

Ilfracombe Seafront Masterplan

June 2021





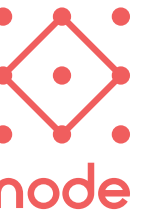
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 Project Ref: NOR0356
 Document Ref: NOR0356 Ilfracombe Seafront Masterplan.indd

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Date	Comment	Created by	Checked by	Version
11.06.2021	Final	LG	NW	-
14.06.2021	Final	LG	NW	A
18.06.2021	Final	LG	NW	B



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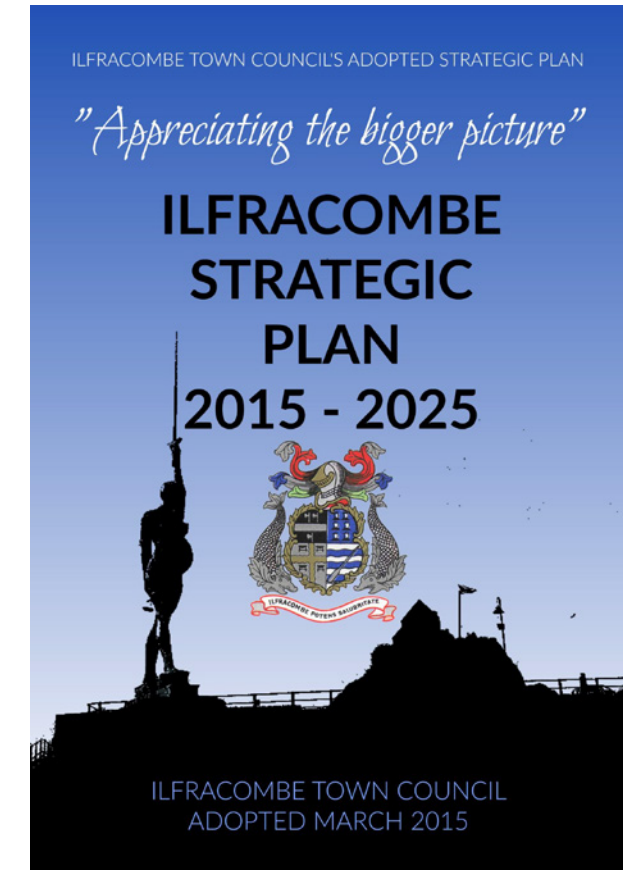
1. Introduction

As part of Ilfracombe's Strategic Plan 2015-2025, North Devon Council and the Ilfracombe Regeneration Board have been working together to oversee the process of a new public realm masterplan for Ilfracombe Seafront. Following a competitive tender process, Node landscape architects were selected to carry out the study for the area outlined in red on the adjacent plan.

A comprehensive stakeholder engagement process was followed and interactive workshops and 'Placecheck' exercises were carried out to ensure that the design proposal represented the views of the Ilfracombe people. Nominated members from a wide range of Ilfracombe's community groups all helped input into this masterplan.

The document provides a brief summary of proposals to help support levelling up funding bid. It includes the following:

- Ilfracombe Strategic Plan 2015-2025 - Key Objectives
- Ilfracombe past and present analysis
- Vision
- Stakeholder and consultation feedback
- Masterplan proposals
- Ideas and precedents
- Phasing plan



— Seafront Masterplan: Study area





2. Ilfracombe Strategic Plan 2015-2025: Key Objectives

The proposed masterplan aligns with a number of key strategic objectives including the following:

- Objective 3

One of our main businesses is tourism, broaden its scope and take upmarket.

- Objective 9

Maintain and utilise to best advantage our superb natural and built environment.

- Objective 11

Improve public places, particularly the High Street and Sea Front and promote connectivity.

- Objective 14

Help young people understand their value in the community and play their part in shaping the future of our town.

- Objective 16

Maintain social cohesion and prevent social isolation.












3. Ilfracombe's past and present

Site Appraisal

Consideration has been given to Ilfracombe's past and present to help inform the masterplan proposals. This includes its Victorian heritage, its stunning natural landscape and its art and architecture.



LEGEND

-  Vehicular routes
-  Key pedestrian routes
-  Car parking
-  Key view locations
-  Key gateway nodes
-  Public events space
-  Visitor attraction
-  South facing space
-  Prevailing wind

