

# **The opportunity for Weymouth to be an exemplar sustainable town.**

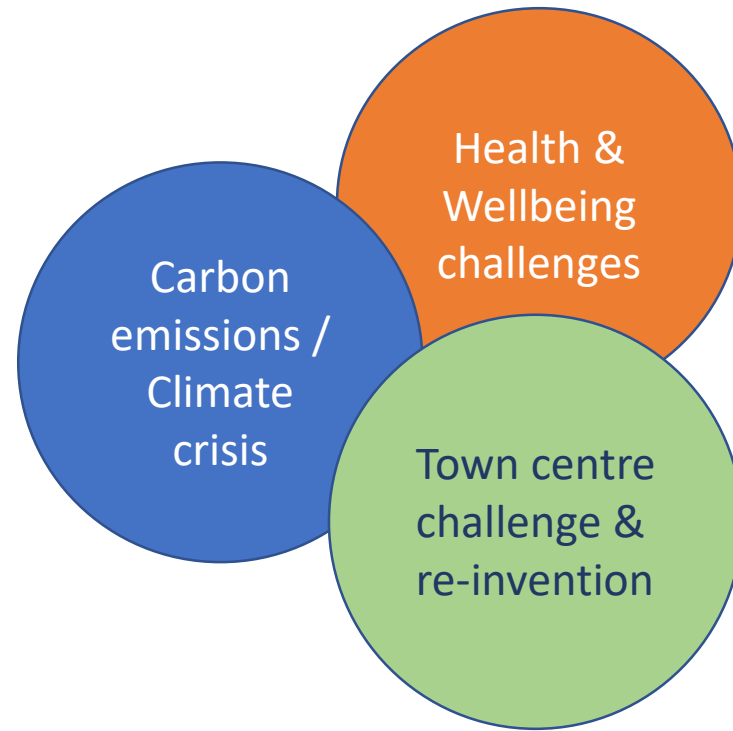
**Delivering carbon savings and wellbeing benefits for residents and visitors to  
Weymouth**

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**Presentation to Dorset Council Executive Advisory Panel on Climate Change**

# The Challenging backdrop



## *My assumptions*

- An emergency situation requires emergency measures, not small incremental changes.
- That mainstream energy efficiency measures will already be driven by your energy management team.
- A pro-active planned response to the climate crisis on sustainable transport, also presents an opportunity to address other pressing issues.
  1. The need for town centre re-invention
  2. Human health and wellbeing improvements







