

The People's Spa — ensuring health and wellbeing is at the heart of the town's future

The People's Spa stands for:



Healthy People: Improving the health & wellbeing of the people of Leamington and everyone who visits, studies and works in the town



Healthy Place: Ensuring that Leamington, remains one of England's finest town centres long into the future



Healthy Planet: Making sure that Leamington is always looking after the planet

The People's Spa places health and wellbeing at the very heart of the town's future. We imagine a healthier town centre in every sense. People feeling happier, healthier, more connected with each other and with the town.

We imagine a busier town centre, more people in the town, for more of the time. We imagine new activities, new experiences and events bringing people together, businesses thriving, buildings, streets and public spaces well-used and well-loved. A much greater sense of belonging and ownership.

This town owes its very origins to a vision for health. The popularity of the Spa across 18th century Europe was centred on the health-giving properties of water, tourism and the rise of the wealthier middle class. Two centuries later, our vision is putting health and wellbeing for everyone at the centre of our thinking, not only looking after our own health but looking after each other's too.

With climate change posing the greatest threat to our future health, now is the time to put this centre stage. It means that everything we do in the town centre will result in healthier and happier people, a healthier place and a healthier planet. The People's Spa is our vision for Leamington Town Centre.

Our aspirations are for:

- A healthier town centre in every sense — people feeling healthy, businesses thriving, buildings and streets and places looked after and well-loved, people feeling more connected to each other and to Leamington;
- A town centre that welcomes everyone. We want more people in the town centre, for more of the time and for more of the year;
- We want people to love their town centre, become more involved and to feel that it belongs to them.

The People's Spa — let us know what you think about the Vision for Leamington Spa

We would like your thoughts on the emerging vision — it's work in progress but we want to hear your views and ideas

Please put green map pin here if you like the vision and the ideas behind the vision

Please put a red map pin here if you don't — please say why and suggest alternative vision

Use an amber pin if you're unsure or ambivalent. Put your comments and suggestions in the ideas box.

Healthy Planet

Transport is the biggest source of carbon emissions and the cause of air pollution in Leamington. We must make sure that transport remains accessible, but reduce reliance on the car and public

The People's Spa

What is it?

- An emerging vision for the Town Centre prepared on behalf of a partnership between Warwick District Council, Warwickshire County Council and Leamington Town Council;
- A vision drawn up through engagement with a wide range of stakeholders including BID Leamington, the Transformation Board, local businesses, and young people.

Why is it needed?

- A period of huge upheaval and dramatic change for town centres and high streets everywhere in the UK;
- Impacts of the climate emergency, online shopping, working from home, a housing crisis, cost of living crisis, loss of nature and many other challenges;
- A vision was drawn up in 2018 and we need to look at it again in the light of a rapidly changing world;
- A vision is needed to guide change in the town over the next decade or more.

What are our aspirations?

- A healthier town centre in every sense — people feeling healthy, businesses thriving, buildings and streets and places looked after and well-loved, people feeling more connected to each other and to Leamington;
- A town centre that welcomes everyone. We want more people in the town centre, for more of the time and for more of the year;
- We want people to love their town centre, become more involved and to feel that it belongs to them;

Who prepared it?

- Prepared by LDA Design, experienced town centre regeneration specialists, urban designers and designers of healthy streets and public space;
- Prepared on behalf of the partnership;
- Prepared through engagement with a wide range of stakeholders.

