

16. Weymouth Town Centre Masterplan

16.1. Background

- 16.1.1. Weymouth has the largest town centre in the Dorset Council area. It is the main shopping area in the south of Dorset, a significant tourist and recreation destination, and is a place where a range of businesses are based including those related to the harbour. It also has many listed buildings and an attractive seafront. In the adopted Local Plan, a strategy area was defined to support regeneration opportunities across several brownfield sites.
- 16.1.2. Following on from the adoption of the Local Plan, a Town Centre Masterplan was adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document in 2015. This provided more detailed policy guidance on the design, movement, and general distribution of development within the town centre, as well as focus on five key regeneration sites.
- 16.1.3. The 2015 masterplan was a ten-year plan. Circumstances have changed over the years with several unprecedented factors playing a part in shifting the needs of Weymouth Town Centre and preventing the delivery of key sites.
- 16.1.4. In the period since the 2015 masterplan was adopted, Dorset Council has been successful in securing the award of £19.5m of Levelling Up Funding to help enable the redevelopment of sites around the town and act as a catalyst for future development.
- 16.1.5. Now more than ever, the town centre has a significant opportunity for regeneration and enhancement. This needs to be planned in a coordinated way to deliver enhanced benefits to the town.
- 16.1.6. Work has commenced on a refresh of the town centre masterplan to make it more delivery focused, and to create a framework where development can be coordinated to deliver the necessary infrastructure investment and regeneration. The refreshed masterplan will be a key part of a broader focus on Weymouth and south Dorset, helping to re-energise the local economy.
- 16.1.7. You can find out more about the town centre masterplan and associated engagement from our dedicated [Weymouth Town Centre Masterplan webpage](#)³⁹.

³⁹ www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/weymouth-town-centre-regeneration