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Governance Support
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Dear Member

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD - WEDNESDAY, 6 MAY 2026

I am now able to enclose, for consideration at the Wednesday, 6 May 2026 meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Board, the following reports that were unavailable when the agenda was printed.

Agenda No	Item	Page
5.	Annual Review of the Place Leadership Boards Background documents	(Pages 3 - 50)

Yours sincerely

Governance Support
Clerk

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Business Case Template

Pride in Place programme

(Plan for Neighborhoods)

Organisation name:

Project name:

Version	V7
Date	10 February 2026

Responsible Person	
Phone (mobile)	
Phone (work)	
E-mail	

Project Manager	
Phone (mobile)	
Phone (work)	
E-mail	

If you have any questions, please contact Torbay Council Place Boards: tc-place-boards@torbay.gov.uk

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Guidance for Applicants

We welcome applications from local groups and organisations who want to make a positive impact in Torquay through the Pride in Place programme. Please review the guidance below before submitting your project proposal.

There is **no word limit**, but please make sure your responses are clear, concise, and easy to follow.

How Your Project Will Be Reviewed and Approved

The **Torquay Place Leadership Board** will make all decisions on project approvals and funding allocations to ensure investments align with local priorities across the Pride in Place and local themes. All applications will be assessed by the Torbay Council delivery assurance team in advance. This team is made up of Council officers with specialisms in planning, capital project delivery, equality, diversity and inclusion etc and will provide advice and guidance to applicants to help them strengthen their business cases. The team will provide recommendations to the Torquay Place Leadership Board around viability and levels of risk associated with each proposal.

After review, your project may:

- Be approved for delivery in full or in part
- Be placed in the **future project pipeline** for consideration in later years when more funding comes available.
- Or the board may wish for you to work further on your application with the support of our community partner (in place from April 7th, 2026) and resubmit a bid in later application windows.

Key Milestones

Date	Accountable roles	Action / Milestone
11-Feb-26	Torbay Council (Programme Coordinator)	Send Business Case Template to the Applicants
10 days	All Applicants	Prepare initial Business Case documents
26-Feb-26	All Applicants	Submit initial Business Case documents to the Pride in place email address: tc-place-boards@torbay.gov.uk
6 days	Torbay Council delivery assurance team	Review initial Business Case documents
09-Mar-26	Torbay Council delivery assurance team	1st Workshop for Torbay Council officers - discuss and agree initial Business Case documents recommendations
4 days	Programme Lead / coordinator	Analyse and finalise 1st Workshop outcome
16-Mar-26	Torbay Council (Programme Coordinator)	Send feedback to Applicants to strengthen Business Case documents
10 days	All applicants	Prepare final Business Case documents
31-Mar-26	All applicants	Submit final Business Case documents
3 days	Torbay Council delivery assurance team	Review final Business Case documents
06-Apr-26	Torbay Council delivery assurance team	2nd Workshop for Torbay Council Officers - discuss and agree final Business Case documents recommendations
3 days	Torbay Council (Programme Coordinator)	Analyse and finalise 2nd Workshop outcome

10-Apr-26	Torbay Council (Programme Coordinator)	Send final recommendations to Torquay Place Leadership Board
5 days	Torquay Place Leadership Board	Review final recommendations
20-Apr-26	Torquay Place Leadership Board	Sign-off / Approve selected Business Case documents to progress projects
20-Apr-26	Torbay Council (Programme Coordinator)	Notify applicants on the outcome of their Business Case submission and provide feedback on the decisions of the Torquay Place Leadership Board

Funding Arrangements

If your project is approved by the **Torquay Place Leadership Board**, funding will be distributed on a project-by-project basis using one of the following arrangements:

- **Up to £100,000** – paid by invoice submitted to Torbay Council.
- **Over £100,000** – a formal agreement will be required. This may be:
 - A Funding Agreement
 - A Service Level Agreement (SLA)
 - A Contract Change Notice (CCN) for applicants who have existing agreements with Torbay Council

The type of agreement used will depend on the size and requirements of your project.

Key Objectives and Priorities

Projects must align with one or more of the main objectives of the Pride in Place funding, and one or more of the priorities identified by the public and the Torquay Place Leadership Board for the first four years of Pride in Place funding.