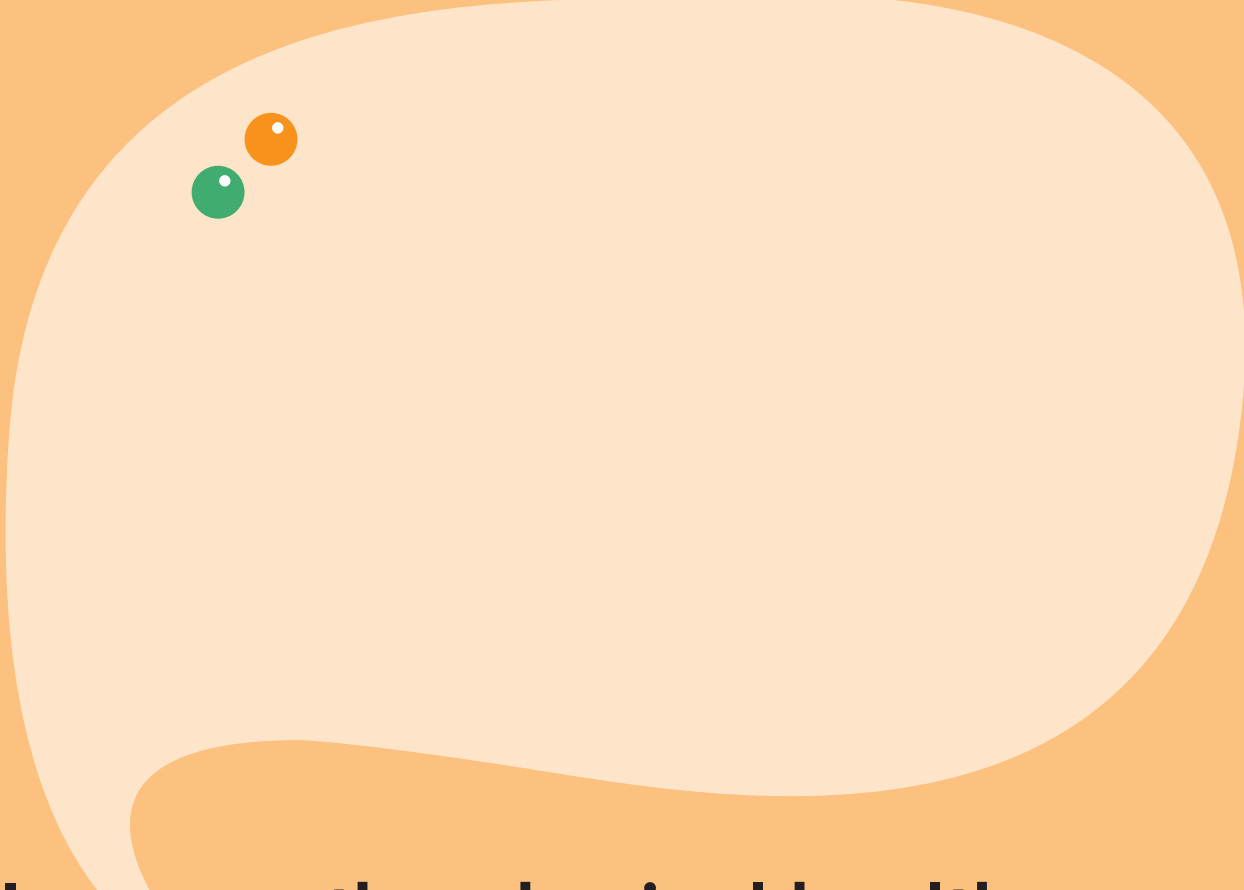
What we need from you

- This is your town centre and we need your views, comments and suggestions;
- A successful vision and a way forward relies on your support and participation;
- Please let us have your views.


What happens next?

- We take on board your comments and suggestions;
- We refine and update our vision;
- We publish the final full version online this summer;
- We embark upon developing a concept masterplan for Parade over the summer that embodies the principles and ideas of the vision;
- We share our concept plans for Parade and its connecting streets with you for comment in the summer.


Healthy People




Improve the physical health and wellbeing for everyone by reducing traffic in the town centre and encouraging more walking and cycling. This will improve physical health, improve air quality and improve safety;




Celebrate and promote local food production and support healthy eating;



Improve town centre safety with more “eyes on the street” and more activity and natural surveillance.




