

Minutes of the Council (Council decisions shown in bold text)

19 June 2019

-: Present :-

The Worshipful The Mayor of Torbay (Councillor Douglas-Dunbar) (In the Chair) Deputy Civic Mayor of Torbay (Councillor Manning)

Councillors Amil, Atiya-Alla, Brooks, Brown, Bye, Carter, Cowell, Mandy Darling, Steve Darling, Dart, Doggett, Dudley, Ellery, Foster, Howgate, Kavanagh, Kennedy, Law, Barbara Lewis, Chris Lewis, Long, Loxton, Mills, Morey, O'Dwyer, Pentney, Sykes, David Thomas, Jacqueline Thomas and John Thomas

17 Opening of meeting

The meeting was opened with a prayer.

18 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Barrand, Heyse, Hill and Stockman.

19 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting the annual Council meeting held on 28 May 2019 and the adjourned annual Council meeting held on 28 May 2019 were confirmed as correct records and signed by the Worshipful the Mayor of Torbay.

20 Declarations of interests

The following pecuniary interests were declared:

Councillor	Minute Number
Councillor Bye	28
Councillor Loxton	32
Councillor O'Dwyer	32

21 Communications

The Leader of the Council updated the Council on the work of the new Councillor Partnership which included the establishment of four key priorities. The Leader of the Council also outlined his proposed approach to engage all members on the development of the Councillor Partnerships's work programme.

Councillor Cowell provided a report to the Council on the first meeting of the Heart of the South West Joint Committee since the local elections, which he attended on behalf of the Leader of the Council (as attached to these Minutes).

22 Petition for Debate - Save our beach toilets at Goodrington

In accordance with Standing Order A23, the Council received a petition requesting the Council to protect and improve toilet capacity for Central and South Goodrington Beach, Paignton (approximately 1,292 valid written signatures).

At the invitation of the Worshipful the Mayor of Torbay, Catherine Fritz addressed the Council.

The Worshipful the Mayor of Torbay advised that, under the Council's Petition Scheme, as the petition had reached the 1,000 signature threshold it was subject to debate by the Council.

The Monitoring Officer outlined the options open to the Council.

Councillor Morey proposed and Councillor Howgate seconded the motion, as set out below:

that Cabinet be recommended to offer a long term lease to the current tenant of South Sands Beach Cafe including toilets to its customers and the general public during its opening hours.

During the debate, Councillor David Thomas proposed an amendment. Councillor Morey and Councillor Howgate accepted the amendment, which was then incorporated in the original motion and was agreed by the Council as set out below:

that Cabinet be recommended to offer a long term lease to the current tenant of South Sands Beach Cafe including toilets to its customers and the general public during its opening hours. Furthermore, that public toilet provision at Goodrington North and Goodrington South will remain open for the summer season 2019.

23 Petition - Pedestrian crossing needed on Browns Bridge Road

In accordance with Standing Order A23, the Council received a petition requesting the Council to install a pedestrian crossing in the vicinity of Condor Drive, on Browns Bridge Road, Torquay (approximately 25 paper signatures).

The Worshipful the Mayor of Torbay reported that the petition would be referred to the Assistant Director of Planning & Transport, for consideration in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture.

24 Public question time

The Council received four public questions, which had been submitted in accordance with Standing Order A24.

Firstly, the Council heard from Ms Baglin who had submitted a statement and question in relation to the wildlife corridor at Edginswell, Torquay. Councillor Morey, the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture responded to the statement and question that had been put forward.

The Council then received questions submitted by Ms Loates, Mr Robson and Mr Watts, in relation to Oldway Mansion, Paignton and the establishment of the Oldway Trust. Councillor Long, the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Economic Regeneration, Tourism and Housing, responded to the questions that had been put forward and responded to supplementary questions asked by Ms Loates, Mr Robson and Mr Watts.

25 Members' questions

Members received a paper detailing questions, notice of which had been given in accordance with Standing Order A13. The paper also contained the answers to the questions which had been prepared by Councillors Carter, Steve Darling, Morey and Stockman, and was circulated prior to the meeting.

The Worshipful the Mayor of Torbay advised that Councillor Cowell would respond to any supplementary question in the absence of Councillor Stockman.

Supplementary questions were put and answered by Councillors Steve Darling and Morey, arising from their responses to the questions in respect of questions 1, 3 and 6.

