

Session Outline

Blue Urbanism: How can we enable healthier coastal cities through blue city plans, practices, and policies?

Organised by Simon Pittman & Kate Moseley

1. Introductions

- Purpose of session
- Who is in the room?

2. Connecting with the sea

3. Trailer of Ocean Cities documentary

4. Blue Urbanism – a global movement

5. Plymouth Britain's Ocean City

Group exercise 1: Your thoughts on how we better connect cities and the sea for inclusive wellbeing and healthy oceans. What is needed?

Group exercise 2: Your thoughts on the draft Ocean City Pledge

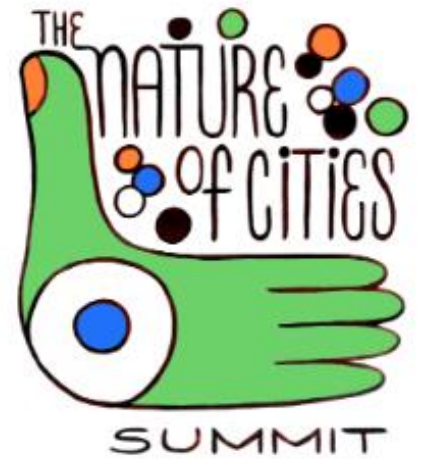
Finally - Next steps?



A New Film by Chuck Davis
World Premiere Screening

OCEAN CITIES

Exploring Our Connection To The Sea



Plymouth unveils 'Britain's Ocean City' welcome signs

27 March 2013

[f](#) [t](#) [t](#) [e](#) [Share](#)



One Plymouth

Where on our Blue Planet is Britain's Ocean City?



Twinned with other port cities of:
Brest, France
San Sebastian, Spain
Gdynia, Poland
Plymouth, USA





Deep blue cultural roots

Plymouth began as a fishing village and has been 'chiefly dependent on the fish trade'



Today, Plymouth Fisheries
sell >6,000 tonnes per year – 2nd biggest in England

*The fish market at Plymouth
Nicholas Condry (1793–1857)*



Plymouth - a small & lively maritime 'pass port'