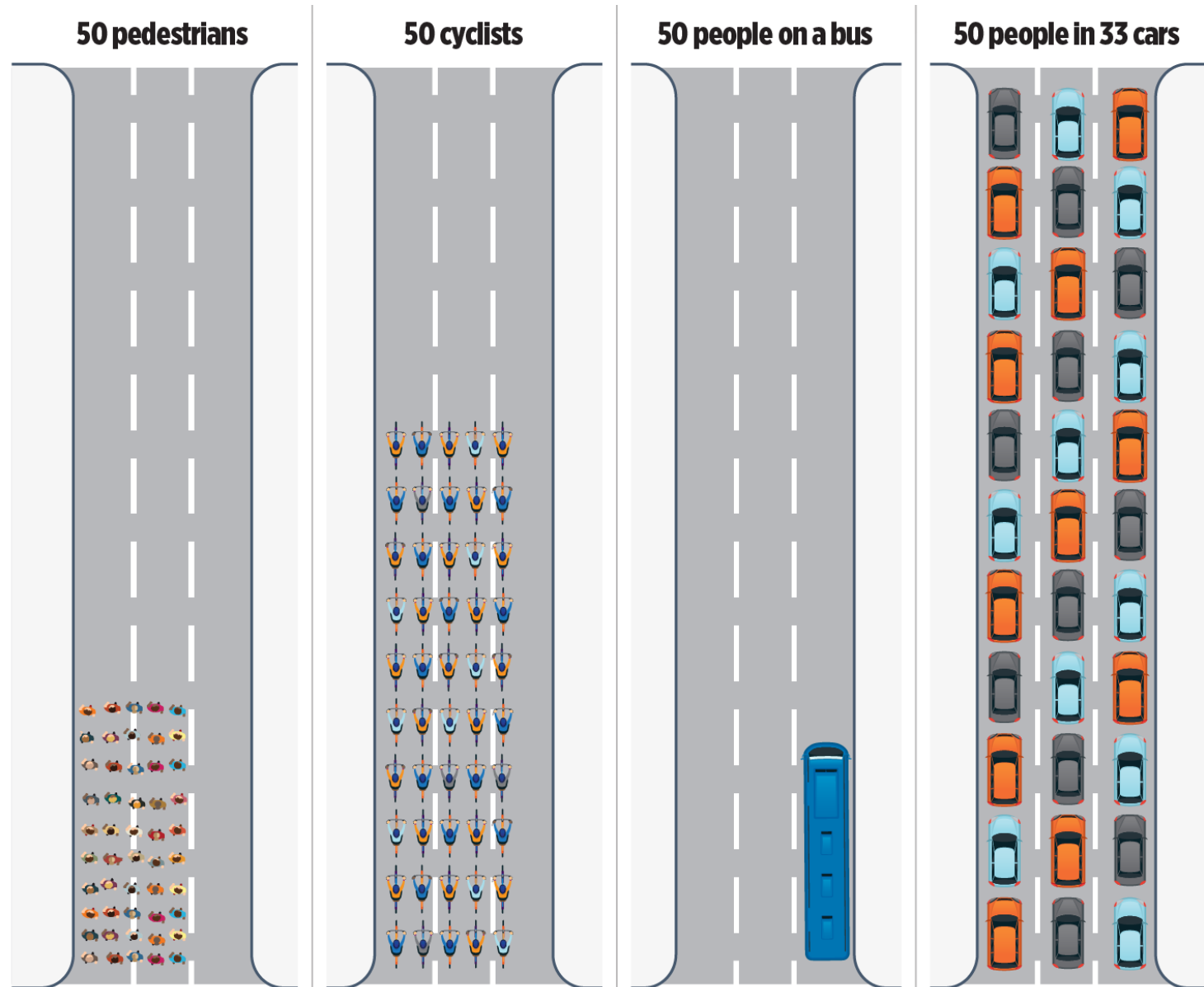
## Before & After at Trafalgar Square



They said it couldn't be done.  
They said it would cause chaos.  
It worked, no chaos ensued, and tourists are better connected.



Would you ever design a mass transport system like this? – yet somehow we've ended up this way.

