

Local Green Space Audit for The Hoe Neighbourhood Plan

Hoe Neighbourhood Forum

December 2022

Quality information

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Revision History

Revision	Revision date	Details	Authorized	Name	Position
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1. Introduction

Background

1.1 AECOM has been commissioned to undertake an independent Local Green Space Audit (hereafter referred to as "LGS Audit") for The Hoe Neighbourhood Plan on behalf of Hoe Neighbourhood Forum.

1.2 Located within the ward of St Peter and the Waterfront, The Hoe Neighbourhood Plan area was adopted by Plymouth City Council in July 2017 and is shown in the figure above. The Hoe Neighbourhood Forum recognises that the unique characteristics of the area are a focal point for social, civil, and historical interest within the City of Plymouth as both a residential community and a tourist hotspot.

1.3 The Hoe Neighbourhood Forum has made good progress in undertaking the initial stages of preparation for The Hoe Neighbourhood Plan, and it is now looking to ensure that key aspects of its proposals will be robust and defensible.

1.4 In this context, Hoe Neighbourhood Forum has asked AECOM to undertake an independent and objective assessment of the sites that are available for LGS designation. This is with a view to:

1) Informing the choice of which spaces in the Neighbourhood Plan area to designate as LGSs; and

2) Identifying the potential opportunities for enhancing those areas identified as being demonstrably special to the local community.

Policy context for the LGS Audit

1.5 The contents of the LGS Audit (and by extension, The Hoe Neighbourhood Plan) are directly influenced by policies and objectives presented within other plans and programmes. An overview of the most relevant plans and programmes which have informed the LGS Audit are outlined below.

National Planning Policy Framework

1.6 The revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2019) sets out government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied[1]. Paragraph 99 within the NPPF states:

"*The designation of land as Local Green Space through local and neighbourhood plans allows communities to identify and protect green areas of particular importance to them. Designating land as Local Green Space should be consistent with the local planning of sustainable development and complement investment in sufficient homes, jobs, and other essential services. Local Green Spaces should only be designated when a plan is prepared or updated and be capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period.*"

1.7 Planning Practice Guidance regarding the designation of Local Green Spaces[2] confirms that the green area will need to meet the criteria as set out within Paragraph 100 within the NPPF. In this respect, Paragraph 100 within the NPPF outlines that Local Green Space designation should only be used providing the green space is:

a) in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;

[1] MHCLG (2019): 'Revised National Planning Policy Framework', [online] available to access via: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2
[2] MHCLG (2014): 'Planning Practice Guidance: Open space, sports and recreation facilities, public rights of way and local green space', [online] available to access via: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/open-space-sports-and-recreation-facilities-public-rights-of-way-and-local-green-space

b) demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and

c) local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.

Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan

1.8 Local Plans are the key to delivering sustainable development that reflects the vision and aspirations of local communities. Planning decisions must be taken in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The currently adopted Local Plan which covers the Hoe Neighbourhood Plan area is the Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan (JLP) (2014-2034)[3] which was adopted in March 2019.

1.9 Key policies and objectives with relevance to the LGS Audit include:

- Strategic Objective SO3: Delivering growth in Plymouth's City Centre and Waterfront Growth Area;
- Policy PLY1: Enhancing Plymouth's strategic role;
- Policy PLY20: Managing and enhancing Plymouth's waterfront;
- Policy PLY21: Supporting the visitor economy;
- Policy PLY37: Strategic infrastructure measures for the City Centre and Waterfront Growth Area;
- Policy DEV3: Sport and recreation;
- Policy DEV4: Playing pitches;
- Policy DEV21: Development affecting the historic environment;
- Policy DEV23: Landscape character;
- Policy DEV24: Undeveloped Coast and Heritage Coast;
- Policy DEV26: Protecting and enhancing biodiversity and geological conservation;
- Policy DEV27: Green and play spaces; and
- Policy DEV28: Trees, woodlands, and hedgerows.

The Plymouth Plan

1.10 Approved in January 2021, The Plymouth Plan (2014-2034) sets a shared direction of travel for the long-term future of the city. The vision is for Plymouth to be *"one of Europe's most vibrant waterfront cities where an outstanding quality of life is enjoyed by everyone".*

1.11 The following policies within the 'Environment and Greenspace' theme of The Plymouth Plan directly relate to the LGS Audit:

- Policy HEA7: Optimising the health and wellbeing benefits of the natural environment[4];
- Policy GRO6: Delivering Plymouth's Natural Network[5]; and
- Policy INT6: Enhancing Plymouth's 'Green City' credentials[6].

[3] Plymouth City Council, West Devon Borough Council, South Hams District Council (2019): 'Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan (2014-2034)', [online] available to access via: https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/plymouthandsouthwestdevonjointlocalplan/plymouthandsouthwestdevonjointlocalplanadoption
[4] Plymouth City Council (2021): 'The Plymouth Plan Policy HEA7: Optimising the health and wellbeing benefits of the natural environment', [online] available to access via: https://theplymouthplan.com/policies/hea7-optimising-the-health-and-wellbeing-benefits-of-the-natural-environment
[5] Plymouth City Council (2021): 'The Plymouth Plan Policy GRO6: Delivering Plymouth's Natural Network', [online] available to access via: https://theplymouthplan.com/policies/gro6-delivering-plymouths-natural-network
[6] Plymouth City Council (2021): 'The Plymouth Plan Policy INT6: Enhancing Plymouth's 'Green City' Credentials', [online] available to access via: https://theplymouthplan.com/policies/int6-enhancing-plymouths-green-city-credentials

Local Green Space Development Plan Document

1.12 Plymouth City Council and South Hams District Council are in the process of developing a Local Green Space Development Plan Document (DPD)[7].

1.13 Consultation on the emerging Local Green Space DPD (Regulation 18 Part 1) was undertaken between February and March 2020. The purpose of this consultation was to seek views on the proposed methodology and the criteria the Councils will use to assess whether or not green spaces within the Plymouth Policy Area (as defined by the Joint Local Plan) should be formally designated as 'Local Green Spaces'.

1.14 All comments and suggestions from the consultation were collected and processed, with the criteria updated accordingly. In this respect, the pro-forma utilised within the LGS Audit have utilised the criteria within the emerging Local Green Space DPD.

Sites considered through the LGS Audit

1.15 A total of eight sites have been considered through the LGS Audit, listed in **Table 1.1**, and shown in the figure below.

Table 1.1: Sites considered through the LGS Audit

Site ref.	Name	Size (Ha)
Site 49	The Hoe (inc. Armada Way green area by Crowne Plaza)	12.48
Site 58	Hoe Foreshore	5.29
Site 129	Land off Madeira Road (Citadel slopes)	1.91
Site 207	West Hoe Park	1.43
Site 221	Millbay Park	0.97
Site 302	Land off Hoe Road (slopes opposite Citadel Rd B&Bs)	0.46
Site 318	Radford Road (West Hoe Tennis Courts)	0.49
Site 358	The Mound (Hoe) (Area opposite Citadel gates)	0.40

[7] Plymouth City Council, South Hams District Council (2021): 'Local Green Space DPD', [online] available to access via: https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/planningandbuildingcontrol/localgreenspacedevelopmentplandocument



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2. Methodology for the LGS Audit

Introduction

2.1 LGS designation is an important aspect of Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plan making. It is important that any selection process carried out is transparent, fair, and robust, and that the same criteria and thought process is applied to each potential site. Equally important is the way in which the work is recorded and communicated to interested parties, so the approach is transparent and defensible.

2.2 In this context, the methodology for carrying out the LGS Audit is presented below.

Task 1: Development of LGS Audit pro-forma

2.3 Prior to carrying out the audit, pro-forma were developed. The purpose of the pro-forma is to enable a consistent evaluation of each site through the consideration of an established set of parameters against which each site can be then appraised.

2.4 Developed in consultation with Plymouth City Council, the pro-forma utilised for the assessment enabled a range of information to be recorded, including the following:

- Background details on the site;
- Existing and surrounding land uses;
- Site characteristics and planning history;
- Suitability and accessibility;
- Beauty, tranquillity and recreation value;
- Richness of wildlife and biodiversity value;
- Landscape character and visual amenity;
- Environmental considerations; and
- Heritage considerations.

2.5 Baseline information for the pro-forma was collected using the following data sources: Google Earth, MAGIC Interactive Mapping Tool[8], Devon County Council's Environment Viewer[9], information provided by Hoe Neighbourhood Forum, Plymouth Hoe Design Guide, visitor information boards located around Plymouth Hoe and the Waterfront, and evidence base documents available on Plymouth City Council webpages. These include:

- Plymouth Waterfront Strategic Masterplan (2017)[10]: features opportunities for Hoe Park and Foreshore (Site 49 and Site 58 within the LGS Audit), Madeira Road (Site 129 within the LGS Audit) and The Citadel (Site 49, Site 129, and Site 358 within the LGS Audit).
- Plymouth Waterfront Partnership's Business Plan[11]: all the sites considered within the LGS Audit are within the Waterfront Area as defined within the Plymouth Waterfront BID3 consultation, which will cover the period between 2022-2027.
- Plymouth Visitor Plan (2020-2030)[12:] outlines several 'star projects' for the city which encompass the sites considered within the LGS Audit. This includes the possible designation of Plymouth Sound as the UK's first National Marine Park, providing education, access, and recreation for all visitors to the city to inspire them to conserve the environment.

[8] MAGIC (2021): 'Magic Interactive Mapping Tool', [online] available to access via: https://magic.defra.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx
[9] Devon County Council (2020): 'Environment Viewer', [online] available to access via: http://map.devon.gov.uk/DCCViewer/
[10] Plymouth City Council (2017): 'Plymouth Waterfront Strategic Masterplan', [online] available to access via: https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/sites/default/files/PlymouthWaterfrontStrategicMasterplan.pdf
[11] Plymouth Waterfront Partnership (2021): 'Plymouth Waterfront BID3 Consultation', [online] available to access via: https://www.waterfrontbid.co.uk/bid3
[12] Plymouth City Council (2021): 'Plymouth Visitor Plan', [online] available to access via: https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/newsroom/pressreleases/newplansetsoutbrightfuturetourismplymouth

Task 2: Initial desk study

2.6 The second task involved conducting a desk study for each of the sites, obtaining the preliminary information needed to complete the pro-forma and highlighting areas which should be examined in more detail during the subsequent site visit (Task 3).

Task 3: Site visits

2.7 After the completion of the initial desk study, a site visit was undertaken by two specialists within AECOM's Neighbourhood Planning team in May 2021. The purpose of the site visit was to evaluate the sites 'on the ground' to support the LGS audit, in addition to gaining a better understanding of the context and nature of the Neighbourhood Plan area.

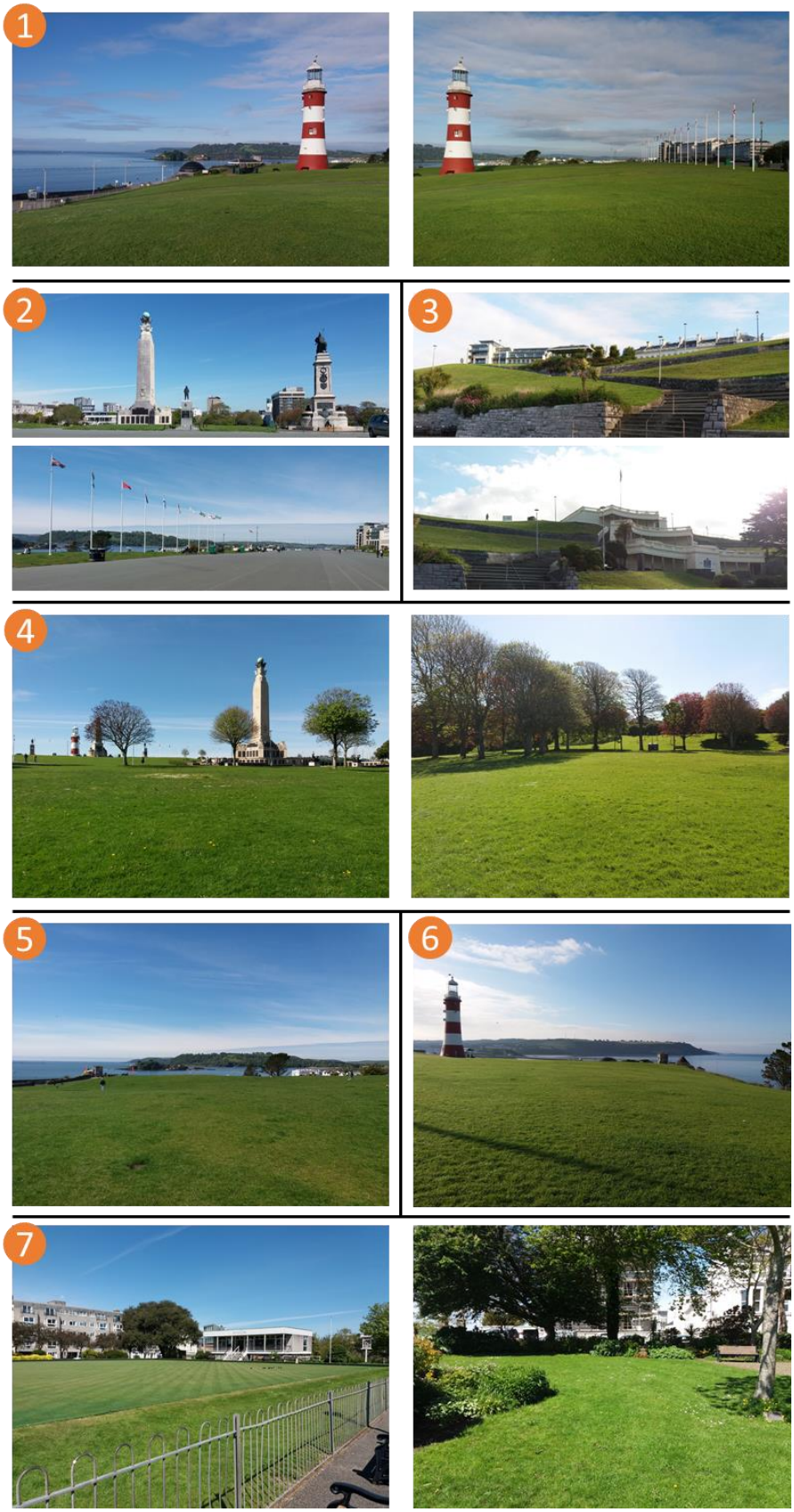
Task 4: Consolidation of results

2.8 Following the site visit, further desk-based research was carried out to validate the findings of the visit and to enable the results of the site assessment to be consolidated.