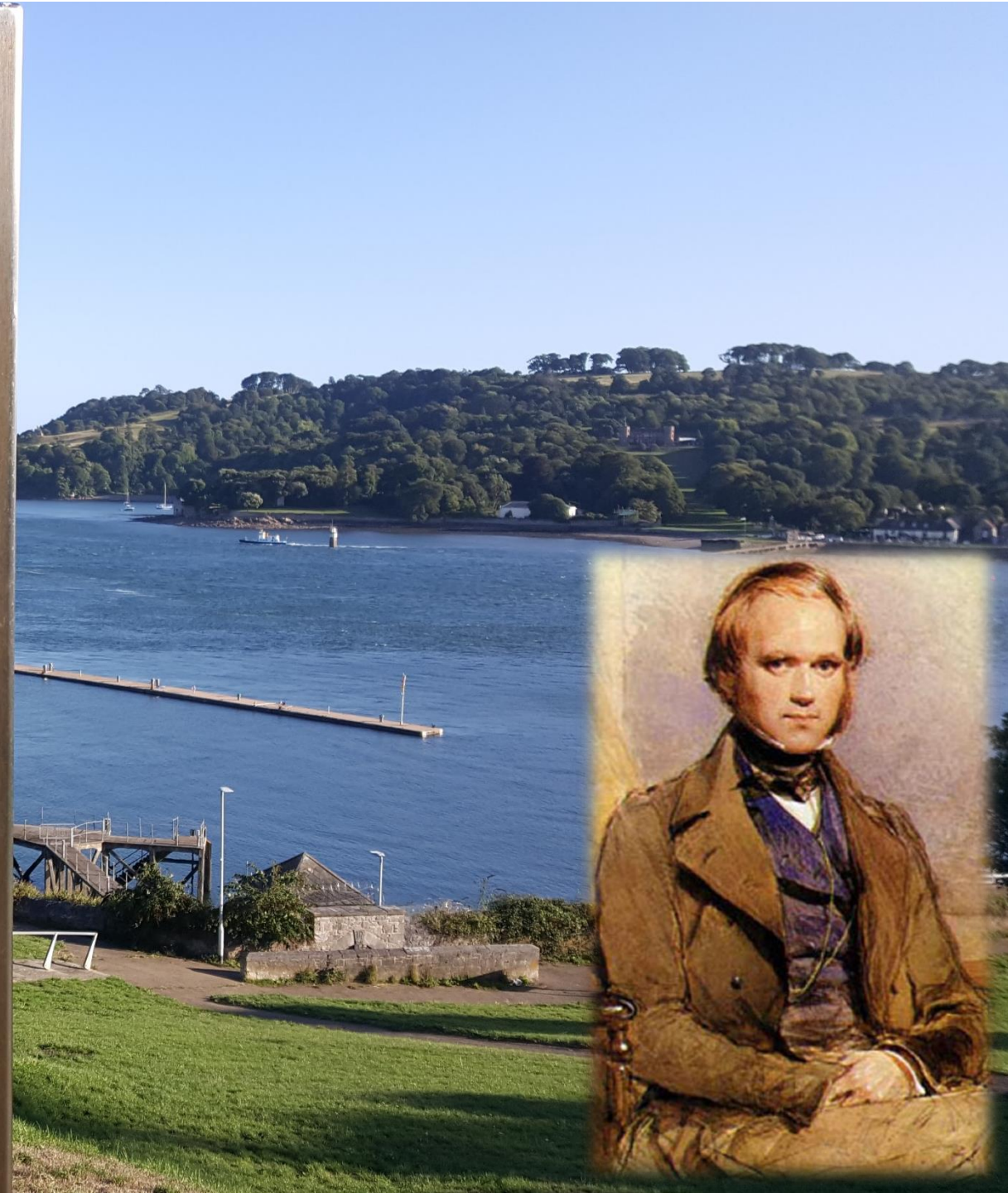


Mayflower

Artist: W. Dubusc 1680 (Plymouth from Mount Edgcumbe)

