CORNWALL COUNCIL
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Devonport Growth Programme

South East Cornwall CAP - Overview – October 2026

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Information Classification: PUBLIC

Devonport Growth Programme Overview

“Our mission is to align investment, planning, skills, and infrastructure to maximise local economic and social benefits.”

Strategic Investment and Growth
£7.1 bn (originally £4.4bn) investment in HMNB Devonport drives employment growth and infrastructure demand across the wider peninsula.

Collaborative Cross-Authority Approach
Joint working via Memorandum of Understanding between Cornwall, Plymouth, Devon and Torbay councils enables coordinated growth management.

Sustainable and Coordinated Planning
Programme aims to plan, timely housing, employment opportunities and transport solutions supporting sustainable growth.

Cross-Directorate Integration
Bringing together economic development, housing, transport, skills and leadership for aligned strategic delivery and risk management.



Headlines

- 25k job workforce gap – 10 years
- The employment curve for Devonport expected to be highest in the first 5 years.
- Plymouth City Council in partnership with Homes England seeking to deliver 10,000-12,000 homes
- 23% of Babcock's workforce live in Cornwall
- £7.1 bn (originally £4.4bn) announced for Devonport is investment in the Naval Base and dockyard
- £50m Plymouth Defence Growth Deal
- £20m (regional) Local Innovation Partnerships Fund – Autonomy (Land, Sea & Air)
- £20m (£8m capital) City College Plymouth Defence



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Programme – Aligned Thematic Workstreams

Devonport Defence Growth Programme

A collaborative initiative dedicated to supporting sustainable defence-related growth in and around Devonport.

Team Plymouth	Cornwall – specific
Skills – incl. Pre 16 and Post 16	**Skills and Workforce Development -** Focuses on aligning education and training with employer demand to create inclusive employment opportunities in Cornwall.
Transport	**Transport and Connectivity -** Workforce access challenges including rail, ferry, and strategic transport planning to improve commuting options.
City Centre Housing and Regeneration	**Planning and Housing -** Supports coordinated housing delivery and strategic site development to accommodate population and workforce growth.
Business, Innovation & Marine Autonomy	**Increase Innovation and Business Productivity -** Maximises supply-chain value, boosts productivity and attracts investment via innovation and land development.
Social Value Delivering Impact	**Regeneration –** Deliver the Defence Growth Programme through a place-based approach, informed by a comprehensive understanding of the challenges and opportunities affecting communities and businesses to maximise growth.
	Defence Related Assets within Cornwall – Identifying and maximising the connectivity, workspace, innovation and supply chain opportunities the airport provides to the Defence Growth Programme