

MEETING REPORT

Meeting: Council, 11th December 2023
Agenda item: 23-091
Report subject: Ivybridge Community Economic Plan Update
Report author: Laura Eames, Project Officer – Place & Projects, South Hams DC

Introduction

The Community Economic Plan will help all towns from across the South Hams to grow their understanding of their local economies, identify the aspirations of their residents and businesses, and develop a series of actions that can help the community realise these aspirations.

Update

The Ivybridge Community Economic Plan launched on the 1st of November and is supported by a Town Steering Group consisting of members of the Town Council and other stakeholders in the community. The steering group meet every two weeks to help develop the consultation and promote the project to the community. The consultation is being run online via surveys and an interactive comment map. You can find the consultation at myivybridge.commonplace.is There is also a live consultation happening across the town via Focus group workshops and events.

Members of the steering group are working with Ivybridge Community College 6th form students to help understand what the young people of Ivybridge need and want from the town to create a survey that will go out to young people aged 16-24 in the Ivybridge area. The young people's steering group meet every two weeks at ICC.

100 paper surveys have gone out to the Foodbank customers this week.

Online consultation results to date

- 920 visitors to Myivybridge
- 144 respondents overall
- 226 contributions- 16 business surveys complete-97 residents survey-84 comments on the comment map
- 135 newsletter subscribers

Live consultations in the community

Two Focus Group workshops have been completed so far and four more are planned.

The next Focus group dates

- 6th December-The Beeson Suite the Watermark 6pm-8.30pm
- 10th January-The Bridge 6pm-8.30pm
- 2 more dates to be announced in the daytime at the Watermark in January

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Several other events have been complete in the public domain, for example, market stalls, stands in the Watermark and fairs.

Dates for other events in Ivybridge

- Fusion Christmas Fair 9th December 11-3pm
- Ivybridge Thursday Market 14th December and 18th January 10-4pm
- The Watermark foyer-24th January 10-4pm

This project consultation aims to pull together aspirations and views from the community to develop a final Community Economic Plan for Ivybridge with short, medium and long-term projects and a vision statement to help the town grow.

Residents and business owners can help shape the future of their town by visiting myivybridge.commonplace.is.

The consultation closes on 31 January 2024.

The project completion date is September-October 2024