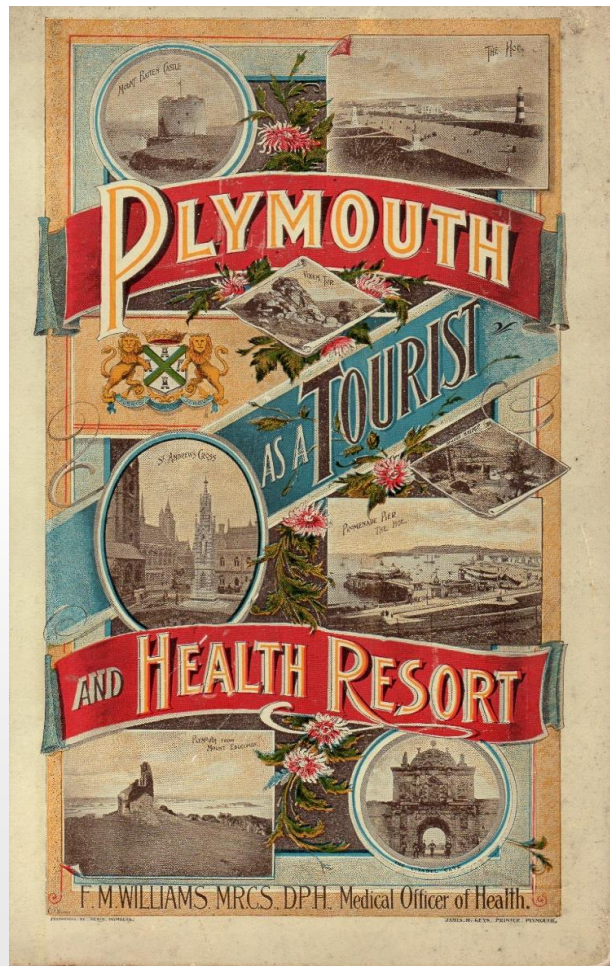


Blended view 1830 & 2018

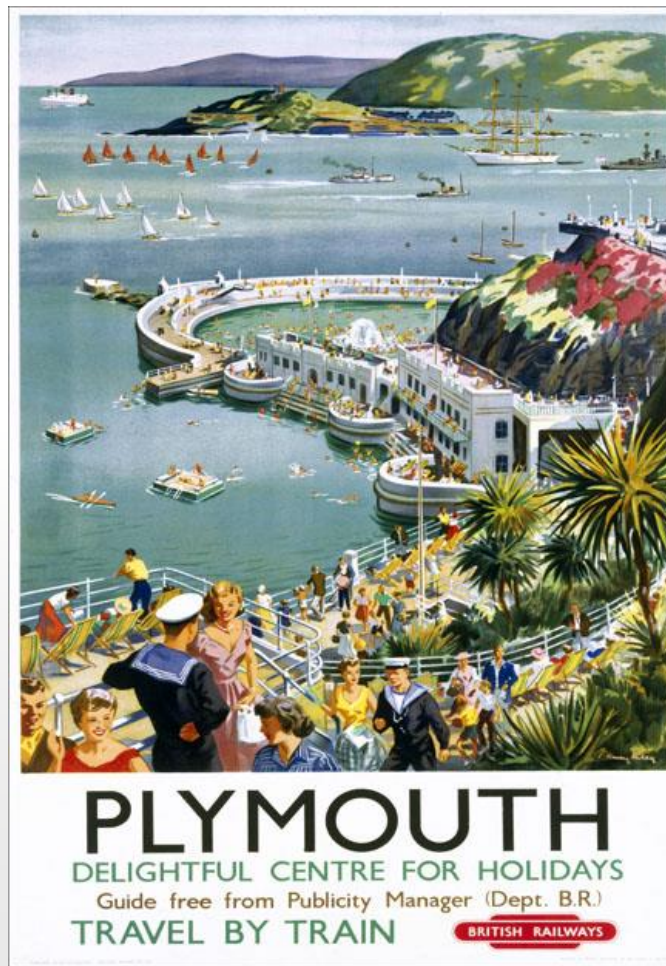


DEVONPORT PAST AND PRESENT
THIS ARTWORK IS ONE OF SEVERAL BY TWENTY DIFFERENT WORKS DESIGNED BY DAVID HARRISON
- DEVONPORT AS IT WAS, BOTH THEN AND NOW - MANY OF THE ORIGINAL

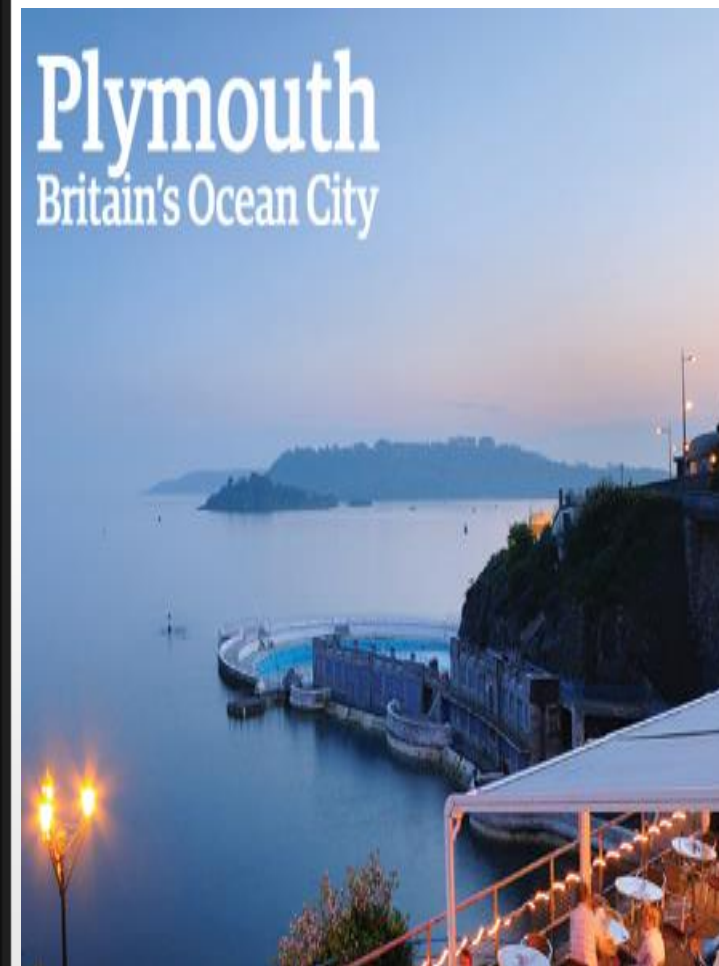
DRC



1890s



1950s



2013

Plymouth Sound & Estuaries is an internationally important marine biodiversity hotspot



