

**Strictly embargoed until 00:01 22 February**

## **Torpoint and Rame Peninsula set to boost local economy with radical new plans**

Local people in Torpoint and the Rame Peninsula have today set out radical plans for how they intend to drive growth, jobs and prosperity.

They are part of over 100 coastal communities across the country taking control of their futures.

The plans lay out practical steps including **development of new water transport infrastructure at Torpoint and Cremyll, a co-ordinated marketing and tourism strategy for Cornwall's 'Hidden Corner' and improved public transport, cycling and footpath network**, which will help make Torpoint and the Rame Peninsula a destination to live and work in for years to come.

Communities Secretary Greg Clark said that Torpoint and the Rame Peninsula's work is "proof coastal communities are ready for economic lift off".

### **Communities Secretary Greg Clark said:**

"Our Great British Coast has enormous economic potential and we are determined to see it thrive all year round – not just in the summer months.

"The huge number of plans submitted, demonstrate the wave of optimism, and wealth of creative and practical ideas to boost economic lift-off.

"I now want to see their hard work and enthusiasm come to fruition by helping to deliver their ideas through the Coastal Community teams."

### **Torpoint Town Councillor Gary Davis, Chair of the Torpoint and Rame Peninsula Coastal Community Advisory Committee said:**

"Our economic plan is a series of connected achievable projects that together will enhance employment opportunities, our environment and deliver a stronger, more resilient peninsula community.

"We are already working on delivering the plan after our recent success in securing Coastal Revival funding for improvements to Portwrinkle Harbour. Over the coming months we will be developing bids and applications to secure the additional funding required to formalise the team organisation and deliver some quick wins from the plan.

Our Vision is for Torpoint and the Rame Peninsula to be sought after places to live and a location for high quality sustainable holidays – whilst still Cornwall's 'Hidden Corner' - people love to visit."

More than 11 million people live in coastal communities, from major cities to seaside villages. The tourism industry alone accounts for the employment of 250,000 people across 150 seaside resorts, and contributes £4 billion to the UK economy.

Now the Government is supporting 'local coastal community teams' to help revive towns and deliver their plans for future economic growth.

Local people involved in the teams have been given £10,000 to kick-start work and given expert guidance to help shape their own towns' future prosperity.

Other seaside areas that are taking control of their futures are:

- Plymouth – who will build a brand new history centre to mark the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Mayflower's voyage to America. They will also secure investment to kick start a number of projects, including new digital hot spots across the city, restructuring the waterfront and encouraging a cycling culture;
- Folkestone – who will get local people's views about what makes their town great and use that to work with marketing specialists in developing a new town brand. They will also enhance the living environment through public art and green space landscaping, and support start-ups through a new business hub; and
- Scarborough – who will restructure their high street, redeveloping derelict floor space and bringing good-quality new homes into the city centre

### **Further information**

118 Coastal Community Teams were created last year and given a share of £1.18m to help drive forward coastal areas growth.

The local economic plans submitted to Government by the teams cover areas including housing, business opportunities, jobs and skills, health and civic pride.

[See a full list of Coastal Community Teams here.](#)

Coastal Community Teams are just one of a number of initiatives launched by the government to boost the Great British Coast.

The £120 million [Coastal Communities Fund](#), established in 2012, has money going to projects in every region and country of the United Kingdom. So far it has created nearly 14,000 new jobs and over 10,000 training places.

In addition 77 projects ranging from theatres to piers and lidos to lighthouses, [received an addition share of £3 million](#) in December to help restore them to their former glory.

Due to the exceptional quality of the bids received, another £1 million coastal revival funding will be available in 2016 to 2017 for projects that narrowly missed out being selected. Further details will be announced in due course.

For more information about the Government's work to revive coastal communities contact **Patrick Coyne**, [patrick.coyne@communities.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:patrick.coyne@communities.gsi.gov.uk), 030 3444 4326

The Torpoint and Rame Peninsula Economic Plan along with further information on the team can be found at

[http://www.torpointtowncouncil.gov.uk/coastal\\_community\\_team.php](http://www.torpointtowncouncil.gov.uk/coastal_community_team.php)

For more information about Torpoint and Rame Peninsula Coastal Community Team contact **Milly Southworth**, (Torpoint Town Councillor Gary Davis) and Vice Chair (Cornwall Councillor George Trubody) are available for interviews.