2.9 **Chapter 3** of this report presents a summary of the LGS audit for each of the eight sites considered in the Neighbourhood Plan area. Each summary is preceded by site photos which highlight some of the key features discussed within the summary. The completed pro-formas for each site are available to view in **Appendix A**. The location of the photos for each site which are included in the report are available to view in **Appendix B**.

3. Summary of the LGS Audits

Site 49: The Hoe (inc. Armada Way green area by Crowne Plaza)



Site description and background

3.1 The Hoe is centrally located on the Plymouth Waterfront and adjoins the city centre, which lies to the north. There is a clear connection between the city centre and The Hoe via Armada Way; a north-south axis from Plymouth Railway Station which is predominantly pedestrianised. Access is also possible on approach from the east via the Barbican and Sutton Harbour, and from the west via West Hoe Park and Millbay. Wide pathways provide a variety of pedestrian routes through the site.

3.2 Within the Plymouth and South West Devon JLP (Policy DEV27), the site is designated as a City Green Space. The site contains refreshment areas such as The Lodge, a bowling green, pitch and putt golf course, and areas for reflection including benches and plant / sensory gardens (as observed in photo group seven, above). Green infrastructure elements include lawns containing well-established trees, and ornamental planting and hedging. Visitors to The Hoe are often observed playing ball games, cycling, having picnics, exercising, sunbathing, relaxing, and quietly contemplating.

3.3 As shown in photo group two (above), the site also boasts the Promenade which is suitable for skateboarding, scooting, and cycling. Disabled driver parking bays within the eastern section of the Promenade allow visitors to park and enjoy the views across Plymouth Sound.

3.4 The Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan[13] for The Hoe states that its name derives from the Anglo-Saxon for '*high place'* and has been formed by the ridge of hard grey limestone which runs across the southern edge of the city.

Special qualities and local significance

3.5 As an integral part of the historic setting of the city, The Hoe is often referred to as Plymouth's 'Jewel in the Crown'. This is evident within the Plymouth Waterfront Strategic Masterplan and within the emerging Plymouth Waterfront Partnership Business Plan (BID3). The Hoe was also presented with the Green Flag Award for the third time in 2007, which is the benchmark national standard for publicly accessible parks and green spaces in the UK[14].

3.6 The quality of the built environment is highlighted within the Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan, including the following distinctive landmarks and features of interest (as observed in photo groups one to four, above): Smeaton's Tower (Grade I), the Armada Memorial (Grade II*), the Naval War Memorial (Grade I), a statue of Sir Francis Drake (Grade II*), The Belvedere, Elliot Terrace, and The Esplanade.

3.7 Nationally designated heritage assets within the site boundary total eleven Grade II listed buildings, two Grade I listed buildings, and two Grade II* listed buildings (including those mentioned above). The site is also within the setting of several heritage assets, including the Grade II* listed Esplanade (numbers 1-8 and forecourt walls and railings) and Elliot Terrace (numbers 1-8 including 6A and walls and gate piers) which are directly observed from the Promenade. Additionally, the whole of the site forms part of The Hoe Registered Park and Garden (which is Grade II listed), and The Hoe Conservation Area.

3.8 Key viewpoints include:

- Classic views of Plymouth Sound (which is part of the Plymouth Sound and Estuaries SAC), central to the distinctiveness of the wider city and observed within photo group five and six, above.
- Views towards the Barbican and Sutton Harbour, across to Mountbatten Pier and Jennycliff (which is within the South Devon AONB).
- Views over to Drake's Island and Cornwall, specifically the grounds associated with Mount Edgcumbe Country Park and the Folly (which are within the Cornwall AONB).

[13] Plymouth City Council (2009): 'The Hoe Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan', [online] available to access via: https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/planningandbuildingcontrol/conservationandheritage/conservationareas
[14] Green Flag Award (2021): 'The Hoe Park', [online] available to access via: https://www.greenflagaward.org/park-summary/?park=607

3.9 Smeaton's Tower affords far reaching 360^0 views out to Plymouth Sound, the city, and Dartmoor, and is open to the public for most of the year, as shown below (and in photo group one, above). Due to the coronavirus restrictions at the time of the LGS Audit site visit, the Tower was closed. Therefore, the image below has been taken from The Hoe Design Guide.



3.10 The Hoe has an important military role and is a focus for the forces. Particularly poignant to many are the names inscribed on the various national war memorials. Many service veterans annually travel to Plymouth from across the country and beyond to participate in remembrance ceremonies at the site. The Royal Citadel Scheduled Monument is directly to the east of the site and partly overlaps with its north eastern corner (adjacent to Hoe Road).

3.11 Regarding the visitor economy, The Hoe has hosted several tourism events over the last few years including MTV Crashes, the Plymouth Half Marathon (forming both the starting and finishing line for the endurance race), graduation ceremonies for University of Plymouth students, Plymouth Pride, and Armed Forces Day. The Hoe and Waterfront are also a focal point for spectator events that capitalise on the natural amphitheatre of the Sound. For example, residents and visitors gather within the area as a vantage point to watch the annual British Firework Championships which take place on Mountbatten Pier. Future events include the 'Roots Up! and Soudwaves' Festival in July 2021 and the 'Big Summer Festival' scheduled for the August 2021 bank holiday weekend[15].

3.12 From an ecological perspective, the northern section of the site comprises areas of Wood-pasture and Parkland BAP Priority Habitat and Deciduous Woodland BAP Priority Habitat. The southern section of the site forms part of the Plymouth Hoe and Madeira Road County Wildlife Site (discussed in further detail within the summary for Site 129, presented below). The site is also identified as a 'Core Site' within the JLP's Biodiversity Network[16].

Conclusions

Summary of findings

3.13 Following the consideration of the special qualities and local significance of The Hoe (inc. Armada Way green area by Crowne Plaza) it is considered that the area meets the criteria for LGS designation, if supported by the community.

Further opportunities for enhancing the community value of the potential LGS

3.14 Opportunities identified within the Plymouth Waterfront Strategic Masterplan include (but is not limited to):

- Increasing and extending activity into quieter times of day and year, to enhance the character and quality of the public realm and improve the connectivity between Hoe Park, Hoe Road, and the Foreshore.
- The Royal Citadel is identified as an Opportunity Site within the Plymouth and South West Devon JLP. If, in the longer term, the Royal Citadel is surplus to MoD requirements, this presents a unique opportunity to transform the identity of the Waterfront at this location.
- Opportunities for improved functional and feature lighting as well as public art could be explored as a linear trail and part of a comprehensive strategy for the whole Waterfront.

[15] Visit Plymouth (2021): 'Ocean City Festival', [online] accessible via: http://www.oceancityfestival.co.uk/
[16] Plymouth City Council (2017): 'JLP Evidence Document – Biodiversity Network Creation Process', [online] available to access via: https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/sites/default/files/BiodiversityNetworkCreationProcess.pdf

Site 58: Hoe Foreshore

1



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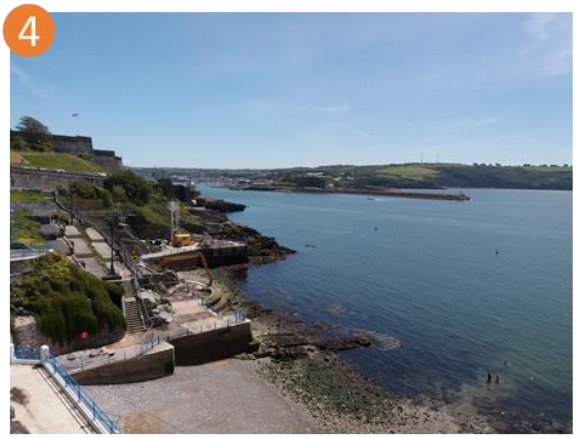
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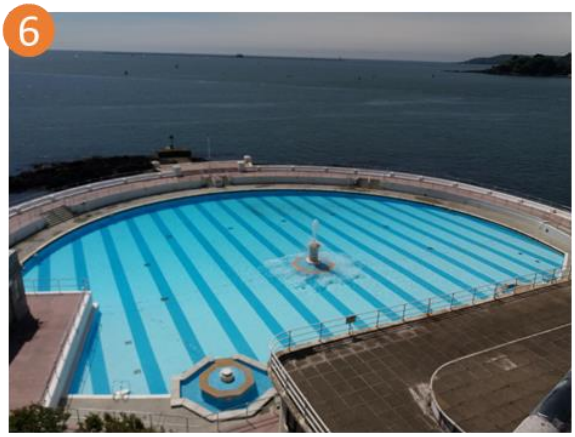
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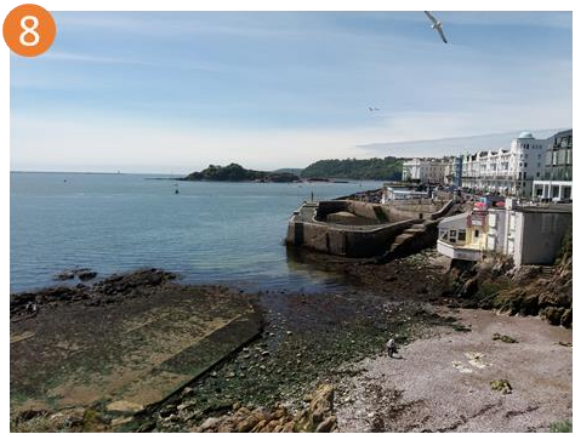
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Site description and background

3.15 Hoe Foreshore is characterised by rocky limestone cliffs which encompass numerous shallow inlets and bays. A series of early twentieth century sun and bathing terraces and steps cut into and around the cliff faces, providing public walkways and viewing platforms beside the sea (as observed in photo group one, three and five, above). The steps often lead to small beaches (tide dependant). A small harbour lies towards the western end of the site. The result is a tranquil, coastal environment which contrasts with the urban townscape extending northwards into the city centre.

3.16 Within the Plymouth and South West Devon JLP (Policy DEV27), the site is designated as a City Green Space.

Special qualities and local significance

3.17 There are various informal and formal bathing and recreational facilities built along the Foreshore that provide access to the water. This includes Tinside Lido, a 1930s Art Deco inspired open air swimming pool built into the promontory on the Waterfront (as observed in photo group six, above). Additionally, cafés, beach huts, and terraces of varying architectural style and quality are built into to rock face along the waterfront.

3.18 Regarding the built environment, architectural highlights include where Hoe Road becomes cantilevered out to form the Tinside Colonnade, Promenade and Sun Terrace (which leads to the Tinside Lido), all wonderful examples of the Art Deco style. In September 2020, internationally renowned artist Sir Antony Gormley unveiled his *Look II* iron man statue on West Hoe Pier (in the western section of the site). Looking out to sea, the sculpture is described as a 'love letter to the future' and was installed to commemorate the Mayflower 400 anniversary[17].

3.19 Heritage assets include nine Grade II listed buildings, The Hoe Registered Park and Garden (covering the central section of the site), and The Hoe Conservation Area (encompassing the entire Foreshore).

3.20 In terms of accessibility, the South West Coastal Path passes alongside the northern site boundary (adjacent to Madeira Road and Hoe Road) and is suitable for both pedestrians and cyclists. There is an interweaving network of footpaths and walkways leading down to the water edge, some of which are more clearly defined than others. This creates a sense of mystery, adventure, and seclusion in places, particularly given the lower elevation of these areas from Madeira Road.

3.21 Key viewpoints include:

- Classic views of Plymouth Sound (which is part of the Plymouth Sound and Estuaries SAC), central to the distinctiveness of the wider city and observed within photo group seven and eight, above.
- Views towards the Barbican and Sutton Harbour, across to Mountbatten Pier and Jennycliff (which is within the South Devon AONB), as observed within photo group four, above.
- Views over to Drake's Island and Cornwall, specifically the grounds associated with Mount Edgcumbe Country Park and the Folly (which are within the Cornwall AONB).

3.22 The retail offer along the Hoe Foreshore provides visitors with active frontages and social spaces, incorporating areas to sit and admire the views across Plymouth Sound. Residents and visitors also utilise the site as a vantage point to watch the annual British Firework Championships which take place on Mountbatten Pier.

3.23 From an ecological perspective, most of the site forms part of the Plymouth Hoe and Madeira Road County Wildlife Site (discussed in further detail within the summary for Site 129, presented below).

[17] The Box, Plymouth (2021): 'Antony Gormley: Look II', [online] available to access via: https://www.theboxplymouth.com/whats-on/making-it/antony-gormley-look-ii

Conclusions

Summary of findings

3.24 Following the consideration of the special qualities and local significance of the Hoe Foreshore it is considered that the area meets the criteria for LGS designation, if supported by the community.