Credit: Ben Squire/Plymouth Boat Trips



Basking shark



Red finger coral & pink seafan



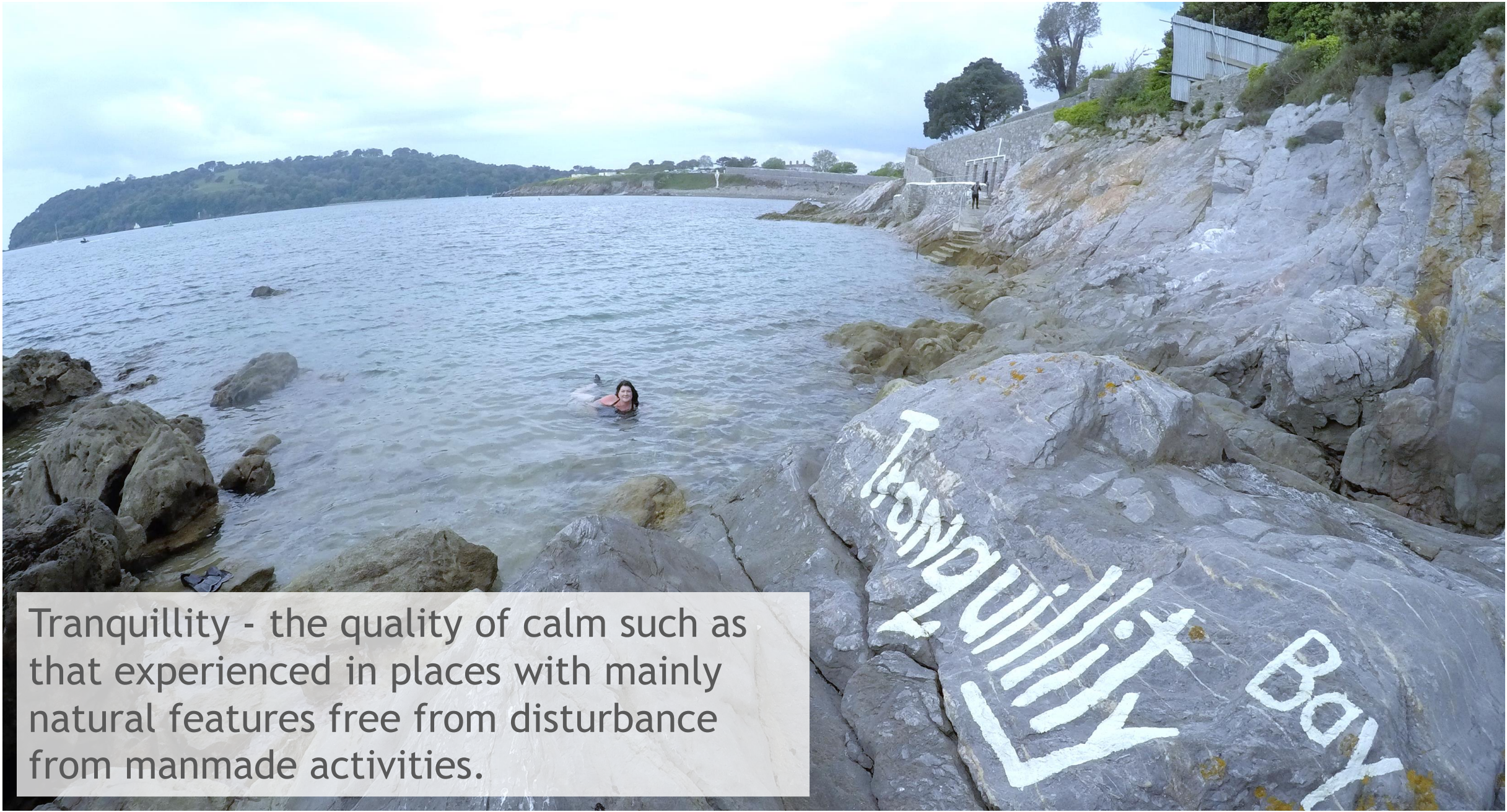
Sunset cup coral



Jewel anemone



Seagrass



Tranquillity - the quality of calm such as that experienced in places with mainly natural features free from disturbance from manmade activities.