26 Notice of motion - Climate Change

Members considered a motion in relation to Climate Change, notice of which was given in accordance with Standing Order A13.

Councillor Howgate proposed and Councillor Dart seconded the motion as set out below:

Full Council notes:

1. Human activity has already caused irreversible climate change, the impact of which is felt around the world. Global temperatures have increased by over 1°C from pre-industrial levels. Atmospheric CO₂ levels are over 400 parts per million (ppm), far exceeding the 350ppm deemed a 'safe' level for

humanity. The world is on track to overshoot the Paris Agreement's 1.5°C limit before 2030;

- The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C, published in November 2018, describes the harm that a 2°C rise is likely to cause, and tells us that limiting global warming to 1.5°C may still be possible with ambitious action from national and subnational authorities, civil society, the private sector, indigenous people and local communities;
- In order to reduce the chance of runaway global warming and limit the effects of climate breakdown, it is imperative that each of us reduces our CO₂eq (carbon equivalent) emissions from their current 6.5 tonnes per person per year to less than 2 tonnes without delay;
- 4. Individuals can accept responsibility for living in a more sustainable way but cannot be expected to make these changes on their own. Carbon emissions result from both production and consumption, so governments national, regional and local must change legislation, standards and their approach to meet the need to reduce our CO2eq emissions and make low carbon living easier to achieve and the new 'norm';
- Councils across the world are responding by declaring a 'Climate Emergency' – making a commitment to address this emergency. In the South West, Bristol, Cornwall and Somerset Councils have already taken this step;
- 6. Torbay, with its coastline and large low lying areas, especially in Paignton, is particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

Full Council believes that:

- 1. All governments have a duty to limit the negative impacts of climate breakdown, and local governments that recognise this cannot, and should not, wait for their national government to act;
- It is important for the residents of Torbay that its Council commits to reducing CO₂eq emissions and work towards carbon neutrality as quickly as possible;
- 3. Bold climate change can deliver economic benefits by way of new jobs, economic savings, market opportunities and improved well-being.

Full Council resolves:

Cabinet be recommended:

a) That Torbay Council recognises the scale and urgency of the global challenge from climate change, as documented by the latest Special Report

of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and declares a climate emergency;

- b) That the Overview and Scrutiny Board be requested to review and recommend what further corporate approaches can be taken through Torbay Council's Energy and Climate Change Strategy and to facilitate stronger Torbay-wide action through collaboration at a strategic, community and individual level;
- c) That all relevant outside organisation member representatives, Cabinet Members and senior officers work with partners, including the Heart of the South West LEP, individuals and community action groups across Torbay to identify ways to make Torbay carbon neutral by 2030, taking into account both production and consumption emissions;
- d) That the Leader of the Council be requested to write to the Secretaries of State for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy; Transport; Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; and Housing, Communities and Local Government calling for the creation, provision or devolution of powers and resources to make achievement of the 2030 target possible in Torbay;
- e) That the Interim Director of Place be requested to update the Council before the end of 2019 with the actions the Council has and will take to address this emergency; and

Council be recommended:

f) That £25,000 be allocated from the Council's 2019/20 contingency budget and authorise the Interim Director of Place to utilise this funding to resource the work necessary to support the Overview and Scrutiny Board and to assess any specific recommendations and financial implications, with any unspent allocation being carried forward into 2020/21 to continue the work.

During the debate Councillor Foster proposed and Councillor Bye seconded an amendment to the motion as follows:

Council be recommended:

f) That £25,000 be allocated from the Council's 2019/20 contingency budget and authorise the Interim Director of Place to utilise this funding to resource the work necessary to support the Overview and Scrutiny Board and to assess any specific recommendations and report back direct to the Cabinet by September 2019. and financial implications, with any unspent allocation being carried forward into 2020/21 to continue the work.

The amendment was put to the vote and declared lost.

