

Dún Laoghaire Harbour Masterplan

Draft Masterplan Stakeholder
Meetings

July 2025



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1. Introduction & Background

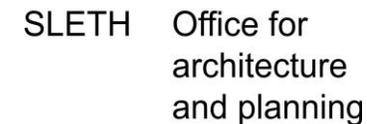
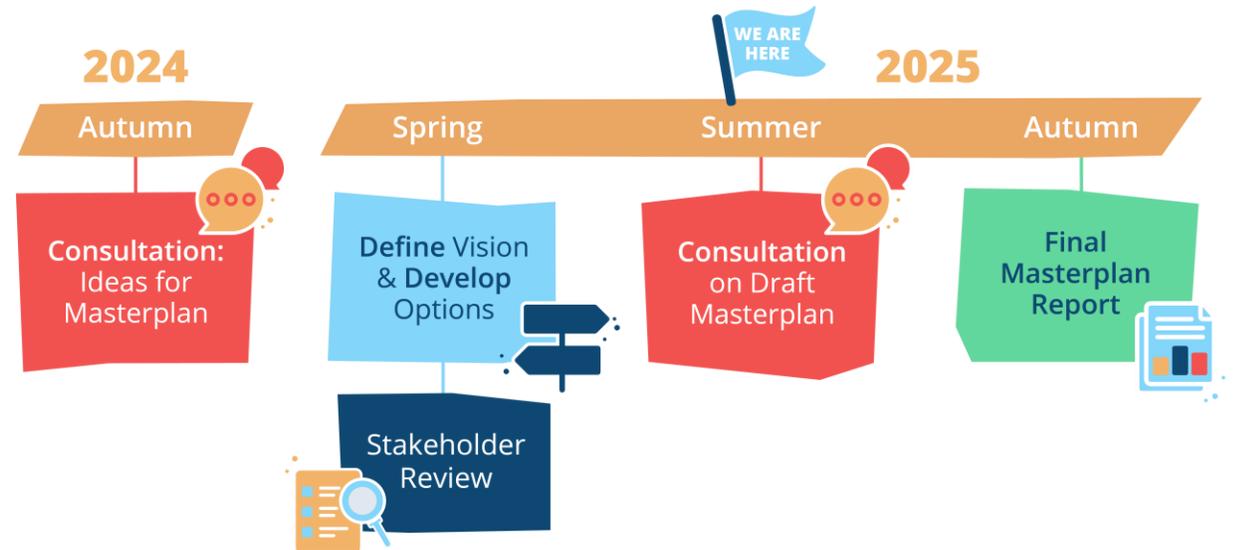
Background

Dún Laoghaire Rathdown-County Council, with support from Fáilte Ireland, are creating a Masterplan for Dún Laoghaire Harbour to guide its operations and development into the future.

The first stage of the project was a large pre-design consultation with various stakeholders and members of the public, through which a number of key themes emerged.

The next stage of the project involved further concept development for the Masterplan, including the overarching vision and options for consideration. A series of workshops were held at this stage to test the emerging ideas and gather more focused feedback on some of the options for the masterplan area.

This stage of the project will ask the public for feedback on the draft Masterplan.



Draft Objectives for the Masterplan

Draft Objectives were developed to guide the pre-design round of consultation, reflecting existing policy priorities and research. These are expected to evolve as the project progresses.



Photograph of the East Pier submitted by a member of the public via the online survey during the pre-design consultation.

Inclusivity & accessibility - Make the Harbour a more inclusive and accessible recreational amenity for the enjoyment of everyone.

Movement & connectivity - Improve connections between and around the Harbour and Dún Laoghaire town through placemaking, design and integrated sustainable mobility.

Heritage & tourism - Make the Harbour a world class destination offering new and enhanced attractions, rooted in its distinctive heritage and character.

Business & growth - Support and promote existing mixed uses (maritime, recreational, fishing and commercial services) while fostering new economic, community and tourism opportunities.

Regeneration - Rejuvenate and repurpose former ferry lands and other opportunity sites through appropriate, sustainable development for public, visitor and commercial needs.

Climate - Build climate resilience through climate adaptation and mitigation measures and adoption of circular design principles.

Landscape & environment - Maintain and enhance blue and green assets for biodiversity and healthier public spaces.



2. Summary of Consultation to Date

A stylized illustration of a hand holding a map. The hand is light blue and positioned in the upper right. The map is divided into several sections with different patterns: a red and white diamond grid, a green background with small white curved lines, and a grey background with irregular shapes. The background is a dark blue gradient.

Stage A

Pre-design Consultation
Autumn 2024



Chalk window drawing in the Children's section of dlr LexIcon promoting the consultation.

Aims of pre-draft consultation

- Promote awareness and widespread participation.
- Identify the existing strengths of the Harbour
- Encourage stakeholders to share their plans and hopes for the Harbour and its environs.



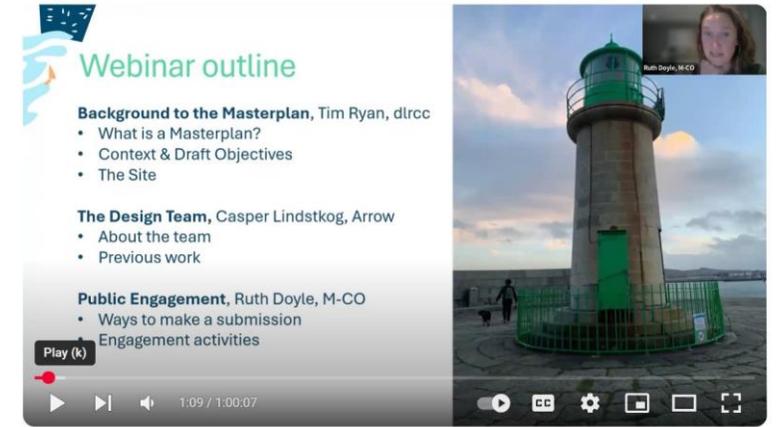
Engagement Activities

- 36 Stakeholder Meetings with 55 different groups.
- 80 attendees at an online information Webinar.
- 866 submissions to an online survey hosted on Citizen Space.
- ~500 people took part in a free boat tour of the Harbour.
- Installations and feedback stations in dlr libraries.
 - 370 feedback cards collected
- ~100 people visited the library pop-up in dlr Lexlcon.
- U18s postcard submissions and engagement with local primary schools.
 - 280 children’s creative postcards collected

Total outreach

1,053 formal submissions made

~600 attended consultation events



Tell us about your idea...

First Name: JAMES
Age: SIX

BIKEBACK. PLAYCENTRE
EGG STAND.
WATER & ENLIGHTEN

SAVING THE OCEAN.
SLIDE
ICE CREAM STAND.

Wish You Were Here!

Dún Laoghaire Harbour
Creative Submission for under 18s
as part of Dún Laoghaire Harbour
Masterplan Consultation.

11th SEPTEMBER – 23rd OCTOBER

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council are developing a Harbour Masterplan. We are in our first phase of consultation and want as many people to get involved as possible. The Masterplan will be our directional chart for decades to come guiding how we want to use, develop and enjoy the Harbour, and its environs.

If you would like to be made aware of when artwork will be displayed, please provide email of guardian (must be over 18 years old).