The main objectives of the Pride in Place funding:

- **Thriving places** - People take immense pride in their local areas but too many of our high streets and estates have become neglected and left behind. Town centres and neighbourhoods must evolve and regenerate to better reflect the needs and habits of their community, and residents should have greater say in how they're designed.
- **Stronger communities** - Resilience in some of the most disadvantaged communities has been eroded over time...we want to empower boards to tackle the root causes, rebuild relationships, and restore a collective sense of belonging to their community, bringing people together so they can feel proud of their area and safe in their neighborhoods.
- **Taking back control** - Talent is spread equally but opportunity is not. We want to make sure children have the best start in life and that adults can live the life they want to. We will empower people to enter the workplace, workers to progress, and businesses to grow. This will in turn help kickstart local economic growth. Empowered people will also have more of a say in how their local area is shaped, a central component of this programme and this government's vision for communities.

The priorities identified by the public and the Torquay Place Leadership Board for the first four years of Pride in Place funding:

Priority 1: Physically improving our town centre, including crime and safety

- Enhancing public spaces, streets, and local infrastructure
- Improving how the town centre looks, feels, and functions
- Increasing a feeling of safety
- Re-utilising empty retail spaces to increase footfall
- Encouraging collaboration between residents, businesses and community partners

Priority 2: Physically improving our neighbourhoods, including crime and safety

- Upgrading neighbourhood environments and public spaces
- Enhancing safety, connectivity, and local quality of life
- Supporting neighbourhood-based support offers and activities
- Supporting access to affordable housing
- Encouraging collaboration between residents, services and community partners

Theme 3: Work & Skills Development

- Expanding access to training, employment, and skills opportunities
- Building strong partnerships with employers and educators
- Aligning activities with local labour-market needs
- Supporting clear pathways into sustainable work for all
- Encouraging collaboration between residents, services and community partners

Support for Applicants

A dedicated group is available to help you throughout the process:

- Explain the programme requirements
- Support you during the application stage
- Help shape your proposal if further development is required
- Provide guidance during project delivery if your application is approved

If you need assistance, please contact: tc-place-boards@torbay.gov.uk

1. Introduction

1.1. Overview

Please provide a brief overview of your project, summarizing its purpose and main objectives.

<INSERT>

Example: *Our project aims to transform an under-used building into a vibrant, multi-purpose community hub that provides accessible space for residents, community groups, and service providers. The purpose of the project is to create a welcoming, inclusive facility where people can access support services, participate in activities, and connect with one another. The hub will strengthen community cohesion, reduce social isolation, and offer a central point for skills development, wellbeing programmes, and neighbourhood events. By revitalising the building and improving the surrounding public realm, the project will contribute to a safer, more active, and more resilient community.*

1.2. Objectives

Please clearly state the main objectives and expected benefits of your project in a SMART format (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-bound). Refer to the examples.

Objectives	Description	Measure
Improve public spaces	Upgrade 3 key community areas with inclusive design	Completion of upgrades by Dec 2025
Enhance accessibility	Install step-free access in all project locations	100% compliance with accessibility standards
Boost community engagement	Deliver 5 local consultation events	Minimum 200 residents engaged
Support local economy	Use local suppliers for 50% of procurement spend	Procurement reports confirm target

2. Strategic Case

2.1. Strategic Needs

Why is this project necessary, and what strategic objectives or service gaps does it aim to address?

<INSERT>

Example: *The project addresses gaps in the current service model, which cannot meet growing community needs or efficiency targets. Existing processes are fragmented and rely on outdated systems, causing delays and higher costs. This project will improve accessibility, streamline workflows, and ensure compliance. Key objectives include enhancing customer experience, reducing turnaround times, and aligning resources with future demand.*

2.2. Alignment with Pride in Place and Organisational Strategies

How does your project support the Pride in Place programmer's main objectives - thriving places, stronger communities, taking back control and align with Torquay Place Leadership Board priority themes: 1. Physically improving our Town Centre, including crime and safety 2. Physically improving our neighbourhoods, including crime and safety and 3. Work and skills,

<INSERT>

Example 1: *Physical Improvements to the Town Centre*

This project strengthens the Pride in Place programme by enhancing key town centre spaces, improving safety, accessibility, and the overall visitor experience. It supports objectives such as creating thriving places, boosting footfall, and fostering economic vitality. The project also aligns with wider council regeneration strategies, ensuring a coordinated approach to long-term town centre renewal.

Example 2: *Improving Our Neighbourhoods*

This project strengthens the Pride in Place programme by improving neighbourhood environments, increasing safety, and enhancing quality of life for residents. It supports objectives such as safer streets, stronger community networks, and greater local empowerment. The project also aligns with wider neighbourhood and housing strategies, ensuring a coordinated, long-term approach to community-led improvements.

