Primary School Event

THE BAY AREA PLACE PLAN

The Isle of Wight Council — working with the three town and parish councils of Sandown, Shanklin and Lake — is preparing a place plan for the Bay Area. The place plan will allow people to decide what they like about the area, what they want to change and what should be protected. When finished, the place plan will help shape the future of the Bay Area for years to come. As very important members of the community, we want to ask <u>you</u> some questions. You might like to work with a friend and interview each other? Please write and draw your answers in the boxes below.

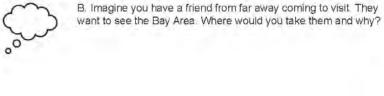


A. Talk to each other about your journey to school. Please write down three things that would make your journey better.

1)

2)

3)





C. You woke up this morning to find out you had been made Mayor of the Bay Area. Please describe the changes you will make to this part of the island.

... please turn over!

The second day also saw the first engagement event with younger students. These children attend Broadlea Primary School. Two tasks had been prepared for them:

- A writing and drawing worksheet about the future
- A practical, building task using the foam block set

The selection of students that took part took each task in turn and then swapped over.

Here is the front of the worksheet....

Primary School Event



D. As Mayor of the Bay Area, you also have to create something that will be fun for the whole of the bay. Think of an idea — or several ideas! — and draw them here. We also like nice colouring in, if you have time!

Please write your name here



Thank you for taking the time to share your ideas with us. Please return your completed worksheet to your class teacher.

... and this is the reverse, inviting them to draw something fun that would improve the Bay Area. When this task was explained to the students, a hand went up:

Q: "What's the budget?"

Even primary age children are aware that funding and finance are key issues that affect regeneration plans.

In a mirror image to the question asked after just ten minutes of the first day, the Project Team were made aware that whatever the final shape and content of the Place Plan, it needs to include short-term affordable actions as well longer-term capital works.



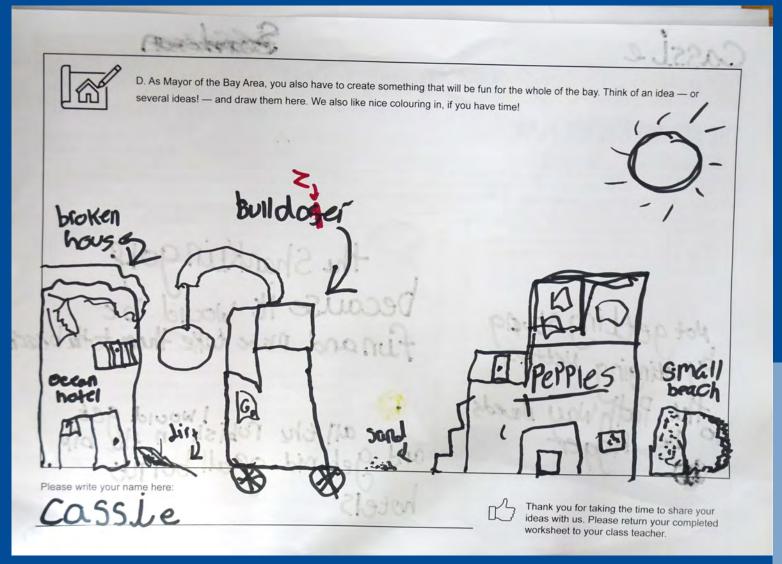
Broadlea students busy completing the worksheets in the library.



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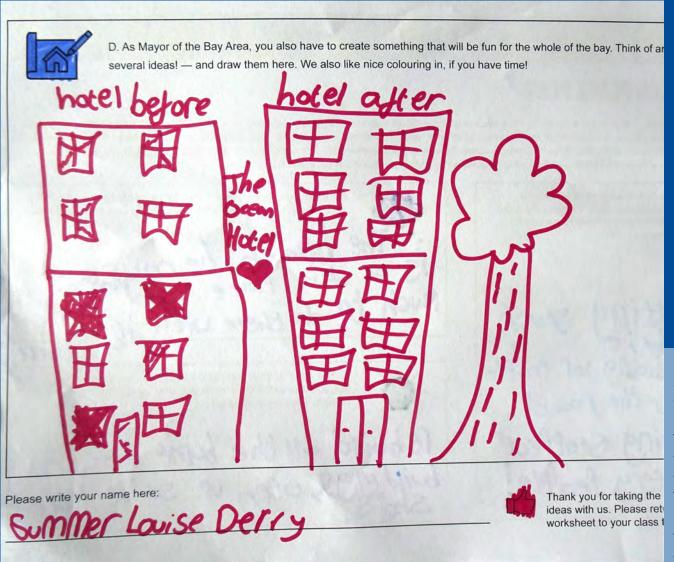