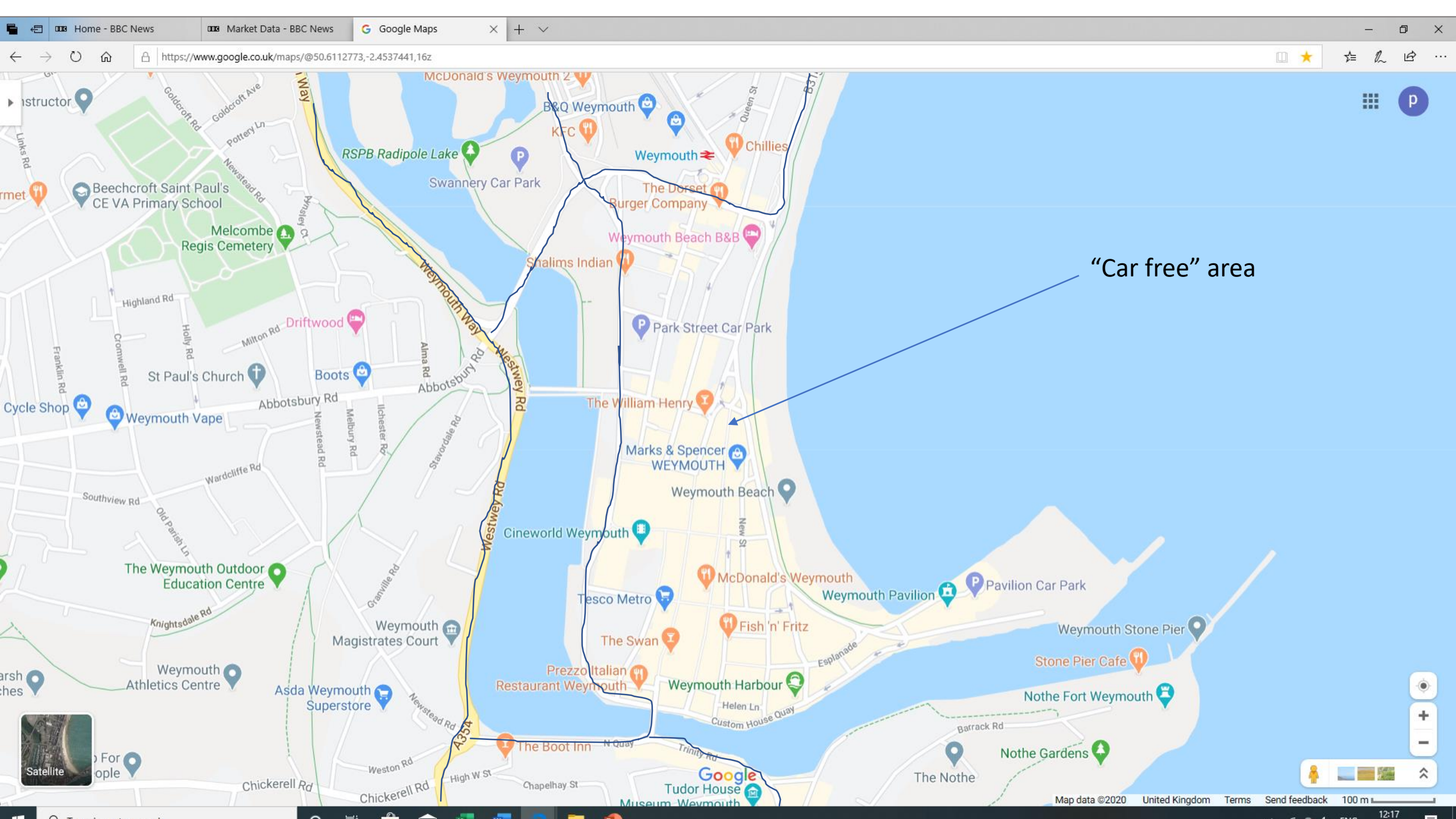






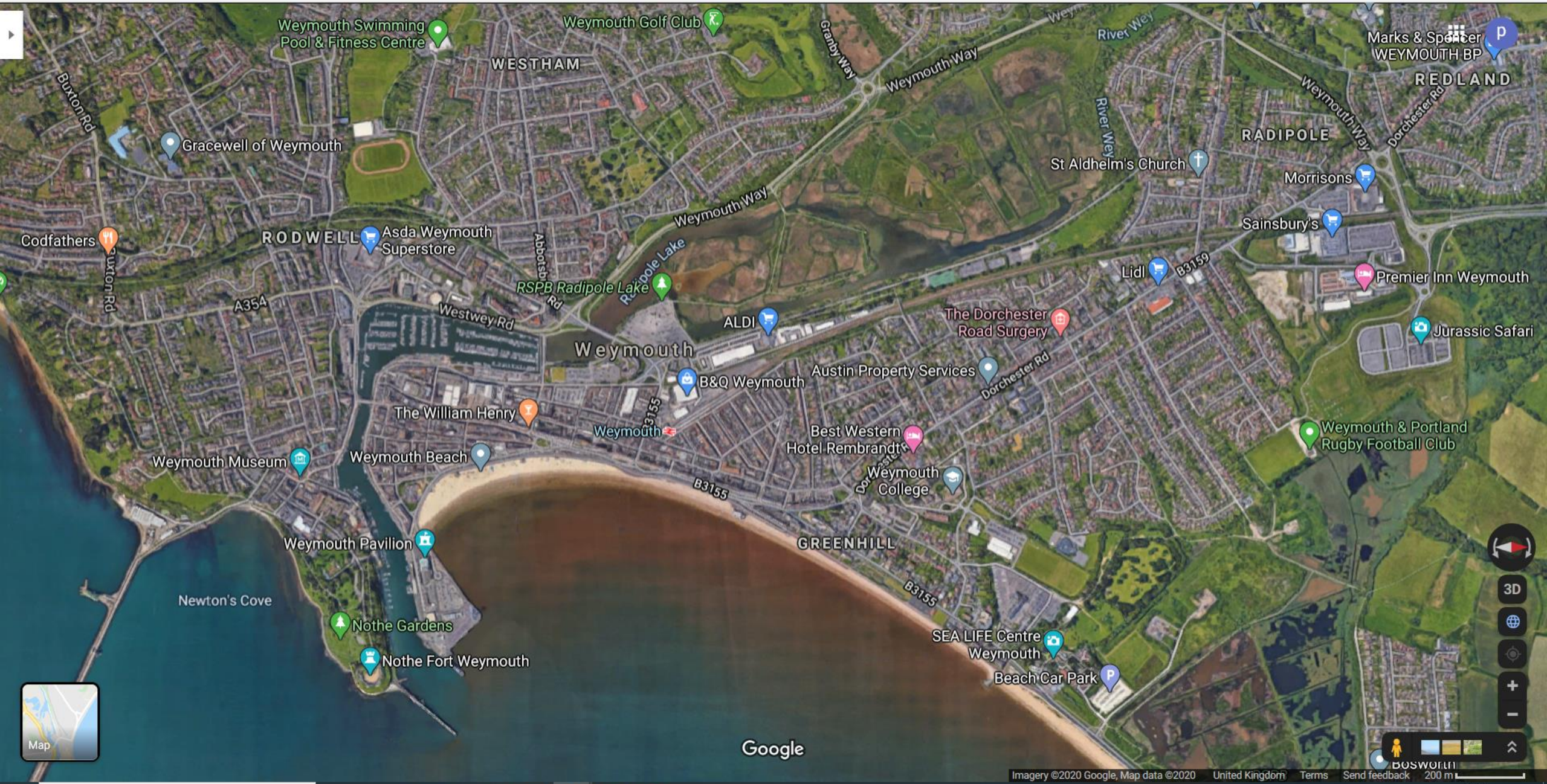






“Car free” area











# Weymouth's unique advantages.

- The town centre doesn't have "through traffic" unlike nearly every other town.
- As a traditional seaside resort, and decaying town centre, it's in desperate need of finding a unique selling point in the modern world to attract more visitors.
- The seafront and beach is already **perfectly** connected to the town centre, apart from having a road barrier between the two. Bring them even closer by removing that barrier.
- The peninsula is prime site for active use by people, not as car storage.
  - P.S. Any new development there should be accompanied by a renewable energy hub and heat network inc. solar PV, solar thermal, WSHP, marine turbines.



# Weymouth's unique advantages.

- Weymouth has one custom made Park & Ride in an ideal location. It just needs a second one on the Portland side to be able to run a reliable, regular and cost effective bus service between the two, via the town centre.
- The much heralded proposed Western Relief Road offers an additional opportunity to link with the P&R and further reduce congestion and carbon emissions, as well as improving the lives of all transport users going through Weymouth and especially Portland.
- The Swannery car park offers scope for development that offers car parking for those who do need to use their cars.

# And what you get

- Carbon benefits

- The reduced car movements in journeys into town
- Reduced congestion for other journeys

- Wellbeing benefits

- A more active population is a healthier population
- Cleaner air
- Less moving hazards

- Economic benefits