Example 3: *Work and Skills Development*

This project strengthens the Pride in Place programme by expanding access to skills, training, and employment pathways. It supports objectives such as economic growth, reducing local inequalities, and building resilient communities. The project also aligns with workforce and skills strategies across the council and the Combined County Authority, ensuring a joined-up approach to supporting residents into sustainable work.

3. Economic Case

3.1. Options Considered

What delivery options were considered, and how do they compare in terms of benefits, risks, and alignment with objectives?

Option	Description
<p><i>Option 1 Do Minimum</i></p>	<p><i>Make essential compliance upgrades. Offers limited improvement and lacks transformational impact.</i></p>
<p><i>Option 2 Middle option</i></p>	<p><i>Deliver a smaller package of upgrades which will deliver the key objectives but not all, utilizing a smaller amount of Capital investment.</i></p>
<p><i>Option 2 Preferred Option</i></p>	<p><i>Deliver a full regeneration package aligned with Pride in Place priorities. Requires higher investment but maximizes benefits, improves infrastructure, and supports vibrant communities.</i></p>

3.2. Preferred Option

Why is the preferred option the best choice, and what will the final deliverables and scope include?

<INSERT>

Example: *The preferred option is most suitable as it fully supports the Pride in Place vision of creating inclusive and sustainable communities. Deliverables include improved public spaces, better transport links, and enhanced community hubs. The scope covers infrastructure upgrades, landscaping, and stakeholder engagement, with clear boundaries to prevent scope creep. This ensures measurable outcomes aligned with long-term objectives.*

4. Commercial Case

4.1. Procurement Approach and Contractual Arrangements

How will you choose the people, organisations or companies who will carry out the work, and how will you make sure the agreement with them is clear, fair, and meets the aims of the Pride in Place programme?

Refer to: <https://www.torbay.gov.uk/business/procurement/invite/>

<INSERT>

Example: To make sure the project is delivered properly and offers good value, we will follow Torbay Council's rules for choosing suppliers. This means the opportunity will be shared publicly so that different businesses have a fair chance to apply. We will look for suppliers who have experience working on community projects and improving local spaces. Once a supplier is chosen, we will put a clear agreement in place that explains what work needs to be done, the quality we expect, how data will be handled safely, and how progress will be checked. The agreement will also explain what happens if there are any problems, so the project stays on track. This approach supports Pride in Place aims by helping us deliver high-quality improvements that benefit the community and encourage local involvement.

4.2. Delivering Value for Money

How will you ensure value for money and alignment with Pride in Place priorities?

<INSERT>

Example: The supplier was selected for their proven experience in regeneration and ability to deliver innovative, cost-effective solutions. Their proposal aligns with Pride in Place priorities, including improved infrastructure and inclusive spaces. Contract management will be led by an experienced project team, supported by strong governance and regular performance reviews to ensure value for money and timely delivery.

5. Financial Case

5.1. Funding

Provide details of the Pride in Place funding requested for this project, including the total amount, expenditure to date, and remaining balance. This information can be drawn directly from your project finance records. Include a brief narrative below to explain any key considerations, constraints, or updates related to this funding.

Funding Stream	Amount	Comments
<i>Pride in Place (Capital)</i>	£	
<i>Pride in Place (Revenue)</i>	£	
<i>Other grant funds (list by funder)</i>	£	<i>Pending approval</i>
Totals	£	

5.2. Capital Costs (Non-Recurrent)

Provide a breakdown of the capital costs for the project funded through the Pride in Place grant. Include the main contract price. Ensure contingency and risk budgets are included to cover unforeseen issues. Refer to examples below.

Description	Value	Comments
<i>Main Contract Price</i>	£ 450,000	<i>Includes construction and installation works</i>
<i>Design & Consultancy</i>	£ 50,000	<i>Architectural and engineering services</i>
<i>Risk Budget</i>	£ 20,000	<i>For potential delays or cost variations</i>
<i>Equipment & Materials</i>	£ 25,000	<i>Fixtures, fittings, and landscaping</i>
<i>Contingency</i>	£ 54,500	<i>Suggest a 10% allowance as standard. If you need more explain why.</i>
Total	£ 599,500	

5.3. Ongoing costs (Recurring commitment)

Outline any ongoing costs or revenue implications associated with the Pride in Place-funded project. Specify how these costs will be funded. If income will be generated, detail the expected amount and calculate the net balance. Indicate whether these costs apply annually or for a fixed duration. Consider the long-term sustainability of your project. Refer to examples below.