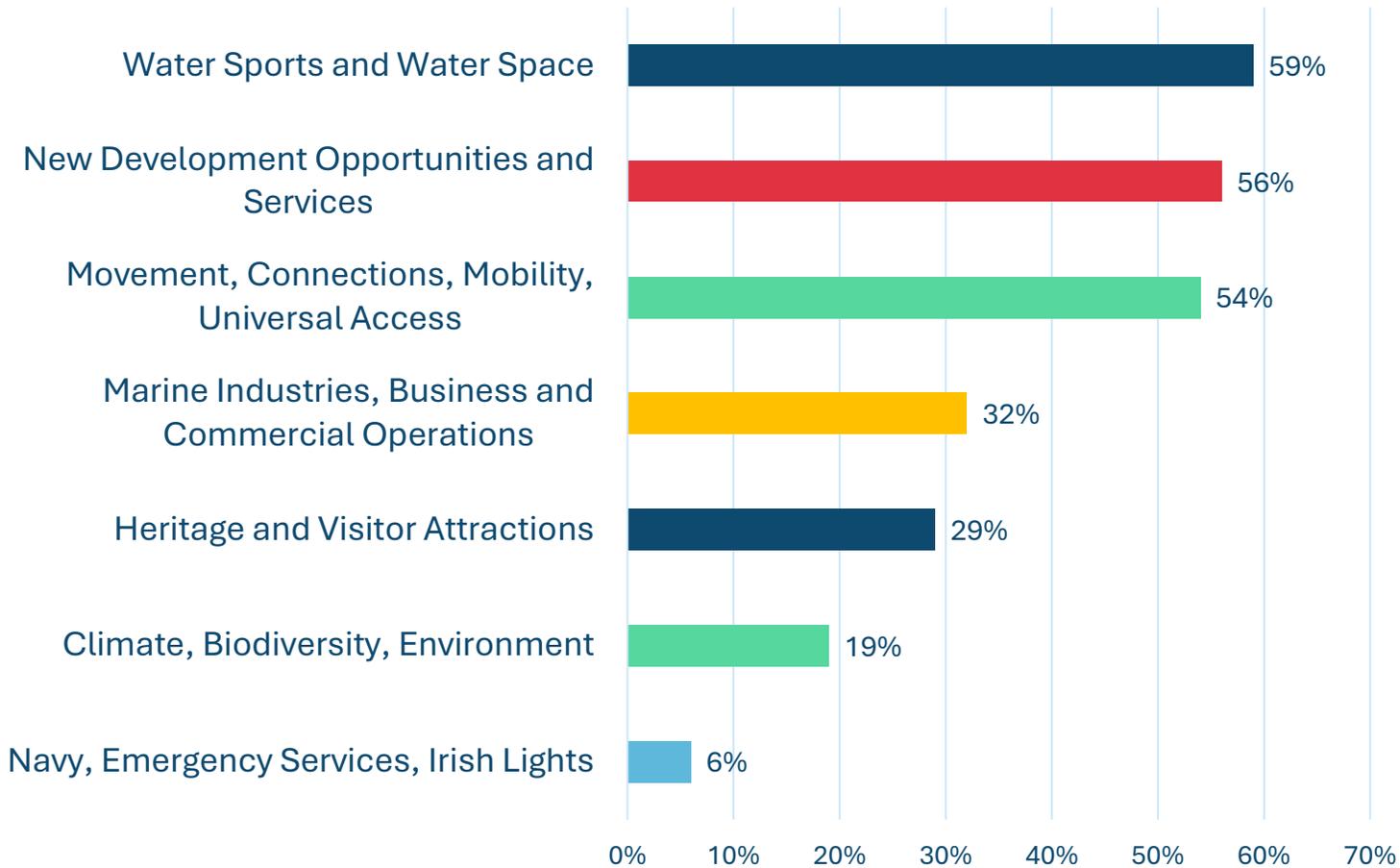
Find out more:



SCAN ME



What ideas were received? Key themes



Consultation feedback points to an emerging vision for Dún Laoghaire Harbour as a vibrant hub for water sports, marine industries, heritage tourism and community facilities, with a focus on accessibility, sustainability and economic growth.

This graphic visualises the key themes that emerged in the consultation and the percentage of submissions mentioning that theme.

Water Sports & Water Space

Highest number of comments (35%) related to improving facilities for swimming and bathing. Suggestions were made for lidos and cordoning off dedicated areas of the Harbour for swimming. There were also calls to create a dedicated water space for diving, and sea survival training, as well as for sailing.

Movement, connections, mobility, universal access

The survey revealed that **92% of respondents regularly walk on the pier** and are keen to maintain this as a primary use supported with universal access and comfort improvements.

New Development Opportunities and Services

56% of submissions made suggestions for new developments on 'opportunity sites' around the Harbour. The highest number of suggestions (31%) were for retail and hospitality including **restaurants, cafes and market spaces** on the waterfront.

Marine Industries, Business and Commercial Operations

32 % of submissions mentioned this theme. Common suggestions included encouraging growth in boat yards, supporting services for water sports, repair services and other maritime industries, including offshore wind, to capitalise on the area's unique coastal potential. Developing a dedicated business park with a cluster of these activities was also suggested.

Heritage

The consultation highlighted the importance of celebrating and leveraging the rich heritage of Dún Laoghaire Harbour, transforming it into a cultural and historical centerpiece for the region, while also ensuring protection. Key among the suggestions was the promotion of the Dún Laoghaire lighthouses as iconic attractions.

Climate, Biodiversity, and Environment

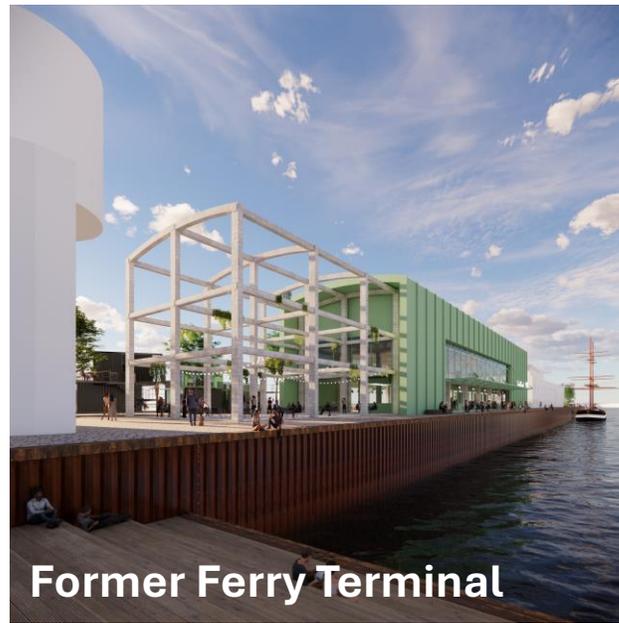
19% of submissions mentioned the theme of climate, biodiversity and environment, reflecting a commitment to sustainability and ecological stewardship within Dún Laoghaire Harbour.

A stylized illustration of a hand holding a map. The hand is light blue and positioned in the upper right. The map is divided into several colored regions: a red area with a white grid pattern, a green area with a white pattern of small 'C' shapes, and a grey area with a white pattern of irregular shapes. The background is a dark blue gradient with several white teardrop shapes scattered around the hand.