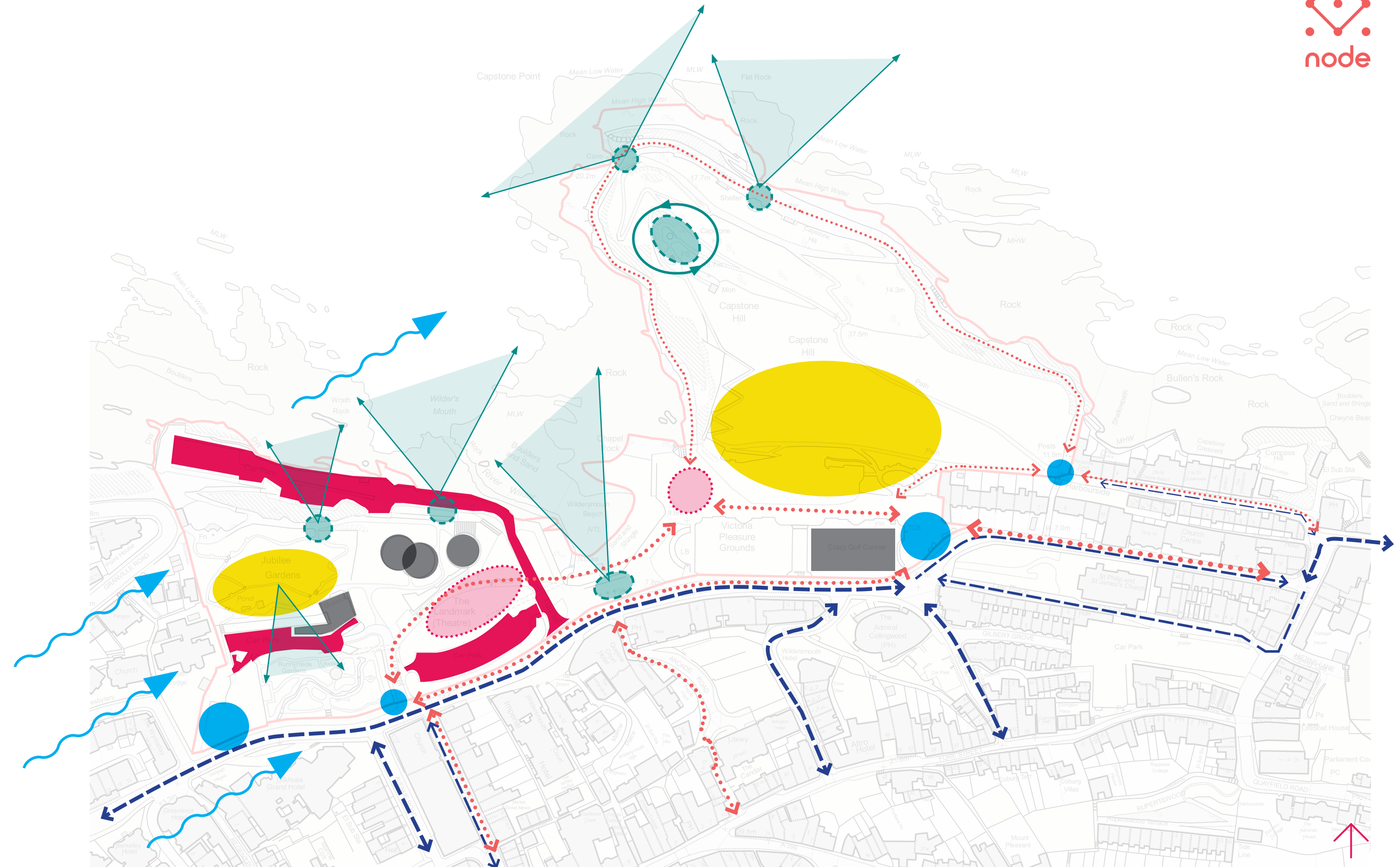
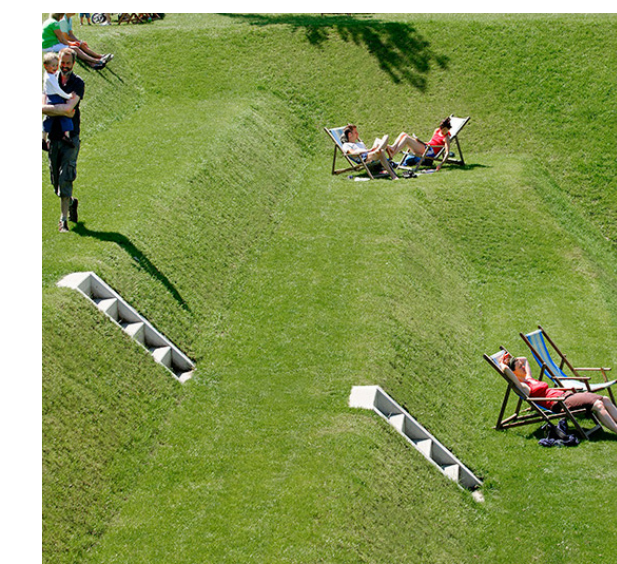
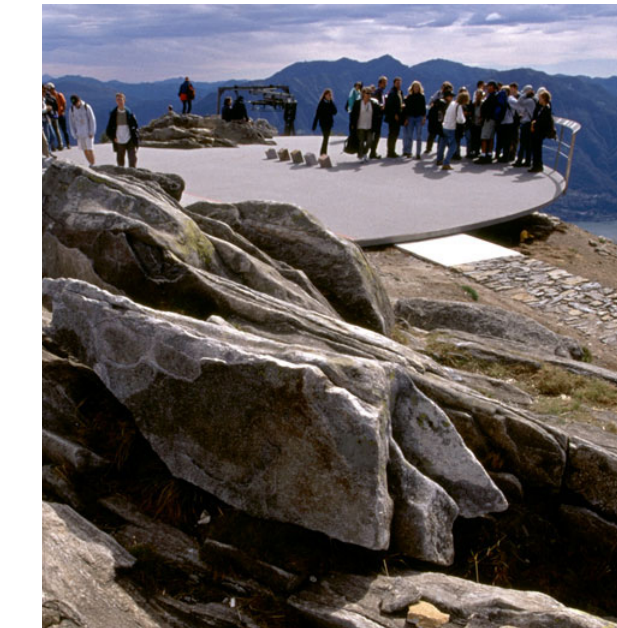
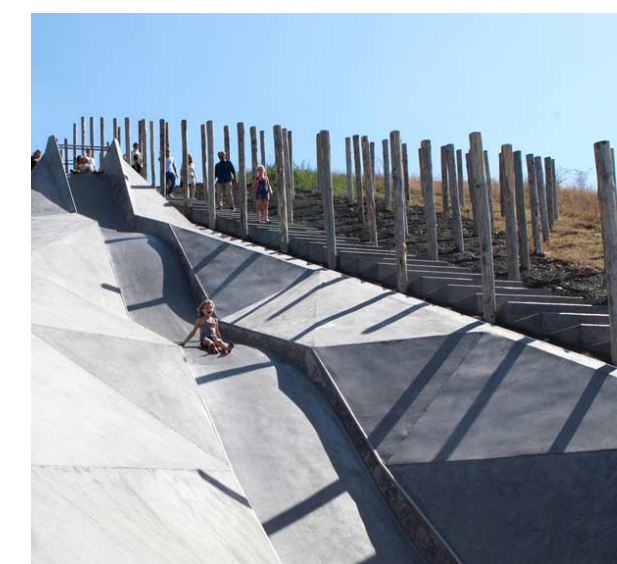