Further opportunities for enhancing the community value of the potential LGS

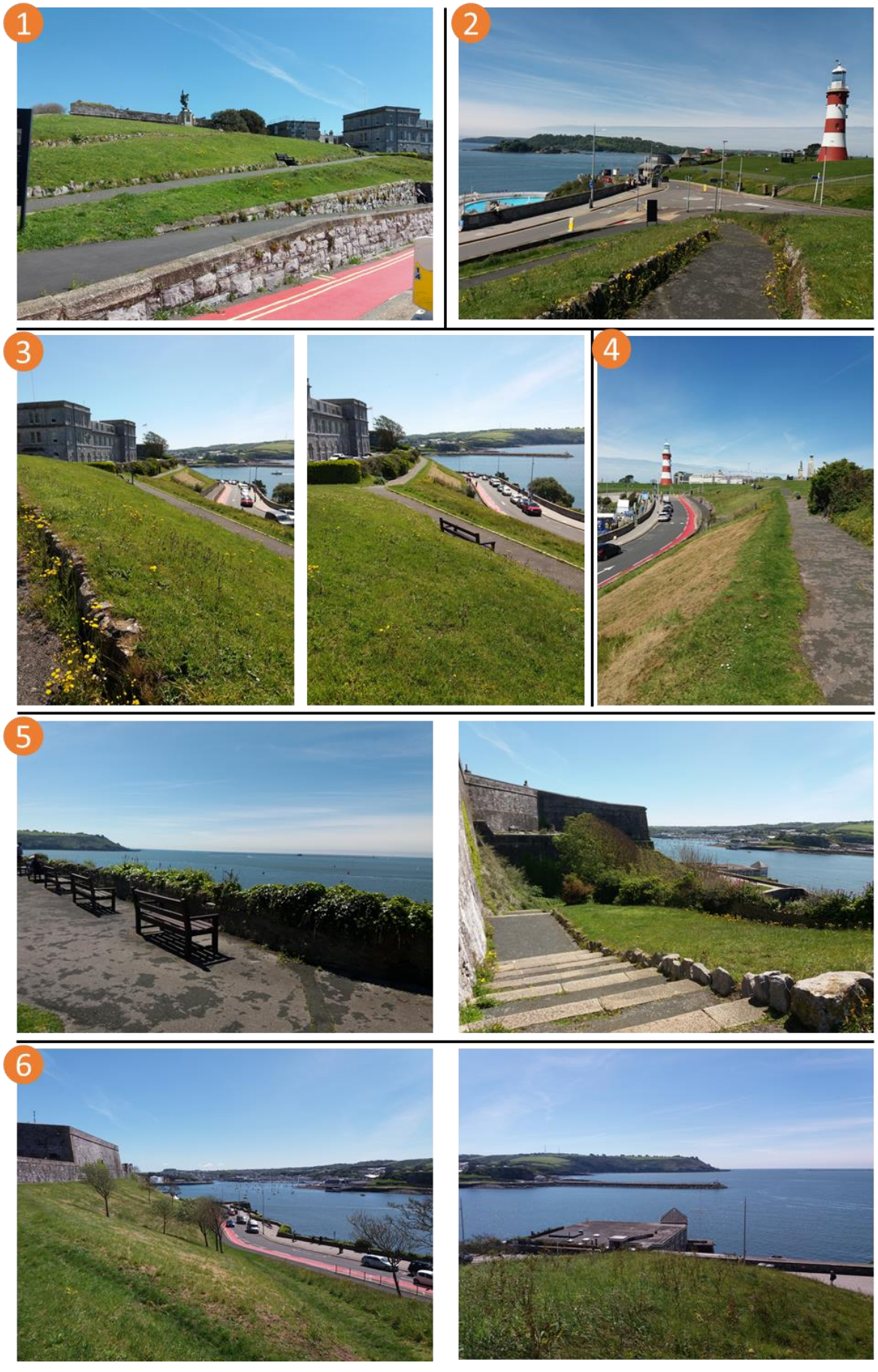
3.25 The eastern section of the site is perhaps less well utilised, given the absence of footpaths and derelict / disused land at this location. Many of the buildings beneath Hoe Road to the east of Tinside Lido are empty, and the walkways and railings could benefit from repair in places to maintain safe access. There is a potential opportunity to enhance these sections, which would include the 'Lion's Den' (as described in The Hoe Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan and shown in photo group two, above).

3.26 Opportunities identified within the Plymouth Waterfront Strategic Masterplan include:

- Increasing and extending activity into quieter times of day and year, to enhance the character and quality of the public realm, the marine educational interest, and improve the connectivity between Hoe Park, Hoe Road, and the Foreshore.
- Enhancing the visual consistencies in design language between this area, Hoe Park and Hoe Road so that it all feels part of the same destination (including materials, street furniture and planting).

3.27 There might also be potential opportunities to encourage urban greening in this area to positively contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts.

Site 129: Land off Madeira Road (Citadel slopes)



Site description and background

3.28 Located directly to the south of The Royal Citadel and to the north of the South West Coastal Path, Land off Madeira Road (Citadel Slopes) provides an alternative pedestrian link between The Hoe, Sutton Harbour, and The Barbican. Within the Plymouth and South West Devon JLP (Policy DEV27), the site is designated as a City Green Space.

3.29 The western section of the site includes areas for quiet contemplation, including memorial statues and benches which have been oriented to capitalise on the views out to Plymouth Sound (as observed in photo group one, three and five, above). Comparatively, the eastern section of the site is more informal, with grass slopes and fewer benches (as observed in photo group six, above). Scattered trees, shrubs and scrub are present throughout the site.

Special qualities and local significance

3.30 From a heritage perspective, the site is within the boundary of The Royal Citadel Scheduled Monument[18]. Designated in October 1962, the Citadel is *"one of the most complete surviving examples of a bastioned artillery defence in England and is the most extensively intact survival of the important later 17th century group built to defend the principal naval ports."*

3.31 The Grade II listed 'War Memorial West of the West Baston of the Citadel' is within the western section of the site. From this location, there are also glimpses of the Grade II* listed 'Smeaton's Tower' and the Grade II listed 'Tinside Lido and Changing Rooms' (as observed in photo group two and four, above). Additionally, the whole of the site forms part of The Hoe Registered Park and Garden (which is Grade II listed), and The Hoe Conservation Area.

3.32 Key viewpoints include (as observed within several photo groups, above):

- Classic views of Plymouth Sound (which is part of the Plymouth Sound and Estuaries SAC), central to the distinctiveness of the wider city.
- Views towards the Barbican and Sutton Harbour, across to Mountbatten Pier and Jennycliff (which is within the South Devon AONB), as observed within photo group four, above.
- Views over to Drake's Island and Cornwall, specifically the grounds associated with Mount Edgcumbe Country Park and the Folly (which are within the Cornwall AONB).

3.33 Given the elevated and sloping aspect of the site, residents and visitors utilise the Citadel Slopes as a vantage point to watch the annual British Firework Championships which take place on Mountbatten Pier, along with memorial ceremonies, and sailing events. The pathways and memorial benches also provide secluded niches for quiet reflection.

3.34 Regarding the ecological interest at this location, the whole of the site forms part of the Plymouth Hoe and Madeira Road County Wildlife Site (CWS). The description within the Management Statement[19] for the CWS states that *"the site has ten Devon Notable Species present including knotted hedge parsley, ivy broomrape, wild clary, sea couch grass, long-bracted sedge, toothed medick, Plymouth thistle and round-leaved cranesbill. The Plymouth thistle and Plymouth bladder campion have their only British sites in Plymouth."*

3.35 Supported by the Plymouth Waterfront Partnership, two giant figures are being recreated on the eastern section of the Citadel Slopes throughout the summer months[20]. Approved in June 2021, 'The Giants' project *"represents a brilliant celebration of Plymouth's 4,000 year back story as one of the country's greatest trading ports and is seen as the ideal opportunity to reinstate this significant slice of local and British history."*

[18] Historic England (2021): 'The Royal Citadel', [online] available to access via: https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1012943
[19] Plymouth City Council (2009): 'Plymouth Hoe and Madeira Road CWS Management Statement', [online] available to access via: https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/sites/default/files/hoe_and_madeira_road_management_statement.pdf
[20] Plymouth Waterfront Project (2021): 'The Plymouth Hoe Giants are coming home this week', [online] available to access via: https://www.waterfrontbid.co.uk/single-post/the-plymouth-hoe-giants-are-coming-home-this-week

Conclusions

Summary of findings

3.36 Following the consideration of the special qualities and local significance of the Land off Madeira Road (Citadel slopes) it is considered that the area meets the criteria for LGS designation, if supported by the community.

Further opportunities for enhancing the community value of the potential LGS

3.37 Existing role and function of this site works well as a counterpoint to the rest of The Hoe, providing a pedestrian link between key areas around the Waterfront and offering an alternative to the busier areas alongside Madeira Road.

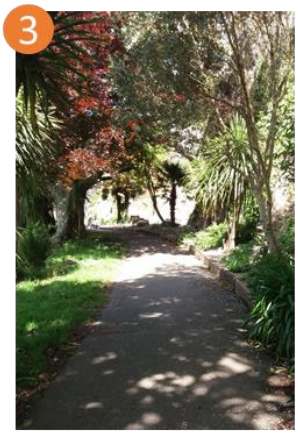
3.38 Nonetheless, a potential opportunity identified within the Plymouth Waterfront Strategic Masterplan includes enhancing the visual consistencies in design language between this area, Hoe Park and Hoe Road so that it all feels part of the same destination (including materials, street furniture and planting).

Site 207: West Hoe Park

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Site description and background

3.39 West Hoe Park is situated at the base of a reinforced cliff wall (as observed within photo group six, above), which defines the edge of an historic quarry. Its origin can be traced back to the 1800s, with the quarried stone used in major building constructions around the city and used to construct the famous Plymouth Breakwater. Within the Plymouth and South West Devon JLP (Policy DEV27), the site is designated as a City Green Space.

3.40 Regarding accessibility, there are entrances into the southern section of the site (via Madeira Road) and into the north western section of the site (via Pier Street). There is also a clearly defined footpath passing through the site which connects to the South West Coastal Path.

Special qualities and local significance

3.41 West Hoe Park has been presented with the Green Flag Award, which is the benchmark national standard for publicly accessible parks and green spaces in the UK[21].

3.42 The southern section of the site comprises a grass field with informal areas for recreational use. This includes timber framed equipment (as shown in photo group four, above), a children's train ride (photo group seven), and temporary play equipment including a bouncy castle, spinning cups, and bungee swings. There is a café adjacent to the south western corner of the site (off Hoe Road) and public toilets within the south eastern corner (photo groups seven and eight, above). This part of the site is also surrounded by attractive shrubbery, tree planting and benches (presented in photo group three).

3.43 The northern section of the site includes 'Treasure Island' which is a large attraction and amusement park containing pirate golf, go karts, trampolines, and remote-controlled car and boat racing (photo group one, above). Additionally, there is a formal play park area including swings, slides, and climbing frames (photo group two).

3.44 Key viewpoints observed from the south eastern site boundary include:

- Classic views of Plymouth Sound (which is part of the Plymouth Sound and Estuaries SAC), central to the distinctiveness of the wider city.
- Views across to Mountbatten Pier and Jennycliff (which is within the South Devon AONB).
- Views over to Drake's Island and Cornwall, specifically the grounds associated with Mount Edgcumbe Country Park and the Folly (which are within the Cornwall AONB).

3.45 From a heritage perspective, the whole of the site is within The Hoe Registered Park and Garden (which is Grade II listed). Additionally, the southern field forms part of The Hoe Conservation Area.

Conclusions

Summary of findings

3.46 Following the consideration of the special qualities and local significance of West Hoe Park it is considered that the area meets the criteria for LGS designation, if supported by the community.

Further opportunities for enhancing the community value of the potential LGS

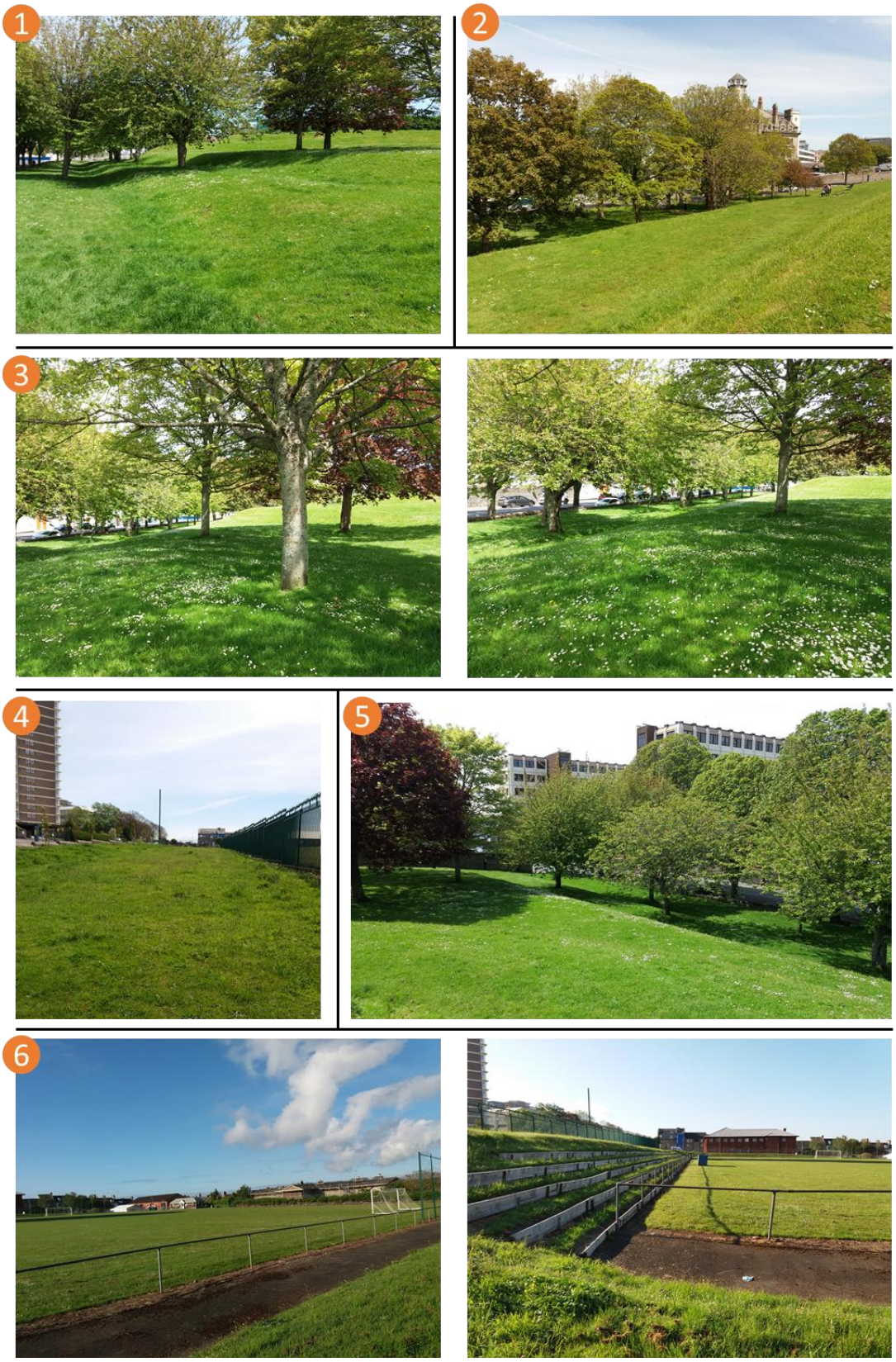
3.47 Broad objectives which have been identified as a priority for future management link to:

- The area's informal recreation offer, perhaps via the inclusion of benches and picnic tables within the southern field, oriented to capitalise on the views out to Plymouth Sound.
- Enhancing biodiversity to deliver net gains for nature, perhaps via the planting of wildflower meadows and native species.