Stage B

**Stakeholder Update
Workshops
Feb 2025**

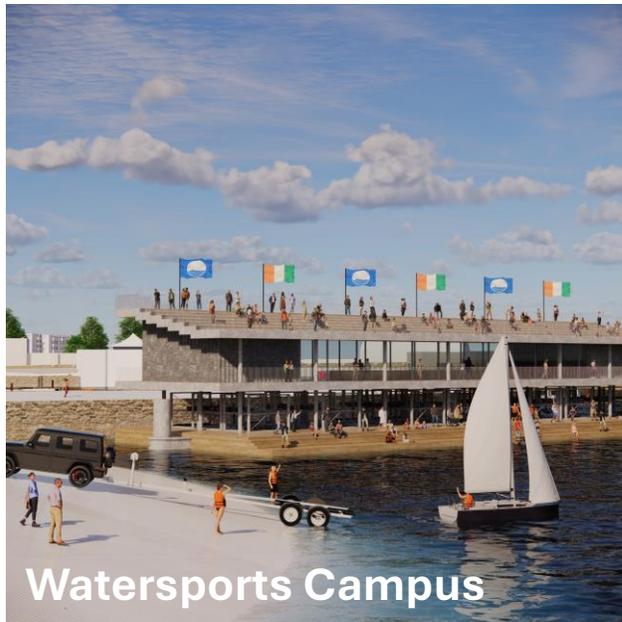
Short-term Regeneration



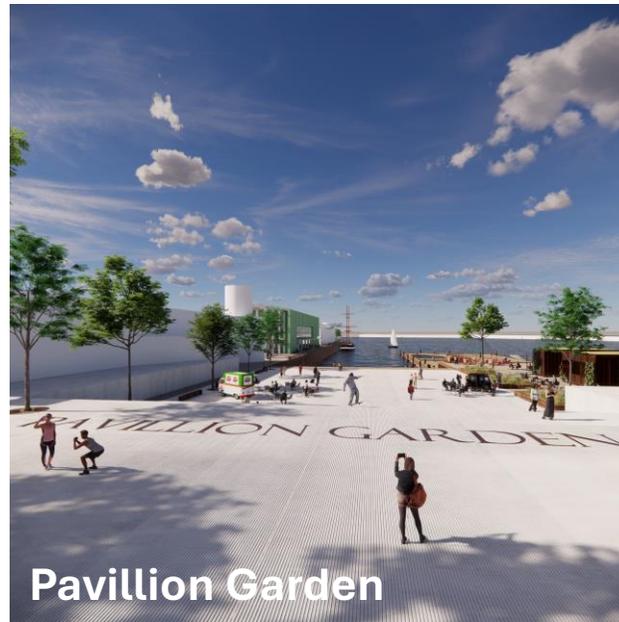
Former Ferry Terminal



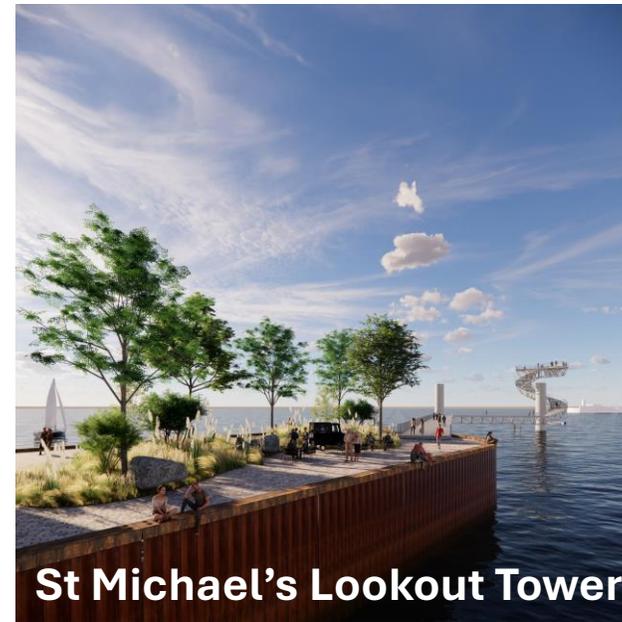
Pavilion Harbour Pool



Watersports Campus

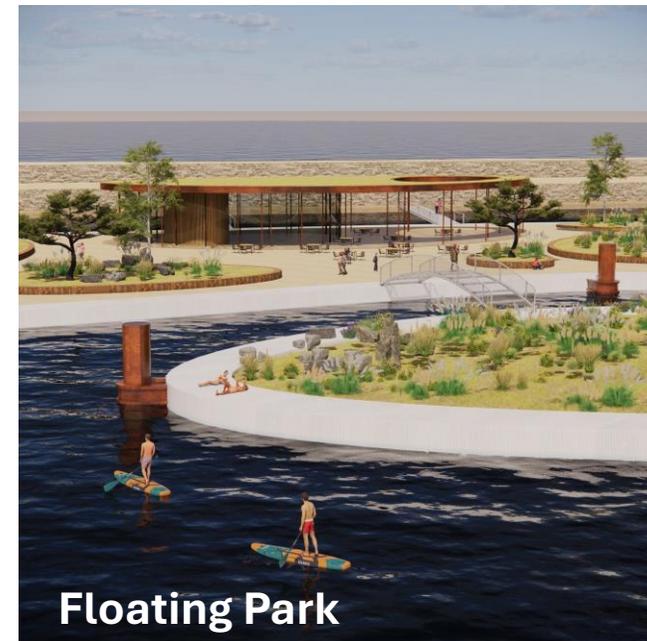
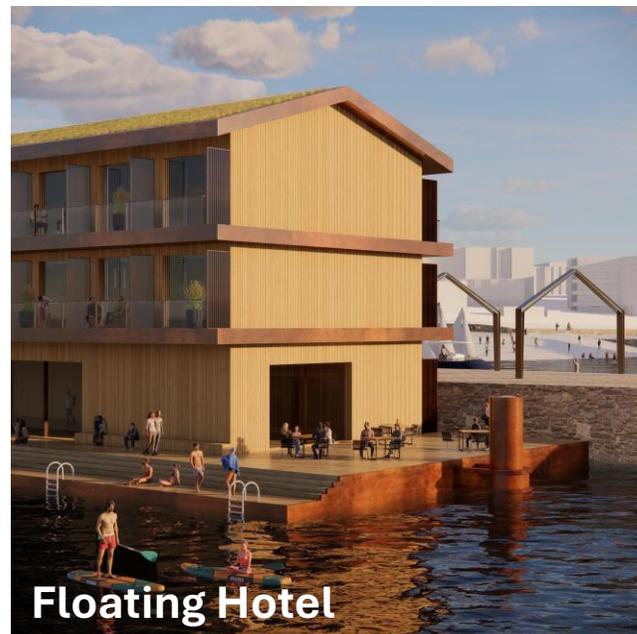


Pavillion Garden



St Michael's Lookout Tower

Long-term Regeneration



Key Takeaways:

Preserve Water Space and Integrate Water Activities:

The stakeholder workshop highlighted the need to prioritise the efficient use of water space, avoiding unnecessary filling, and provide studies on water activities' interaction with the environment, including clubs and slipways. New development should only happen in 'dead water space'.

Balance New Development and the Harbour's existing character:

The internal dlr workshop raised concerns about avoiding overdevelopment to preserve the working atmosphere of the harbour. Ensure ongoing maintenance and minimise disruptions to existing activities.

Appreciation for the innovative and ambitious plan:

In general, the ideas presented were met with strong support, with enthusiasm for moving forward and a clear desire to initiate a project. Ideas for more ambitious events spaces, floating padel courts and performance spaces were proposed.

Activate Public Spaces and Improve Accessibility:

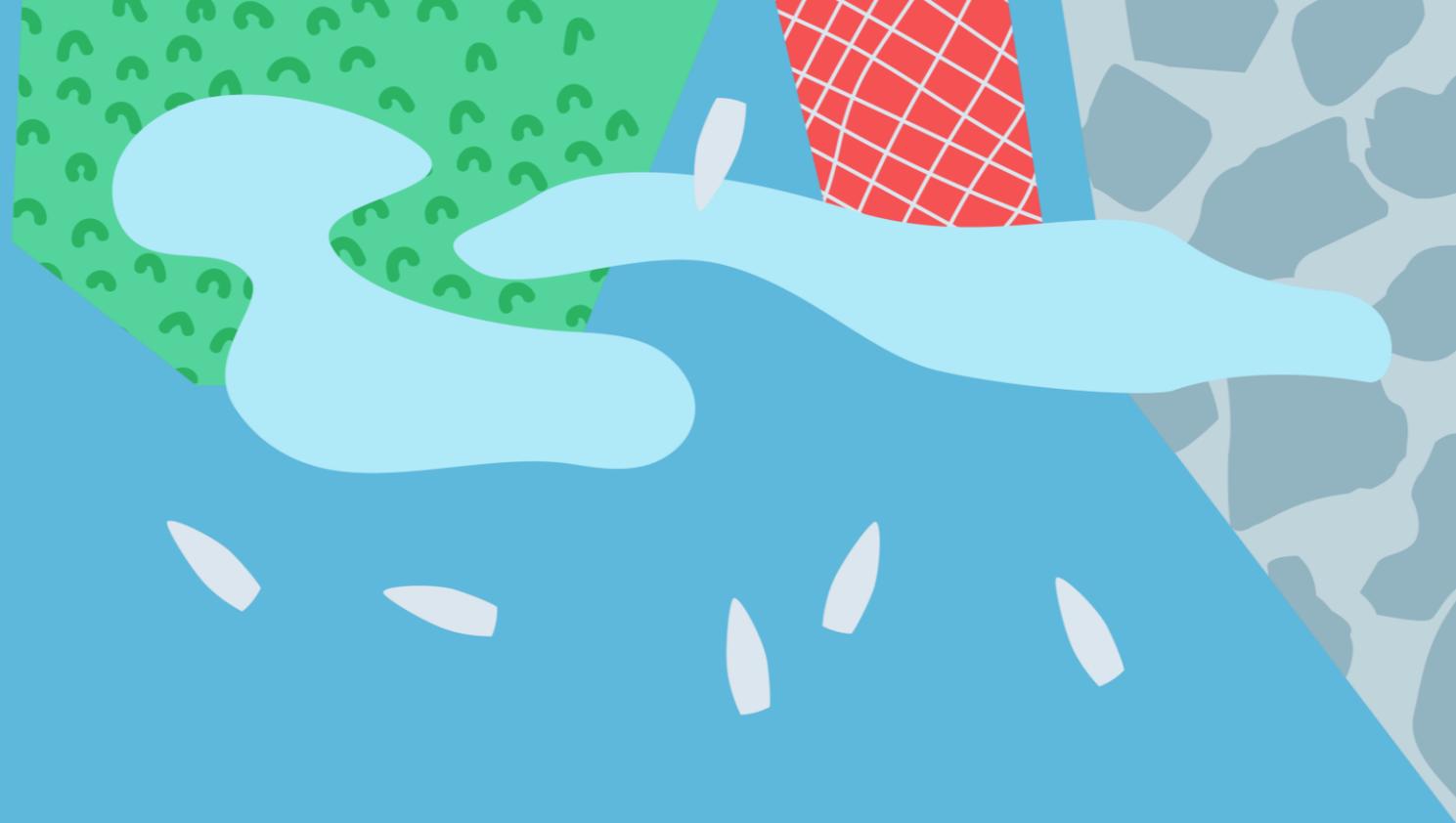
Strong support for activating the West Pier, improving access to the waterfront beyond yacht clubs, and ensuring well-designed, accessible public spaces to connect the water to the town and improve connectivity around the Harbour.