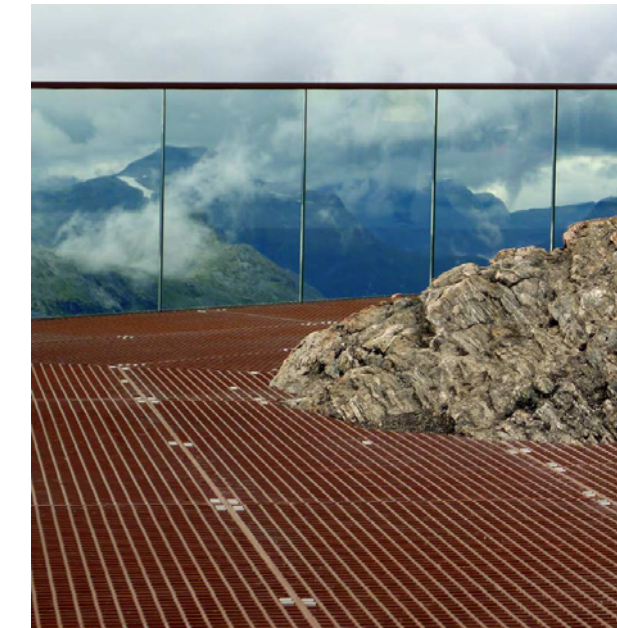
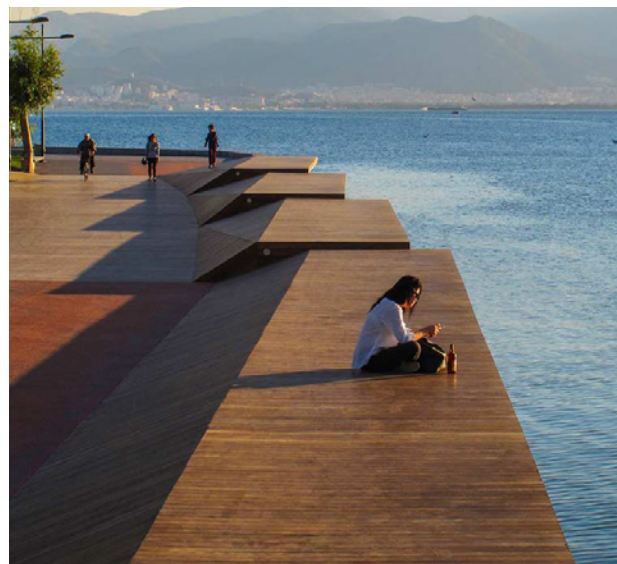
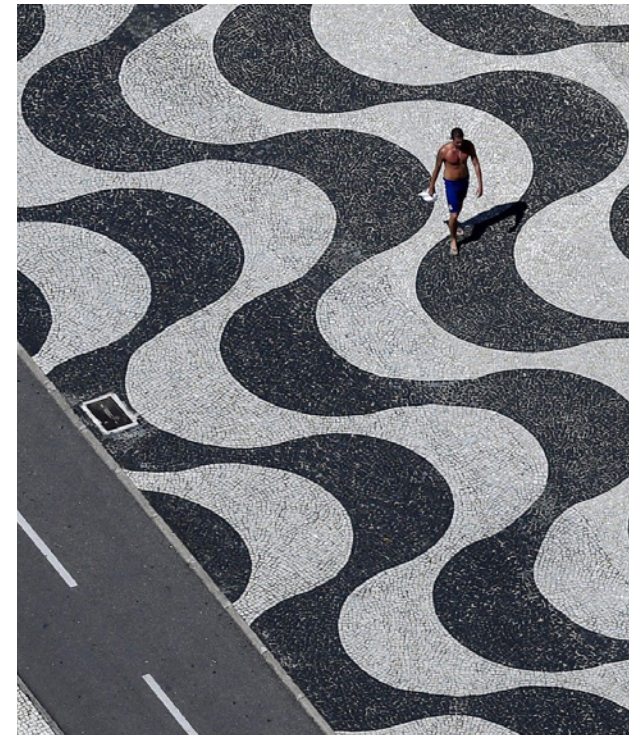