Encourage health and wellbeing facilities into the town centre -GPs, clinics, diagnostic facilities, care facilities, dentists, nurseries, fitness and wellbeing centres;




Create more indoor and outdoor social and meeting places in the town centres, places to sit and relax and socialise to combat isolation and loneliness;




Improve connections between people and nature;




Re-establish a Spa or Spas. This can include both public spas and luxury spas;



Provide opportunities and space for events, celebrations and performance to bring people together and to foster a stronger sense of community and belonging;

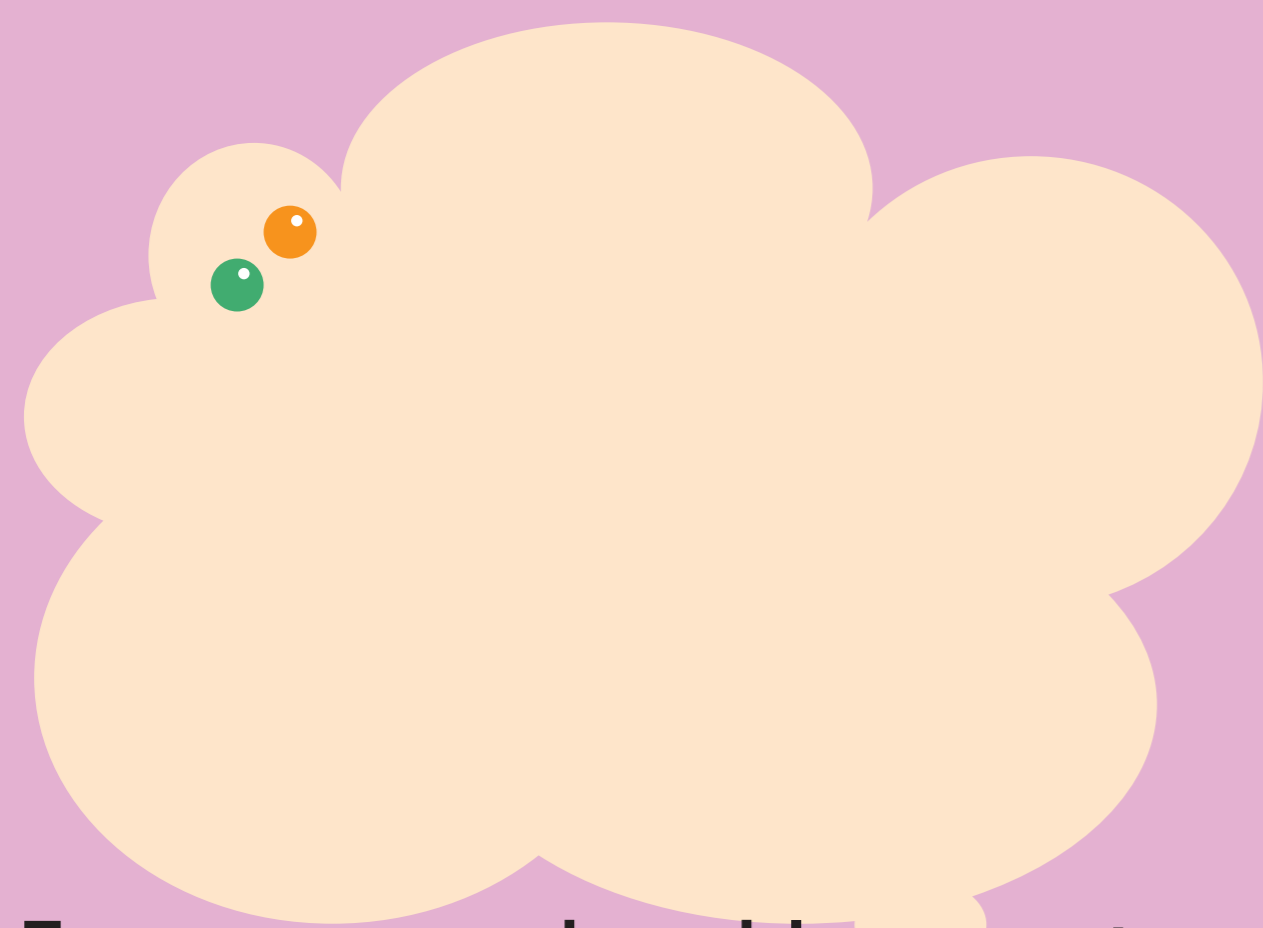


Healthy participation and governance — great town centres are about people, successful partnerships and organisations — review and refine town centre partnerships — involve young people and other under-represented groups.