Parking and Traffic Management:

The stakeholder workshop raised a lot of concern about the loss of parking proposed in the Harbour and how this will be addressed. New connections should be considered, especially to connect Coal Harbour and the West pier to the town. Ensure vehicle access remains viable for water-related activities.

Enhance Visitor Experience and Accommodation:

Address accommodation gaps, from hostels to hotels, improve retail and hospitality offerings, and create better experiences for cruise ship passengers landing in Dún Laoghaire. Floating buildings, viewing platforms and unique attractions were welcomed.



3. Draft Masterplan

Draft Dún Laoghaire Harbour Masterplan





Placemaking Strategy

Towards a Destination

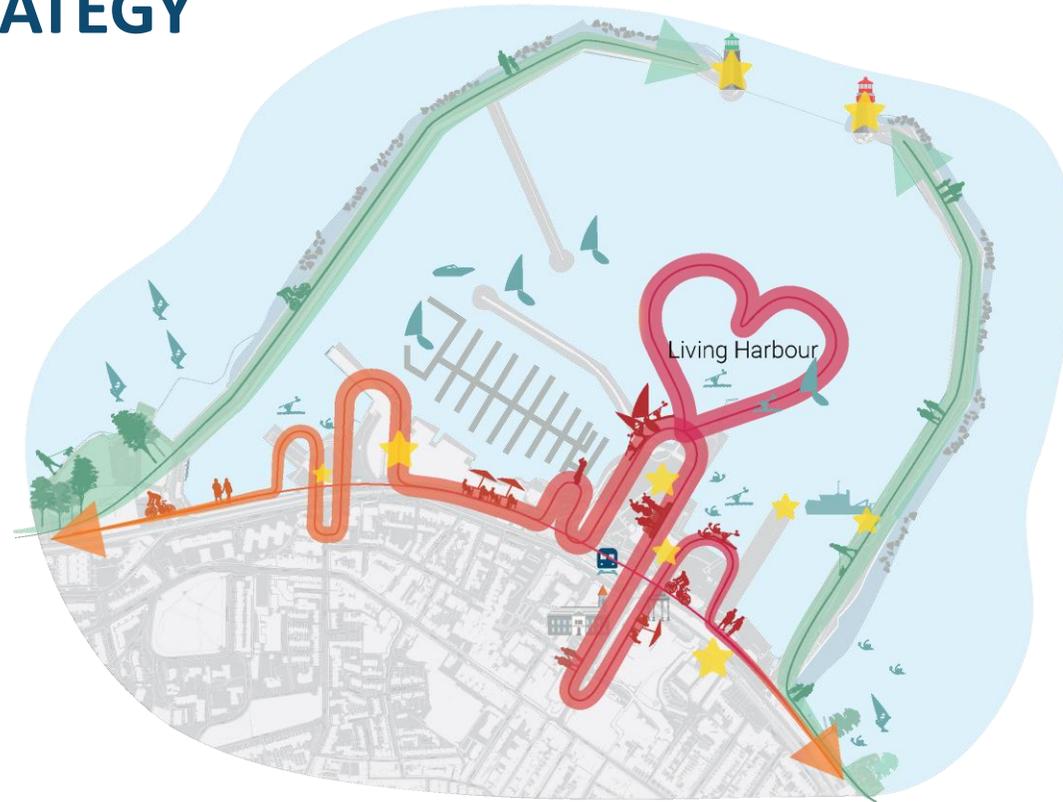
VISION



**From a Grey heart to a beating heart, that reflects
its unique Seaside location & heritage!**

Drawing on the cultural heritage of one of Ireland's most valuable
gem to create a future communal destination inspired by the
learnings from Copenhagen & Aarhus.

PLACEMAKING STRATEGY



Placemaking Strategy "Pearls on a String"

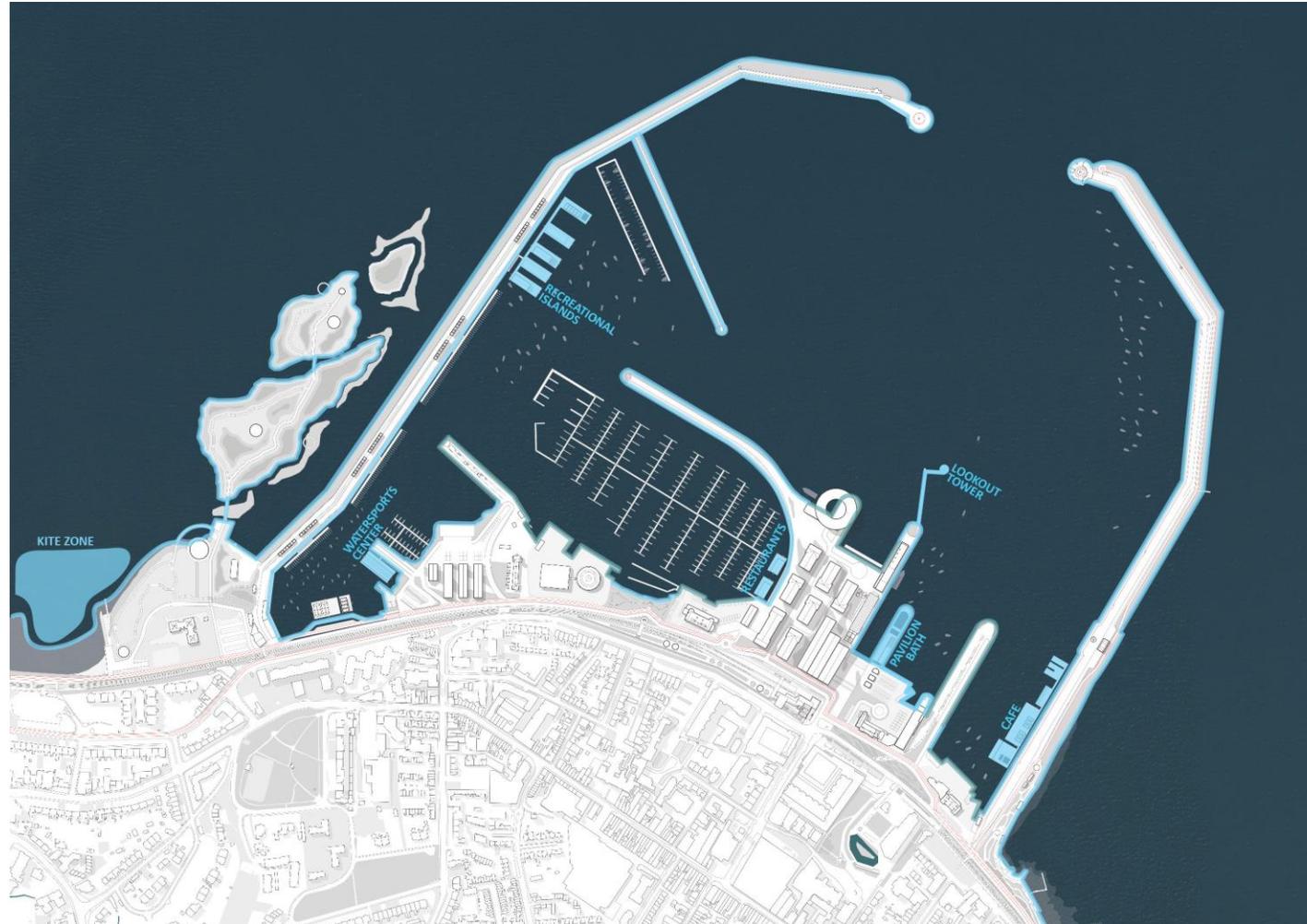
As a heartbeat the Vision will ensure to optimise and enhance the universal access to the waterfront, while linking back to the Town Core as a catalyst for the regeneration of the harbour.



