

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – 2011

A vision for Newton Abbot to 2028 –

“A caring community whose members are involved in building an exciting future based on tradition, sustainability, enterprise and openness to change.”

What people value about Newton Abbot:

- A Town Centre with good independent local shops and its market town traditions.
- Its central location and beautiful natural environment including parks and nature reserves.
- The heritage, traditions and historical buildings.
- Friendly welcoming people.
- Newton Abbot as a gateway, centrally located with good accessibility & good transport networks.
- Good quality sports, leisure and community activities.
- A safe and clean environment

Community Plan objectives

1. Vibrant new town centre

We need to continue to focus investment in and development of Newton Abbot town centre to meet the needs of a growing population.

A town centre that is the vibrant heart of a growing community and “the market place of South Devon” by developing the following:

- Attractive townscape, reflecting the town’s heritage
- Centrally located Town Hall, museum and community facilities
- Improved range of shops
- Improved indoor and street markets for South Devon’s farming, food, craft and other local businesses
- A variety of entertainment venues for all including young people
- Good access by public transport and for cyclists, pedestrians and those with mobility needs.

2. Developing young people

A town that is a significant centre for education and training, with a supportive environment for the development of the many young people living in the area:

- Ensure local provision of high quality 14-19 vocational training by expansion of the new skills centre
- Support for families and young carers
- A high level of participation of young people in a wide range of activities that enhance their self-esteem and sense of belonging, typically supported by volunteers as organisers and role models

3. Thriving business & job opportunities

A thriving, entrepreneurial business community, supported by the local authorities, that provides good and rewarding employment and training opportunities and exploits the area's geographical position as the natural trading and visitor 'hub' for South Devon

- The provision of excellent business parks and good infrastructure to attract new, high quality industry and business
- Managed workspace to support start-ups and entrepreneurial activity
- High quality, sustainable employment with a focus in areas such as:
 - Music
 - Ceramics
 - Local food
 - Green technology
- Working with local universities

4. Sustainable environment

Whatever is done in Newton Abbot must avoid prejudicing the environment and the enjoyment of life by future generations, particularly by taking steps to:

- Reduce car use
- Improve home energy efficiency
- Increase use of renewable energy resources in the town
- Develop biodiversity and healthy outdoor recreation
- Mitigate and adapt to the potential adverse effects of climate change

5. Living heritage & culture

A town that values its distinctive heritage and cultural life so that they form a basis for the town's development and significant attractions for both residents and visitors, including:

- Relocating the museum to a central location and ensure more space
- Support a lively community arts and performance scene

6. Strong community

A strong sense of community, whose members will be encouraged to:

- Have more community involvement and ensure their 'local voice' is heard
- Have the confidence and 'can do' attitude to do things for the community
- Take responsibility for vulnerable members of the community
- Be sociable, collaborative and welcoming to all and identify with and take pride in the town and its qualities
- Support voluntary and social enterprise organisations that address areas of need and promote social inclusion