

## **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

A meeting of **Overview and Scrutiny Board** will be held on

**Friday, 13 January 2012**

commencing at **2.00 pm**

The meeting will be held in the Meadfoot Room, Town Hall, Castle Circus,  
Torquay, TQ1 3DR

### **Members of the Committee**

Councillor Thomas (J) (Chairman)

Councillor Barnby	Councillor Kingscote
Councillor Bent	Councillor Parrott
Councillor Butt	Councillor Pentney
Councillor Darling (Vice-Chair)	Councillor Pountney

### **Co-opted Members of the Board**

Penny Burnside, Diocese of Exeter

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**Our vision is working for a healthy, prosperous and happy Bay**

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For information relating to this meeting or to request a copy in another format or language please contact:

**James Dearling, Town Hall, Castle Circus, Torquay, TQ1 3DR**  
**01803 207035**

Email: [scrutiny@torbay.gov.uk](mailto:scrutiny@torbay.gov.uk)

# OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD AGENDA

**5. Residents and Visitors**

To discuss the Revenue Budget 2012/13 Provisional Spending  
Targets for Residents and Visitors

(Pages 87 - 100)

# Resident and Visitor Services

Overview and Scrutiny Meeting  
Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January @ 2.00pm



# Beach Huts

**BUDGET  
2012 / 2013**

**TOUGH DECISIONS  
YOUR SERVICES**

**HAVE  
YOUR SAY!**

The graphic features a black background with a red border. At the top, the text 'BUDGET 2012 / 2013' is written in a bold, red, sans-serif font. Below this, the text 'TOUGH DECISIONS YOUR SERVICES' is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font. To the right of this text is a white speech bubble with a red border containing the text 'HAVE YOUR SAY!' in a bold, red, sans-serif font. At the bottom of the graphic, there is a collage of various banknotes, including a 100 Euro note and a 1000 Japanese Yen note.

# Consultation Overview

- Consultation undertaken with: -
  - The beach hut user group ‘BHUGS’.
  - Some Community Partnerships have been consulted on the increases at their public meetings.
  - Wider Public “Budget Consultation” events and questionnaire.
  - Also subject to a Full Council Report which was presented on 8th December 2011.



# Consultation Overview

- BHUGs - concerned but understood prices would be rising.
- Original proposal - 23% rise could be charged
- Following consultation - reviewed to an average increase of 12% (18% in areas of high demand)



# Impact Assessment Overview

- **Positive impacts:**
- Older & younger people still have access to the beach huts and may get greater choice of site as a result of the price changes.
- Free use of beach huts offered for a number of care groups. Option for people with caring responsibilities to share beach huts for those that are unable to afford sole use.
- Beach huts that are currently accessible for people with a disability will not be affected.
- **Outcome = Adjustments have been made to remove barriers** adjustment to the increase in charges has been made from 23% to an average increase of 12% (a maximum of 18% in high demand areas)



# Parking Services

**BUDGET  
2012 / 2013**

**TOUGH DECISIONS  
YOUR SERVICES**

**HAVE  
YOUR SAY!**

The graphic features a black background with a red, distressed border. At the bottom, there is a collage of various banknotes, including a prominent \$100 bill.



# Consultation Overview

- Consultation undertaken with: -
  - Extensive consultation prior to formal advertising process.
  - General open public meetings being held on 5<sup>th</sup> Sept & 18th Oct 2011.
  - Public meetings held by all Community Partnerships in areas where additional meters were proposed.
  - Invitation for written objections.
  - Two meetings held with local trader group made up of businesses from Torquay and Paignton on charging structures.



# Consultation Overview

- Out of the 11 meetings held –
  - 38 individual responses written in advance of the meetings
  - 2 petitions submitted
  - 8 verbal representations were made at the public meetings.
- Following the formal Traffic Regulation Order being advertised a further 38 group and individual objections were received.
- No objections received on the parking structure charging proposals following the advertising of this at all on-street and off street parking areas.
- Public “Budget Consultation” events have also been held



# Impact Assessment Overview

- **Positive Impacts:**
  - Secondary shopping areas were removed from the on-street pay and display scheme to ensure that in the current economic climate traders could sustain their businesses.
  - Amendments have been made to lengths of stays in some areas.
  - Free days have been introduced (i.e. Sundays) where there were significant church users expected.
- **Outcome = Adjustments have been made to remove barriers** – since the consultation activity has taken place.





# Libraries

# Consultation Overview

- Consultation undertaken with: -
  - Presenting to user groups and Friend of Library Groups.
  - By questionnaire, on line and distributed through the library service points.
  - Two letters of objection from Friends of Library Groups have been received
- Approx. 2500 questionnaires received by individuals on the proposed reduction in service for the Libraries.
- Awaiting full comprehensive results by 20<sup>th</sup> January.



# Consultation Results

- **Preliminary Findings** –
  - Responses from Questionnaires – Initial feedback based on 400 respondents December 2011).
  - Most popular visiting time – Mornings 9.30 to 13.00 – Highest % = Monday and Tuesday.
  - Least popular visiting time – Evenings 17.00 to 19.00 – Least % = Tuesday and Saturday.
  - Least popular times in the day – 9am – 10am and 5pm – 7pm.



# Impact Assessment Overview

- Final reduction of hours proposed will need to be determined through full consultation results
- Full consideration will be given to vulnerable groups with the least impact achievable.
- **Outcome 2: Adjustments to remove barriers** =  
There is potential for negative impact on vulnerable groups depending on the specific proposals put forward.



# Key Issues for Members to Consider

- Key issues to consider before a decision is made  
[Note: Beach Hut and Parking proposals already agreed via Full Council.]
- Libraries: -
  - Detail on **specific** proposals required (awaiting full consultation results to determine)
  - Further consultation required when specific proposals determined?
  - Specifically impact on vulnerable groups