Masterplan Concept

Towards a Destination

MASTERPLAN CONCEPT



- public access to waterline
- private access to the waterline
- on water structures

HARBOUR FRONT ACTIVATION

The masterplan sets free the water front and delivers a series of urban experiences to the harbour.



MASTERPLAN CONCEPT



- green parks
- urban nature

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

The Coastal spine will be experienced as a green link, introducing several green parks along it, as the The green Pocket Park, an enhanced Memorial Garden and the Nature Park.



MASTERPLAN CONCEPT



- Short term interventions
- Medium term interventions

SHORT/MEDIUM TERM REGENERATION INTERVENTIONS

Interventions to be proposed being short to medium-term regeneration projects for the further development of the harbour.



MASTERPLAN CONCEPT



Long term interventions

LONG TERM REGENERATION INTERVENTIONS

Interventions to be proposed being short to long-term regeneration projects for the further development of the harbour.



MASTERPLAN CONCEPT

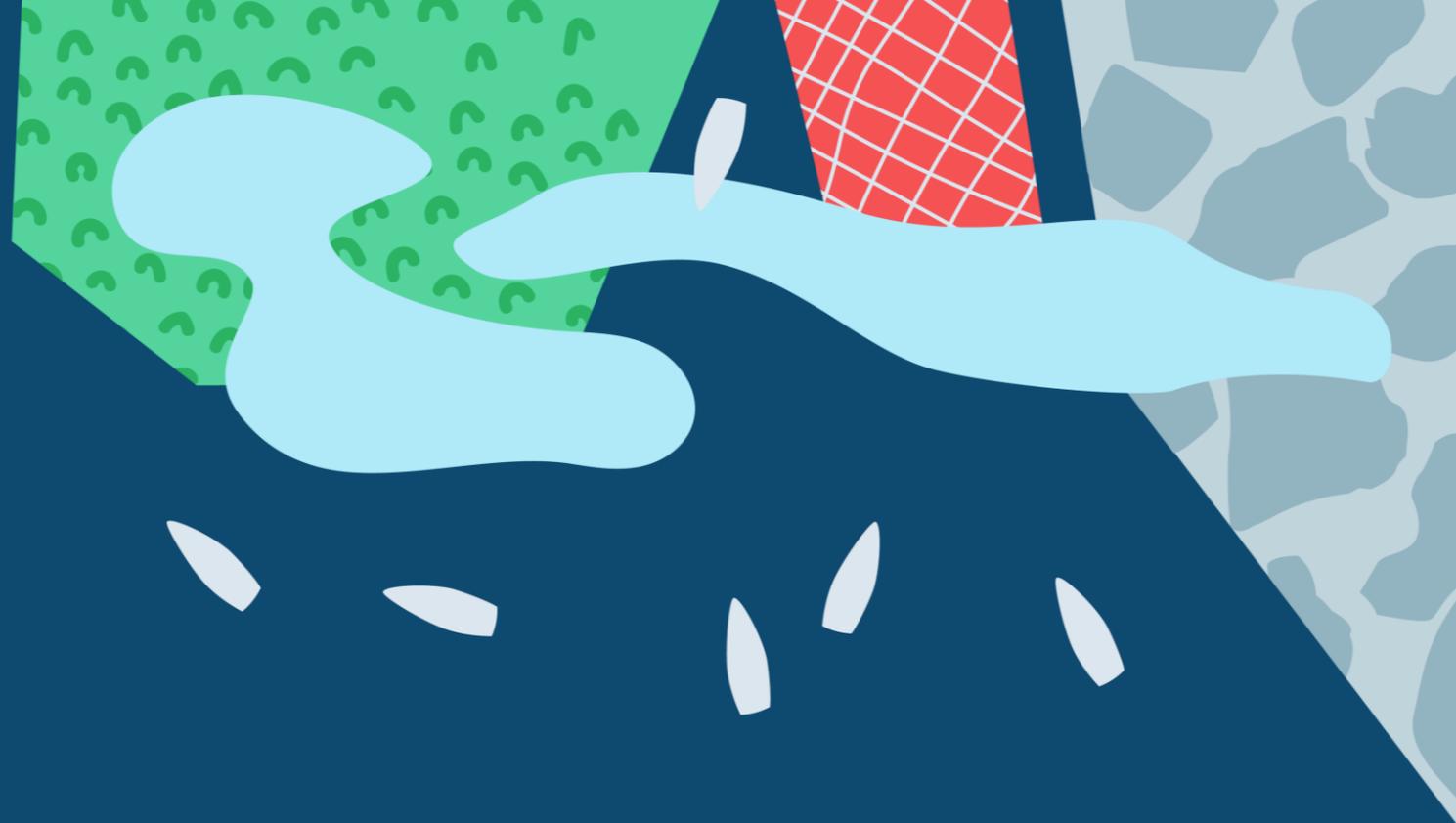


- schematic boat routes
- moorings
- potential expansion of moorings

WATERBODY OPERATION STRATEGY

Proposed Waterbody Operation Strategy, that will optimise and not interfere with the current operation and functionalities of the harbour.