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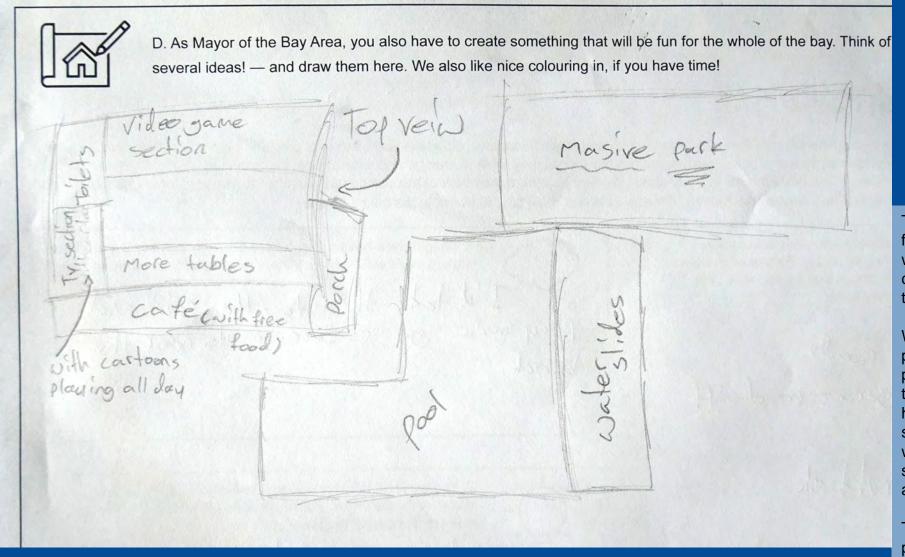
On returning from the school, the Project Team took a quick look through the results. There follows a selection of drawings from the students.

This one shows a wrecking ball being taken to the derelict Ocean Hotel in response to the invitation to improve the Bay Area.



Here's another drawing that seeks to improve the derelict Ocean Hotel.

These results show that without any prompting whatsoever from the Project Team, young people in the Bay Area are acutely aware of the abandonment and dereliction issues and want to improve them as a priority.



This drawing sketches out a floor plan of a café space where children the same age can all play video games together in the same room.

While online gaming with people around the world is possible from your bedroom, there was a wish to all be in a high street venue, sharing the same activity. An interesting way to regeneration the high street, the mix of digital and analogue?

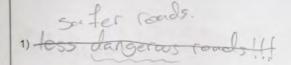
There is also a pool, a water park and a massive park nearby.

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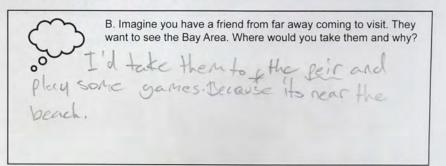


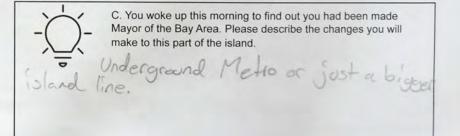
A. Talk to each other about your journey to school. Please write down three things that would make your journey better.



2) les no rubbish.

3) note general caracreas.





Safer roads is the first request here to improve the journey to school.