3.48 However, it is important to acknowledge that West Hoe Park is a well-organised and managed area which is well-utilised by families with young children.

[21] Green Flag Award (2021): 'West Hoe Park', [online] available to access via: https://www.greenflagaward.org/park-summary/?park=1437

Site 221: Millbay Park



Site description and background

3.49 This site is in Millbay, south west of the city centre and close to the city's ferry port. The park comprises an attractive public open space, with sections of higher ground in addition to the terraced grass banks which slope down from Millbay Recreation Ground (a football pitch) towards West Hoe Road.

3.50 There are attractive stone entrance gates from West Hoe Road with memorial plaques which briefly explaining the history of the site, and stone steps leading up to Millbay Recreation Ground (shown in photo group six, above) which is currently fenced off by railings. Millbay Park is likely to be an area where supporters gather to watch their friends / family members play football. It is owned by the Territorial Army and is not publicly accessible, although it is used by various local league teams (and their supporters) on a regular basis.

3.51 Mature deciduous trees and other planting add to the attractiveness of this site. From areas of higher ground, there are some views into the city and the surrounding landscape. Within the Plymouth and South West Devon JLP (Policy DEV27), the site is designated as a Neighbourhood Green Space.

Special qualities and local significance

3.52 Approximately twelve mature trees within the site boundary (as observed within several of the photo groups, above), including a corridor along the north western site boundary which provides an element of visual screening from West Hoe Road and creates a sense of seclusion and enclosure. From an ecological perspective, these natural features are likely to provide a noteworthy refuge for small garden birds, mammals, and insects.

3.53 Millbay Park is within the Hoe Residential Area. One of the key issues for the area identified through the Townscape Character Assessment (which is presented in The Hoe Design Guide) is the limited green infrastructure due to the density of the existing buildings. In light of this, the site provides a pocket park within an otherwise relatively built-up area of the Waterfront.

3.54 Regarding the historic environment, the Grade II listed 'Duke of Cornwall Hotel and Attached Forecourt Walls and Railings' is located directly to the north of the site and is within the boundaries of The Hoe Conservation Area. Whilst partially screened from the corridor of trees, Millbay Park contributes to the wider setting of this heritage asset and area.

3.55 A plaque on one of the stone pillars at the entrance to the site states: *"On this site was Mill (Old Mill – Millbay) Gaol where over 1,500 American sailors were held in captivity during the War for American Independence (1777-1783)."* In this respect, the site has a local historic significance in the light of the close relationships between Plymouth and the USA, recently brought to the fore as part of the Mayflower 400 celebrations in 2020.

3.56 In terms of recreation and relaxation, visitors to Millbay Park are often observed walking their dogs or sitting on the benches for quiet contemplation. The site provides a natural noise buffer to traffic along West Hoe Road and is likely used as an informal area for office workers during their lunch break. This is given its proximity to Ballard House, which is the main office for Plymouth City Council (shown in photo group five, above).

Conclusions

Summary of findings

3.57 Following the consideration of the special qualities and local significance of Millbay Park it is considered that the area meets the criteria for LGS designation, if supported by the community.

Further opportunities for enhancing the community value of the potential LGS

3.58 The eastern section of the site is an underutilised strip of grassland with newly planted trees along the boundary (as observed in photo group four, above) and feels separated from the rest of Millbay Park.

3.59 The entrance to Millbay Recreation Ground (which is directly to the south of the site) is achieved via the steps which pass through Millbay Park. Until recently, this area was not fenced off. Given its connection to Millbay Park, this area could potentially be a valuable LGS if it were to become publicly available.

Site 302: Land off Hoe Road (slopes opposite Citadel Rd B&Bs)



Site description and background

3.60 Land off Hoe Road is a relatively small, steeply sloping site comprising amenity grassland with scattered trees and ornamental planting. The walkways traversing through the site provide a connection and thoroughfare between the Barbican (to the north east via Citadel Road East) and to The Hoe (to the south west via Lambhay Hill), both of which are conservation areas.

3.61 Within the Plymouth and South West Devon JLP (Policy DEV27), the site is designated as a City Green Space.

Special qualities and local significance

3.62 From a heritage perspective, most of the site is within the boundary of the Royal Citadel Scheduled Monument. Additionally, the whole of the site forms part of The Hoe Registered Park and Garden (which is Grade II listed), and The Hoe Conservation Area.

3.63 Approximately 15 mature trees within the site boundary (as observed within several of the photo groups, above), including a corridor along the south western site boundary which provides an element of visual screening from Hoe Road and Lambhay Hill and creates a sense of seclusion and enclosure. These natural features contribute to a wider area of Wood-pasture and Parkland BAP Priority Habitat which encompasses the whole site. In this respect, the site likely provides a noteworthy refuge for small garden birds, mammals, and insects within an otherwise built-up area.

3.64 The site is relatively tranquil with numerous shady areas provided by the trees within and alongside its boundaries (as shown in several of the photo groups, above). The entrance to the site has steps and gate post pillars which enhance the character and appeal of the area.

3.65 Visually, the eastern section of the site benefits from an elevated setting on a hillside, with long views to the north over the city centre and far reaching views to the north east over towards Dartmoor National Park (as shown in photo group six, above). The tops of the boats within Sutton Harbour are also visible.

Conclusions

Summary of findings

3.66 Following the consideration of the special qualities and local significance of the Land off Hoe Road (slopes opposite Citadel Rd B&Bs) it is considered that the area meets the criteria for LGS designation, if supported by the community.

Further opportunities for enhancing the community value of the potential LGS

3.67 Broad objectives which have been identified as a priority for future management or enhancement link to the following considerations:

- The area's informal recreation offer: particularly within the eastern section of the site which may benefit from the inclusion of benches which are oriented to capitalise on the views.
- Consultation with key stakeholder groups (e.g. Historic England) to determine and implement measures which enhance the setting and character of The Royal Citadel Scheduled Monument.

Site 318: Radford Road (West Hoe Tennis Courts)

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Site description and background

3.68 The northern section of the site comprises an informal grassy field which is well overlooked by neighbouring properties, providing good security (as shown in photo group one and four, above). The dominant feature of the site is the tennis courts which have recently been renovated and upgraded. Residents and visitors to the city can book courts and play at their leisure. Surrounding the courts are grassed areas with a few trees, pathways, and benches.

3.69 The semi-circular site is bordered by the attractive Victorian and Edwardian terraces of Garden Crescent, Eddystone Terrace, Northumberland Terrace and Radford Road. Within the Plymouth and South West Devon JLP (Policy DEV27), the site is designated as a Neighbourhood Green Space.

Special qualities and local significance

3.70 The site is within the Hoe Residential Area. One of the key issues for the area identified through the Townscape Character Assessment (which is presented in The Hoe Design Guide) is the limited green infrastructure due to the density of the existing buildings. In this respect, the site provides a pocket park within a relatively urban environment which is surrounded by residential and commercial development.

3.71 Benches within the south western section provide opportunities for spectators to watch tennis, or to quietly contemplate. This section of the site also contains trees and planting with a path, which is both aesthetically pleasing and likely to provide a noteworthy refuge for local wildlife (as shown in photo group two, above).

3.72 The upgrades of the tennis courts were completed in September 2020 as part of Plymouth City Council's city-wide strategy for tennis development. The Council has worked closely with the Lawn Tennis Association on the development of this project to provide high quality courts to provide opportunities for the people of Plymouth to access tennis activity. The courts are publicly accessible and managed via an online booking system[22].

Conclusions

Summary of findings

3.73 Following the consideration of the special qualities and local significance of Radford Road (West Hoe Tennis Courts) it is considered that the area meets the criteria for LGS designation, if supported by the community.

Further opportunities for enhancing the community value of the potential LGS

3.74 Broad objectives which have been identified as a priority for future management links to the area's informal recreation offer, particularly within the northern section of the site. This could include the provision of benches and picnic tables for both residents and visitors wanting to relax either before or after using the tennis courts, or for tourists staying in the various guest houses located along Radford Road and Garden Crescent.

3.75 Within the southern section of the site, enhancements to the tennis club pavilion (as observed within photo group three, above) could enhance the character of this area, which is currently underutilised.

[22] Lawn Tennis Association (2021): 'West Hoe Tennis Courts', [online] available to access via: https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/WestHoePark

Site 358: The Mound (Hoe) (Area opposite Citadel gates)



Site description and background

3.76 The southern section of the site is a well-kept area of amenity grassland which is elevated from ground level, including a memorial accessible via a central footpath. There is a bench next to the memorial providing opportunities for quiet reflection and contemplation.

3.77 The northern section of the site is separated by a no-exit road (via Lambhay Hill) and comprises amenity grassland with scattered trees and shrubs adjacent to the entrance to The Royal Citadel. Although slightly overgrown, this area is aesthetically pleasing and contains an information board about the Citadel's heritage (as shown in photo group four, above).

3.78 Within the Plymouth and South West Devon JLP (Policy DEV27), the site is designated as a City Green Space.

Special qualities and local significance

3.79 Regarding the historic environment, the whole of the site forms part of The Hoe Registered Park and Garden (which is Grade II listed), and The Hoe Conservation Area. The Mound is also located directly in front of the entrance to The Royal Citadel and is within the boundaries of this scheduled monument.

3.80 There is a central structure - a Memorial to the Fallen - dedicated to the 29th/95 Commando regiment of the Royal Artillery and dating from 1966. The monument is shown in photo group two and three, above. Nearby, there is a memorial seat facing the city, commemorating a local Blue Badge Guide. There is a series of granite steps up to the Mound (as observed in photo group one, above), complete with heritage metal posts and handrails, and granite end pillars.

3.81 The area of land surrounding the memorial is an area of Wood-pasture and Parkland BAP Priority Habitat (as shown in photo group three and four, above). In this respect, the site likely provides a noteworthy refuge for small garden birds, mammals, and insects within an otherwise built-up area.

3.82 Visually, the site benefits from an elevated setting on a hillside, with long views to the north over the city centre and far reaching views to the north east over towards Dartmoor National Park.

Conclusions

Summary of findings

3.83 Following the consideration of the special qualities and local significance of The Mound (Hoe) (Area opposite Citadel gates) it is considered that the area meets the criteria for LGS designation, if supported by the community.

Further opportunities for enhancing the community value of the potential LGS

3.84 Broad objectives which have been identified as a priority for future management or enhancement link to the following considerations:

- Enhancing biodiversity to deliver net gains for nature, perhaps via the planting of wildflower meadows and native species.
- Consultation with key stakeholder groups (e.g. Historic England) to determine and implement measures which enhance the setting and character of The Royal Citadel Scheduled Monument.

3.85 Opportunities to enhance the recreational offer of the site is perhaps limited given the proximity of the site to Citadel gates, which are securely guarded.

Appendix A Audit Pro-forma

Site 49	The Hoe (inc. Armada Way green area by Crowne Plaza)
Ownership	
Management status	Plymouth City Council / Plymouth Waterfront Partnership
General description & background	A major public park connecting to the city centre, comprising open grass areas, parkland trees and shrubberies, and an events area on a wide tarmac surfaced area overlooking The Sound. War memorials are present. Smeaton's Tower lighthouse is located towards the south of the site. The site also boasts a bowling green and pavilion, boules pitch, pitch and putt and a café. Many service veterans annually travel to Plymouth from across the country and beyond to participate in remembrance ceremonies at the site. Sports and other organised activities include firework displays, remembrance services and international sailing events.
Approximate area:	12.48 ha
Insert Map	Grid reference: SX477539 A location map of the site is presented in the main body of the report.
Insert Photo	Photos of the site have been included in the main body of the report.
Basic Requirements Assessment	
Criteria & reasons for protection	Yes
Do any extant Planning Permissions apply to the area?	Following a review of Plymouth City Council's interactive planning application tool (accessible here), the following planning applications within the site boundary have been submitted in the last 12 months (from June 2020 to May 2021): 21/00311/LBC: Part-retrospective installation of new perimeter lighting illuminating Drakes Statue, Merchant Navy Memorial, Britannia Memorial and the RAF War Memorial on the Hoe Promenade. 21/00307/LBC: Installation of 1no. bronze totem sign (No. 7). 20/02012/FUL: Reconstruction of western, northern and eastern elevations, installation of toilet cubicles, changing room and storage and associated landscaping. 20/00854/FUL: Installation of 10no. temporary portable self-contained toilets (Retrospective).

	21/00183/TCO: Various tree management works as detailed in submitted work schedule. 20/00673/FUL: Part demolition works and erection of new atrium entrance lobby, reconfigure courtyard space to include education centre, laboratory block extension and associated works.
Is the Green Space allocated for development in LP, DPD or NDP?	Within the Plymouth and South West Devon JLP (Policy DEV27), the site is designated as a City Green Space.
Is the Green Space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves (within 240m of 10 dwellings or more)?	Yes
Is the site covered by any of the following designations? • Special Areas of Conservation; • Special Protection Areas; • Sites of Special Scientific Interest; • Registered Parks and Gardens; • Local Nature Reserves; • Registered village greens; • Common land; • Strategic Green Space; or • Minerals Safeguarding Area.	The site is within The Hoe Registered Park and Garden. Additional designations of note include: - The Royal Citadel Scheduled Monument; - The Hoe Conservation Area; - Eleven Grade II, two Grade I, and two Grade II* listed buildings; - Wood-pasture and Parkland BAP Priority Habitat and Deciduous Woodland BAP Priority Habitat in the northern section of the site; - Plymouth Hoe and Madeira Road County Wildlife Site within the southern section of the site; and - The site is within the wider setting of the Cornwall AONB and the South Devon AONB.
Is the Green Space demonstrably special and hold a particular local significance for one or more of the following reasons?	
Beauty Is the site beautiful? Is it visible from a public place/has key views? Is the site mentioned in any relevant documentation? Any cultural references? Is the site important for others, not just the local area? Does the site improve the overall appearance of the area?	A Grade II listed park, The Hoe Park enjoys iconic status as providing one of the most outstanding viewpoints in Britain and, arguably, in the world. Not just Plymothians, who throng The Hoe Park on sunny weekends and holidays (and hardy dog walkers who daily promenade in rain or shine) but a constant stream of visitors from across the world, drop their jaws as the wide aspect of The Sound comes into view as they top the ridge and join The Promenade. Simon Jenkins, immediate past Chairman of The National Trust, in his book, England's Hundred Best Views, highlights The Hoe as "the hub around which Plymouth landscape revolves …. ranking in England's historical geography with the White Cliffs of Dover". He commends the view out over the Sound as "refreshingly sylvan" with its embracing green cliff-lined shores, fronted by Drake's Island, and alive with constant seafaring activity. This echoes the recorded comments of Daniel Defoe some three centuries earlier that "from the plain on the edge of the sea a finer sight I never saw." However, the beauty of the Hoe is not simply the views accorded by its stupendous location and stunning vistas. Within the site itself, a detailed and historically evolving layout, comprising formal park design and planting and containing many monuments which enjoy listed status, provides numerous points of further interest and sensory pleasure.