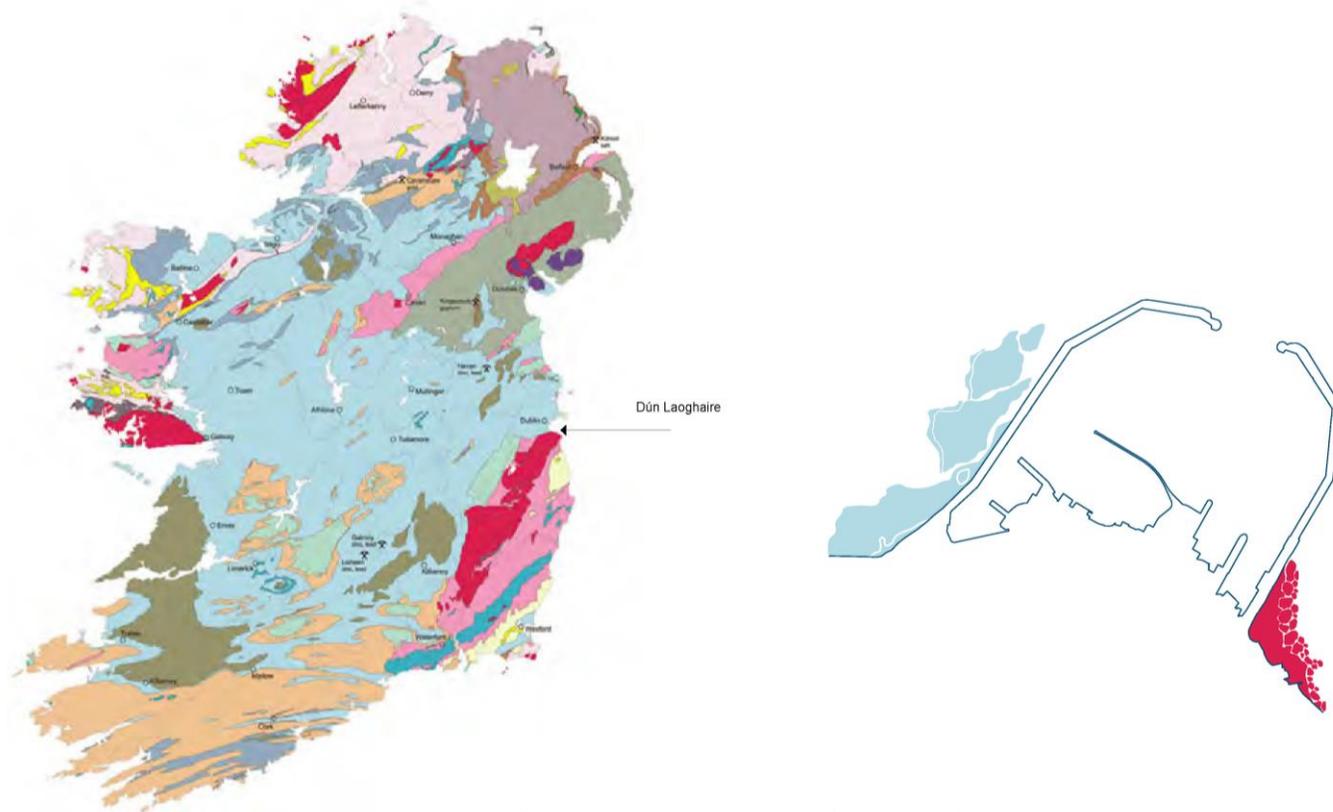




Masterplan Identity

Towards a Destination

MASTERPLAN IDENTITY

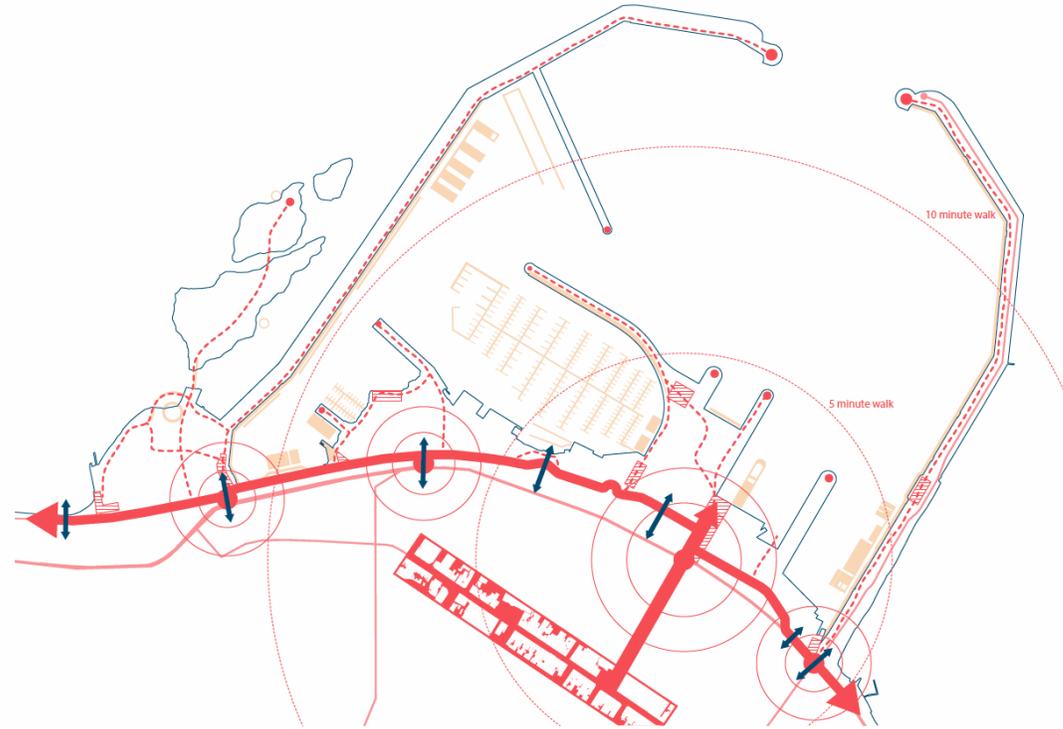


Inspired locally by its Unique Context

Dún Laoghaire's unique character is given by its extraordinary threshold location between Sandstone & Sands at West and Granite at East, will inspire how the spaces will be shaped and experienced.



MASTERPLAN IDENTITY

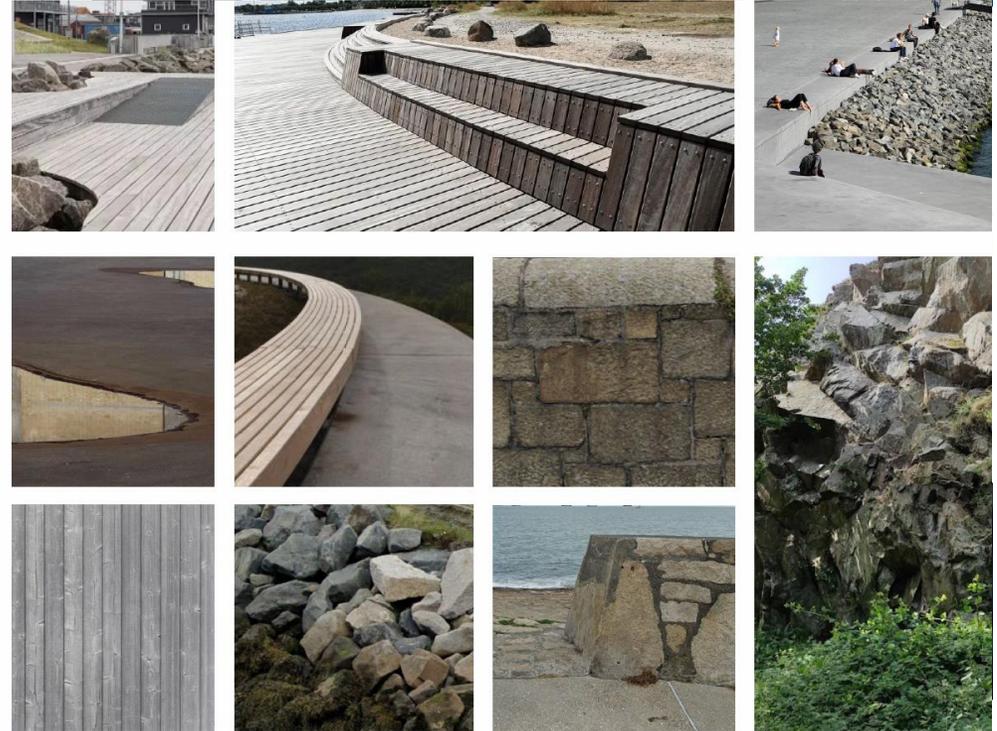


Value Planning

From Connectivity & Accessibility, from Space to Place, the masterplan envisions communal driven urban planning where placemaking and destinations are at its heart.



