	50%	38%	12%
The motor vehicle should be less dominant on Portland	41%	42%	17%
We need to develop different transportation networks on Portland	66%	21%	13%
Underhill needs a relief road	66%	23%	11%
Portland must strive to grow internally to become a self supporting (sustainable) community	77%	16%	7%
Car Parking is an issue on the Island	80%	14%	6%
We need to encourage more business and commercial development	78%	15%	7%
We need additional off street parking facilities on Portland	80%	14%	6%
The footpath network on Portland is sufficient	58%	37%	5%
We should encourage more cycling by improving the cycle network	65%	22%	13%
We should identify more bridleways on the Island	49%	31%	20%

Roads and Transport

Rate local facilities

Parking Tophill A/P Underhill P/I Public Transport Tophill G Underhill G

Convenience Shopping Tophill G Underhill P

Improvements

Easton

Fortuneswell

More Off Street Parking

55%

64%

More pedestrian friendly

21%

54%

Travel to work

Method	Main Method	Regular Alternative	Occasional Alternative
Car	84%	7%	9%
Bus	33%	17%	49%
Train	16%	32%	52%
Motorcycle	44%	44%	11%
Bicycle	19%	22%	59%
Walk	46%	26%	29%

What are business telling us ?

Mixed messages about impact of road network

Proposals to provide a helicopter training resource if the Search and Rescue Helicopter is lost

Community & Social Facilities

Many of the day to day services a community requires are available on Portland; although the choice can at times be limited. It could be argued that being so close to Weymouth is both a benefit and a dis-benefit for service provision. No community has everything in one place but what is the right balance for ours?

While some existing services already have a degree of policy protection the economic climate may affect the reality on the ground. Factors beyond local control may diminish the current provision or they may simply be outpaced by a changing or an increasing population.

Education, a crucial part of any community is certainly changing rapidly on Portland. Does the plan need to respond to this in a pragmatic way? Could the new provision have knock on affects in other services, positive or negative? Will other advantage filter back to the community from the construction of a new campus?

With a high proportion of older people and life expectancy amongst the highest for the UK, the pressures on some services are ever increasing. Portland has proportionally less services in these areas than are the national average.

Other changes abound; for example central policy is allowing more freedom for community organisations. Is this a viable path for the provision of extra service within a community? Is this an opportunity for the island to find local solutions that suit its individual needs?

These changes need to be underpinned by listening to local communities and giving them an opportunity to develop their community networks and social facilities

Key Questions and Messages for the Neighbourhood Plan

Services

Portland is not self-sufficient in services

Local residents would like to see more services delivered locally and more choice

Education

IPACA is seeking additional spaces

More varied further and higher education opportunities on Portland would be welcomed

Young Families

Early intervention at a community level is important

Young People

Young people's services are under threat

Elderly Care and Wellbeing

The population is 'ageing'

Old people are staying active for longer

The care needs of the frail elderly are changing

More capacity in local health services is required

local authority investment will be limited and focussed

Crime & Safety

How can we plan so as to help reduce crime and safety issues

Gaps in our Knowledge

Services

The potential for community-led delivery and enterprise

The suitability of existing buildings and potential of other buildings and sites

Education

The development plans of the local education institutions

Young Families

Are facilities and services on Portland adequate for current and future needs?

Young People

How well existing facilities and opportunities serve the needs of local people?

What do young people think about exiting facilities and what more do they want?

Elderly Care and Wellbeing

What the service providers and carers think

Community & Social Facilities

What additional information has been received ?

The running of C2000 hall has been taken on by the church

Islanders Club and Brackenbury Centre sites are included in the SHLAAR review

Kimberlin Club is under new management

St Johns Hall is increasing being used

NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group have announced a review of Health Services in Dorset excluding Dentistry

Increased demand for facilities at the YMCA

No 2 priority from the Ask Dorset survey was 'helping older people to live for as long as possible'

What are the community telling us ?

Area	Tophill	Underhill	Area	Tophill	Underhill
Pre School Facilities	G/A NR53%	A N/R 56%	Indoor Sports	A/P N/R 22%	A N/R 21%
Schools	G/A NR41%	A N/R 48%	Care Services and Facilities	A N/R 39%	A/P N/R 43%
Training/Further Education	P NR34%	P/I N/R 37%	Community Safety	G/A	G/A
Youth Facilities	A/P NR27%	P N/R 32%	Social Facilities	G/A	A/P
Health Facilities	G/A	G/A	Library Services	G/A	P/I N/R 20%

	Agree	Disagree	No View
We need and equivalent mix of leisure facilities in Tophill and Underhill	79%	12%	9%
We need to improve facilities for children	76%	9%	15%
We need to improve facilities for teenagers	81%	7%	12%
We need to have more further education opportunities on the Island	69%	17%	14%
We need to improve our community halls and public venues	66%	18%	16%

Improvements to social areas

Additional Community Rooms Easton 10% Fortuneswell 16%

Additional Meeting Places Easton 10% Fortuneswell 16%

Missing Information

Users perception on the quality of leisure facilities

No overall database of community facilities

Capacity of services to deliver co-located solutions

Leisure & Recreation

The coastal environment of Portland is ideal for many sports and leisure activities despite the complex and sometimes competing aspirations for land or maritime areas.

Portland plays host to much recreational activity, yet it's communities are recorded as having amongst the lowest levels of participation within the Borough. Are the reasons for this based in our choices or in the amount of access we have to fixed facilities? Do we understand the opportunities right on our doorstep? Do we understand how to share in access to the Olympic legacy?

The current and future economic climate is certain to affect the local fixed facilities. With the Borough Council unlikely to invest in new buildings and citing its preference to move away from maintaining some existing offerings; will community organisations or the open market deliver our preferences?