**17% of our primary school children
have not been to the beach!**



Two of our waterfront neighborhoods are among the
UK's most socio-economically deprived
& 27 city neighborhoods in 10% most deprived

The City Marine Park: a collaborative city-led concept for healthier, happier & sustainable city living

City Marine Park (CMP)

'An ocean and coastal space defined by collective local knowledge and recognised for its special importance for city community health, well-being and heritage, with the intention of encouraging greater prosperity and responsible enjoyment, deepening knowledge, appreciation and care for the city seascape and the broader Earth system'.

What it is:

A coordinated network of activities to enhance:

Equality of access and social inclusion in park activities



Marine literacy and marine citizenship



Business partnerships for positive social and environmental impacts



Place identity and civic pride with place-branding



Celebration of marine and maritime heritage



Community health and wellbeing



Joined-up inclusive stewardship



What it is not:

Statutory protection

Marine protected area or locally managed marine area

A 'paper park'

Management intervention

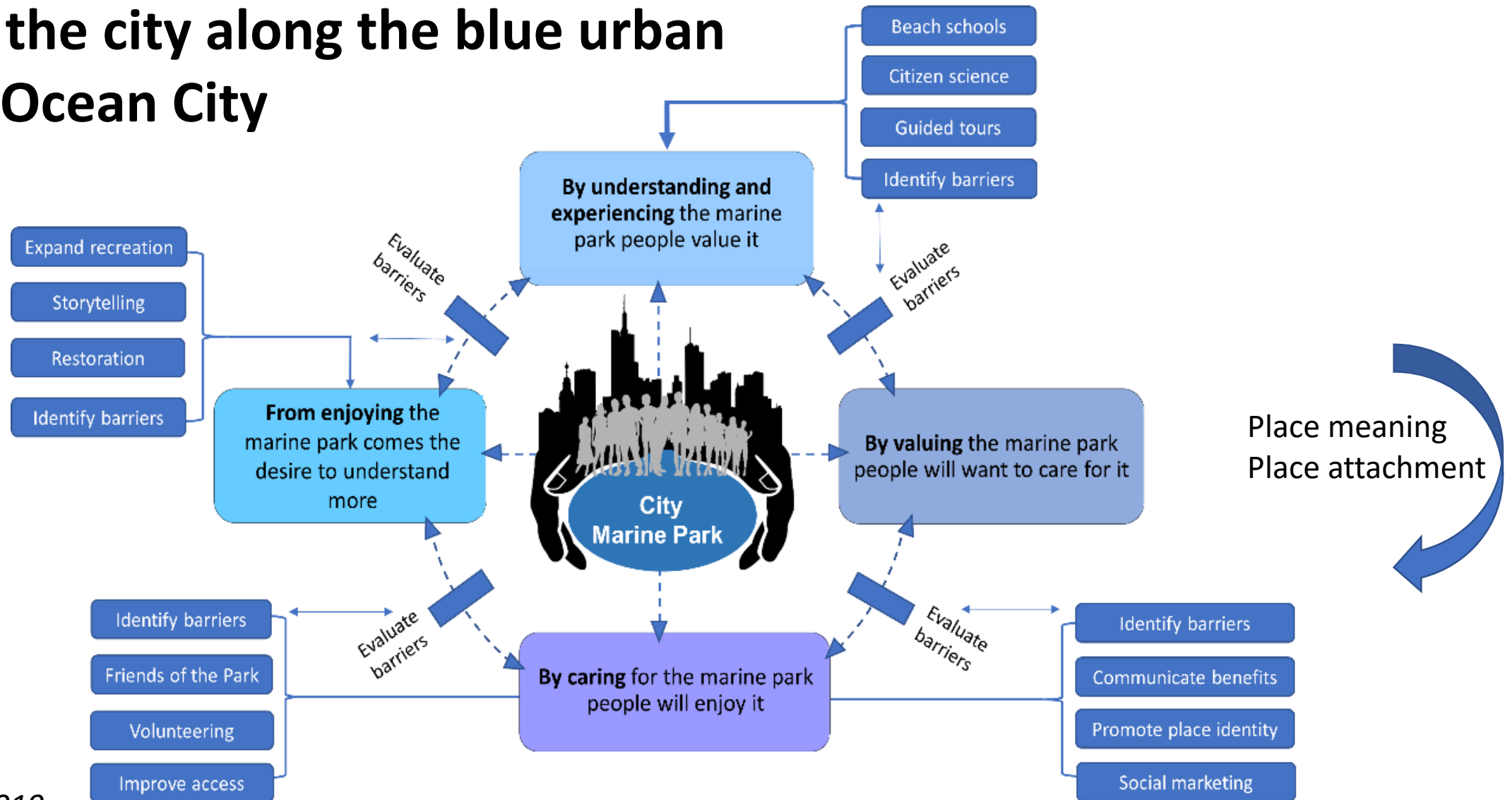
Replacement for existing conservation designations