MASTERPLAN IDENTITY

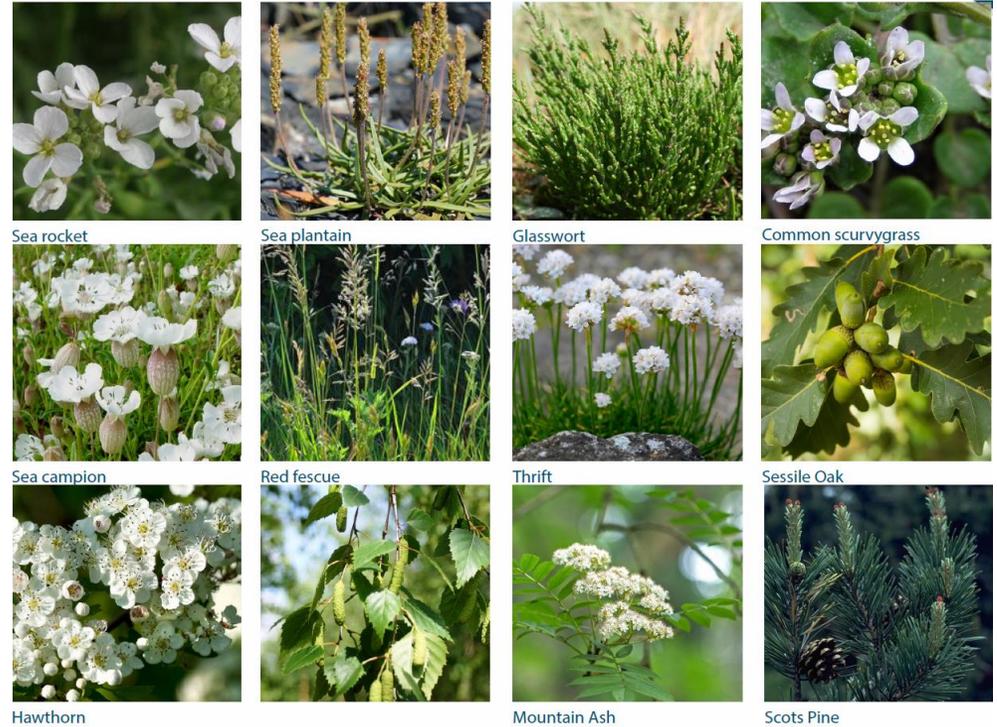
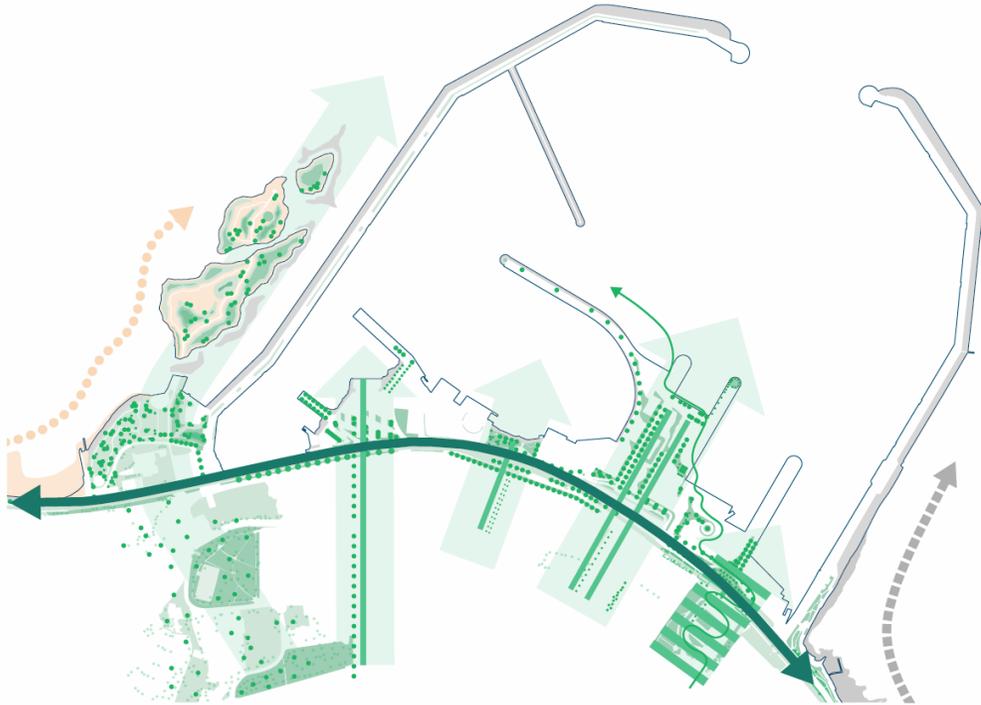


Character & Materiality

We envision a material palette that is inspired by its seaside location, its geological character, and while being robust for everyday usage of the harbour



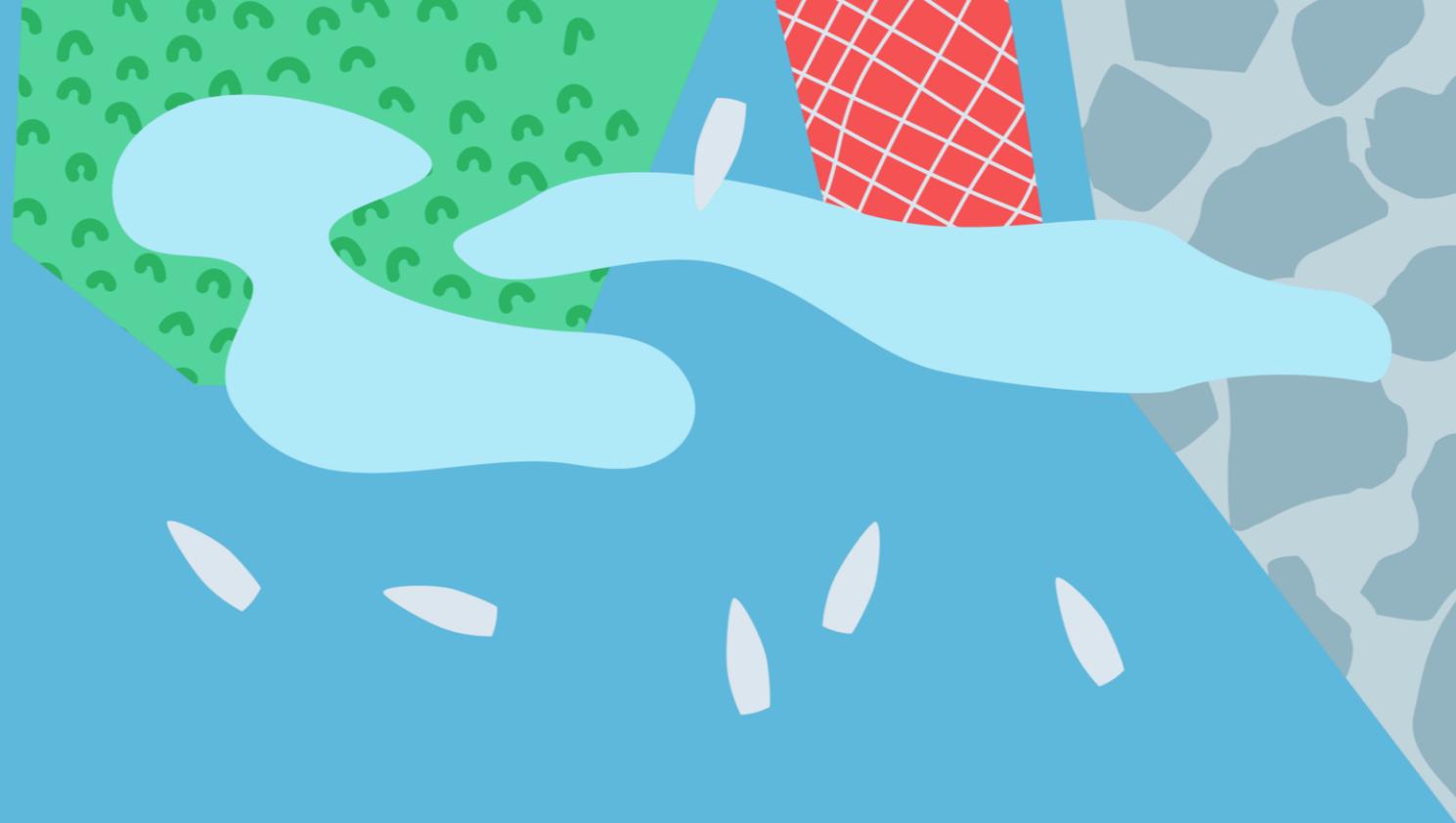
MASTERPLAN IDENTITY



Landscape & Biodiversity

The green infrastructure will be one of the key elements to create a local character, and we envision that the landscape will be optimised and aims to enhance biodiversity across the harbour