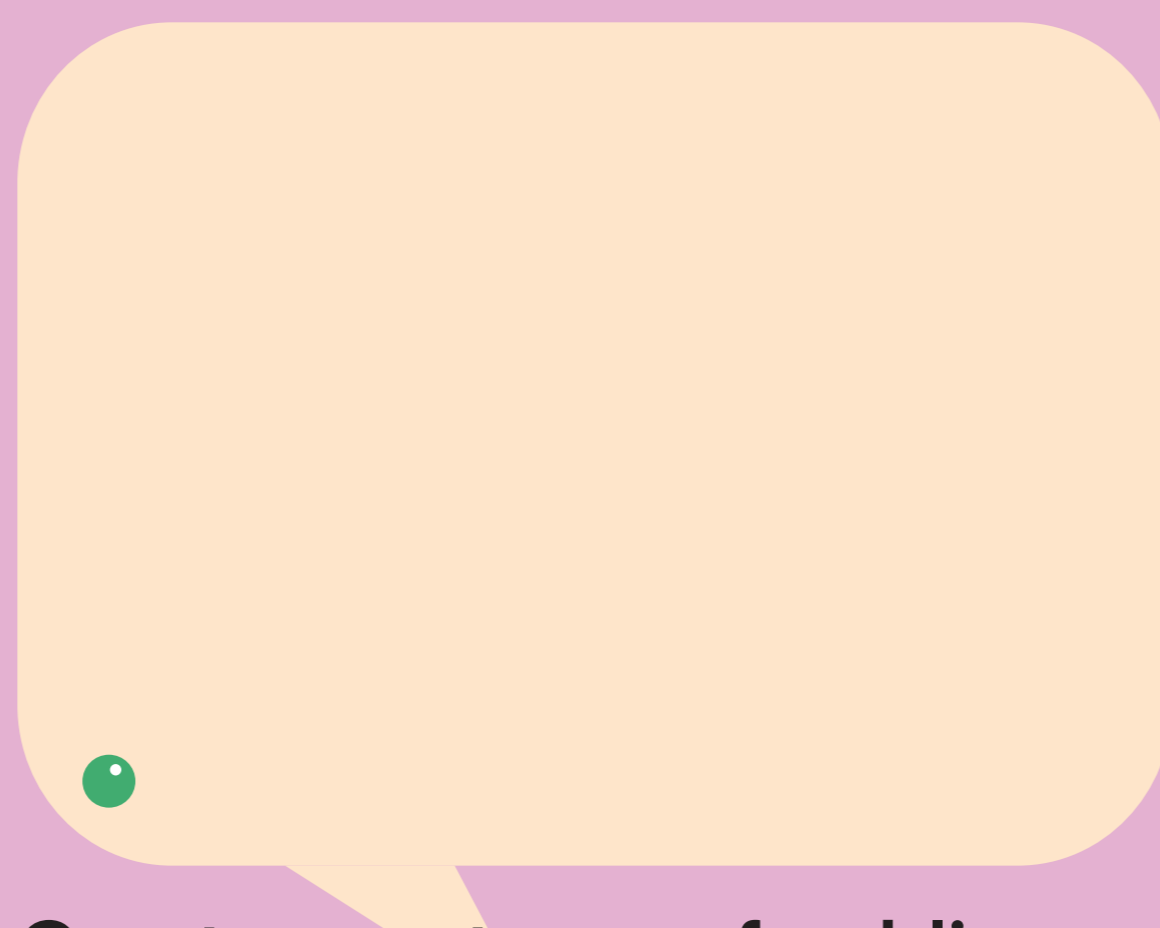


Create a child-friendly town centre with opportunities for incidental play;