	The area to the north of The Promenade is predominantly laid out as well-maintained lawns planted with scattered specimen trees and criss-crossed with walkways laid down in the course of the park's development over the centuries. The slopes of a raised walk along the north-east boundary are planted with trees and shrubs while on the western side along the boundaries adjacent to Lockyer Street, The Esplanade and Elliot Terrace are colourful and carefully gardened formal beds of shrubbery and flowers. Within these is set the Sensory Garden, a shady area of subtle aromas and a corner for quiet contemplation. The grass area north of the main war memorial is continued by a triangular-shaped lawn on the north side of Citadel Road, where there is a further area of formal garden which serves to link The Hoe to the city centre. Both The Hoe Park and its sister park at West Hoe enjoy Green Flag status.
Historic significance Are there any historic features? Historic landscape features? Did any important historic events take place on site?	The Hoe Park has been recognised as being of sufficient historic interest to be put by English Heritage in 2002 on The Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in England and was awarded Grade II listed status. It is viewed as a significant example of a public park developed from public walks and pleasure grounds which originated in the medieval period. The site includes a significant group of C19 park structures together with much of its c19 path pattern. In addition, the park has become the site of a substantial group of monuments, memorials and edifices which themselves have gained listed status because of their historical and architectural value. According to one of the many monuments on The Hoe the Vikings were early appraisers of the beauty and geographical worth the site. Subsequently, during the medieval period, the headland was used for recreation by the residents of the rapidly growing town of Plymouth. Apparently, predating our new Beatles artwork, our ancestors cut two figures of giants holding clubs, popularly known as 'Gog Magog', in the turf. In 1588 Sir Francis Drake (c1540-96) famously played his legendary game of bowls on The Hoe while awaiting the arrival of the Spanish Armada, an event celebrated in the sign at the entrance of The Hoe Bowling Green. In the 1670s Charles II constructed the Royal Citadel at the eastern end of The Hoe, the best surviving example of its type in Europe. The Hoe continued to be used as an informal place of recreation during the C16, C17, and C18. As Plymouth assumed greater significance as a naval town in the early C19, the Corporation sought to develop The Hoe in a more formal way with walks and gardens. Walks were re-gravelled, the seats were repaired, and by 1838 The Hoe was assuming the shape we would recognise today. On the perimeter, two nineteenth century terraces with their richly decorated exteriors, Elliot Terrace and the Esplanade have Grade 2* listings, putting them in the top 5% of listed buildings within the country. According to the listings they

	are also of significance because of their prominence when viewed from the sea across the green space of The Hoe Park. Number 3 Elliot Terrace was given to the people of Plymouth in perpetuity by Nancy Astor, the first woman to take her seat in Parliament, and is the official residence of the Lord Mayor of Plymouth. 6 Elliot Terrace, for a short time, provided lodgings for Conan Doyle who, in his first job, worked as a medical practitioner within the city. By 1873 Jewitt noted that: 'The Hoe ... is converted into public gardens for the free and unrestricted use, day and night, of the inhabitants, and forms one of the most delightful and inviting ... promenades in the Kingdom…. On the sea side of the cliffs, winding paths and flights of steps, with innumerable alcoves, recesses, and seats are provided for the comfort of the public'. By 1830 The Promenade had been laid down as the central feature of the layout of the park. The foreshore was purchased from the Duchy of Cornwall in 1882 to prevent quarrying, stone-gathering, and speculative development! Beginning a line of monuments to grace The Hoe, the upper section of John Smeaton's Eddystone Lighthouse was re-erected in 1882, while the first of a significant group of public memorials, the statue of Sir Francis Drake, was erected in 1883. Further structures, many now listed, including shelters, a tower, and the Belvedere, were constructed in the late C19. Following the First World War, The Hoe was chosen as the site for the national Naval War Memorial and several further significant military memorials have followed. After the Second World War the Naval Memorial was extended and was chosen by J Paton Watson and Patrick Abercrombie, architects for the reconstruction of Plymouth following its war-time bombing, as the terminal feature of a new north/south vista extending through the city centre.
Recreational value (inc. as a Playing field) Is the site used for sport? If so give details. Is there play space? Are there any other play spaces nearby? What about informal recreation? Can the site be accessed easily? Any recreational routes? E.g. PRoW?	The Hoe Park has been used as place of recreation since before the sixteen century (see also Historical Significance section). Today, the park provides for local, national and international events and for formal and informal recreation. It offers an ‘outside classroom’ for children and grown-ups alike. The designated area is steeped in history, attracting local, national and international attention (see also Historical Significance section). This feature is key to Plymouth’s tourism ‘offer’ and its economic interests. In addition, the park and foreshore are significant geographical, geological and flora and fauna assets. It is said that the foreshore retains more natural features than any other seaside city in England. Specifically: - A popular site for physical activity with health benefit- from strolling and dog walking through jogging, skateboarding etc. to sea and pool

	swimming, kayaking and sailboarding at the foreshore. - The South-West Coast Path passes through. - It is popular site for informal/family gatherings and outings including barbecue facilities. - Wide variety of cafes and restaurants to suit all tastes and budgets - A civic amenity for a programme of public, charitable and community-led events such as commemorative events (e.g. Remembrance Day, Armed Forces Day), Bonfire Night, MTV Crashes, Plymouth Half Marathon, Race for Life, and Fun Fairs (historically, there have been fairs on The Hoe for 150 years) - Spectating: A spectacular amphitheatre and backdrop overlooking the Sound for national and international events, such as: British Fireworks Championships, Powerboat Championships, Regattas, and the British part of the America's Cup Series. - Provides easy access to activities and events by private and public transport, including disabled access and parking facilities, and cycle parking. - Sheltered as well as open seating makes it usable in inclement weather. - Public toilets provided at the east end of the Park. - Refreshments widely available across the area. - Adequate access and space for emergency vehicles; in addition, the Hoe Park can provide an emergency landing site for air ambulance and rescue helicopters. For Schools: The Hoe and foreshore are an inspiring and invaluable live educational and recreational resource for schools within the city. For Plymouth University: Hoe Park with its backdrop of Plymouth Sound provides a perfect venue for the annual Graduation Ceremony of Plymouth University. Each year graduands, national and international, accompanied by proud friends and family gather in the Park to receive their awards. The Hoe must be one of the most awe-inspiring sites in Britain for such an event and this must do much to promote the city to visitors both within and outside of the UK.
Tranquillity Is the site tranquil? Why? Does it enhance the feeling of tranquillity within the local area? Does it provide an area of tranquillity within a busy setting by hiding urban features such as roads?	There is much scope in Hoe Park for those looking for space and quietude. There is well maintained seating throughout the Park and grassy banks for those who prefer, looking out towards the sea or inland over the city. A small but very beautiful sensory garden has been constructed, enjoyed by many but particularly relevant to the visually impaired. Covered seating is available in the Belvedere, the Sensory Garden and in the Victorian Shelters.

	Particularly poignant to many, are the names inscribed on the various national war memorials. People come from around the world to search for the names of family members. When there are events on the Hoe a member of staff of the Park is always available to guide someone down to the relevant memorial and, if they wish, to find a place for quiet contemplation. At a local level, in the garden beside the café, there is an annual themed sculpture. This site also hosts, what I understand will be an annual fund-raising event, a display of crafted flowers, each one marking the passing of a well-loved Plymothian.
Richness of wildlife Is the site designated for wildlife? If not is there evidence of important habitats/species? Have ecological surveys been undertaken? Is the site part of the JLP biodiversity network or adjacent to it? Is there any evidence that other wildlife of interest has been found on site?	The southern section of The Hoe is designated as a County Wildlife Site because of the presence of 10 notable species of plants including wild clary, sea couch grass, long-bracted sedge, ivy broomrape, knotted hedge parsley, toothed medick, Plymouth thistle and round-leaved crane's bill. Combining amenity grassland with unimproved calcareous grassland, coastal grassland and cliff vegetation, sensitive management allows a diverse flora with no single species dominating. The Hoe is identified as a 'Core Site' within Plymouth's Biodiversity Network. The Sensory Garden has a wide range of aromatic plants.
Other	
Is the site larger than 10ha?	Yes
Is it an extensive tract of land?	No
How does the site relate to the local area? Does the site feel part of the local area? Does the site connect physically, visually and/or socially to the area? Is the site distinct from its context by virtue of its size, land type or landscape features, e.g. what are its boundary conditions?	The Hoe is centrally located on the Plymouth Waterfront and adjoins the city centre, which lies to the north. There is a clear connection between the city centre and The Hoe via Armada Way; a north-south axis from Plymouth Railway Station which is predominantly pedestrianised. Access is also possible on approach from the east via the Barbican and Sutton Harbour, and from the west via West Hoe Park and Millbay. Wide pathways provide a variety of pedestrian routes through the site. As an integral part of the historic setting of the city, The Hoe is often referred to as Plymouth's 'Jewel in the Crown'. This is evident within the Plymouth Waterfront Strategic Masterplan and within the emerging Plymouth Waterfront Partnership Business Plan (BID3).
Evidence of local support (e.g. through consultation)	Yes
Could the site help mitigate the impact of climate change? Does it include and landscape features that could help?	The site contains landscape features which are natural carbon sequesters (i.e. trees and vegetation) which contribute to climate change mitigation efforts and adaptation (through helping to reduce surface water flood risk). These features are also an effective mechanism to

	reduce temperatures in areas which are predominantly urban in character.
Summary	Following the consideration of the special qualities and local significance of The Hoe (inc. Armada Way green area by Crowne Plaza) which are presented in the pro-forma and discussed within the main body of the report, it is considered that the area meets the criteria for LGS designation, if supported by the community.

Site 58	Hoe Foreshore
Ownership	
Management status	Plymouth City Council / Plymouth Waterfront Partnership
General description & background	This area includes the rocky foreshore. A series of terraces and steps cut into and around the cliff faces providing public walkways and viewing platforms beside the sea, with steps leading to small beaches (tide dependant). A small harbour lies towards the western end of the site. A number of key tourist attractions link to this historic seafront. Tinside Lido pool and associated changing rooms are set within the terraces fronting the Sound. Beach huts are present on the terraces. Cafes, pubs, restaurants and a yacht club are situated within stone buildings. Some areas of grass and scrub vegetation on the steeper banks provide local interest. Wide views over the Sound.
Approximate area:	5.29 ha
Insert Map	Grid reference: SX477536 A location map of the site is presented in the main body of the report.
Insert Photo	Photos of the site have been included in the main body of the report.
Basic Requirements Assessment	
Criteria & reasons for protection	Yes
Do any extant Planning Permissions apply to the area?	Following a review of Plymouth City Council's interactive planning application tool (accessible here), the following planning applications within the site boundary have been submitted in the last 12 months (from June 2020 to May 2021): Condition discharges (ref: 20/01089/CDMLB and ref: 20/01088/CDM) associated with application 20/00190/LBC for the installation of statue, part re-surfacing of pier, and temporary site compound. 21/00312/LBC: Installation of 1no. bronze totem sign as part of the Hoe Trail walking route. 20/01798/FUL: The Terrace Café: Extension to café to enclose first floor. 20/02051/MOR: Royal Corinthian Yacht Club: Pre-application for alterations including new entrance, balustrading, external seating, canopies and using roof space as a beer garden.
Is the Green Space allocated for development in LP, DPD or NDP?	Within the Plymouth and South West Devon JLP (Policy DEV27), the site is designated as a City Green Space.

Is the Green Space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves (within 240m of 10 dwellings or more)?	Yes
Is the site covered by any of the following designations? • Special Areas of Conservation; • Special Protection Areas; • Sites of Special Scientific Interest; • Registered Parks and Gardens; • Local Nature Reserves; • Registered village greens; • Common land; • Strategic Green Space; or • Minerals Safeguarding Area.	The site is adjacent to the Plymouth Sound and Estuaries SAC, and the central section of the site is within The Hoe Registered Park and Garden. Additional designations of note include: - The site is within the wider setting of the Cornwall AONB and the South Devon AONB; - The Hoe Conservation Area; - Most of the site forms part of the Plymouth Hoe and Madeira Road County Wildlife Site; and - Nine Grade II listed buildings.
Is the Green Space demonstrably special and hold a particular local significance for one or more of the following reasons?	
Beauty Is the site beautiful? Is it visible from a public place/has key views? Is the site mentioned in any relevant documentation? Any cultural references? Is the site important for others, not just the local area? Does the site improve the overall appearance of the area?	The foreshore from West Hoe to a point near the Corinthian Yacht Club is laid out with a series of early C20 concrete sun and bathing terraces, with ornamental shrubbery and alpine planting on the adjacent rock faces. An architectural highlight is where Hoe Road becomes cantilevered out to form the Tinside Colonnade, Promenade and Sun Terrace (listed Grade II), which leads to the Lido/Tinside Pool (listed Grade II), all wonderful examples of the Art Deco style. There are several cafes/restaurants on the rock terraces of the foreshore on the seaward side of Hoe Road.
Historic significance Are there any historic features? Historic landscape features? Did any important historic events take place on site?	The foreshore was purchased from the Duchy of Cornwall in 1882 to prevent quarrying, stone-gathering, and speculative development. Along the foreshore, the Grade II listed Lido was constructed in the 1930s, along with a sun terrace and promenade. In 2015, a new memorial was installed, in collaboration with French colleagues, commemorating Napoleon's anchorage in the Sound on the Bellerophon for nine days in 1815 before being transported to St. Helena. An architectural highlight is where Hoe Road becomes cantilevered out to form the Tinside Colonnade, Promenade and Sun Terrace (listed Grade II), which leads to the Lido/Tinside Pool (listed Grade II), all wonderful examples of the Art Deco style.
Recreational value (inc. as a Playing field) Is the site used for sport? If so give details. Is there play space? Are there any other play spaces nearby? What about informal recreation? Can the site be accessed easily? Any recreational routes? E.g. PRoW?	The foreshore is a significant geographical, geological and flora and fauna asset. It is said that the foreshore retains more natural features than any other seaside city in England. Specifically: - A popular site for physical activity with health benefit, from strolling and dog walking through jogging, skateboarding etc. to sea and pool swimming, kayaking and sailboarding. - Tinside Lido has been voted one of the top ten outdoor pools in Europe. - The South-West Coast Path passes through. - It is popular site for informal/family gatherings and outings including barbecues.