Masterplan Design

Towards a Destination

MASTERPLAN



**New Development
Opportunities and Services**

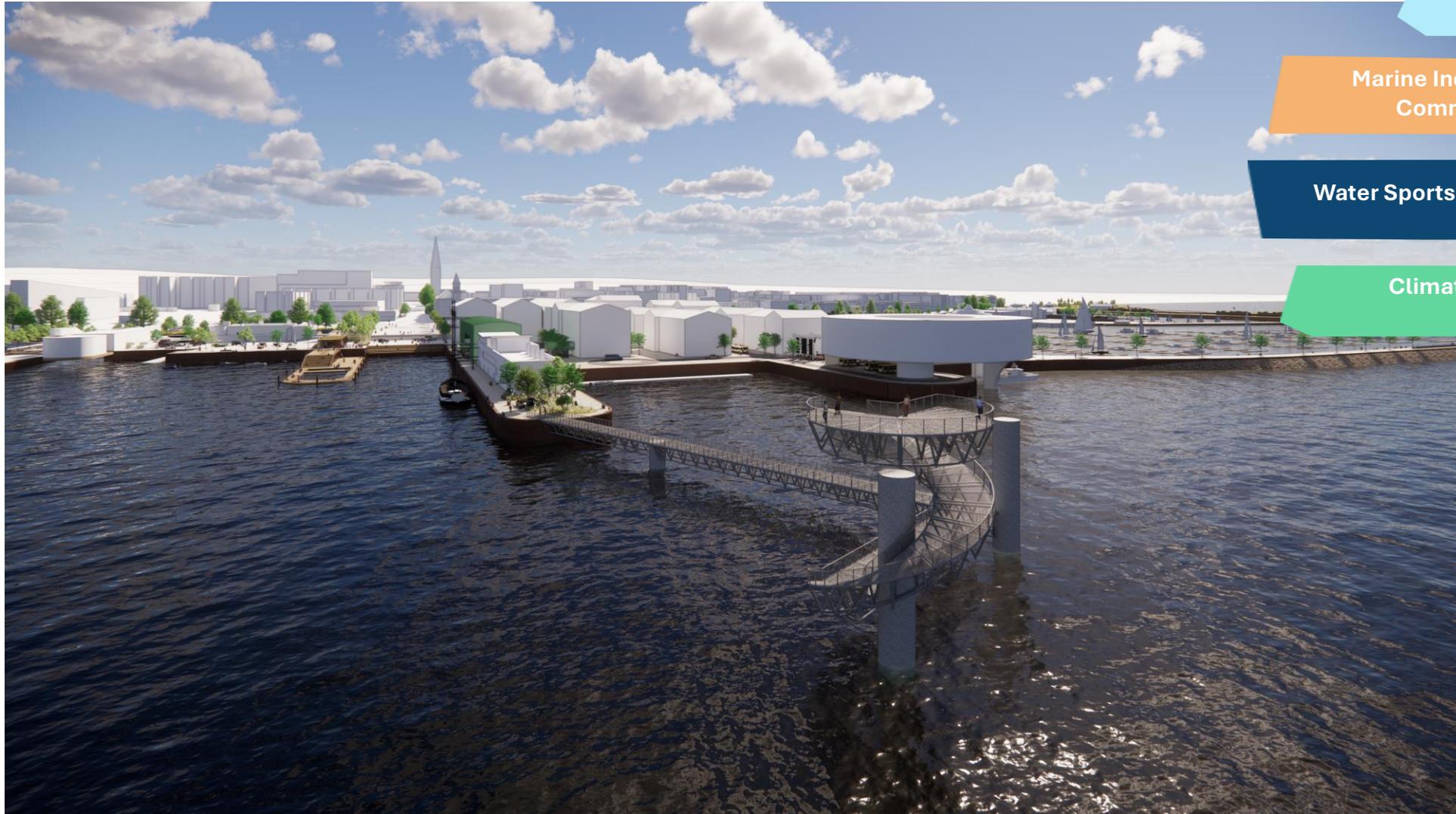
Heritage

**Marine Industries, Business and
Commercial Operations**

Water Sports & Water Space

**Climate, Biodiversity, and
Environment**

URBAN QUARTER



**New Development
Opportunities and Services**

Heritage

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URBAN QUARTER



New Development
Opportunities and Services

Heritage

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Climate, Biodiversity, and
Environment

URBAN QUARTER



Transformation, New Development
Opportunities and Services

EAST PIER & ACTIVE QUARTER

Heritage

Reactivation of the harbour
improved connection to the Town

On-water Activities & Public Water
Access

Climate, Biodiversity, and
Environment



EAST PIER & ACTIVE QUARTER



Transformation, New Development
Opportunities and Services

Heritage

Reactivation of the harbour
improved connection to the Town

On-water Activities & Public Water
Access

Climate, Biodiversity, and
Environment

MARINA QUARTER

Transformation, New Development Opportunities and Services

Heritage

Reactivation of the harbour improved connection to the Town

On-water Activities & Public Water Access

Climate, Biodiversity, and Environment



MARINA QUARTER



LEISURE QUARTER

Transformations, New Development
Opportunities and Services

Heritage

Improved facilities for existing users
of the harbour

Water Sports & Water Space

Climate, Biodiversity, and
Environment



LEISURE QUARTER



WEST PIER & NATURE PARK



Educational Program

Heritage

Improved facilities for existing users of the harbour

Water Sports & Water Space

Climate, Biodiversity, and Environment

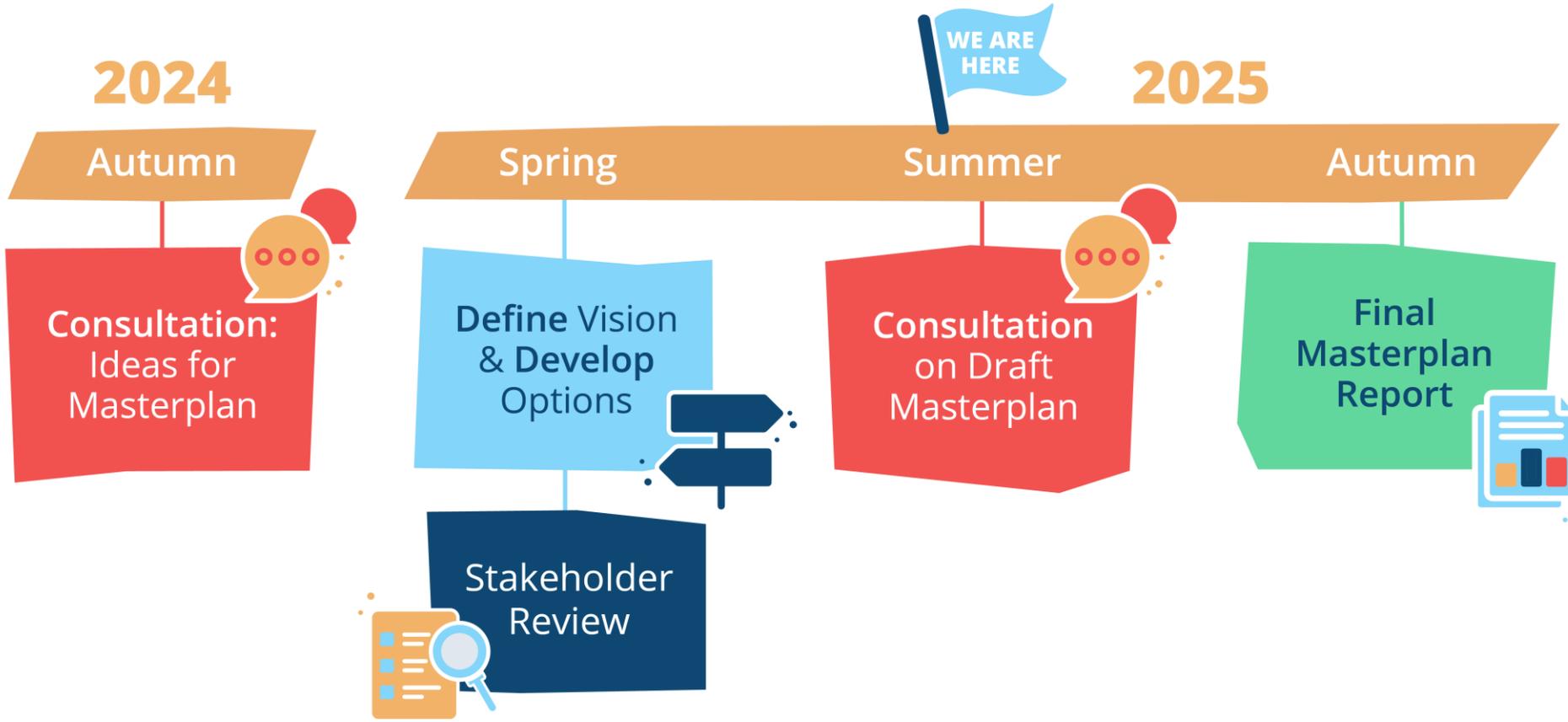
WEST PIER & NATURE PARK





4. Planned Consultation

Tim





Planned Consultation on Draft Masterplan

- Consultation will be live from **16th June to 28th of July**
 - Online Survey hosted on Citizen Space
 - **Saturday 5th July 11am-4pm:** Pop-up in dlr LexIcon during the Coastival Festival (with exhibition boards & hard-copy surveys stationed there for duration of consultation window)
 - **Wednesday 16th July 4pm-8pm:** Drop-in information event in the Assembly Hall
 - **Tuesday 8th July 7-8pm:** Online Information Webinar
 - ~25 Stakeholder Meetings
 - DLR Times publication in July
 - Project leaflet distributed to local businesses & libraries, as well as at events
- 



Make a submission through Citizen Space

Dún Laoghaire Harbour Draft Masterplan
Consultation - Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown
County Council - Citizen Space

Thank You