Healthy Place



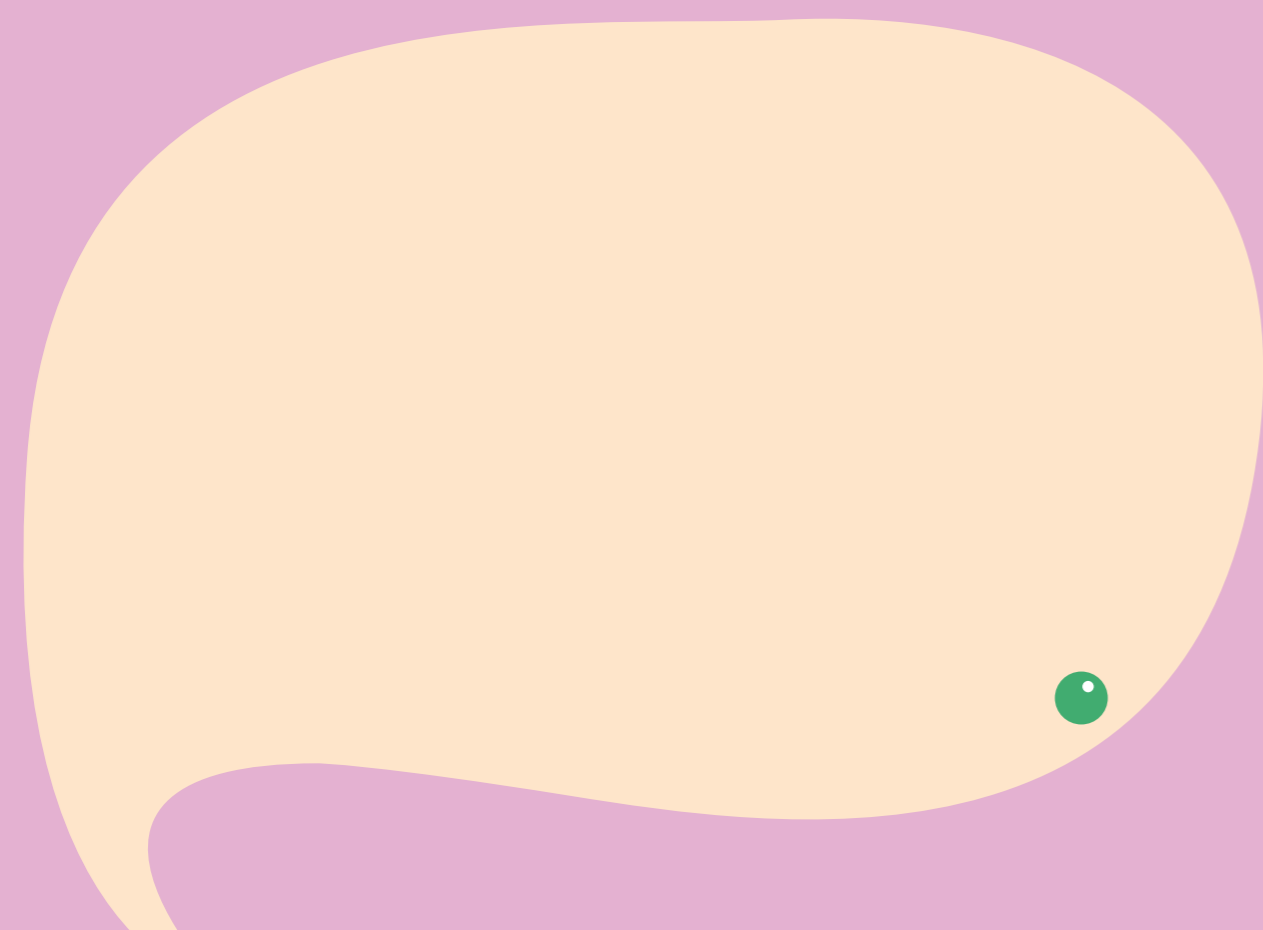
Encourage and enable a greater variety and mix of uses in the town centre especially more residential and workspace, more health facilities, community use, education and so on. This will support existing retail, leisure and food and drink;



Create new types of public spaces of different sizes and functions, re-assign space on existing streets and spaces for new uses;



Strengthen leisure and its connections to health and wellbeing and culture— more hotels, spas;



Support flexible workspace and a greater range of workspaces in the town centre;



Support and strengthen independent retail and food and drink and support local networks and supply chains, more markets, more use of public space for pop-ups, performance and events;