- Attractive and unique seaside holiday resort attracting more visitors
- New space for new types of visitor attractions (restaurant/cafe, cycle hire/tours, pop up entertainment)
- A safe place where people choose to stay within for multiple activities before/after the beach



## Web links for further reading

- <https://www.independent.co.uk/environment/car-free-cities-pedestrianisation-cycling-driverless-vehicles-york-oslo-birmingham-a9299856.html>
- <https://www.standard.co.uk/news/uk/york-uk-first-carfree-city-centre-a4324131.html>
- <https://www.theguardian.com/cities/2014/jul/07/in-a-successful-modern-city-the-car-must-no-longer-be-king>
- <http://www.infrastructure-intelligence.com/article/jun-2019/redefining-pedestrianisation-urban-age>
- <https://www.transportxtra.com/publications/local-transport-today/news/62241/fewer-cars-more-city>
- <https://airqualitynews.com/2019/09/10/superblocks-could-save-hundreds-of-lives-a-year-study-finds/>
- <https://travelwest.info/project/ee-no-183-assessing-the-potential-for-carbon-emissions-savings-from-replacing-short-car-trips-with-walking-and-cycling>
- <https://travelwest.info/project/ee-no-181-can-environmental-improvement-change-the-population-distribution-of-walking>
- <https://www.transport-network.co.uk/No-through-trips-Birmingham-curtails-the-car-to-keep-city-moving/16387>
- <https://brixtonstreets.commonplace.is/about>
- <https://www.enjoywalthamforest.co.uk/about-mini-holland/>
- <https://www.transportxtra.com/publications/local-transport-today/news/63178/highways-authorities-don-t-recognise-their-role-in-creating-a-sense-of-place-says-report>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-vzDDMzq7d0&feature=youtu.be>