

A HARBOUR AND MARITIME STRATEGY FOR TOR BAY – CATCHING THE WAVE

Executive summary

This strategy identifies the issues and opportunities facing Tor Bay Harbour and the Bay's maritime environment in the future, and sets out a cohesive and forward thinking plan to ensure that the harbour not only operates effectively, but that proper use is made of all water and harbour side facilities and opportunities are maximised.

Torbay Council, the Harbour Committee and the Torbay Development Agency (who manage Tor Bay Harbour) will strive to enhance Torbay's maritime offer by:

1. Maintaining the highest standards of safety and operational effectiveness.
2. Using the statutory powers of the harbour authority to fulfil its statutory duties for the purpose of improving, maintaining and managing the harbour.
3. Managing the harbour in a financially sound and sustainable manner, maximising income generation to deliver a wider range of services and therefore, support a variety of maritime activities. Including fishing, shipping, estate management, marinas, mooring provision and marine leisure facilities.
4. Exploring all opportunities to develop the enclosed harbours of Brixham, Paignton and Torquay.
5. Raising the profile of Tor Bay Harbour in key areas, including the importance of the local fishery and the quality of that catch; the importance of the sailing conditions and access for a range of recreational boating; the unique mix of maritime activity combined with an excellent safety record.
6. Measure and monitor the needs, wants and expectations of harbour users, visitors and the local community through clear research, which will focus future delivery.
7. Develop robust partnerships with the various stakeholder groups, including both commercial and leisure interests, and other marine based organisations to ensure a proactive and joined up approach to attract and deliver additional port business, and provide further maritime contribution to the local economy.
8. Pro-actively invigorate the harbours, widen their catchment and appeal, through sponsorship packages, performance and music, harbour dressing and branding.

This strategy will be fully consulted with stakeholder participation, taking into account advice offered by the Harbour Liaison Forums, the Harbour Committee, Torbay Council and the local community. The Harbour Authority will continue to

look to the UK government for advice and guidance on the implementation of current ports policy and issues relating to integrated coastal zone management (ICZM), marine spatial planning and environmental management.