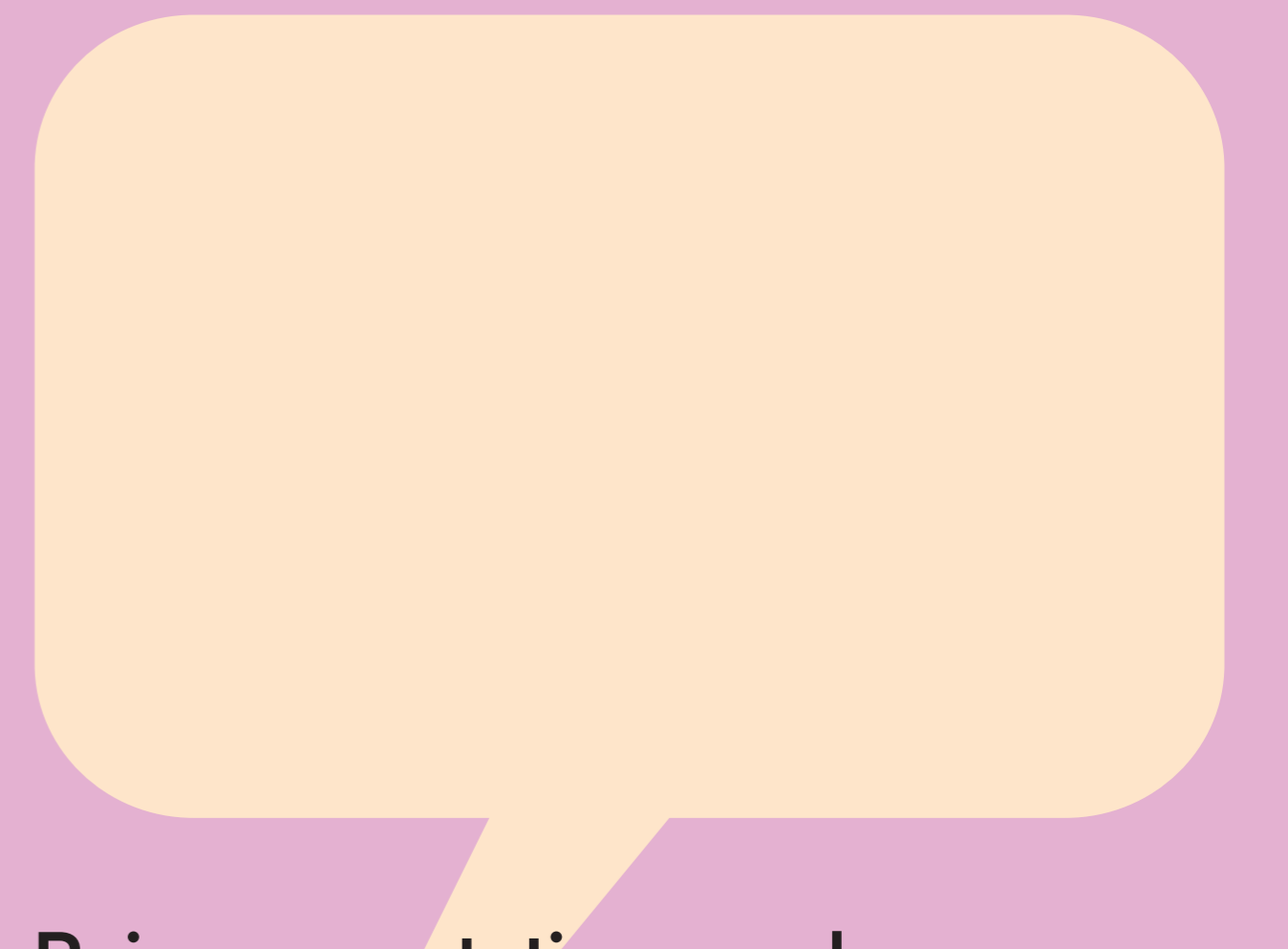
Celebrate and elevate the unique qualities of the Town Centre and the value of both the old town and the new town, its streets, its squares, its remarkable townscape, its beautiful landmark buildings and its generous parks;



Re-purpose vacant shops and vacant space on upper floors;

