



**Meeting:** Transport Working Party

**Date:** 17<sup>th</sup> December 2015

**Wards Affected:** Tormohun

**Report Title:** Torre Reversal – Objections to Advertised Traffic Regulation Orders

**Executive Lead Contact Details:** Councillor R Excell, Executive Lead for  
Community Services

**Supporting Officer Contact Details:** John Clewer, Senior Engineer - Highways  
Development & Traffic

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## 1. Purpose

- 1.1 This report is in response to a number of objections received following the advertising of two Traffic Regulation Orders required to implement directional changes in traffic flow to allow the construction of the forthcoming Torquay Town Centre Access Scheme, known as the 'Torre Reversal scheme'.

## 2. Proposed Decision

- 2.1 It is recommended that members support the implementation of the advertised Traffic Regulation Orders as per **APPENDIX 1**.

## 3. Action Needed

- 3.1 Following the recommendation of this Working Party the issue will be referred to the Assistant Director – Community Services, in consultation with the Executive Lead for Planning, Transport and Housing for a decision.

## 4. Summary

- 4.1 It is proposed to implement a new road scheme bringing town centre traffic improvements in Torquay from Torre to Castle Circus. The scheme has been designed and is due to be implemented using funding, secured following a Business Case submission to the Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP).
- 4.2 The Transport Working Party, recommended the scheme at its Extraordinary Meeting on 15th January 2015. Whilst on the 5<sup>th</sup> February the proposal was presented to and agreed by the elected Mayor and deputy Mayor, as well as securing support of the Authority's Senior Executive Group consisting of Members and Senior Officers.
- 4.3 The Scheme also received the support of local Community Partnership Groups.

## Supporting Information

### 5. Position

- 5.1 This report is in response to objections received following the advertising of a number of restrictions required to implement a new road scheme bringing town centre traffic improvements in Torquay from Torre to Castle Circus. This includes reversing the flow of traffic along Union Street, and, improving junctions at Castle Circus, Abbey Road / Tor Hill Road, and at the top and bottom of Trematon Avenue. The scheme has been designed and is due to be implemented using funding, secured following a Business Case submission to the Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP).

The scheme will not only see traffic being able to get into Torre and the Town Centre more easily, but will also reduce delays and congestion and improve air quality. Pedestrians and cyclists will also benefit by new crossings and opportunities for improved routes.

- 5.2 A public exhibition was held on the 7th January 2015 at the Assembly Rooms, Torquay Town Hall, where over 100 people attended and provided verbal and written feedback upon the overall scheme as well as specific variations upon how traffic should be managed southbound from Trematon Avenue to Castle Circus along Union Street.

Two press releases before and during Christmas 2014 promoted the public exhibition to support an on-line and social media publicity campaign, direct emailing and contacts to specific local business, residents, and community groups including by local Members.

- 5.3 The Transport Working Party, recommended the scheme at its Extraordinary Meeting on 15th January 2015.

Whilst on the 5<sup>th</sup> February 2015 the proposal was presented to and agreed by the elected Mayor and deputy Mayor, as well as securing support of the Authority's Senior Executive Group consisting of Members and Senior Officers.

The Scheme also received the support of local Community Partnership Groups.

- 5.4 Members voted to support a scheme whereby all traffic moved southbound along Union Street from Torre to the Magistrates Court, then turn left into Trematon Avenue and follow the gyratory system around Town Hall and the adjacent car park as currently. Traffic would still only be allowed to move northwards up Union Street from Castle Circus to Trematon Avenue, but now would be forced to turn right down Trematon Avenue. Traffic would also be permitted to turn right into Tor Hill Road at the Abbey Road signals.

Further details of the origins of the scheme, along with outline design plans, can be found via the following link:

[www.torbay.gov.uk/ttca.htm](http://www.torbay.gov.uk/ttca.htm)

5.5 The changes to the Traffic Regulation Orders, required to revoke the no right turn at the Abbey Road / Tor Hill Road junction (Central Church) and change of direction on Union Street were advertised both on site, in the local media (e.g. Herald Express) and the authority website during the period 18<sup>th</sup> November – 8<sup>th</sup> December 2015 Plans attached as **APPENDIX 1**.

5.6 The purpose of this report is that, following the advertising of the two Traffic Regulation Orders, a number of objections were received from local residents and interested parties (see **APPENDIX 2**) which need to be considered by members. These have been considered by officers and comments can be found in **APPENDIX 3**.

## **6. Possibilities and Options**

### **6.1 Option 1**

It is recommended that members support the implementation of the advertised Traffic Regulation Orders as per **APPENDIX 1**.

### **6.2 Option 2**

Do not support the implementation of the proposed Traffic Regulation Orders.

## **7. Preferred Solution/Option**

7.1 Members are recommended that item 6, option 1 above, would be the most appropriate option.

## **8. Consultation**

8.1 Consultation has been undertaken with Council ward members and major stakeholders. Changes to the existing Traffic Regulation Orders have been advertised (see 5.5 above) and residents have had the opportunity to make comment.

## **9. Risks**

9.1 If the changes to the existing Traffic Regulation Orders are not approved due to objections, it will not be possible to progress the Torre Reversal Scheme and funding, secured following a Business Case submission to the Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), will have to be returned.

**Appendices:**

**Appendix 1** – Shows a copy of the adverts and a plan of the proposals to alter the existing Traffic Regulation Orders

**Appendix 2** – Copies of the objections received.

**Appendix 3** – Details of the objections and highways responses.

**Additional Information:**

None

**Documents available in Members' Rooms:**

None

**Background Papers:**

None.