

Businesses get a say on neighbourhood plan

Businesses are to help out what town needs develop and the to thrive. of businesses d to take part y to find out k needs to be community is l Plan. of households have already housing sur- through the tant plan. he results are analysed. e turn of the om the shop- own centre to

the manufacturing opera- tions on the industrial estates - to have their say, revealed Neighbourhood Plan co-ordinator Thea Platt.

'This is the next phase in our information gathering,' said Thea. 'We want to go out to town centre and around the town's industrial estates to find out what the needs of the business community are - what their issues are, what will help them make positive changes and what the neighbour- hood plan can do to boost the local economy.'

'It is the chance for local businesses to have their say

plan with the help of a team of volunteers.

Elsewhere in the country neighbourhood plans have already been instrumental in providing the ammunition to halt unwanted develop- ments.

The latest step towards formulating a compre- hensive community plan for the town follows a series of pub- lic events including work- shops explaining what the plan is all about.

The plan team is hoping to organise face-to-face meet- ings with businessmen and women to get a first hand idea of what they think is needed.

by **STEVE PEACOCK**

about how the neighbour- hood plan can support the local economy.'

The Totnes Neighbour- hood Plan is designed to give the community a major say in how Totnes should develop over the coming decades - from what kind of housing the town needs and where it should be built to the kind of employment that is needed.

The town is pumping £28,000 into developing the

Meanwhile the business community is being invited to access the plan's Facebook Page and website - www.totnesneighbourhoodplan.org or email info@totnesneighbourhoodplan.org.

The plan team is also look- ing to recruit more volun- teers to help with the survey.

'We are looking at ways the plan can support busi- nesses, build up a better infrastructure and encourage networking.'

'The bigger picture is also looking at improving hous- ing so more people can live and work here. These are the sort of issues we will be looking at.'