During the debate, Councillor O'Dwyer proposed an amendment. Councillor Howgate and Councillor Dart accepted the amendment, which was then

incorporated in the original motion and was agreed by the Council as set out below:

Full Council notes:

- Human activity has already caused irreversible environmental damage, the impact of which is felt around the world. Global temperatures have increased by over 1°C from pre-industrial levels. Atmospheric CO₂ levels are over 400 parts per million (ppm), far exceeding the 350ppm deemed a 'safe' level for humanity. The world is on track to overshoot the Paris Agreement's 1.5°C limit before 2030;
- 2. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C, published in November 2018, describes the harm that a 2°C rise is likely to cause, and tells us that limiting global warming to 1.5°C may still be possible with ambitious action from national and sub-national authorities, civil society, the private sector, indigenous people and local communities;
- 3. In order to reduce the chance of runaway global warming and limit the effects of climate breakdown, it is imperative that each of us reduces our CO₂eq (carbon equivalent) emissions from their current 6.5 tonnes per person per year to less than 2 tonnes without delay;
- 4. Individuals can accept responsibility for living in a more sustainable way but cannot be expected to make these changes on their own. Carbon emissions result from both production and consumption, so governments – national, regional and local – must change legislation, standards and their approach to meet the need to reduce our CO2eq emissions and make low carbon living easier to achieve and the new 'norm';
- Councils across the world are responding by declaring a 'Climate Emergency' – making a commitment to address this emergency. In the South West, Bristol, Cornwall and Somerset Councils have already taken this step;
- 6. Torbay, with its coastline and large low lying areas, especially in Paignton, is particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

Full Council believes that:

- 1. All governments have a duty to limit the negative impacts of climate breakdown, and local governments that recognise this cannot, and should not, wait for their national government to act;
- 2. It is important for the residents of Torbay that its Council commits to reducing CO₂eq emissions and work towards carbon neutrality as quickly as possible;

 Bold climate change can deliver economic benefits by way of new jobs, economic savings, market opportunities and improved wellbeing.

Full Council resolves:

Cabinet be recommended:

- a) That Torbay Council recognises the scale and urgency of the global challenge from climate change, as documented by the latest Special Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and declares a climate emergency;
- b) That the Overview and Scrutiny Board be requested to review and recommend what further corporate approaches can be taken through Torbay Council's Energy and Climate Change Strategy and to facilitate stronger Torbay-wide action through collaboration at a strategic, community and individual level;
- c) That all relevant outside organisation member representatives, Cabinet Members and senior officers work with partners, including the Heart of the South West LEP, individuals and community action groups across Torbay to identify ways to make Torbay carbon neutral by 2030, taking into account both production and consumption emissions;
- d) That the Leader of the Council be requested to write to the Secretaries of State for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy; Transport; Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; and Housing, Communities and Local Government calling for the creation, provision or devolution of powers and resources to make achievement of the 2030 target possible in Torbay;
- e) That the Interim Director of Place be requested to update the Council before the end of 2019 with the actions the Council has and will take to address this emergency; and

Council be recommended:

f) That £25,000 be allocated from the Council's 2019/20 contingency budget and authorise the Interim Director of Place to utilise this funding to resource the work necessary to support the Overview and Scrutiny Board and to assess any specific recommendations and financial implications, with any unspent allocation being carried forward into 2020/21 to continue the work.

Following the Council's decision above, the Worshipful the Mayor of Torbay invited the Leader of the Council to respond to the Council's recommendations to the Cabinet. The Cabinet then voted on the recommendations and the Cabinet's Record of Decision is attached to these minutes at Appendix 1.

27 Paignton Neighbourhood Plan Adoption

At the Council meeting on 15 November 2018, the Council approved the Paignton Neighbourhood Plan (with modifications) be submitted for a Referendum which was held on 2 May 2019. Members noted the result of the Referendum was 88% in favour of the plan and accordingly the Council was required to make (adopt) the plan (as set out in the submitted report) as part of the Development Plan alongside the Local Plan.

Councillor Morey proposed and Councillor Howgate seconded a motion, which was agreed (unanimously) by the Council as set out below:

that, following the outcome of the referendum held on 2 May 2019:

- (i) the Paignton Neighbourhood Plan Habitats Regulations Assessment (Appropriate Assessment) set out in Appendix 2 to the submitted report be approved; and
- (ii) the Paignton Neighbourhood Plan set out in Appendix 1 to the submitted report is made, with the submitted report and the record of this meeting collectively forming the required Decision Statement, in accordance with s.38A(4) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended).

28 Brixham Peninsula Neighbourhood Plan Adoption

At the Council meeting on 15 November 2018, the Council approved the Brixham Peninsula Neighbourhood Plan (with modifications) be submitted for a Referendum which was held on 2 May 2019. Members noted the result of the Referendum was 89% in favour of the plan and accordingly the Council was required to make (adopt) the plan (as set out in the submitted report) as part of the Development Plan alongside the Local Plan.

