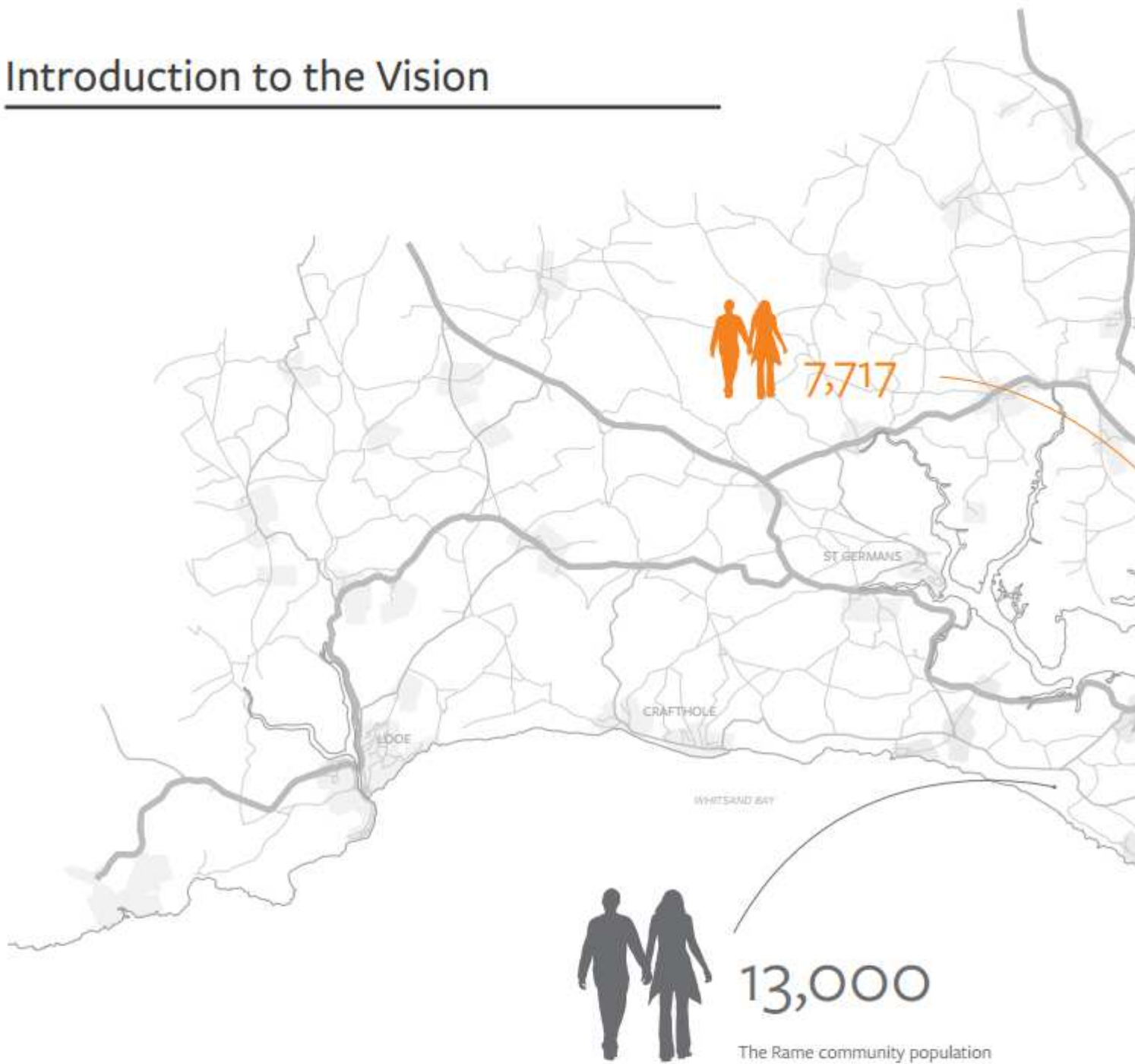


Section 1

Background

This section of the Vision introduces the project. It describes the background to the Torpoint Vision, how and why it is being undertaken and how it relates to the emerging Neighbourhood Plan.

Introduction to the Vision



The Vision for Torpoint is an initiative that has been developed by Torpoint Town Council in close liaison with the residents of the town.

