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Dear Member

**COUNCIL - THURSDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2015**

In accordance with Council Standing Order A13.8, enclosed are the answers to the questions submitted by Members.

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Yours sincerely

June Gurry  
Clerk

# Agenda Item 6

Meeting of the Council

Thursday, 10 December 2015

## Questions Under Standing Order A13

<b>Question (1) by Councillor Darling (M) to the Executive Lead for Planning, Transport and Housing (Councillor King)</b>	<p>Traders around Torquay Harbour have contacted me concerned that the new Torquay Harbour side coffee Kiosk continues to operate when planners only issued a limited permission this summer.</p> <p>Why is it still operating? Should a new site be found for such a business, will it be open for tender?</p>
	<p>The following is a factual answer provided by an officer, a full response from Councillor King can be found on the <a href="#">audio recording</a>.</p> <p>The opportunity for Tor2 to grow as a local business and to aid the local economy has been limited since 2010 due to a faltering economy and a shrinkage in investment within both the public and private sector. Consequently it has been challenging for Tor2 to establish themselves as a company that can deal with the "peaks and troughs" by trading externally on a regional basis as originally forecast. The Council will continue to encourage Tor2 to seek and secure contracts from third parties and to grow this side of their business so that they become less dependent on their contract with the Council.</p>
<b>Question (2) by Councillor Doggett to the Executive Lead for Planning, Transport and Housing (Councillor King)</b>	<p>Torbay has a target of achieving 50% recycling by 2020. I understand that we have hovered around the 45% level of recycling in recent years. What action plan is in place to achieve this target?</p>
	<p>The following is a factual answer provided by an officer, a full response from Councillor King can be found on the <a href="#">audio recording</a>.</p> <p>The recycling rate as at September 2015 is 44%</p> <p>The action plan is ongoing and includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Torbay Green points scheme with Funding from the DCLG of £108k for 2015/16 started July 2015. Residents are being encourage to activate a Green Points account when will be sent a Torbay Green Points card and key fob that they can use to get discounts in over 60 local businesses across Torbay. As residents of Torbay reduce, reuse and recycle more they will earn Green Points. The more Green Points they earn, the more money they will earn for local charity projects, with £6,000 to be split between five charities at the end of 12 months. Each charity is guaranteed to receive at least £500.</li><li>• WRAP Funding (Waste Resource Action Programme) to enhance food</li></ul>

	<p>waste recycling ongoing with more planned already giving an extra 240 tonnes per annum started Dec 2013</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New products for recycling are being investigated like mattresses and carpets, which are high density and difficult to dispose of. This has the potential to generate an additional 500 tonnes recycling. Hopefully this will come on stream before the end of 2015/16.</li> <li>• Metal Matters is a match funded project publicity to enhance recycling of cans and aerosols Nov 2015. Publicity is currently underway across Torbay.</li> <li>• Investigating different ways of monitoring and encouraging residents to recycle more by reducing residual containment eg learning from others such as the East Devon Trial (only started Sept 2015)</li> <li>• Working with the JV Co contract (TOR2) with regard to recycling targets.</li> </ul> <p>From 2015 we have moved all our residual waste to the Energy for Waste Centre at Plymouth. When this partnership was developed we agreed our business case with DEFRA (Dept for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) and the business case was part of the PFI credit agreement (Private Finance Initiative). Before we make significant changes to our collection methods we need to consult DEFRA to ensure that we do not undermine the agreement.</p>
<p><b>Question (3) by Councillor Darling (S) to the Executive Lead for Planning, Transport and Housing (Councillor King)</b></p>	<p>In a report to Council in 2010 the key benefits of undertaking the establishment of the JVCo were identified as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• outcome based service delivery to meet the needs of customers;</li> <li>• utilisation of "real time" reporting and mobile technology to improve the offering to customers;</li> <li>• an improved waste solution for Torbay residents which means a significant improvement in recycling rates and a reduction in waste going to landfill;</li> <li>• a waste solution which exceeds current and projected waste performance targets;</li> <li>• introduction of food waste collection rounds;</li> <li>• an improved Household Waste and Recycling Centre in Paignton;</li> <li>• an improved recycling offering in terms of Bring Banks;</li> <li>• creation of local job opportunities;</li> <li>• creation of local opportunities for apprentices, graduates and the long-term unemployed;</li> <li>• reduction in carbon emissions;</li> <li>• estimated savings of £10.1m over ten years;</li> <li>• fixed prices on ordered services;</li> <li>• investment in new equipment and plant;</li> <li>• development of a multi-skilled workforce that is more responsive to customer needs;</li> <li>• opportunity for JVCo to grow as a local business and aid the local economy as it expands in the future;</li> <li>• establishment of a company that can deal with "peaks and troughs" by trading externally on a regional basis;</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• access to national and regional supply chains that will drive down costs for the Authority; and</li><li>• investment in training for JVCo and Authority staff.</li></ul> <p>In light of the above outcomes can you please advise on, why the regional trading goal has not been achieved?</p>
	<p>This question was withdrawn by Councillor Darling at the meeting.</p>