# **TORBAY COUNCIL**

Clerk: Governance Support Governance Support

01803 207087 Town Hall Telephone: E-mail address: governance.support@torbay.gov.uk Castle Circus Wednesday, 08 December 2021 Torquay Date:

TQ1 3DR

Dear Member

#### TORBAY'S HOUSING CRISIS REVIEW PANEL - WEDNESDAY, 15 DECEMBER 2021

I am now able to enclose, for consideration at the Wednesday, 15 December 2021 meeting of the Torbay's Housing Crisis Review Panel, the following reports that were unavailable when the agenda was printed.

Agenda No	Item	Page
3.	Update on housing supply and predicted future need within Torbay Updated Empty Homes Data	(Pages 38 - 39)

Yours sincerely

Governance Support Clerk

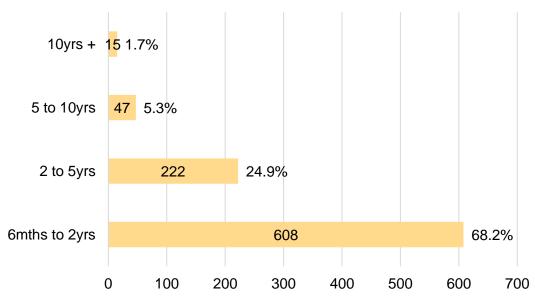
# Agenda Item 3



# **Empty homes report**

Homes may become empty for a number of reasons and in most cases, this is a short term, or a temporary situation, for example awaiting sale, or letting, or to be renovated prior to occupation. The financial and personal circumstances of owners influences whether the property is brought back into use in a timely fashion. However empty homes are a waste of a valuable resource and sometimes can be a source of serious nuisance to those who live near them.

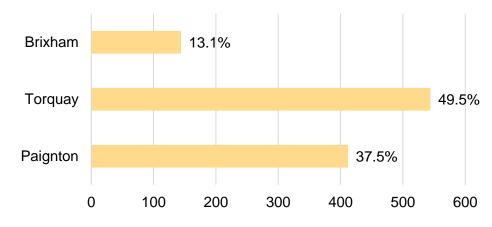
### Torbay empty homes by time vacant, 2021



Source: C Tax Accounts - Open Revenues System, 2021

As of October 2021, 892 dwellings in Torbay were empty for longer than 6 months

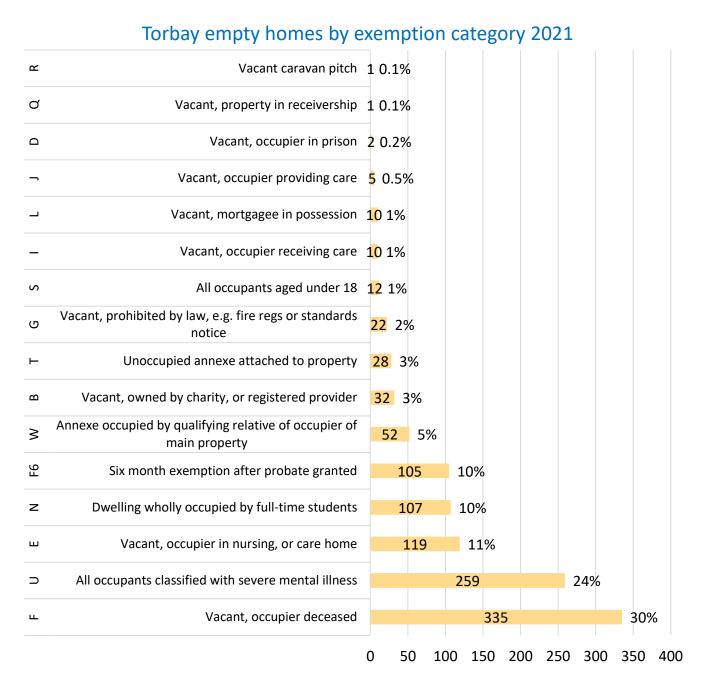
### Empty homes by area, 2021



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## **Empty homes exemptions**

Empty homes are classified by Council Tax depending on why and how long they have been left empty. This classification includes owners in hospital, or receiving care, unresolved ownership matters, usually following the death of the owner, financial matters such as bankruptcy etc. and dependent on the circumstances an owner of an empty property may be exempt from paying council tax.



Source: C Tax Accounts - Open Revenues System, 2021

As of October 2021, a total of 1,110 empty homes have an exemption category