Figure 3.1 | Site analysis | NTS

4. Vision

Vision

“To improve the **health and well-being** of all those who live, work or visit Ilfracombe by creating an external environment that **uplifts** the spirit, creates an authentic **identity** and brings people **together.**”



5. Stakeholder consultation

A number of consultation exercises have been undertaken to inform the development of the masterplan with a number of key stakeholders. The feedback has been as follows:

- Improve accessibility and connections to the High Street and The Harbour
- More seating, shelter, lighting, interpretation and dog bins are needed throughout the Seafront area
- Public spaces need a clear function and purpose in order to make the Seafront a better experience
- The wilderness and natural aspects of Capstone Hill should be protected
- More activities for all ages including young and elderly should be provided
- Play park precedents from Paignton and Minehead should be looked at
- The Museum should be extended or possibly relocated
- A fitness and/or art trail could be incorporated that also includes sculpture and work by local artists

- An outdoor amphitheatre / stage should be incorporated with Capstone Hill top
- Existing Victorian wall should be retained
- Minor improvements to Runnymede Gardens

Node to come up with ambitious ideas that can be broken down into individual projects that can achieve funding as separate entities but which form part of a cohesive masterplan.



Consultation: Exercise 1 combined

- Places that do not work well and need improvement
- Places that are okay, but need improvement
- Places that work well