Councillor Morey proposed and Councillor Manning seconded a motion, which was agreed (unanimously) by the Council as set out below:

that, following the outcome of the Referendum held on 2 May 2019:

- (i) the Brixham Peninsula Neighbourhood Plan Habitats Regulations Assessment (Appropriate Assessment) set out in Appendix 2 to the submitted report be approved; and
- (ii) the Brixham Peninsula Neighbourhood Plan set out in Appendix 1 to the submitted report is made, with the submitted report and the record of this meeting collectively forming the required Decision Statement, in accordance with s.38A(4) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and the

Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended).

(Note: Prior to consideration of Minute 28, Councillor Bye withdrew from the meeting due to his pecuniary interest.)

29 Torquay Neighbourhood Plan Adoption

At the Council meeting on 15 November 2018, the Council approved the Torquay Neighbourhood Plan (with modifications) be submitted for a Referendum which was held on 2 May 2019. Members noted the result of the Referendum was 87% in favour of the plan and accordingly the Council was required to make (adopt) the plan (as set out in the submitted report) as part of the Development Plan alongside the Local Plan.

Councillor Morey proposed and Councillor Cowell seconded a motion, which was agreed (unanimously) by the Council as set out below:

that, following the outcome of the Referendum held on 2 May 2019:

- (i) the Torquay Neighbourhood Plan Habitats Regulations Assessment (Appropriate Assessment) set out in Appendix 2 to the submitted report be approved; and
- (ii) the Torquay Neighbourhood Plan set out in Appendix 1 to the submitted report is made, with the submitted report and the record of this meeting collectively forming the required Decision Statement, in accordance with s.38A(4) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended).

30 Members' Allowances - Recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel

Further to the Council meeting held on 31 January 2019, Members considered the Torbay Independent Remuneration Panel's eighth report on Members' Allowances for Torbay Council, along with the recommendations of the Cabinet (as set out in the submitted report and revised recommendations circulated on 19 June 2019).

Councillor Carter proposed and Councillor Cowell seconded a motion, which was agreed (unanimously) by the Council as set out below:

- (i) that the Council approves the following for inclusion in the Members' Allowance Scheme for implementation from 7 May 2019:
 - (a) that the Basic Allowance for all Members be set at £8,668 (this is set at a level to include covering all costs which are not covered elsewhere in the Allowances Scheme, such as

telephone charges, broadband, stationery, paper, postage and travel on non-approved duties etc.);

- (b) that the rates for travel be the same as those set in the Torbay Council Expenses Policy for officers and be paid for all approved duties;
- (c) that subsistence is only paid for the approved duties listed in (d) below and the following must apply in line with the officer policy:
 - breakfast depart from home before 8.00 a.m. £6.22;
 - lunch absent from normal place of work between
 12.00 noon and 2.00 p.m. £7.35; and
 - evening meal not home before 6.00 p.m. £10.17;
- (d) that the following are identified as approved duties for the purpose of travel, subsistence and carers' allowances:
 - (i) attendance at meetings as a duly appointed member of:
 - (a) the Council and any committee of the Council;
 - (b) any sub-committee appointed by a committee;
 - (c) the Cabinet or committee of the Cabinet (if appointed);
 - (d) working parties;
 - (e) scrutiny review panels;
 - (g) any outside organisation and their sub-groups appointed by the Council or Leader of the Council, provided that the organisation does not pay any such expenses (these are listed on each Councillor's details page on the Council's website at <u>http://www.torbay.gov.uk/DemocraticServices/mgLis</u> <u>tOutsideBodies.aspx?bcr=1</u>)
 - (ii) attendance at site visits for planning or licensing purposes or as part of overview and scrutiny by committee/board members;
 - (iii) attendance at member development sessions;
 - (iv) attendance at seminars and all member briefings organised by Torbay Council, except for those held immediately prior to a meeting of Council;
 - (v) attendance at non-political conferences/seminars, subject to prior approval by the Director or Assistant Director who holds the budget, and funding for the conference being available (in

accordance with the Local Protocol for the Leader of the Council and Political Groups);