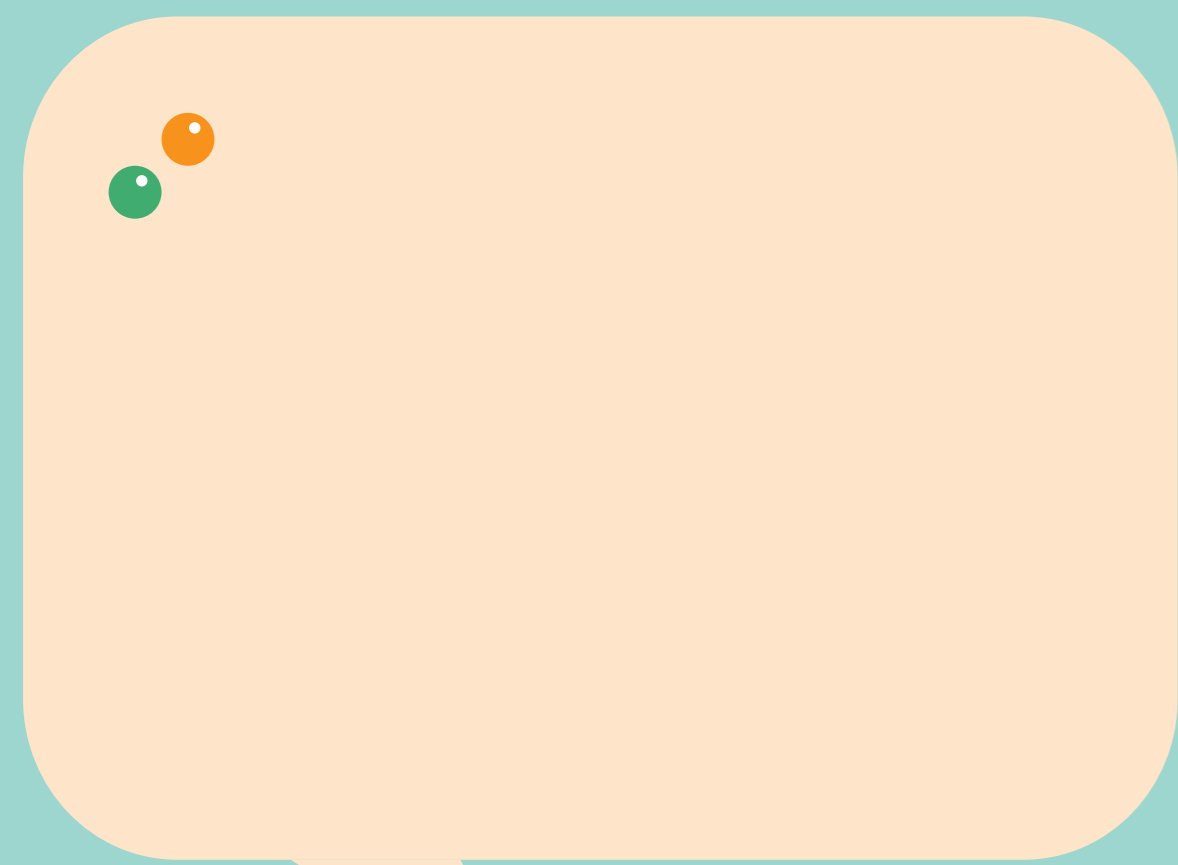


Strengthen cultural offer — arts, music, theatre, dance, library — make greater use of public space, parks, squares and streets;



Raise expectations and awareness of design quality in Leamington Town Centre for new builds or refurbishment- establish a Leamington Town Centre gold standard.

Healthy Planet



Transport is the biggest source of carbon emissions and the cause of air pollution in Leamington. We must make sure that the town centre remains accessible, but we must also reduce reliance on the car and improve walking, cycling and public transport;



Changing uses in the town centre will mean new development in places and re-purposing and refurbishing building stock. All developments need to meet the highest standards of efficiency using clean energy and to prioritise retrofitting and repurposing over demolition;