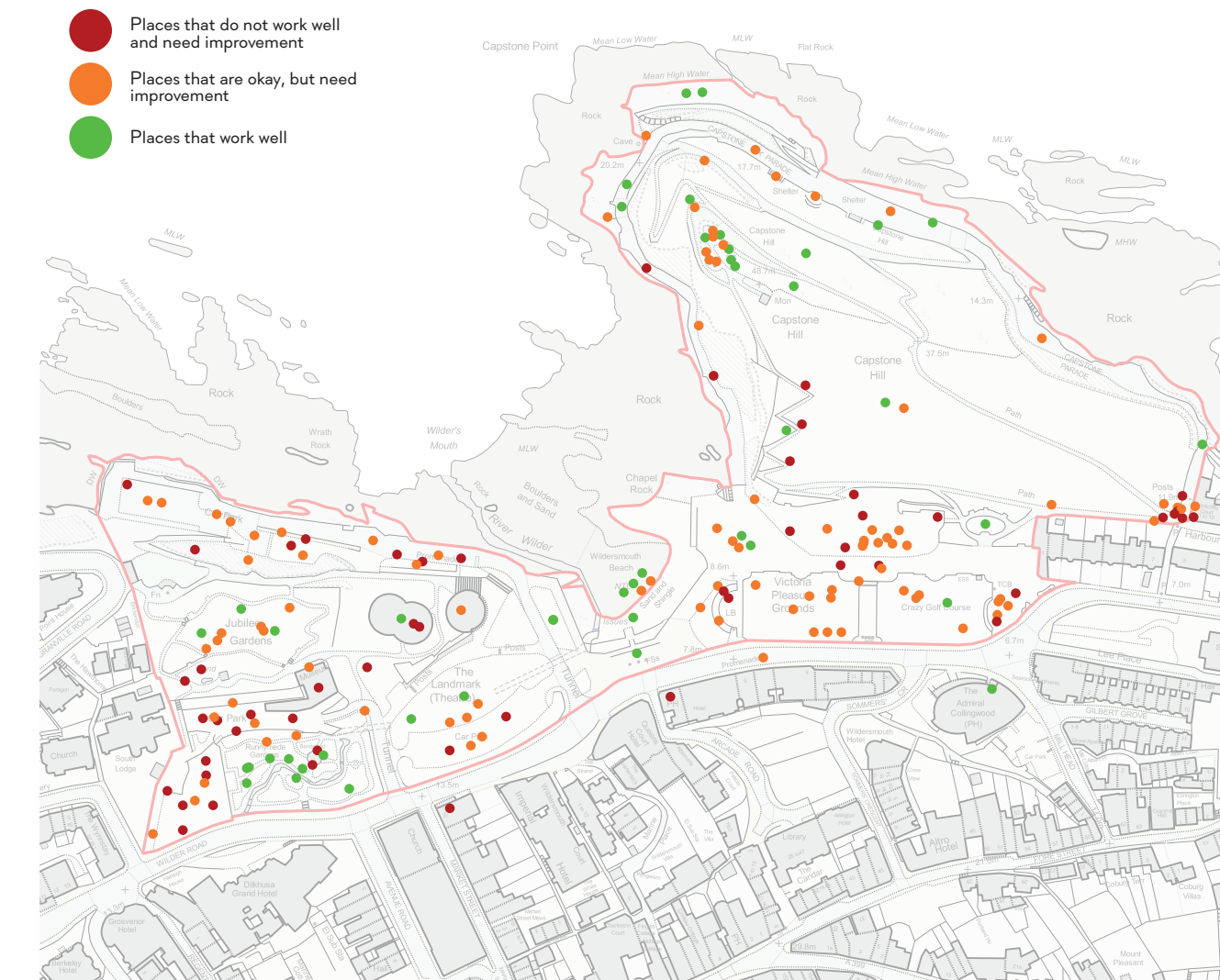


Figure 5.1 | Exercise 1 | NTS

IRB Consultation: Group 2 Exercise 2

- High priority
- Medium priority
- Low priority

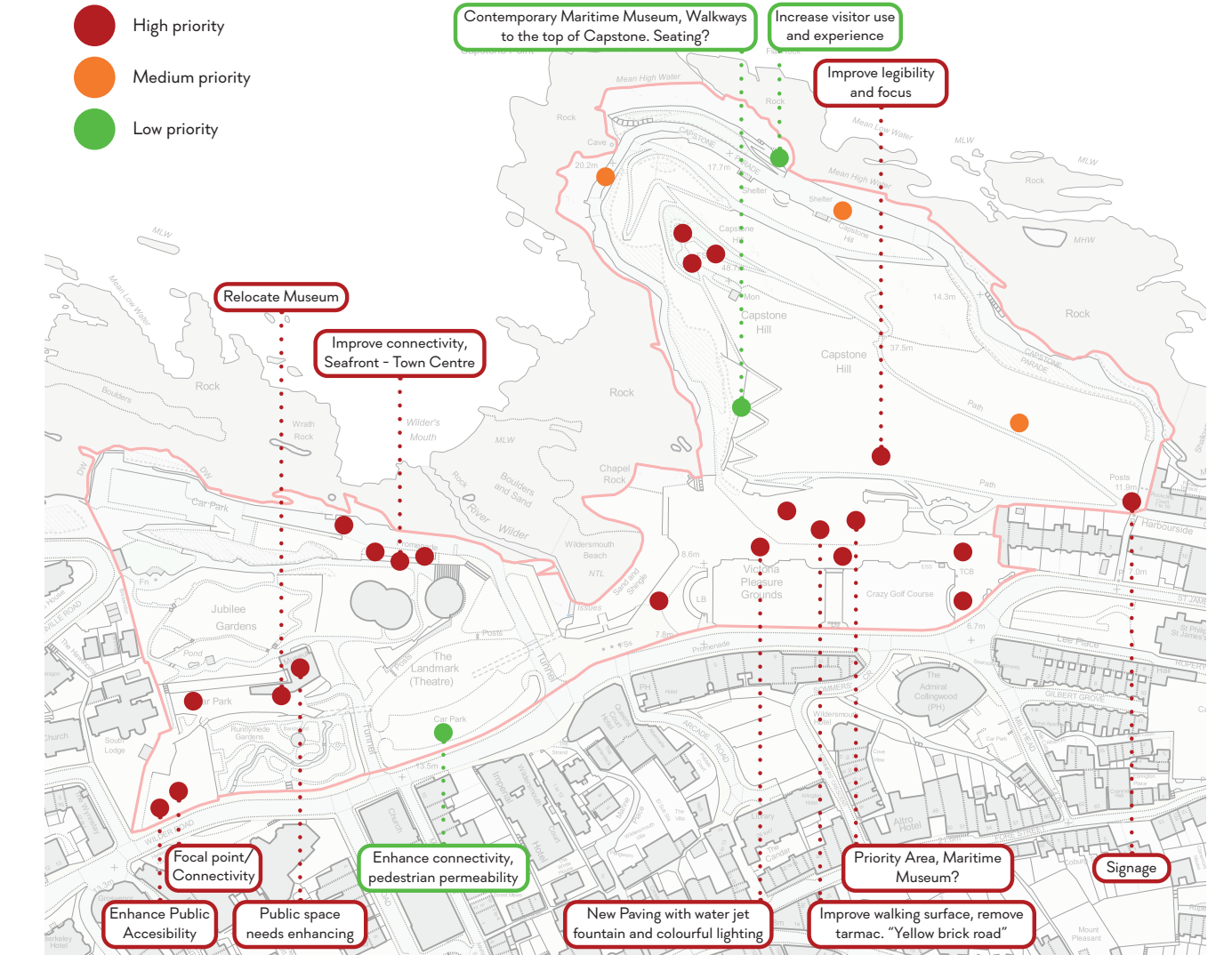


Figure 5.2 | Exercise 2 | NTS

6. Masterplan Proposal

Overall masterplan

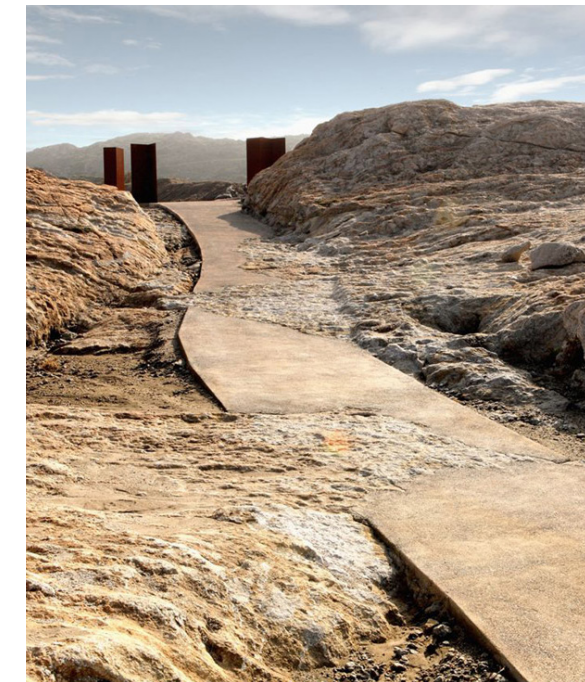
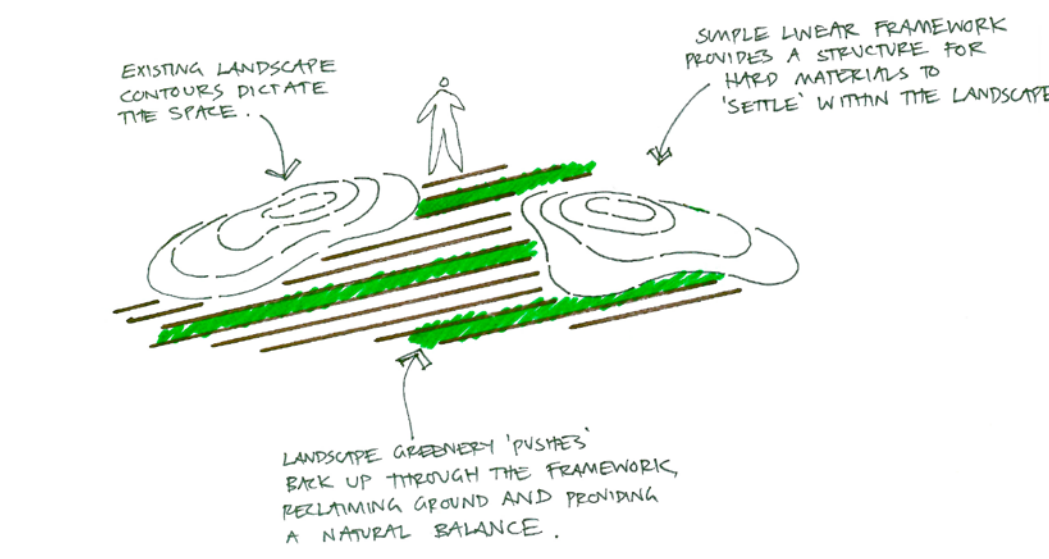
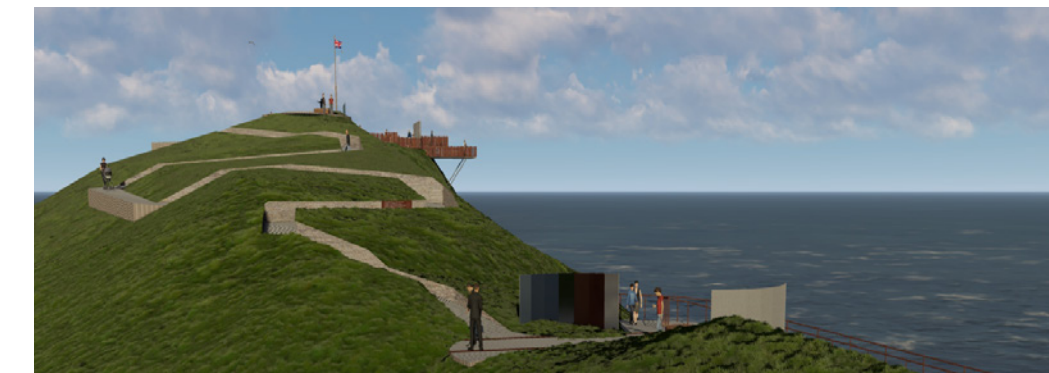
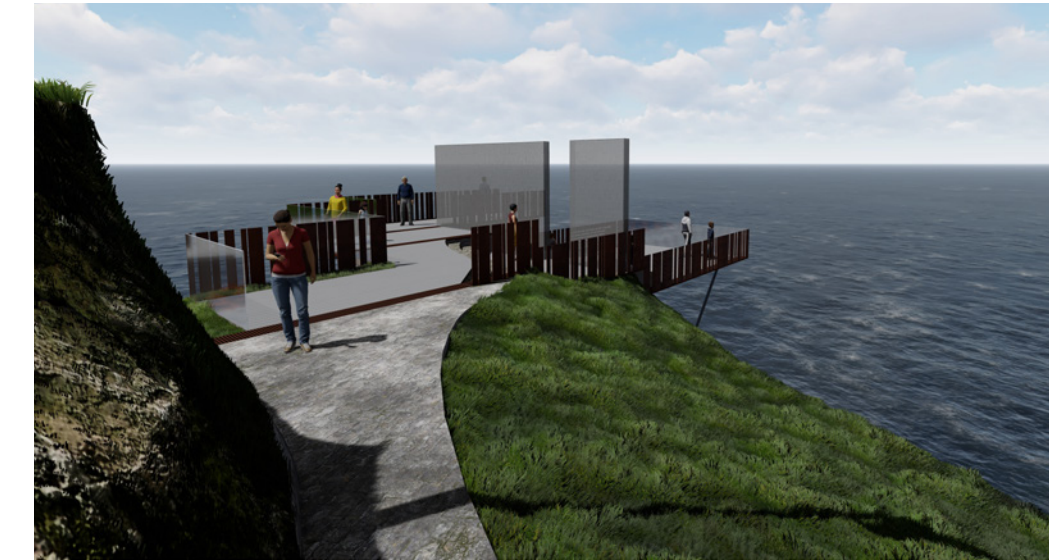
The masterplan shows a number of exciting proposals to improve Ilfracombe Seafront and Capstone Hill. Key projects which funding is being sought are identified by numbers on this plan.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) Outdoor events space | 14) Viewing platform with mini beach-hut benches |
| 2) Sea defence improvements | 15) Sheltered viewing and seating area |
| 3) Car park | 16) Pedestrianised promenade |
| 4) Water splash park as part of Under 7's Play | 17) Grassed events space |
| 5) Crazy golf remains in location within re-landscaped space | 18) Landmark improvements |
| 6) Improvement area accomodating café kiosks with dining sets, toilet facilities and a new bus shelter | 19) Ilfracombe museum |
| 7) Adventure play using hillside terrain | 20) Runnymede Gardens to be improved |
| 8) Walkway resurfacing | 21) Potential development area - Golden Coast |
| 9) Lower level viewing platform adjacent to Adventure Play | |
| 10) Lower gradient/ easier path surface route to hill top | |
| 11) Mid-level viewing platform | |
| 12) Top viewing platforms - viewing areas for dwell, gathering or events | |
| 13) 'Victorian Promenade' regenerated and used as temporary sculptures trail | |



7. Ideas and precedents

This page shows examples of what could be achieved through exciting and innovative design proposals which will help economic, environmental and social sustainability and help North Devon meet its strategic objectives.



8. Phasing plan

The phasing plan below shows how proposals can be brought forward over three years.