- (e) that the co-optees allowance is frozen at £118 and that this will include expenses for travel and subsistence;
- (f) that Members may only claim one SRA in addition to their basic allowance;
- (g) that the SRA for the Leader of the Council be set at £20,004;
- (h) that the SRA for the Deputy Leader be set at £11,101;
- (i) that the SRA for Cabinet members be set at £10,733 on the basis of a collective decision making Cabinet;
- (k) that the SRA for the Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinator be set at £7,155;
- (I) that the SRA for the Scrutiny Leads be set at £3,578 and that there be no more than four Scrutiny Leads appointed;
- (m) that the SRA for the Chairman/woman of the Planning Committee be set at £7,155;
- (n) that the SRA for all other Chairmen/women of all remaining Committees be set at £3,578;
- (o) that if any members of the Licensing Committee, other than the Chairman or Vice Chairman, are required to Chair Licensing Sub-Committees the SRA for those members be as follows:

10+ meetings	£1,155
5 - 9 meetings	£578

(both in line with the current allowance);

- (p) that the SRA for the Worshipful the Mayor of Torbay be £3,578;
- (q) that the SRA for the Leaders of Political Groups is set at £347 per member of the group (excluding the Group Leader in the calculations and in line with the current allowance);
- (r) that the Basic Allowances, Special Responsibility Allowances and Co-optees Allowances be indexed from to the annual local government pay percentage increase as

agreed by the National Joint Committee for Local Government Services. The travel and subsistence allowances will be updated as and when the Council's Expenses Policy is adjusted and the whole allowances Scheme will be reviewed by no later than 2023;

- (s) that the rates for carers' allowances remains the same, namely equal to the cost incurred when a carer has been engaged to enable a Member or Co-opted Member to carry out an approved duty;
- (t) that Members have the option to purchase either an annual car parking permit at £100 to include all Council owned car parks or pay to park on an ad-hoc basis in line with the charges applicable to staff;
- (v) that the provision of ICT equipment for members is in line with the officer provision;
- (ii) that the Monitoring Officer be requested to update the Council's Constitution to reflect the number of Scrutiny Leads being no more than four appointed; and
- (iii) that, in light of the decision made in respect of (i) above, the Head of Governance Support is requested to bring the Members' Allowances Scheme up to date.

(Note: During the debate a typographical error was highlighted in respect of the Cabinet members SRA and the correct figure was confirmed at £10,733.)

31 Exclusion of the Press and Public

Councillor Steve Darling proposed and Councillor Ellery seconded the motion, which was agreed by the Council, as set out below:

that the press and public be excluded from the meeting prior to consideration of Item 15 on the agenda on the grounds that exempt information (as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) is likely to be disclosed.

Prior to consideration of the item in Minute 32, the press and public were formally excluded from the meeting.

32 Development of options in respect of Crossways

The Council considered matters relating to options in respect of Crossways as set out in the exempt report circulated prior to the meeting.

The decision of the Council meeting is restricted due to exempt information contained within the decision.

(Note: Prior to consideration of Minute 32, Councillors Loxton and O'Dwyer withdrew from the meeting due to their pecuniary interests.)

The Worshipful The Mayor of Torbay

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Torbay Council representative on the Heart of the South West Joint Committee

Update for the meeting of the Council held on 19 June 2019

- The Heart of the South West Joint Committee was due to hold its AGM on Friday 7 June 2019. However, the local elections (including the retirement of a number of leaders) has had a significant impact on the political composition and membership of the Joint Committee. It was felt that an informal session would help build relationships and bring new members up to speed with the history and achievements of the Joint Committee.
- The session met these aims and it is useful for me to share the history and achievements with the whole of Torbay Council.

History of the Joint Committee

- The Heart of the South West Joint Committee was formally established and ratified by each member Council/Board in March 2018. The partnership has existed since August 2015, when the Devon and Somerset local authorities came together to try and secure a Devolution deal with Government.
- Since that time, it has shifted its focus to develop a stronger, strategic voice for this part of the South-West with a focus on partnership working to deliver socioeconomic improvement, and build a collaborative relationship with the Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership.
- By working in this way, the Partnership has gained the attention of Government, MPs and Whitehall and has developed a reputation as a solid and collaborative set of partners representing the collective interests of Devon and Somerset. In uncertain times the Joint Committee has continued to drive a strategic approach looking to the future prospects and opportunities.
- The vision for the partnership is to deliver prosperity for all through increased productivity. This is articulated through the joint Productivity Strategy and Delivery Plan.
- The focus has now shifted to moving at pace, and get ahead of the pack, and develop our Local Industrial Strategy with dual-key sign off with the Local Enterprise Partnership. As we know the Local Enterprise Partnership is responsible for the development of the Local Industrial Strategy and does not have to obtain the sign off of the local authorities – other than those members of its Board – however, the Local Enterprise Partnership is keen to continue the joint working relationship with all local authorities.