	There are several cafes/restaurants on the rock terraces of the foreshore on the seaward side of Hoe Road to suit all tastes and budgets. An inspiring and invaluable live educational and recreational resource for schools within the city.
Tranquillity Is the site tranquil? Why? Does it enhance the feeling of tranquillity within the local area? Does it provide an area of tranquillity within a busy setting by hiding urban features such as roads?	There is an interweaving network of footpaths and walkways leading down to the water edge, some of which are more clearly defined than others. This creates a sense of mystery, adventure, and seclusion in places, particularly given the lower elevation of these areas from Madeira Road.
Richness of wildlife Is the site designated for wildlife? If not is there evidence of important habitats/species? Have ecological surveys been undertaken? Is the site part of the JLP biodiversity network or adjacent to it? Is there any evidence that other wildlife of interest has been found on site?	The Hoe foreshore is washed by the waters of the Plymouth Sound and Estuaries SAC. Most of the site itself forms part of the Plymouth Hoe and Madeira Road County Wildlife Site. In the Sound, bottle-nosed dolphins and basking sharks are occasionally spotted whilst beneath the waves. The Sound is home to both the spiny seahorse and the short-snouted seahorse which reside amongst eelgrass beds. Pink sea fan, one of the UK's most endangered soft corals, can be found in amongst rocky reefs. The Tamar Estuaries Consultative Forum (TECF) promotes the delivery of integrated management to ensure long term sustainability.
Other	Planting trees/plants suitable to the space will provide shade and a habitat for wildlife. A 'rich and resilient natural environment is integral to everyday life'. (Natural England Conservation Strategy for the 21st Century). This will assist with reconnecting the community with the historic and natural environment.
Is the site larger than 10ha?	No
Is it an extensive tract of land?	No
How does the site relate to the local area? Does the site feel part of the local area? Does the site connect physically, visually and/or socially to the area? Is the site distinct from its context by virtue of its size, land type or landscape features, e.g. what are its boundary conditions?	The South West Coastal Path passes alongside the northern site boundary (adjacent to Madeira Road and Hoe Road) and is suitable for both pedestrians and cyclists. There is an interweaving network of footpaths and walkways leading down to the water edge, some of which are more clearly defined than others. A series of sun and bathing terraces and steps cut into and around the cliff faces, providing public walkways and viewing platforms beside the sea. The steps often lead to small beaches (tide dependant). The result is a tranquil, coastal environment which contrasts with the urban townscape extending northwards into the city centre.
Evidence of local support (e.g. through consultation)	Yes
Could the site help mitigate the impact of climate change?	The rocky foreshore provides a natural flood defence to rising sea levels, which is a concern given the proximity of the site to Plymouth Sound. As previously mentioned, there

Does it include and landscape features that could help?	are potential opportunities to encourage urban greening in this area to positively contribute to climate change mitigation efforts and reduce the urban heat island effect.
Summary	Following the consideration of the special qualities and local significance of the Hoe Foreshore which are presented in the pro-forma and discussed within the main body of the report, it is considered that the area meets the criteria for LGS designation, if supported by the community.

Site 129	Land off Madeira Road (Citadel slopes)
Ownership	
Management status	Plymouth City Council / Plymouth Waterfront Partnership
General description & background	This site comprises predominantly steep grass banks to the south of the Royal Citadel, bounded by a stone wall in places. Scattered trees, shrubs and scrub are also present. Memorial statues are located towards the west. The site affords wide views over the Sound.
Approximate area:	1.91 ha
Insert Map	Grid reference: SX481536 A location map of the site is presented in the main body of the report.
Insert Photo	Photos of the site have been included in the main body of the report.
Basic Requirements Assessment	
Criteria & reasons for protection	Yes
Do any extant Planning Permissions apply to the area?	Following a review of Plymouth City Council's interactive planning application tool (accessible here), the following planning application within the site boundary was submitted in the last 12 months (from June 2020 to May 2021): 20/01282/MOR and 21/00694/ADV: Pre-application and reinstatement of the 'Welcome to Plymouth' sign.
Is the Green Space allocated for development in LP, DPD or NDP?	Within the Plymouth and South West Devon JLP (Policy DEV27), the site is designated as a City Green Space.
Is the Green Space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves (within 240m of 10 dwellings or more)?	Yes
Is the site covered by any of the following designations? • Special Areas of Conservation; • Special Protection Areas; • Sites of Special Scientific Interest; • Registered Parks and Gardens; • Local Nature Reserves; • Registered village greens; • Common land; • Strategic Green Space; or • Minerals Safeguarding Area.	The site is within The Hoe Registered Park and Garden. Additional designations of note include: - The site is within the setting of the Royal Citadel Scheduled Monument, the Cornwall AONB, the South Devon AONB, the Grade II* listed Smeaton's Tower, and the Grade II listed Tinside Lido; - The Hoe Conservation Area; - Whole of the site is part of the Plymouth Hoe and Madeira Road County Wildlife Site; and - The site contains a Grade II listed war memorial.
Is the Green Space demonstrably special and hold a particular local significance for one or more of the following reasons?	

Beauty Is the site beautiful? Is it visible from a public place/has key views? Is the site mentioned in any relevant documentation? Any cultural references? Is the site important for others, not just the local area? Does the site improve the overall appearance of the area?	The vista from this stretch of high ground is panoramic, from Rame Head in Cornwall across to Bovisand, including Drakes Island, The Sound, and the heritage Breakwater. The pathways and memorial benches provide secluded niches, places for quiet reflection, and to enjoy the world class seascape.
Historic significance Are there any historic features? Historic landscape features? Did any important historic events take place on site?	The sloping ground skirting the southern side of the Royal Citadel, from the walls down to Madeira Rd, provides an iconic sight from the sea for sailors and seaborne visitors. It gives a clear view of the grand landmark this is the Citadel – a Grade 1 National Monument. The Citadel was built in 1660 and along this face are pathways, vantage points, grassy slopes and memorial benches for viewing the Sound, and for celebratory annual events. Two giant figures of Gog and Magog were carved into the slopes in earlier times, as a warning perhaps to potential marauders.
Recreational value (inc. as a Playing field) Is the site used for sport? If so give details. Is there play space? Are there any other play spaces nearby? What about informal recreation? Can the site be accessed easily? Any recreational routes? E.g. PRoW?	Traditionally used by walkers, dog walkers, joggers and those wishing to meet for a quiet conversation, or solitary reflection. The slopes are used in good weather for informal family picnics, and for enjoying the view of the Sound. The paths provide a quick way of walking to the Barbican, away from road traffic, and those using the pavements along Madeira Road.
Tranquillity Is the site tranquil? Why? Does it enhance the feeling of tranquillity within the local area? Does it provide an area of tranquillity within a busy setting by hiding urban features such as roads?	The western section of the site includes areas for quiet contemplation, including memorial statues and benches which have been oriented to capitalise on the views out to Plymouth Sound. Located directly to the south of The Royal Citadel and to the north of the South West Coastal Path, the site provides a quieter and more tranquil alternative pedestrian link between The Hoe, Sutton Harbour, and The Barbican.
Richness of wildlife Is the site designated for wildlife? If not is there evidence of important habitats/species? Have ecological surveys been undertaken? Is the site part of the JLP biodiversity network or adjacent to it? Is there any evidence that other wildlife of interest has been found on site?	The twittering of small birds and the call of gulls are constant, and the numerous wild habitats including brambles, ivy, shrubs and a variety of trees in the area provide food and shelter for insects, small birds and mammals. There is an ancient elder tree to the lower slope of the site. This is a site for potentially rare fauna (and is wholly part of the Plymouth Hoe and Madeira Road County Wildlife site) and a viewpoint for sea creatures and birds, water sports and shipping movements. The steeper slopes are undisturbed by human traffic other than via pathways. The limestone bedrock has been recognised as one of the best exposures of Plymouth Limestone. There are two areas of The Hoe that are managed as limestone grasslands, one beneath the Citadel and the other immediately west of the Dome.

Other	Planting trees/plants suitable to the space will provide shade and a habitat for wildlife. A 'rich and resilient natural environment is integral to everyday life'. (Natural England Conservation Strategy for the 21st Century). This will assist with reconnecting the community with the historic and natural environment.
Is the site larger than 10ha?	No
Is it an extensive tract of land?	No
How does the site relate to the local area? Does the site feel part of the local area? Does the site connect physically, visually and/or socially to the area? Is the site distinct from its context by virtue of its size, land type or landscape features, e.g. what are its boundary conditions?	Existing role and function of this site works well as a counterpoint to the rest of The Hoe, providing a pedestrian link between key areas around the Waterfront and offering an alternative to the busier areas alongside Madeira Road.
Evidence of local support (e.g. through consultation)	Yes
Could the site help mitigate the impact of climate change? Does it include and landscape features that could help?	The site contains landscape features which are natural carbon sequesters (i.e. trees and vegetation) which contribute to climate change mitigation efforts and adaptation (through helping to reduce surface water flood risk). These features are also an effective mechanism to reduce temperatures in areas which are predominantly urban in character.
Summary	Following the consideration of the special qualities and local significance of the Land off Madeira Road (Citadel slopes) which are presented in the pro-forma and discussed within the main body of the report, it is considered that the area meets the criteria for LGS designation, if supported by the community.

Site 207	West Hoe Park
Ownership	
Management status	Plymouth City Council / Plymouth Waterfront Partnership
General description & background	This medium sized parkland site is located in West Hoe, south of the city centre and adjacent to the seafront. The western part of the site, between Pier Street and Cliff Road, consists of a children's play area (with swings, climbing frame etc) and small amusement centre with a crazy golf course, remote controlled car and boat racing, trampolines and a go-cart track (closed off-season). This part of the site is surrounded by mown grass with attractive shrubbery, tree planting and benches. The remainder of the site is an open space of flat, mown grass, again surrounded by shrubbery and attractive ornamental planting and benches along its northern and eastern site boundaries. Both areas of the site are separated from Cliff Road to the north by high stone walls with adjacent mature trees. Public toilets, a café and a children's train ride are located at the front of the site, alongside Hoe Road. There are excellent views from the site across the Sound towards Jennycliff Bay and South Devon AONB.
Approximate area:	1.43 ha
Insert Map	Grid reference: SX474538 A location map of the site is presented in the main body of the report.
Insert Photo	Photos of the site have been included in the main body of the report.
Basic Requirements Assessment	
Criteria & reasons for protection	Yes
Do any extant Planning Permissions apply to the area?	Following a review of Plymouth City Council's interactive planning application tool (accessible here), no planning applications for the site have been submitted in the last 12 months (from June 2020 to May 2021).
Is the Green Space allocated for development in LP, DPD or NDP?	Within the Plymouth and South West Devon JLP (Policy DEV27), the site is designated as a City Green Space.
Is the Green Space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves (within 240m of 10 dwellings or more)?	Yes
Is the site covered by any of the following designations? • Special Areas of Conservation; • Special Protection Areas; • Sites of Special Scientific Interest; • Registered Parks and Gardens;	The site is within The Hoe Registered Park and Garden. Additional designations of note include: - The site is within the wider setting of the Cornwall AONB and the South Devon AONB; - The southern field is part of The Hoe Conservation Area.

• Local Nature Reserves; • Registered village greens; • Common land; • Strategic Green Space; or • Minerals Safeguarding Area.	
Is the Green Space demonstrably special and hold a particular local significance for one or more of the following reasons?	
Beauty Is the site beautiful? Is it visible from a public place/has key views? Is the site mentioned in any relevant documentation? Any cultural references? Is the site important for others, not just the local area? Does the site improve the overall appearance of the area?	West Hoe Park to the west of The Hoe comprises a well-used sheltered level area of lawns, separated from The Hoe by steep rocky cliff faces to the east and north. Areas of shrubbery and specimen trees are planted below the rock faces. To the north and west of the lawns are highly popular children's play areas. West Hoe Park also enjoys Green Flag status.
Historic significance Are there any historic features? Historic landscape features? Did any important historic events take place on site?	West Hoe Park to the west of The Hoe was laid out on the site of West Hoe Quarry, c 1890, and was extended to the north-west in the mid C20 when properties in Pier Street were cleared. The park sits adjacent to Pier Street Harbour where Sir Francis Chichester landed after his momentous first, single-handed, navigation of the world and also the waterfront-sited Antony Gormley *LookII* iron man statue, looking out to sea.
Recreational value (inc. as a Playing field) Is the site used for sport? If so give details. Is there play space? Are there any other play spaces nearby? What about informal recreation? Can the site be accessed easily? Any recreational routes? E.g. PRoW?	There is plenty of green space and hard-standing where a wide range of impromptu games and activities take place. In West Hoe Park is a free Children's Playground and adjacent fee-paying 'mini' railway and pirate-themed playpark – all seemingly very popular and well used. It is popular site for informal/family gatherings and outings. Easy access to activities and events by private and public transport, including disabled access and cycle parking. Sheltered as well as open seating makes it usable in inclement weather. Newly renovated public toilets provided at the south end of the Park. Refreshments available.
Tranquillity Is the site tranquil? Why? Does it enhance the feeling of tranquillity within the local area? Does it provide an area of tranquillity within a busy setting by hiding urban features such as roads?	The footpaths surrounding the outside of the southern field are lined by trees and vegetation which provide a tranquil route around the site. There are opportunities to enhance the informal recreational offer within the southern field, perhaps via the inclusion of picnic tables and benches to further enhance the possibility to enjoy quiet contemplation and relaxation with friends and family. Although the play areas detract from the tranquillity, they are popular areas for families with young children.
Richness of wildlife Is the site designated for wildlife? If not is there evidence of important habitats/species? Have ecological surveys been undertaken? Is the site part of the JLP biodiversity network or adjacent to it?	The faces of the old quarry workings provide inaccessible nesting sites for a variety of birds.