What of the open spaces well suited to walking or possibly even cycling if it is provided for? A wider agenda exists in relation to this, namely that the leisure and recreation potential of Portland serves to attract visitors to the island. Could this form of tourism be a keynote of wider regeneration? Is the recreation potential inherent in our environment more important to us than we first think?

Key Questions and Messages for the Neighbourhood Plan

The Olympics and new leisure facilities has set a standard for future provision

Are the Olympics and new leisure facilities accessible to fully local people? Should they be?

The number of existing recreation venues is insufficient

The quality of several existing recreation venues is below what is acceptable

There is not enough higher quality sports venues

The loss of Officers Field has deprived the area of an important flat sports and recreation area

More varied and stimulating facilities for children and young people

More disabled- accessible venues for sport and recreation are needed There is potential to develop existing community buildings and sites for leisure and recreation

Sport and Recreation should be an important facet of local life and wellbeing

The Borough Council is not likely to invest in new facilities

Gaps in our Knowledge

The views and ambitions of local sports clubs

What is the demand for sport and recreation facilities and activities

Do local people want better local facilities or are they prepared to travel

The voluntary and community sector's interest in developing and managing facilities

Are existing parks and gardens under threat as a result of the public expenditure cuts?

The potential for the use of broadband to offer a community leisure resource .

Leisure & Recreation

What additional information has been received ?

The potential to include opportunities for Leisure and Recreation within a number of development projects proposed.

No further known progress on certain proposals e.g. Coombefield climbing wall

What are the community telling us ?

	Agree	Disagree	No View
We need and equivalent mix of leisure facilities in Tophill and Underhill	79%	12%	9%
We need to improve facilities for children	76%	9%	15%
We need to improve facilities for teenagers	81%	7%	12%
We need to have more further education opportunities on the Island	69%	17%	14%
We need to improve our community halls and public venues	66%	18%	16%

Area	Tophill	Underhill
Training/Further Education	P NR34%	P/I N/R 37%
Youth Facilities	A/P NR27%	P N/R 32%
Health Facilities	G/A	G/A
Indoor Sports	A/P N/R 22%	A N/R 21%
Social Facilities	G/A	A/P
Parks and Play Areas	G/A	A/P
Environment Generally	G/A	A/P

Improvements	Easton	Fortuneswell
More pedestrian friendly	21%	54%
Public Art Installations	22%	20%
More Green and Planted Areas	34%	56%
Regular Outdoor Events/Activities	56%	39%
More Evening Activities	42%	35%
Information Boards and Signs	33%	31%
Additional Meeting Spaces	10%	16%
More Seating Areas	31%	36%
Free Wi Fi Zone	43%	35%

Arts & Culture & Tourism

The Island has a strong cultural, historic and artistic appeal, with many avenues already explored but perhaps many more to be discovered.

Is the Islands arts and cultural infrastructure as well developed as that of its neighbours? What are the relevant differences? What is the unique cultural heritage of the Island and does it come across to those who visit? How much can be understood and how much requires interpretation?

Our 'Pride of Place' is rooted in the Island's history and heritage, due perhaps to its once strategic location. Is Portland still a well-known location nationally, or does its potential now lie as an alternative to the traditional Dorset experience. Is it the hidden gem rewarding the more adventurous?

This part of the Neighbourhood Plan intends to look at how we can make the best use of the Island's character, its powerful 'Pride of Place', to enrich the quality of life for residents and also to help visitors enjoy the 'Island Experience'. With a coherent strategy, Arts and Culture could be made to work for the Island; creating local employment in the strong growth areas of entertainment, tourism and hospitality.

How much will proposed significant visitor attractions enhance or detract? Can this be managed and developed in a way in which they compliment or augment the intrinsic opportunities

Key Questions and Messages for the Neighbourhood Plan

Creativity, culture and cultural heritage are essential to making a place unique, and help to define a place and form its character

Coast and country walking is a major tourist activity and attractor

Art and Culture could provide an economic development opportunity as part of the mix

There appears to be a growing community of creative people on Portland

Public venues often fall short on several levels

We have to be careful that its unique "weirdness" is not shattered by any large housing development or tourist attraction. Hitting the balance is going to be a challenge

On Portland there are not enough attractions and projects to get people off the 'perimeter road'

Portland has outstanding outdoor sporting attractions whose quality ranges from World Class to National Class.

The Portland Brand needs to be defined and marketed in consistent way

A quality visitor experience is what visitors are increasingly wanting - and they're willing to pay for it

Gaps in our Knowledge

The implications of the Local Nature Partnership's policy for Portland

Weymouth and Portland's Tourism Strategy, how it relates to Portland (and West Dorset)

A coherent Arts and Culture future strategy

Arts & Culture & Tourism

What additional information has been received ?

Proposals for a Weymouth and Portland Tourism Partnership

B Side and Spirit of Portland festivals were both successful but recognise improvements needed in areas of co-ordination and publicity.

A number of local online websites /facebook pages promoting the Island have been developed

Promotion material produced for Cruise Ship passengers to highlight 'hidden aspects' of the areas offer.

YMCA is recording increased demand for its accommodation space

Trinity House have announced details of their museum proposals for the Bill lighthouse and as well recognised space for a general visitor centre as well

What are the community telling us ?

Mixed messages about some aspects of public realm improvements

What are business telling us ?

Any economic strategy needs to look at the potential for this area

Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

Community Survey

E -Excellent, G -Good, A—Average, P—Poor, I—Inadequate, N— Not Relevant

General

LEP—Local Enterprise Partnership

LNP—Local Nature Partnership