Governance

- The Joint Committee has 21 members the Leaders from each County, Unitary and District Council across Devon and Somerset plus representatives from each National Park Authority, the two Clinical Commissioning Groups and the Local Enterprise Partnership.
- The purpose of the Joint Committee is to add value to the work of the Constituent Authorities through strategic decision making and engagement with Government and MPs. There are two Key Principles:
 - Protect the sovereignty and functions of Constituent Authorities
 - Subsidiarity decisions to deliver the Productivity Strategy taken at most appropriate local level
- All Constituent Authorities have formally adopted a constitutional document detailing the functions of the Joint Committee and an Inter-authority Agreement which details how committee is supported and funded. To minimise the costs, the majority of officer resource is provided on an 'in-kind' basis.

Achievements

- A stronger voice with Government and Whitehall without the cost and structure of a Mayoral Combined Authority
- **Single Strategy:** One of 6 'wave 2' areas selected to work with government on our Local Industrial Strategy; successful joint development and sign off of our own Productivity Strategy and Delivery Plan
- Skills: One of 12 areas to secure funding for an Institute of Technology a collaboration between our colleges, universities and major businesses; £225K for the Digital Skills Partnership to deliver 'Digital Momentum'; £75k to help set up a Skills Advisory Panel with businesses and providers
- **Brexit:** Ongoing conversations with senior Whitehall officials for closer working arrangements regarding Brexit preparations and post-exit support; opportunities around infrastructure, fisheries, agriculture, town centre development, devolution of powers and funding
- **Housing:** Over £200m of Housing Infrastructure Fund money secured to unlock sites and provide essential infrastructure; successful HotSW Housing Summit and establishment of a Housing Task Force involving Homes England
- **Transport:** Significant funding secured for major new road schemes (North Devon Link road, Forder Valley, Junction 25 of the M5) plus work commenced on new sea wall at Dawlish to protect rail services; active support for the establishment of the new Peninsula Transport body.

• Innovation: Funding for our universities through successful Strength in Places bids; active involvement in several 'Sector Deals' with government

Future Work Programme

- **Climate Change Emergency** bringing together activity across Devon and Somerset Councils to push forward a Carbon Plan for the area to input into Government's Comprehensive Spending Review.
- Attracting Government funding making the case for a fairer distribution of economic funding for Devon and Somerset and a share of new funding streams for socio-economic budgets such as UK Shared Prosperity Fund and other EU replacement funds.
- Stronger Places (including Coastal Communities) establishing a Task Group to develop a prospectus to Government with Devon and Somerset proposals for regeneration of key places across market towns and coastal communities with a focus on vulnerable communities and businesses.
- **EU Exit** Continuing cross-council work to draw down powers and funding to a local level to adapt/transition to whatever outcome of the EU Exit negotiations based on local lessons learnt and issues identified by our communities and businesses during recent preparations for No Deal exit.
- **Delivering the Productivity Strategy** overseeing the delivery of the Productivity Strategy through a Delivery Plan to deliver our vision for a prosperous economy.
- Local Industrial Strategy As Leaders will know the Government has made the LEP responsible for developing a LIS but, through the Joint Committee, Devon and Somerset political leaders, have the opportunity to influence and engage the LEP to reflect their aspirations. It is important that we stay ahead of other areas in the race to develop a strategy if we are not to be left behind by the focus on the south-east and the North.
- 'Great South West' influencing the work of the Great South West, now supported by an All Party Parliamentary Group of MPs, looking at improved outcomes for rural areas across the SW Peninsula - Cornwall, Devon, Dorset and Somerset. This APPG has support from Jake Berry MP – Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at MHCLG, who is offering to support proposals through the Comprehensive Spending Review.
- **Public sector reform** working together to deliver key public sector reforms for the benefit of Devon and Somerset communities. Examples include Education and Health.