Is there any evidence that other wildlife of interest has been found on site?	
Other	Planting trees/plants suitable to the space will provide shade and a habitat for wildlife. A 'rich and resilient natural environment is integral to everyday life'. (Natural England Conservation Strategy for the 21st Century). This will assist with reconnecting the community with the historic and natural environment.
Is the site larger than 10ha?	No
Is it an extensive tract of land?	No
How does the site relate to the local area? Does the site feel part of the local area? Does the site connect physically, visually and/or socially to the area? Is the site distinct from its context by virtue of its size, land type or landscape features, e.g. what are its boundary conditions?	Entrances into the southern section of the site (via Madeira Road) and into the north western section of the site (via Pier Street). There is also a clearly defined footpath passing through the site which connects to the South West Coastal Path.
Evidence of local support (e.g. through consultation)	Yes
Could the site help mitigate the impact of climate change? Does it include and landscape features that could help?	The southern section of the site in particular contains landscape features which are natural carbon sequesters (i.e. trees and vegetation) which contribute to climate change mitigation efforts and adaptation (through helping to reduce surface water flood risk). These features are also an effective mechanism to reduce temperatures in areas which are predominantly urban in character.
Summary	Following the consideration of the special qualities and local significance of West Hoe Park which are presented in the pro-forma and discussed within the main body of the report, it is considered that the area meets the criteria for LGS designation, if supported by the community.

Site 221	Millbay Park
Ownership	
Management status	Plymouth City Council / Plymouth Waterfront Partnership
General description & background	This site is located in Millbay, south west of the city centre and close to the city's ferry port. The site comprises an attractive public open space, with sections of higher ground in addition to the banks which step down from the higher-level adjacent football ground (Millbay Recreation Ground). There are attractive stone entrance gates from West Hoe Road with memorial plaques briefly explaining the history of the site, and stone steps leading up to the edge of the adjacent playing field which is fenced off by railings. Mature deciduous trees and other planting add to the attractiveness of this site. There are views across Plymouth and the wider landscape.
Approximate area:	0.97 ha
Insert Map	Grid reference: SX471541 A location map of the site is presented in the main body of the report.
Insert Photo	Photos of the site have been included in the main body of the report.
Basic Requirements Assessment	
Criteria & reasons for protection	Yes
Do any extant Planning Permissions apply to the area?	Following a review of Plymouth City Council's interactive planning application tool (accessible here), no planning applications for the site have been submitted in the last 12 months (from June 2020 to May 2021).
Is the Green Space allocated for development in LP, DPD or NDP?	Within the Plymouth and South West Devon JLP (Policy DEV27), the site is designated as a Neighbourhood Green Space.
Is the Green Space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves (within 240m of 10 dwellings or more)?	Yes
Is the site covered by any of the following designations? • Special Areas of Conservation; • Special Protection Areas; • Sites of Special Scientific Interest; • Registered Parks and Gardens; • Local Nature Reserves; • Registered village greens; • Common land; • Strategic Green Space; or • Minerals Safeguarding Area.	The site is not covered by any of the designations which are listed in the criteria description. However, the site is within the setting of The Hoe Conservation Area (which is directly to the north and north east of the site) and the Grade II listed Duke of Cornwall Hotel.

Is the Green Space demonstrably special and hold a particular local significance for one or more of the following reasons?	
Beauty Is the site beautiful? Is it visible from a public place/has key views? Is the site mentioned in any relevant documentation? Any cultural references? Is the site important for others, not just the local area? Does the site improve the overall appearance of the area?	Millbay Park provides a peaceful and atmospheric green corner of grassy banks and mature trees amidst busy thoroughfares in an area of the city which is otherwise built-up.
Historic significance Are there any historic features? Historic landscape features? Did any important historic events take place on site?	Next to the Grade 2 listed Duke of Cornwall Hotel, Millbay Park lies adjacent to the Hoe Conservation Area. A prison was first built on the site in 1718. In the late 18th and 19th centuries the prison was extended to house an overflow of prisoners from the prison hulks of the American War of Independence and later the French Revolutionary wars, the War of 1812 and the Napoleonic Wars. Between 1777 and 1783, during the American War of Independence, many prisoners of war passed through Millbay. Historical records suggest that the jailers discriminated in favour of American prisoners, who they viewed as common kinsmen, over the plight of French and Spanish who were brought in. The Americans were consistently given better food and treated less harshly than the Europeans. During the Napoleonic Wars the jail acted as a transit point between the ships that brought in prisoners of war and the new purpose-built prison facility on Dartmoor. See http://www.britishempire.co.uk/article/plymouth/millprison.htm for more information. Commemorating these events and, particularly, the American connection, a plaque on one of the stone pillars at the entrance to the park states: ON THIS SITE WAS MILL (OLD MILL - MILLBAY) GAOL WHERE OVER 1,500 AMERICAN SAILORS WERE HELD IN CAPTIVITY DURING THE WAR FOR AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE 1777 – 1783 THIS PLAQUE PLACED BY THE NATIONAL SOCIETY, SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, 1997 Thus, the site has particular significance in the light of the close relationships between Plymouth and the USA, brought to the fore in the 2020 celebrations of the voyage of the Mayflower. The prison and barrack buildings on the site fell into disuse during the latter part of the 19th century. The buildings having been demolished, a park was opened in 1911 as an official Borough of Plymouth Recreation Ground to commemorate the coronation of King George V and Queen Mary. Impressive entrance pillars and stone stairway testify to the significance of the site. Between the two World Wars, it was also the memorial site of a First World War Tank, the plinth for which is still visible.

Recreational value (inc. as a Playing field) Is the site used for sport? If so give details. Is there play space? Are there any other play spaces nearby? What about informal recreation? Can the site be accessed easily? Any recreational routes? E.g. PRoW?	A fine place for tranquil relaxation and contemplation. Well maintained benches available. Acts as a readily identifiable meeting place. An under-signified point of tourist interest.
Tranquillity Is the site tranquil? Why? Does it enhance the feeling of tranquillity within the local area? Does it provide an area of tranquillity within a busy setting by hiding urban features such as roads?	Approximately twelve mature trees within the site boundary (as observed within several of the photo groups, above), including a corridor along the north western site boundary which provides an element of visual screening from West Hoe Road and creates a sense of seclusion and enclosure.
Richness of wildlife Is the site designated for wildlife? If not is there evidence of important habitats/species? Have ecological surveys been undertaken? Is the site part of the JLP biodiversity network or adjacent to it? Is there any evidence that other wildlife of interest has been found on site?	The green space provides a noteworthy refuge for small garden birds, mammals, and insects within an otherwise built-up area.
Other	Planting trees/plants suitable to the space will provide shade and a habitat for wildlife. A 'rich and resilient natural environment is integral to everyday life'. (Natural England Conservation Strategy for the 21st Century). This will assist with reconnecting the community with the historic and natural environment.
Is the site larger than 10ha?	No
Is it an extensive tract of land?	No
How does the site relate to the local area? Does the site feel part of the local area? Does the site connect physically, visually and/or socially to the area? Is the site distinct from its context by virtue of its size, land type or landscape features, e.g. what are its boundary conditions?	The site is within the Hoe Residential Area. One of the key issues for the area identified through the Townscape Character Assessment (which is presented in The Hoe Design Guide) is the limited green infrastructure due to the density of the existing buildings. In this respect, the site provides a pocket park within a relatively urban environment which is surrounded by residential and commercial development.
Evidence of local support (e.g. through consultation)	Yes
Could the site help mitigate the impact of climate change? Does it include and landscape features that could help?	The site contains landscape features which are natural carbon sequesters (i.e. trees and vegetation) which contribute to climate change mitigation efforts and adaptation (through helping to reduce surface water flood risk). These features are also an effective mechanism to reduce temperatures in areas which are predominantly urban in character.

Summary	Following the consideration of the special qualities and local significance of Millbay Park which are presented in the pro-forma and discussed within the main body of the report, it is considered that the area meets the criteria for LGS designation, if supported by the community.

Site 302	Land off Hoe Road (slopes opposite Citadel Rd B&Bs)
Ownership	
Management status	Plymouth City Council / Plymouth Waterfront Partnership
General description & background	A small, steeply sloping site comprising amenity grassland with scattered trees and ornamental planting. Steps and a pathway lead through the site, connecting Hoe Road with Citadel Road East and Lambhay Hill.
Approximate area:	0.46 ha
Insert Map	Grid reference: SX480540 A location map of the site is presented in the main body of the report.
Insert Photo	Photos of the site have been included in the main body of the report.
Basic Requirements Assessment	
Criteria & reasons for protection	Yes
Do any extant Planning Permissions apply to the area?	Following a review of Plymouth City Council's interactive planning application tool (accessible here), no planning applications for the site have been submitted in the last 12 months (from June 2020 to May 2021).
Is the Green Space allocated for development in LP, DPD or NDP?	Within the Plymouth and South West Devon JLP (Policy DEV27), the site is designated as a City Green Space.
Is the Green Space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves (within 240m of 10 dwellings or more)?	Yes
Is the site covered by any of the following designations? • Special Areas of Conservation; • Special Protection Areas; • Sites of Special Scientific Interest; • Registered Parks and Gardens; • Local Nature Reserves; • Registered village greens; • Common land; • Strategic Green Space; or • Minerals Safeguarding Area.	The site is within The Hoe Registered Park and Garden. Additional designations of note include: - The Hoe Conservation Area; - The site is within the setting of The Royal Citadel Scheduled Monument; and - The whole of the site comprises an area of Wood-pasture and Parkland BAP Priority Habitat.
Is the Green Space demonstrably special and hold a particular local significance for one or more of the following reasons?	
Beauty Is the site beautiful? Is it visible from a public place/has key views? Is the site mentioned in any relevant documentation?	The entrance to the site has steps and gate post pillars which enhance the character and appeal of the area. Visually, the eastern section of the site benefits from an elevated setting on a hillside, with long views to the north over the city centre and far reaching views to the north east

Any cultural references? Is the site important for others, not just the local area? Does the site improve the overall appearance of the area?	over towards Dartmoor National Park. The tops of the boats within Sutton Harbour are also visible. Approximately 15 mature trees within the site boundary, including a corridor along the south western site boundary which provides an element of visual screening from Hoe Road and Lambhay Hill and creates a sense of seclusion and enclosure.
Historic significance Are there any historic features? Historic landscape features? Did any important historic events take place on site?	From a heritage perspective, most of the site is within the boundary of the Royal Citadel Scheduled Monument. Additionally, the whole of the site forms part of The Hoe Registered Park and Garden (which is Grade II listed), and The Hoe Conservation Area. Consultation with key stakeholder groups (e.g. Historic England) to determine and implement measures which enhance the setting and character of The Royal Citadel Scheduled Monument.
Recreational value (inc. as a Playing field) Is the site used for sport? If so give details. Is there play space? Are there any other play spaces nearby? What about informal recreation? Can the site be accessed easily? Any recreational routes? E.g. PRoW?	The site is easily accessible, with walkways passing through and connecting to neighbouring areas. Opportunities to enhance the recreational value is possible, particularly within the eastern section of the site which may benefit from the inclusion of benches oriented to capitalise on the views.
Tranquillity Is the site tranquil? Why? Does it enhance the feeling of tranquillity within the local area? Does it provide an area of tranquillity within a busy setting by hiding urban features such as roads?	The site is relatively tranquil with numerous shady areas provided by the trees within and alongside its boundaries.
Richness of wildlife Is the site designated for wildlife? If not is there evidence of important habitats/species? Have ecological surveys been undertaken? Is the site part of the JLP biodiversity network or adjacent to it? Is there any evidence that other wildlife of interest has been found on site?	The natural features within the site boundary contribute to a wider area of Wood-pasture and Parkland BAP Priority Habitat which encompasses the whole site. The green space provides a noteworthy refuge for small garden birds, mammals, and insects within an otherwise built-up area.
Other	
Is the site larger than 10ha?	No
Is it an extensive tract of land?	No
How does the site relate to the local area? Does the site feel part of the local area? Does the site connect	The walkways traversing through the site provide a connection and thoroughfare between the Barbican (to the north east via Citadel Road East) and to The Hoe (to the

physically, visually and/or socially to the area? Is the site distinct from its context by virtue of its size, land type or landscape features, e.g. what are its boundary conditions?	south west via Lambhay Hill), both of which are conservation areas.
Evidence of local support (e.g. through consultation)	Yes
Could the site help mitigate the impact of climate change? Does it include and landscape features that could help?	The site contains landscape features which are natural carbon sequesters (i.e. trees and vegetation) which contribute to climate change mitigation efforts and adaptation (through helping to reduce surface water flood risk). These features are also an effective mechanism to reduce temperatures in areas which are predominantly urban in character.
Summary	Following the consideration of the special qualities and local significance of the Land off Hoe Road (slopes opposite Citadel Rd B&Bs) which are presented in the pro-forma and discussed within the main body of the report, it is considered that the area meets the criteria for LGS designation, if supported by the community.

Site 318	Radford Road (West Hoe Tennis Courts)
Ownership	
Management status	Plymouth City Council / Plymouth Waterfront Partnership
General description & background	The site is at West Hoe, on the south side of Radford Road. The site was walled in Victorian times, but the ornate railings have long since been lost. A pavilion building survives. The central feature of the site is four tennis courts, with tarmac surface. Surrounding these are grassed areas with a few trees and some paths and benches. The site as a whole is surrounded by residential development dating to around the turn of the twentieth century. There is a friendly, sanctuary, kind of feel to the place.
Approximate area:	0.49 ha
Insert Map	Grid reference: SX472537 A location map of the site is presented in the main body of the report.
Insert Photo	Photos of the site have been included in the main body of the report.
Basic Requirements Assessment	
Criteria & reasons for protection	Yes / No / Comment
Do any extant Planning Permissions apply to the area?	Following a review of Plymouth City Council's interactive planning application tool (accessible here), no planning applications for the site have been submitted in the last 12 months (from June 2020 to May 2021).
Is the Green Space allocated for development in LP, DPD or NDP?	Within the Plymouth and South West Devon JLP (Policy DEV27), the site is designated as a Neighbourhood Green Space.
Is the Green Space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves (within 240m of 10 dwellings or more)?	Yes
Is the site covered by any of the following designations? • Special Areas of Conservation; • Special Protection Areas; • Sites of Special Scientific Interest; • Registered Parks and Gardens; • Local Nature Reserves; • Registered village greens; • Common land; • Strategic Green Space; or • Minerals Safeguarding Area.	The site is not covered by any of the designations which are listed in the criteria description. There are no additional designations of note.
Is the Green Space demonstrably special and hold a particular local significance for one or more of the following reasons?	