The Town Council has been assisted in preparing the Vision by a team of consultants led by Clifton Emery design - the team includes urban designers, town planners, engineers and commercial specialists.

Throughout 2015 and during the early part of 2016, residents, businesses and other stakeholders have been able to voice their opinions about how Torpoint could change for the better. The Vision has been developed around this feedback.

An important role of the Vision is to form part of the 'evidence base' for the emerging Torpoint Neighbourhood Plan - this will set out policies and proposals that will,

together with the Cornwall Local Plan, help to manage the shape of development in the town. There are a number of processes that need to be undertaken prior to the adoption of the Neighbourhood Plan - it is envisaged that these will take place during 2017 culminating in a town referendum, (see section 6).

The Vision document is divided into two main sections - Understanding Torpoint - which describes the town context and the extent and outcomes of consultation; and, The Vision - which sets out a framework for change based around an overarching Vision, a plan for the wider town and a master plan containing projects focusing on the town centre and other areas of civic importance.



In addition, the document considers delivery and provides recommendations for the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan. A series of appendices outside the main body of the document provide supporting information about the Vision and how it has been formed.

The Vision plays an important role in establishing how the town would like to see development progress in the future. It has been developed through an understanding of key constraints and an identification of issues. Importantly, people do like Torpoint - any change does therefore need to be measured and targeted.



Mount Edgcombe Country Park and Antony House and the Estate are big draws (currently attracting over 300,000 people per year)





Related initiatives

The Vision has been developed in the context of a number of related projects that have a bearing in different ways upon it.

There have also been projects in the past that have explored the potential for change in the town - whilst all have added to the pool of ideas none have been subject to the extent of local consultation and participation that has been undertaken as an integral part of the Vision document.

Current and emerging initiatives include the Cornwall Local Plan; the Rame Peninsula Neighbourhood Plan; the Torpoint Neighbourhood Plan of which the Vision forms a part; the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Enterprise partnership (LEP); and the City Deal in Plymouth.

Cornwall Local Plan - sets out policies and proposals for development across Cornwall through to 2030. Proposals for Torpoint and Rame are set within the context of the wider Cornwall Gateway Network area. The plan identifies the need to plan for new housing and employment opportunities with a particular focus on Torpoint, regenerating Torpoint Town Centre, improving transport accessibility and developing tourism.

Rame Peninsula Neighbourhood Plan - following extensive consultation the five parishes of the Rame Peninsula (Antony, Maker-with-Rame, Millbrook, Sheviok and St John) have identified the main priorities are: the availability of affordable housing; growing tourism; developing local employment opportunities; overcoming the main transport constraints; and preserving the qualities of the local environment.

Torpoint and Rame Peninsula Economic Plan - was submitted to DCLG at the end of January 2016 following the establishment of a Coastal Communities Team comprising principal stakeholders in Torpoint and

on the wider Rame Peninsula. The Plan identifies the main economic drivers for the peninsula and shapes a strategy for improving the fortunes of the area into the future. The plan includes a programme of prioritised projects that aim to tackle identified issues associated with:

- Tourism** - promoting the visitor economy
- Transport** - enhancing accessibility and communication
- Environment** - enhancing the attractiveness of public areas and encouraging sustainable uses - making the most of heritage, natural and cultural assets
- Community** - providing improved community facilities
- Jobs** - supporting employment opportunities

Cornwall and Isles of Scilly LEP - drives activity to support business growth, create jobs and help people realise their potential. The LEP is led by local business people working together with Cornwall Council and the Council of the Isles of Scilly to set the priorities for how our economy should grow.

Its role is to oversee how best to invest over £1 billion of public, private and European funds in the local economy by 2020 - laying the foundations for 20,000 new jobs and to exceed projected growth by at least 5% in this time. The proposed Growth Hub will play an important role in delivering these objectives.

Plymouth City Deal - there are three main elements to the City Deal: the Marine Industries Production Campus at South Yard - this has now become established as an Enterprise Zone and offers great potential for complimentary economic and employment opportunities in Torpoint and Rame; the Growth Hub - providing support for businesses in Plymouth and in addition a Cornwall Growth Hub providing support for Cornish businesses; and the Youth Deal - providing support for young people trying to find work.

‘The town has little to

attract the eye’

Nikolaus Pevsner. *The Buildings of England Cornwall*.