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Minute Item 26

Record of Decisions

Notice of Motion - Climate Change

Decision Taker

Cabinet at Council meeting on 19 June 2019

Decision

- a) That Torbay Council recognises the scale and urgency of the global challenge from climate change, as documented by the latest Special Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and declares a climate emergency;
- b) That the Overview and Scrutiny Board be requested to review and recommend what further corporate approaches can be taken through Torbay Council's Energy and Climate Change Strategy and to facilitate stronger Torbay-wide action through collaboration at a strategic, community and individual level;
- c) That all relevant outside organisation member representatives, Cabinet Members and senior officers work with partners, including the Heart of the South West LEP, individuals and community action groups across Torbay to identify ways to make Torbay carbon neutral by 2030, taking into account both production and consumption emissions;
- d) That the Leader of the Council be requested to write to the Secretaries of State for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy; Transport; Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; and Housing, Communities and Local Government calling for the creation, provision or devolution of powers and resources to make achievement of the 2030 target possible in Torbay; and
- e) That the Interim Director of Place be requested to update the Council before the end of 2019 with the actions the Council has and will take to address this emergency.

Reason for the Decision

To respond to the motion and accept the recommendations of the Council.

Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on Tuesday, 2 July 2019 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

Information

At the Council meeting held on 19 June 2019, the Cabinet considered the recommendations of the Council arising from a motion on a Climate Change notice of which was given in accordance with Standing Order A13 by Councillors Howgate and Heyse, as set out below:

Full Council notes:

1. Human activity has already caused irreversible environmental damage, the impact of which is felt around the world. Global temperatures have increased by over 1°C from

pre-industrial levels. Atmospheric CO₂ levels are over 400 parts per million (ppm), far exceeding the 350ppm deemed a 'safe' level for humanity. The world is on track to overshoot the Paris Agreement's 1.5°C limit before 2030;

- The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C, published in November 2018, describes the harm that a 2°C rise is likely to cause, and tells us that limiting global warming to 1.5°C may still be possible with ambitious action from national and sub-national authorities, civil society, the private sector, indigenous people and local communities;
- In order to reduce the chance of runaway global warming and limit the effects of climate breakdown, it is imperative that each of us reduces our CO₂eq (carbon equivalent) emissions from their current 6.5 tonnes per person per year to less than 2 tonnes without delay;
- 4. Individuals can accept responsibility for living in a more sustainable way but cannot be expected to make these changes on their own. Carbon emissions result from both production and consumption, so governments national, regional and local must change legislation, standards and their approach to meet the need to reduce our CO2eq emissions and make low carbon living easier to achieve and the new 'norm';
- Councils across the world are responding by declaring a 'Climate Emergency' making a commitment to address this emergency. In the South West, Bristol, Cornwall and Somerset Councils have already taken this step;
- 6. Torbay, with its coastline and large low lying areas, especially in Paignton, is particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

Full Council believes that:

- 1. All governments have a duty to limit the negative impacts of climate breakdown, and local governments that recognise this cannot, and should not, wait for their national government to act;
- 2. It is important for the residents of Torbay that its Council commits to reducing CO₂eq emissions and work towards carbon neutrality as quickly as possible;
- 3. Bold climate change can deliver economic benefits by way of new jobs, economic savings, market opportunities and improved well-being.

Full Council resolves:

Cabinet be recommended:

- a) That Torbay Council recognises the scale and urgency of the global challenge from climate change, as documented by the latest Special Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and declares a climate emergency;
- b) That the Overview and Scrutiny Board be requested to review and recommend what further corporate approaches can be taken through Torbay Council's Energy and Climate Change Strategy and to facilitate stronger Torbay-wide action through collaboration at a strategic, community and individual level;

- c) That all relevant outside organisation member representatives, Cabinet Members and senior officers work with partners, including the Heart of the South West LEP, individuals and community action groups across Torbay to identify ways to make Torbay carbon neutral by 2030, taking into account both production and consumption emissions;
- d) That the Leader of the Council be requested to write to the Secretaries of State for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy; Transport; Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; and Housing, Communities and Local Government calling for the creation, provision or devolution of powers and resources to make achievement of the 2030 target possible in Torbay;
- e) That the Interim Director of Place be requested to update the Council before the end of 2019 with the actions the Council has and will take to address this emergency; and

Council be recommended:

f) That £25,000 be allocated from the Council's 2019/20 contingency budget and authorise the Interim Director of Place to utilise this funding to resource the work necessary to support the Overview and Scrutiny Board and to assess any specific recommendations and financial implications, with any unspent allocation being carried forward into 2020/21 to continue the work.

Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision

None

Is this a Key Decision?

No

Does the call-in procedure apply?

Yes

Declarations of interest (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the Standards Committee)

None

Published

24 June 2019

Signed:

Date: 24 June 2019

The Leader of the Council on behalf of the Cabinet

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