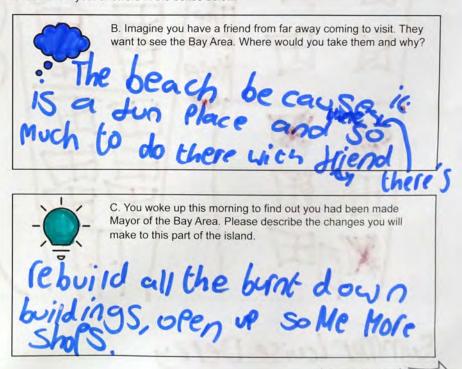
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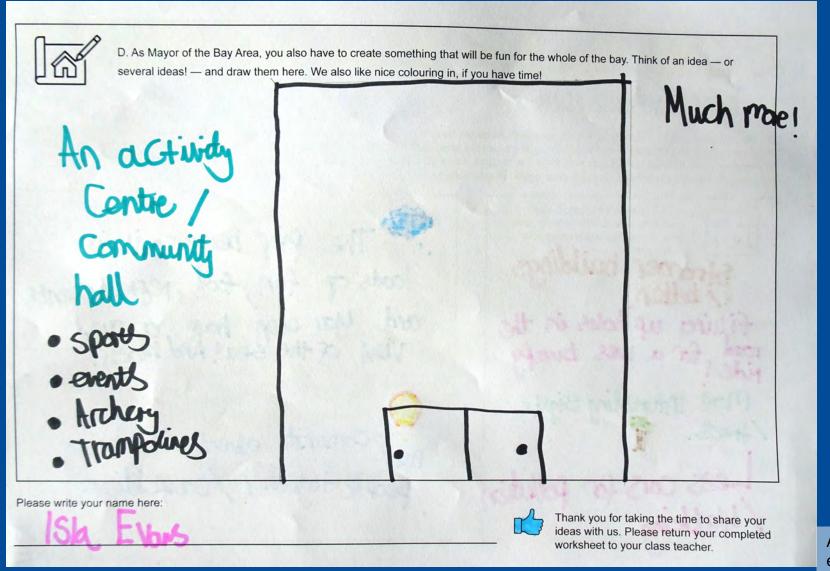


A. Talk to each other about your journey to school. Please write down three things that would make your journey better.

1) Not Patting Stuck
1) Not Waiting for leafle
to cross the road
3) Not being Stoffed
by chattery leafle!



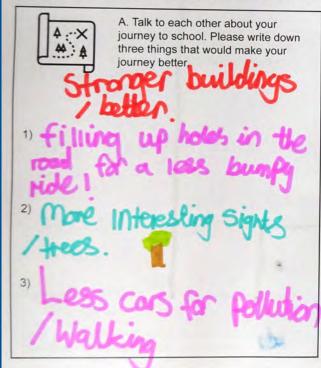
This student doesn't like getting stuck in traffic and doesn't like "chattery people" (!) but also wants to rebuild all the burned down buildings and introduce more shops.

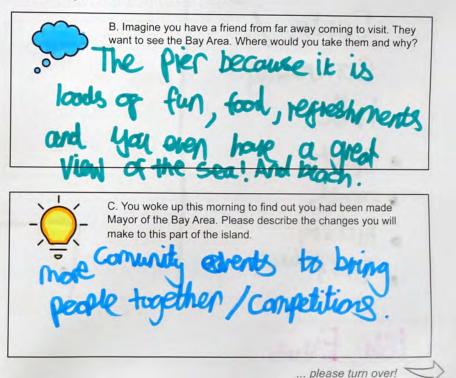


A community centre for sports, events, archery and trampolines....

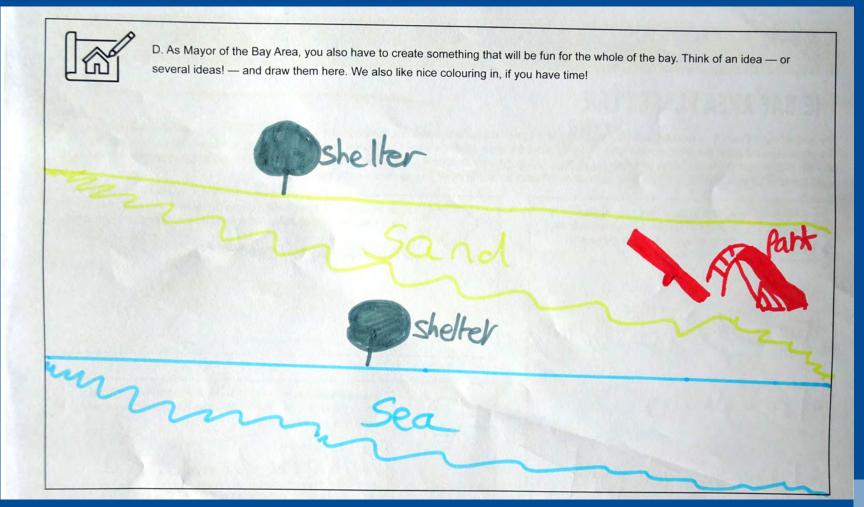
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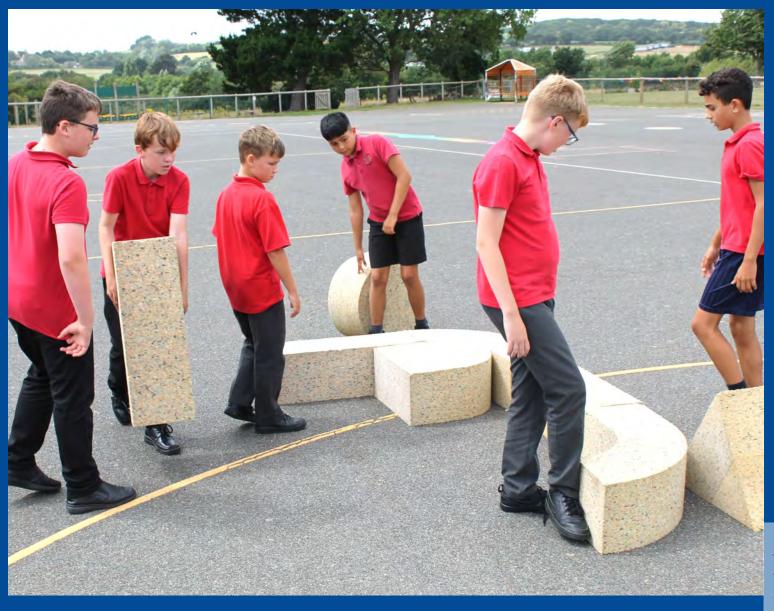
... and in a similar way, this student would like more community events to bring people together.