Beauty Is the site beautiful? Is it visible from a public place/has key views? Is the site mentioned in any relevant documentation? Any cultural references? Is the site important for others, not just the local area? Does the site improve the overall appearance of the area?	This is a mixed-use green space in an otherwise built-up zone. It provides a welcome contrasting area of green with space for quiet contemplation in an otherwise built-up area. The tennis courts, which occupy the southern half, are surrounded, outside their retaining netting, by grass verges and what were once flower beds, the latter now largely overgrown and wilding. The northern half of the park is grassed over with a number of mature indigenous and ornamental trees well-spaced out.
Historic significance Are there any historic features? Historic landscape features? Did any important historic events take place on site?	The green space hosts four recently refurbished hard surface public tennis courts. A small pavilion/changing room, now locked and apparently unused, appears to be of 1930s' vintage. The semi-circular site is bordered by the attractive Victorian and Edwardian terraces of Garden Crescent, Eddystone Terrace, Northumberland Terrace and Radford Road, lying behind the Grade 2 listed Grand Parade and adjacent to West Hoe harbour, site of Sir Antony Gormley's Look11 statue and the site of the disembarkation of Sir Francis Chichester after his ground-breaking single-handed round-the-world voyage. Origins of the designation of the green space and tennis courts are not known although the granite pillars sited at the three entrances resemble those in other parks in Plymouth which were erected in late Victorian times.
Recreational value (inc. as a Playing field) Is the site used for sport? If so give details. Is there play space? Are there any other play spaces nearby? What about informal recreation? Can the site be accessed easily? Any recreational routes? E.g. PRoW?	Besides the tennis courts, maintained by Plymouth CC, which appear to be well used, the site is a valued natural and recreational amenity, contrasting visually and physically with the predominating render and mortar surrounding it. Two benches and a waste bin are provided and serviced by Plymouth CC.
Tranquillity Is the site tranquil? Why? Does it enhance the feeling of tranquillity within the local area? Does it provide an area of tranquillity within a busy setting by hiding urban features such as roads?	Benches within the south western section provide opportunities for spectators to watch tennis, or to quietly contemplate. This section of the site also contains trees and planting with a path, which is also aesthetically pleasing. The northern section of the site comprises trees which provide areas of shade and provide an element of visual screening from the surrounding areas.
Richness of wildlife Is the site designated for wildlife? If not is there evidence of important habitats/species? Have ecological surveys been undertaken? Is the site part of the JLP biodiversity network or adjacent to it? Is there any evidence that other wildlife of interest has been found on site?	The green space provides a noteworthy refuge for small garden birds, mammals, and insects within an otherwise built-up area.
Other	Planting trees/plants suitable to the space will provide shade and a habitat for wildlife. A 'rich and resilient natural environment is integral to everyday life'. (Natural England

	Conservation Strategy for the 21st Century). This will assist with reconnecting the community with the historic and natural environment.
Is the site larger than 10ha?	No
Is it an extensive tract of land?	No
How does the site relate to the local area? Does the site feel part of the local area? Does the site connect physically, visually and/or socially to the area? Is the site distinct from its context by virtue of its size, land type or landscape features, e.g. what are its boundary conditions?	The site is within the Hoe Residential Area. One of the key issues for the area identified through the Townscape Character Assessment (which is presented in The Hoe Design Guide) is the limited green infrastructure due to the density of the existing buildings. In this respect, the site provides a pocket park within a relatively urban environment which is surrounded by residential and commercial development.
Evidence of local support (e.g. through consultation)	Yes
Could the site help mitigate the impact of climate change? Does it include and landscape features that could help?	The areas of the site which surround the tennis courts contain landscape features which are natural carbon sequesters (i.e. trees and vegetation) which contribute to climate change mitigation efforts and adaptation (through helping to reduce surface water flood risk). These features are also an effective mechanism to reduce temperatures in areas which are predominantly urban in character.
Summary	Following the consideration of the special qualities and local significance of Radford Road (West Hoe Tennis Courts) which are presented in the pro-forma and discussed within the main body of the report, it is considered that the area meets the criteria for LGS designation, if supported by the community.

Site 358	The Mound (Hoe) (Area opposite Citadel gates)
Ownership	
Management status	Plymouth City Council / Plymouth Waterfront Partnership
General description & background	The site comprises two distinct sections. The first section is a road island which is raised up from ground level. Steps lead up to the memorial from the north to a central war memorial. A path leads from the memorial to the pavement to the south, allowing level access. The second section is separated from the first by a road and comprises amenity grassland with scattered trees and shrubs adjacent to the entrance to The Royal Citadel.
Approximate area:	0.40 ha
Insert Map	Grid reference: SX480539 A location map of the site is presented in the main body of the report.
Insert Photo	Photos of the site have been included in the main body of the report.
Basic Requirements Assessment	
Criteria & reasons for protection	Yes / No / Comment
Do any extant Planning Permissions apply to the area?	Following a review of Plymouth City Council's interactive planning application tool (accessible here), no planning applications for the site have been submitted in the last 12 months (from June 2020 to May 2021).
Is the Green Space allocated for development in LP, DPD or NDP?	Within the Plymouth and South West Devon JLP (Policy DEV27), the site is designated as a City Green Space.
Is the Green Space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves (within 240m of 10 dwellings or more)?	Yes
Is the site covered by any of the following designations? • Special Areas of Conservation; • Special Protection Areas; • Sites of Special Scientific Interest; • Registered Parks and Gardens; • Local Nature Reserves; • Registered village greens; • Common land; • Strategic Green Space; or • Minerals Safeguarding Area.	Most of the site is within The Hoe Registered Park and Garden. Additional designations of note include: - The site is within the boundary of The Royal Citadel Scheduled Monument; and - The Hoe Conservation Area.
Is the Green Space demonstrably special and hold a particular local significance for one or more of the following reasons?	
Beauty Is the site beautiful?	From the Mound there are 180 degree panoramic elevated views of the city, providing space and quiet for

Is it visible from a public place/has key views? Is the site mentioned in any relevant documentation? Any cultural references? Is the site important for others, not just the local area? Does the site improve the overall appearance of the area?	contemplation and reflection generally, and in remembrance of those lost at war. The memorial to the Commando regiment is one of a series of war memorials stretching along the Hoe. The space adds to the local amenities, providing an attractive setting and outlook for surrounding residential and commercial properties.
Historic significance Are there any historic features? Historic landscape features? Did any important historic events take place on site?	The Mound is directly in front of the magnificent 18th Century entrance to The Royal Citadel on the Hoe. There is a central structure, a Memorial to the Fallen, dedicated to the 29th/95 Commando regiment of the Royal Artillery, dating from 1966. Nearby, there is a memorial seat facing the city, commemorating a local Blue Badge Guide. There are a series of granite steps up to the Mound, complete with heritage metal posts and handrails, and granite end pillars. This space contributes to the quality of place, together with the Royal Citadel, for the wider public space.
Recreational value (inc. as a Playing field) Is the site used for sport? If so give details. Is there play space? Are there any other play spaces nearby? What about informal recreation? Can the site be accessed easily? Any recreational routes? E.g. PRoW?	As a green space the Mound is valuable to the local community near The Barbican and for adjacent areas of community housing. This is a scarce resource for the urban landscape around the Barbican and Sutton Harbour. While, due to Armed Services security concerns, it is not suitable for organised recreational games, it is provides a space for quiet contemplation and reflection, and low-key individual recreation such as reading or sketching etc. The Mound is a green corridor and is part of a network of paths and spaces, enabling movement through the area.
Tranquillity Is the site tranquil? Why? Does it enhance the feeling of tranquillity within the local area? Does it provide an area of tranquillity within a busy setting by hiding urban features such as roads?	The southern section of the site is a well-kept area of amenity grassland which is elevated from ground level, including a memorial accessible via a central footpath. There is a bench next to the memorial providing opportunities for quiet reflection and contemplation.
Richness of wildlife Is the site designated for wildlife? If not is there evidence of important habitats/species? Have ecological surveys been undertaken? Is the site part of the JLP biodiversity network or adjacent to it? Is there any evidence that other wildlife of interest has been found on site?	The area of land surrounding the memorial is an area of Wood-pasture and Parkland BAP Priority Habitat. In this respect, the site likely provides a noteworthy refuge for small garden birds, mammals, and insects within an otherwise built-up area. There is potential to enhance biodiversity at this location to deliver net gains for nature, perhaps via the planting of wildflower meadows and native species.
Other	Planting trees/plants suitable to the space will provide shade and a habitat for wildlife. A ‘rich and resilient natural environment is integral to everyday life’. (Natural England Conservation Strategy for the 21st Century). This will assist with reconnecting the community with the historic and natural environment.
Is the site larger than 10ha?	No

Is it an extensive tract of land?	No
How does the site relate to the local area? Does the site feel part of the local area? Does the site connect physically, visually and/or socially to the area? Is the site distinct from its context by virtue of its size, land type or landscape features, e.g. what are its boundary conditions?	Visually, the site benefits from an elevated setting on a hillside, with long views to the north over the city centre and far reaching views to the north east over towards Dartmoor National Park. The site is within the setting of The Royal Citadel and is elevated from the ground level which enhances its prominence on approaching the Citadel gates.
Evidence of local support (e.g. through consultation)	Yes
Could the site help mitigate the impact of climate change? Does it include and landscape features that could help?	The site contains landscape features which are natural carbon sequesters (i.e. trees and vegetation) which contribute to climate change mitigation efforts and adaptation (through helping to reduce surface water flood risk). These features are also an effective mechanism to reduce temperatures in areas which are predominantly urban in character.
Summary	Following the consideration of the special qualities and local significance of The Mound (Hoe) (Area opposite Citadel gates) which are presented in the pro-forma and discussed within the main body of the report, it is considered that the area meets the criteria for LGS designation, if supported by the community.

Appendix B Photo Locations

Site 49: The Hoe (inc. Armada Way green area by Crowne Plaza)



Site 58: Hoe Foreshore



Site 129: Land off Madeira Road (Citadel slopes)



Site 207: West Hoe Park



Site 221: Millbay Park



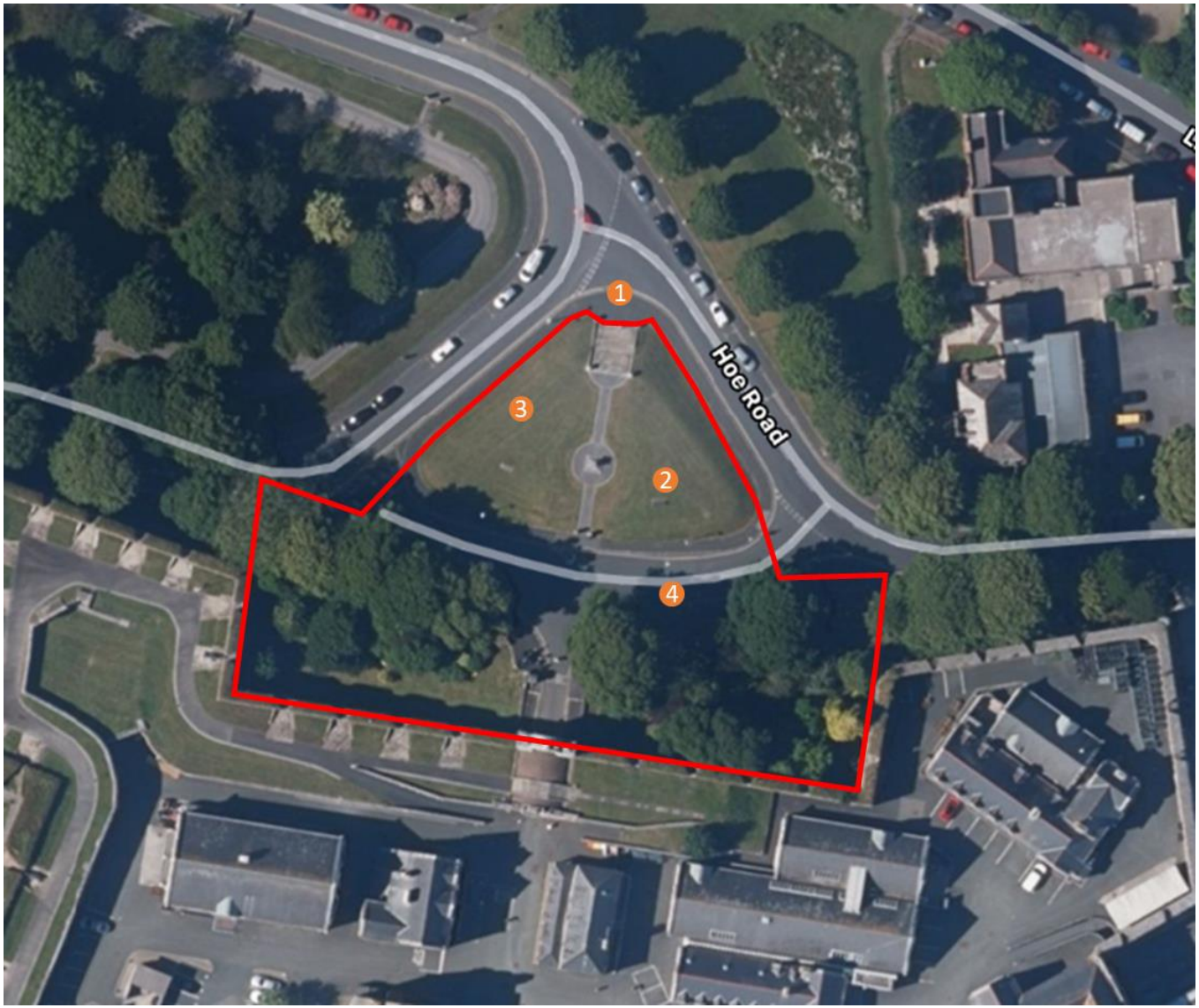
Site 302: Land off Hoe Road (slopes opposite Citadel Rd B&Bs)



Site 318: Radford Road (West Hoe Tennis Courts)



Site 358: The Mound (Hoe) (Area opposite Citadel gates)



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