



Town Deal - Briefing

## **Torquay Town Deal**

- Torquay is the only place in Devon able to bid for Town Deal investment of up to £25M
- Linked to "levelling up" agenda nationally
- Covid challenges accelerating change
- Torbay Council is willing to use its powers and assets to support the transformation of Torquay including CPO, planning performance agreements & borrowing

### Town Deal process

Town Board..develops Town
Investment
Plan..leading to

Town Deal....unlocking

**Towns Fund** 

#### **Town Board - Role**

- Key role is to agree evidence based town investment plan
- Board recommends investment plan to Council
- Ensure engagement of partners
- Private sector led

#### Town Board - who

- Vince Flower Chair
- Kevin Foster MP vice chair
- Cllr Swithin Long Torbay Council
- Laurence Frewin SD College
- Jason Garside Torbay Leisure Hotels
- Mike Watson Stagecoach
- Andrew Robertson Effect Photonics & Hi Tech Cluster

- Susie Colley Torquay Chamber of Commerce
- Heidi Coombe HoSW
- Jim Parker -Torbay Together
- Carolyn Custerson ERTBID
- Kevin Mowat Torbay Council
- Tracey Cabache Torbay Community Development Trust

# "Shadow" Community Board

- Representatives from community partnerships
- Neigbourhood Forum
- Faith Groups

 Will nominate representative to join Town Board

#### **Towns Fund**

- Government objective to drive economic regeneration & deliver long term productivity growth
  - Urban regeneration & land use; town centres, site acquisition, premises, cultural assets, remediation
  - Skills & Enterprise Infrastructure; space to support skills and business growth
  - Connectivity; transport & digital
- Capital focused, 10% revenue but eligible activity not clear

#### **Context**

- Town Centre Masterplan
- Local Plan
- Neighbourhood Plan
- Broad alignment for town centre
  - retail relocating
  - encouraging more homes & commercial space
  - Leading to more residents and workers in the town centre
  - improved townscape, pedestrian flow and access;
  - Improve experience
- Covid....
  - Economic impact forecast to be worse than 08/09 recession

## **Town Fund - Opportunities**

- Torquay Gateway (Edginswell)
  - Rail station
  - Employment space
- Torquay Town Centre
  - Likely focus for investment
  - Land assembly opportunities
  - Remediation & development leading to quality residential or commercial space
  - Public realm i.e. Strand
  - Smarter/digitally connected town centre
- Transport schemes tbc
- Employment space (Browns Bridge/Lymington Road)

### **Town centre sites**



#### Town centre sites



## Town Deal - more than just towns fund

- Investment plan is a "wrapper" so intend to make wider ask
  - Arts Council (Creative People & Places)
  - Visit England (Discover England Fund)
  - Dept Culture Media Sport (Cultural Destinations)
  - Dept Education (Opportunity Areas)
  - Cabinet Office (One Public Estate & government relocations)

#### **Process**

- 10<sup>th</sup> July draft investment plan to Town Board
- 14<sup>th</sup> July/16<sup>th</sup> July draft investment plan to Cabinet/Council
- 27<sup>th</sup> July final investment plan to Town Board
- TBC Council to agree and submit