New shelters on the cliff top and down by the seafront are shown in this image.



While the worksheet group was busy in the library, the other group of students were busy in the playground making public spaces and street furniture arrangements that they would like to see across the Bay Area



Here, they are working as a team to create something that would be attractive to their age group out and about in the Bay Area



Even with an injury, they all got involved!



A picnic table or a place to play games outdoors?



A performance stage for music, theatre, poetry, with informal seating?



A cosy seating area, for people of different heights and ages?





Older Teenagers @ Sandown Library Training Our Imaginations

Al Machine Learning

Midjourney



Later that afternoon on the second day, the Project Team worked with a select group of teenagers. This event used the artificial intelligence (AI) programme Midjourney to create realistic images based on key word inputs. Students were asked to nominate a local place plus an activity to create images that could inspire the future.

The purpose of this session was to "train imaginations" and to give a visual outputs to written inputs.

Culver Down + Cable Cars

What prompted this image was a desire to move around in a fun and entertaining way and to overcome some of the topographical challenges of the Bay Area. The teenagers wanted a way to move that would work for locals and visitors alike.



Sandown Bay

+
Death Metal

+
Performance

One student in the group was into Death Metal and wanted to test out what a performance of this music genre might look like on Sandown beach. Places need to have something for everyone!



Sandown Bay

+
Clear Water

+
Tiger Shark

The beach was seen as important by everybody but what if it had clear tropical water? Could you then see the dangers that lurk beneath?!



Tokyo
+
Island Pier
+
Night Life

They all liked the lights and the neon on Sandown Pier but felt it perhaps wasn't as epic and awesome as places like Tokyo. What if Sandown Pier took its existing lighting ideas and ramped them up to the max? How could this approach help make it a destination and set it apart from the rest of the Bay Area?



Tokyo + Island Coast + Night Life

Another image, testing out epic and over-the-top lighting ideas along the Sandown coast. There is something dramatic, and appropriate to this fun and the coastal location – think Las Vegas and Blackpool – but also highly artificial about this image. How would this align with (or contrast with?) ideas around the biosphere, climate change and energy use?



Open Studio Session End of Day Two



The second day concluded with an "open studio session" when the room was opened to the public. They could call in to see the work in progress and add their ideas to the material on display.

Open Studio Session End of Day Two



In this image, more ideas are being added to the Future Trends posters that remained on display.

"Get it right for the locals, and the visitors will surely come"



Jan Gehl Architect & Urban Planner

By the end of the second day, a theme was emerging, and this is captured by this quote from Jan Gehl.

It appears that for too long the Bay Area has organised itself around tourism and presented itself to the world as a place to visit. Instead, it should focus on those that work and live here, and if it gets that right, it (almost by default) becomes an interesting and attractive place to visit.

Many of the world's most popular places to visit are authentic and visitors witness or take part in local activities that respond to local needs, not events that are designed purely for tourists or that have no relevance to local people.

How can this approach, if deemed the right one, manifest itself in different ways across the Bay Area?