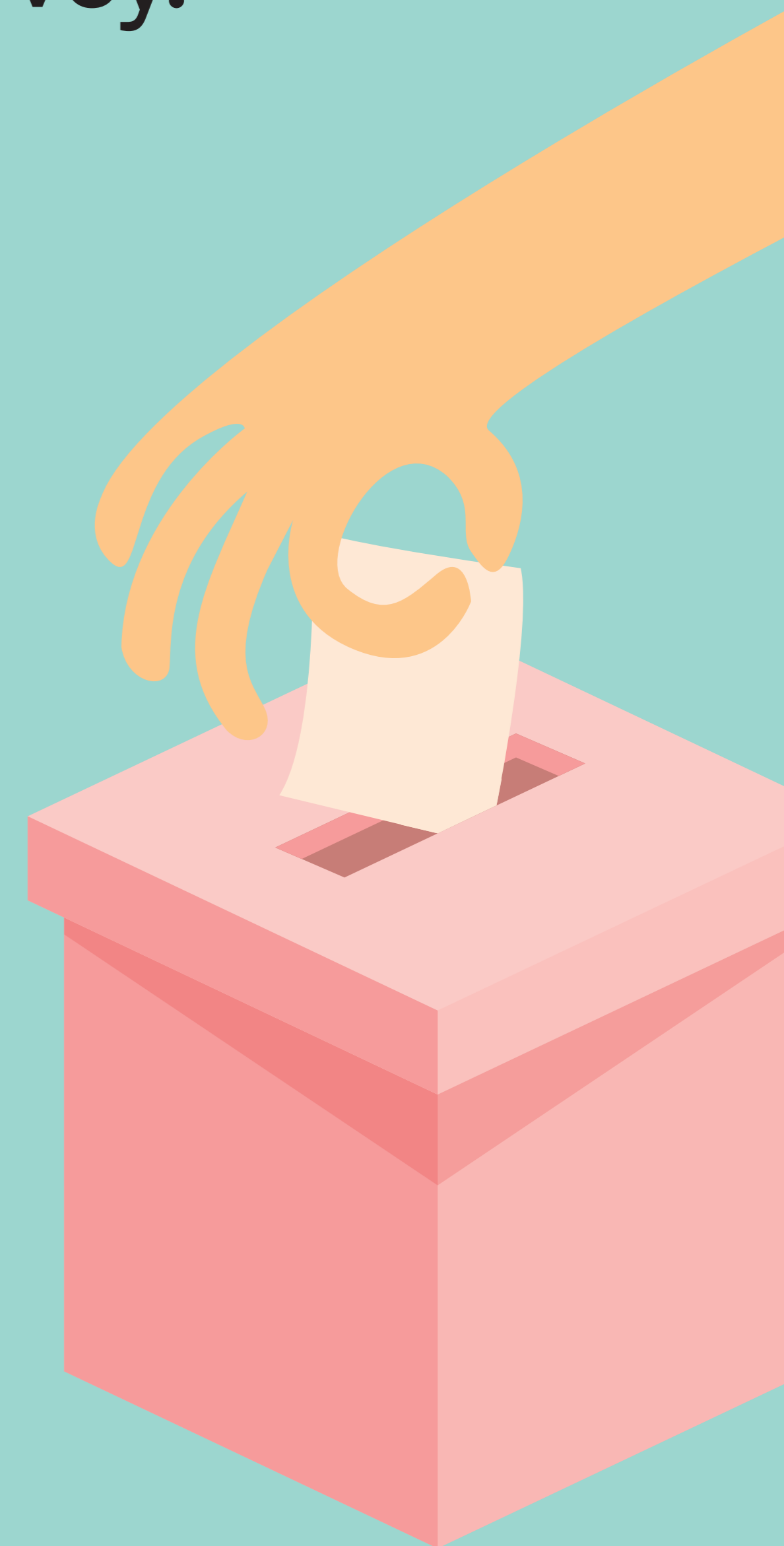


Leamington is blessed with wonderful parks and green spaces but we want to increase town centre greening to benefit people and nature, to moderate extreme weather events- rainfall, heatwaves, attenuate flooding, to reduce air pollution, improve water quality and to bring more colour and delight;



The River and the Canal are fantastic assets for the town and provide an enduring link with the town's waters and its history as a Spa. We need to improve water quality, accommodate flooding, increase biodiversity and improve accessibility and enjoyment of the town's water courses.

Thank you for contributing your views. Don't forget to submit any ideas you have through the survey.



The Royal Leamington Spa Town Centre Vision — Have your say survey is available online at: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/ask

The engagement period is open from 26 April to 21 May 2024

Contact details:

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