

neighbourhood plans

From: Maggie [REDACTED]
Sent: 02 November 2017 16:20
To: neighbourhood plans
Subject: Paignton Neighbourhood Plan

I write in support of the Paignton Neighbourhood Plan.

The Plan, as submitted, sets out a vision for the future of Paignton which takes in all facets of the town. This includes the very important tourist industry, but also addresses the lack of job growth in other industries. Torbay in general has a difficult demographic where deaths outnumber births and population growth is dependent on incoming migration. Other very important issues are the enhancement of our beautiful coast and countryside and protection of its threatened species.

It is important to understand, as is clearly set out in the Plan, that population estimates currently in use by Torbay planners do not reflect a true picture of the situation in Paignton. The Torbay Development Agency has objected to 17 out of 43 areas designated as Local Green Spaces on the grounds that they may be needed for future residential development. Yet, as the Plan shows, the land already allotted for future housing exceeds the estimated 5-year supply based on current population and job statistics. In addition, there is considerable existing housing which has been vacant for over 6 months.

The Plan emphasizes the desire expressed by a large majority of Paignton's residents for an environmentally friendly and sustainable place to live. For this reason, the designation of each of the Local Green Spaces and the proposed contingencies to future development set forth in the Policies and Proposals for each of the 27 defined areas are valid and necessary to preserve and enhance the future of Paignton.

Paignton is also home to flight paths and foraging areas for several endangered species, as well as being part of the Torbay Marine Conservation Zone. The Plan takes into account these areas and the ongoing protection of such species.

The Paignton Neighbourhood Plan will move the town forward towards becoming an enhanced and vibrant place which provides all of its residents with the pleasant and enjoyable lifestyle so many of them have indicated they desire.

I would therefore urge the Independent Examiner to approve the Paignton Neighbourhood Plan to go forward to referendum.

Maggie Loates
[REDACTED]