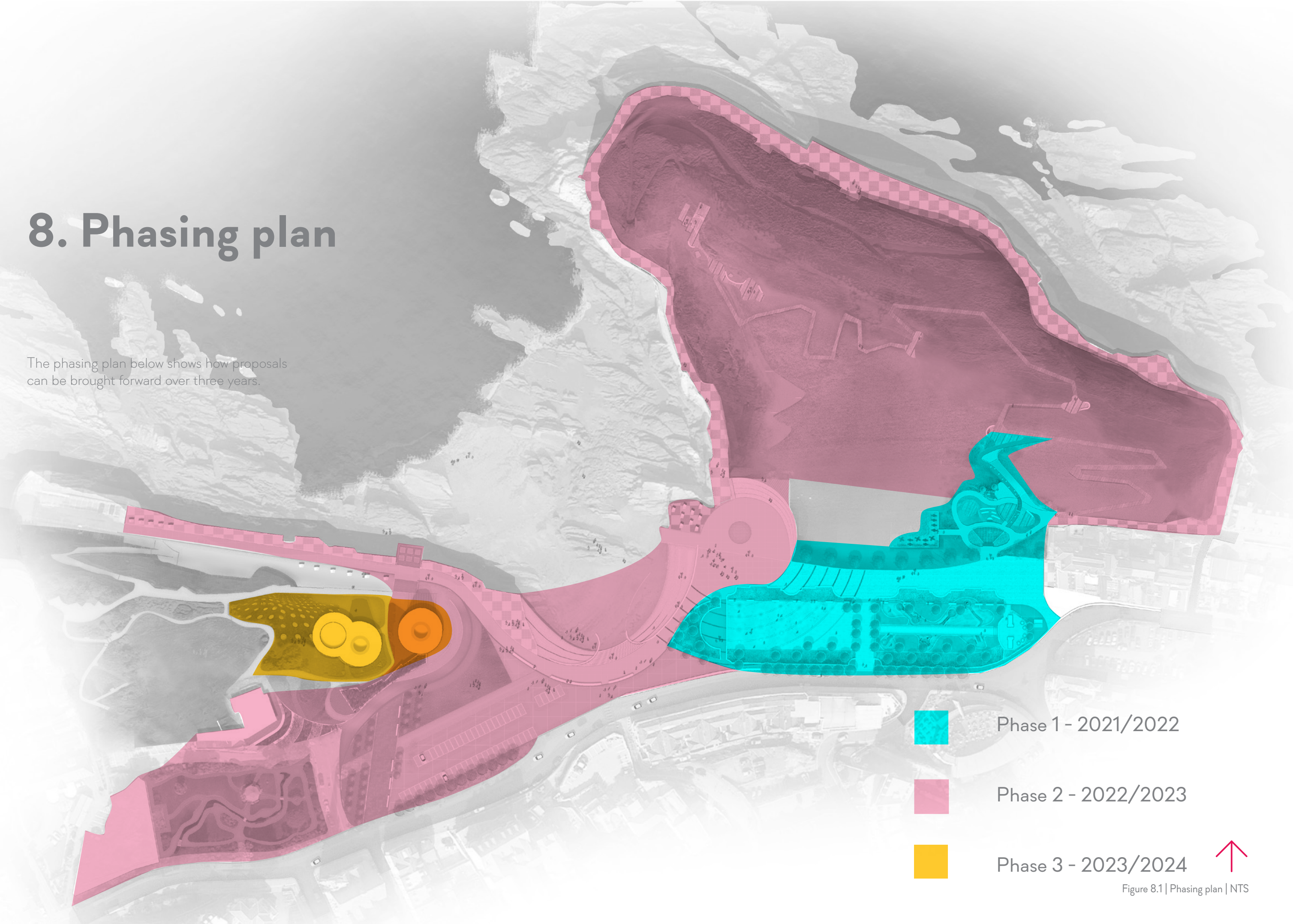
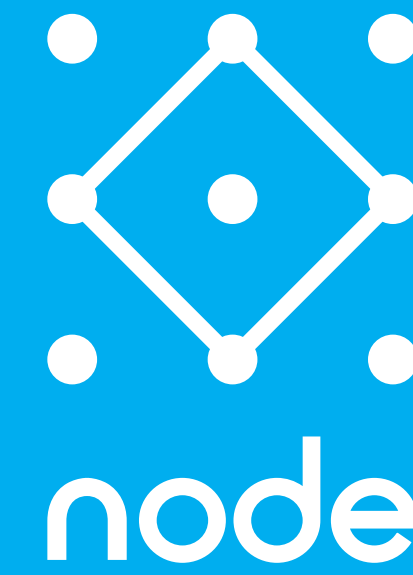


Figure 8.1 | Phasing plan | NTS



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