A City Marine Park is an inclusive social policy for enhancing sustainable wellbeing of coastal communities & Ocean City place-making



The people-powered 'Blue Wheel' propels the city along the blue urban road to Ocean City



PLYMOUTH SOUND NATIONAL MARINE PARK

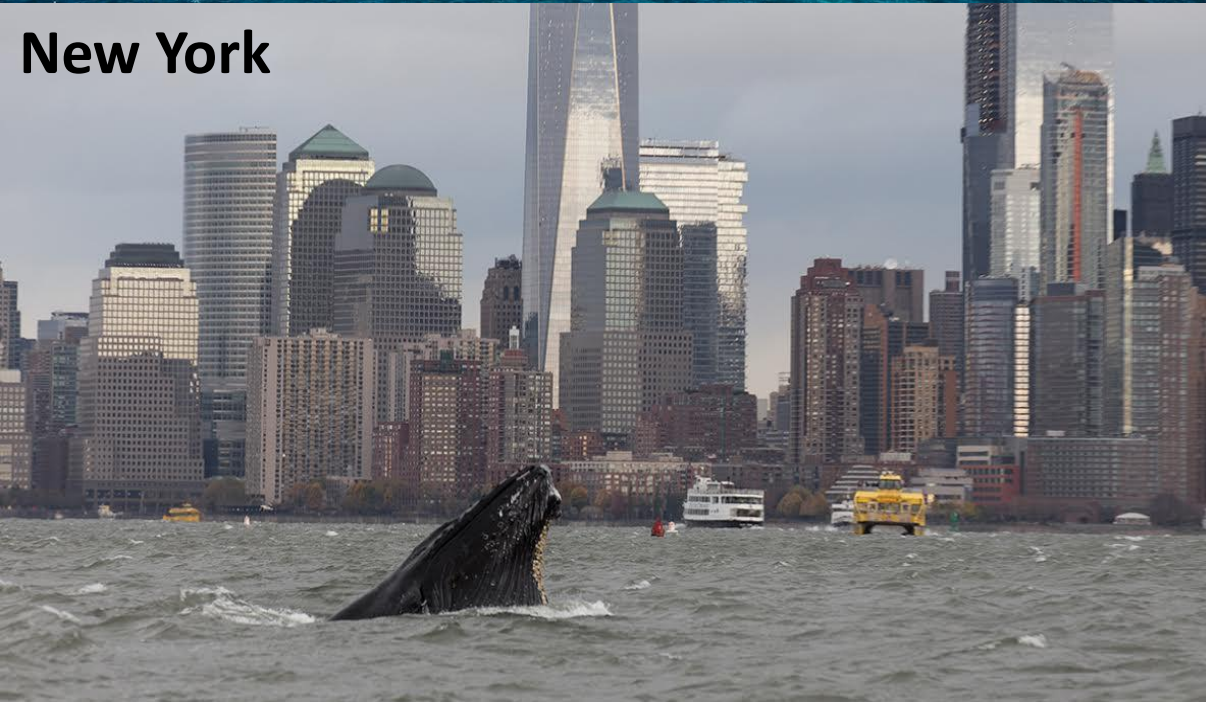
Creating The UK's First National Marine Park

