

Meeting: Policy Development and Decision Group (Joint Operations Team)

Date: 3 September 2018

Wards Affected: Roundham with Hyde

Report Title: Paignton Townscape

Is the decision a key decision? No

When does the decision need to be implemented? As soon as possible

Executive Lead Contact Details: Elected Mayor Gordon Oliver, Elected Mayor and Executive Lead for Assets, Finance, Governance and Corporate Services, Economic Regeneration and Transformation, mayor@torbay.gov.uk

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1. Proposal and Introduction

- 1.1 At the Council meeting held on 22 February 2018 Members considered and approved (unanimously) the following Notice of Motion in respect of Paignton Townscape:

that Council note the overwhelming need for investment in Paignton Town Centre, and that the Town Centre Regeneration Board have been developing townscape improvement proposals in relation to the Station Square area of Paignton, which would cost £1.172 million to implement. Prudential borrowing would be required to fund the scheme which is to be considered as part of the £25 million approved by Council for Town Centre Regeneration which had anticipated that repayments for this scheme would come from surplus income from other Town Centre Regeneration Schemes.

That Council instructs Officers to implement those proposals and borrow £1.172m from PWLB, noting that repayments would not need to be made until the financial year 2019/20, and therefore need to be included within the budget for 2019/20 and beyond unless and until surplus income from other Town Centre Regeneration schemes is able to cover repayments.

- 1.2 In coming to their decision Members had regard to a briefing note which can be found at <http://www.torbay.gov.uk/DemocraticServices/documents/s47532/Briefing%20Report%20-%20Paignton%20Townscape.pdf>

2. Reason for Proposal and associated financial commitments

- 2.1 Since the decision was taken the Council has reviewed its financial position for 2018/2019 and is in the process of developing its budget for 2019/2020. The Council is projecting an overspend of circa £2.8m for 2018/2019 with continued pressures on its resources especially in children's social care. In light of the budget situation it is recommended to the Elected Mayor that the decision taken by the Council to borrow £1.172m from PWLB for the Paignton Townscape scheme is not implemented and that alternative sources of funding are explored and a detailed business case is produced before any further work is carried out on this scheme.
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3. Recommendation(s) / Proposed Decision

- 3.1 That the elected Mayor be recommended:
- (i) that the decision taken by the Council to borrow £1.172m from PWLB for the Paignton Townscape scheme is not implemented and that alternative sources of funding are explored and a detailed business case is produced before any further work is carried out on this scheme.

Background Documents

Briefing Report to Council on 22 February 2018 -

<http://www.torbay.gov.uk/DemocraticServices/documents/s47532/Briefing%20Report%20-%20Paignton%20Townscape.pdf>

Section 1: Background Information

1.	<p>What is the proposal / issue?</p> <p>The Council approved borrowing of £1.72m from PWLB to fund a scheme for Paignton Townscape as part of £25m approved by the Council for Town Centre Regeneration. It was proposed that the repayments would be made during 2019/2020 and that this would need to be included in the budget for 2019/2020 and beyond.</p>
2.	<p>What is the current situation?</p> <p>Whilst Town Centre Regeneration is a priority for the Council, current and future financial pressures mean that it would not be prudent for the Council to invest in this scheme at this time. There has been no detailed business case approved and there are currently no other income generating Town Centre Regeneration schemes in the pipeline which could be used to help fund the interest repayments.</p>
3.	<p>What options have been considered?</p> <p>To implement the decision of Council but this is not recommended due to current and ongoing financial pressures facing the Council.</p>
4.	<p>How does this proposal support the ambitions, principles and delivery of the Corporate Plan?</p> <p>Principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use reducing resources to best effect
5.	<p>How does this proposal contribute towards the Council's responsibilities as corporate parents?</p> <p>Not applicable.</p>
6.	<p>How does this proposal tackle deprivation?</p> <p>Not applicable.</p>
7.	<p>How does this proposal tackle inequalities?</p> <p>Not applicable.</p>

8.	<p>How does the proposal impact on people with learning disabilities?</p> <p>Not applicable.</p>
9.	<p>Who will be affected by this proposal and who do you need to consult with?</p> <p>Not applicable.</p>
10.	<p>How will you propose to consult?</p> <p>Not applicable.</p>

Section 2: Implications and Impact Assessment

11.	<p>What are the financial and legal implications?</p> <p>The Council is required to ensure that it uses its resources to best effect. This proposal takes account of the Council's overall financial position which is why it is recommended not to progress the scheme at this time.</p>
12.	<p>What are the risks?</p> <p>There is a reputational risk to the Council that the decision to not progress the Paignton Townscape Scheme at this time will deter private investors from investing in Paignton Town Centre.</p>
13.	<p>Public Services Value (Social Value) Act 2012</p> <p>Not applicable.</p>
14.	<p>What evidence / data / research have you gathered in relation to this proposal?</p> <p>Not applicable.</p>
15.	<p>What are key findings from the consultation you have carried out?</p> <p>Not applicable.</p>
16.	<p>Amendments to Proposal / Mitigating Actions</p> <p>Not applicable.</p>

Equality Impacts

17.	Identify the potential positive and negative impacts on specific groups		
	Positive Impact	Negative Impact & Mitigating Actions	Neutral Impact
Older or younger people			There is no differential impact.
People with caring Responsibilities			There is no differential impact.
People with a disability			There is no differential impact.
Women or men			There is no differential impact.
People who are black or from a minority ethnic background (BME) <i>(Please note Gypsies / Roma are within this community)</i>			There is no differential impact.
Religion or belief (including lack of belief)			There is no differential impact.
People who are lesbian, gay or bisexual			There is no differential impact.
People who are transgendered			There is no differential impact.
People who are in a marriage or civil partnership			There is no differential impact.
Women who are pregnant / on maternity leave			There is no differential impact.

	Socio-economic impacts (Including impact on child poverty issues and deprivation)			There is no differential impact.
	Public Health impacts (How will your proposal impact on the general health of the population of Torbay)			There is no differential impact.
16	Cumulative Impacts – Council wide (proposed changes elsewhere which might worsen the impacts identified above)	None		
17	Cumulative Impacts – Other public services (proposed changes elsewhere which might worsen the impacts identified above)	None		