Engagement Document
January 2019

- Public consultations 2018-2019
- Feasibility study due Aug 2019
- Designation 2019? 2020?
- The real work begins

Utopian
dream or
future
reality?





Challenges in addressing concerns



Group Activity 1 – How do we better connect cities and the sea for inclusive wellbeing and healthy oceans. **What is needed ?**

In your groups, discuss your ideas and write them on sheets (Baby steps and big strides welcome!)

Practice	Planning	Policies

The Ocean Cities Pledge: Statement on the Importance of Ocean Cities (Paris 2019)



We live on the Blue Planet and increasingly the Urban Planet. We recognize that the global ocean holds 97% of the life-giving water on our planet and most of us live near the ocean or near rivers that flow into the ocean.

We need healthy oceans to sustain human life and wellbeing. We recognize that urban populations benefit immensely from proximity to a thriving and healthy ocean, but our actions are continuing to negatively impact the ocean.

We recognize that urban communities are pivotal in transitioning coastal cities into **Ocean Cities** where we cherish the ocean and work with the ocean to create healthier, happier and environmentally sustainable **Ocean City** living.

We believe it is time for cities, especially cities connected to the ocean, to stand up and take action in support of the ocean and to clearly and explicitly acknowledge the importance of the ocean in their lives, understand a city's impact on the ocean and recognize the difference they can make through collective action. Ocean cities are places where citizens acknowledge the receiving of benefits from the ocean and reciprocate by nurturing care for ocean health.

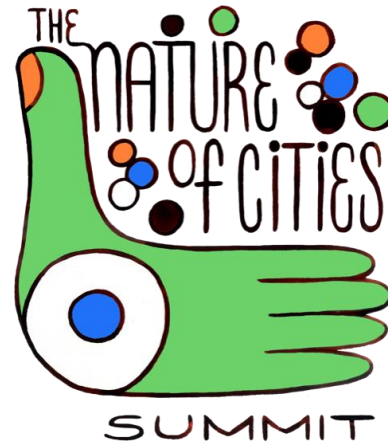
It is time for all coastal cities worldwide to become a potent voice on behalf of the health and integrity of our Blue Planet's living system and to lead the world in global ocean conservation. **Ocean Cities** must walk the talk by working to regenerate and protect important local marine ecosystems and biodiversity. **Ocean Cities** must begin to include the marine nature around them in their design and planning and must work to conserve and celebrate this nature including our cultural connections. **Ocean Cities** must work to educate residents about the central role that oceans play in regulating climate and sustaining our Blue Planet. Knowledge about and care for oceans should be considered basic literacy for all residents.

In **Ocean Cities** residents and public officials alike work to extend and expand understanding of the city to include marine nature. Cities are not separate from oceans but interconnected with them. City maps and city boundaries will be adjusted to include ocean environments. **Ocean Cities** seek to deepen and enhance connection with the ocean, while also recognizing and working to minimize exposure of people and property to coastal hazards and sea level rise. **Ocean Cities** enable inclusive participation in the city blue spaces for enhanced wellbeing.

Residents of **Ocean Cities** can help to drive global marine conservation for example by shifting their consumption decisions away from unsustainable seafood and the use of plastics. Residents of **Ocean Cities** can support and directly participate in the work of local ocean and coastal conservation groups (e.g. habitat restoration and clean-ups of beaches and waterways).

We propose the transitioning of coastal cities into **Ocean Cities** as a restorative **blue urban pathway** to healthier, happier and sustainable city living.

Supported by



Session Legacy 1:

Stay connected after TNOC

Session Legacy 2:

Promote Ocean Cities Pledge



Twitter account for the
Ocean Cities Network
launched here this week at TNOC



@UrbanBlue7