Description	Value	Comments
<i>Annual Maintenance</i>	£ 15,000	<i>Annual upkeep of public spaces and facilities</i>
<i>Annual Resource Costs</i>	£ 10,000	<i>Staff time for monitoring and community support</i>
<i>Annual Income</i>	£ 30,000	<i>Expected revenue from venue hire and events</i>
Total (balance)	£ 5,000	<i>Annual net surplus</i>

6. Management Case

6.1. Governance, Roles and Reporting Arrangements

What is the governance structure of your organisation?

<INSERT>

Example: The project will follow a defined governance framework aligned with Pride in Place objectives. A Project Sponsor will provide strategic oversight, supported by a Project Board for decision-making and progress reviews. Day-to-day delivery will be managed by a Project Manager within agreed financial and operational limits. Key stakeholders from finance, procurement, and communications will ensure coordination across workstreams. Progress will be tracked through regular governance meetings, dashboards, and risk registers, with formal reporting monthly to the Project Board.

6.2. Key Stakeholders

Outline the key stakeholders in the table below.

Name	Title	Project Role / Area of Expertise
		Responsible Person
		Project Management
		Operational
		Financial oversight and scrutiny
		Procurement

6.3. Key Milestones

Provide the key milestones for the project in the section below. Refer to examples below.

Activity	Start	End	Comments
Project initiation	Jan 2025	Feb 2025	Governance set-up and approvals
Design and planning	Feb 2025	Apr 2025	Finalise designs and stakeholder input
Procurement process	Apr 2025	Jun 2025	Tender issued and supplier appointed
Construction phase	Jul 2025	Nov 2025	Delivery of infrastructure improvements
Community engagement events	Aug 2025	Dec 2025	Ongoing consultation and feedback
Project completion	Dec 2025	Dec 2025	Handover and final reporting

6.4. Risk Identification, Assessment and Mitigation

Please complete the Risk Management Table:

- Risk – State the specific risk (e.g., funding delay, contractor performance).
- Risk Level – Assess impact and consequences to define the risk level before and after mitigating actions:
 - High: Major impact; needs urgent action and senior oversight.
 - Medium: Moderate impact; mitigation in progress; monitor closely.
 - Low: Minor impact; controls in place; review periodically.
- Description – Briefly explain what could happen and why it matters.
- Mitigation – Outline actions to reduce or manage the risk (e.g., contingency plan, regular monitoring).

Initial Risk		Mitigated Risk	
Funding delays	High	Regular liaison with funding body; contingency plan	Medium
Contractor performance	Medium	Robust contract terms; performance monitoring	Low

6.5. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

How does your Pride in Place project promote equality, inclusivity and support community cohesion?

<INSERT>

Example: An Equality Impact Assessment was completed to ensure no group is disadvantaged. The project includes accessibility improvements like step-free access and inclusive design standards. Engagement activities involve diverse community voices, so decisions reflect everyone’s needs. This approach supports equality and complies with the Equality Act 2010. Within your answer please be clear about how your project will bring different communities together and how it will avoid and tackle discrimination. You also need to identify what steps will you be taking to make sure that your project is fully accessible.

6.6. Environmental Impact and Sustainability

How does your Pride in Place project minimise environmental impact and support sustainability?

<INSERT>

Example: An Environmental Impact Assessment was carried out to ensure the project reduces harm and promotes sustainability. Measures include using low-carbon materials, improving energy efficiency, and enhancing green spaces. Waste reduction and recycling plans are in place, and suppliers are encouraged to follow sustainable practices. This approach supports environmental goals and aligns with the Pride in Place commitment to creating greener communities.



Neighbourhood Profile: Blatchcombe & Blagdon

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Local Authority: Torbay Council

March 2026

Agenda Item 5
Appendix 2





About this document

This document, produced by MHCLG, presents high-level data to support the Pride in Place Programme. It is intended to support Neighbourhood Boards in both identifying and evidencing local needs or trends. It does not make policy recommendations.

Background

- The Pride in Place Programme will provide 284 communities across the UK with up to £20 million of funding over the next decade. This support will help local people shape the future of their neighbourhood and deliver real change across the country.
- Data is presented across broad themes that Neighbourhood Boards may consider addressing through the programme.
- These packs do not take account of the implementation of current national or local policy interventions.
- These data packs can be used as a support tool, alongside existing data insights available to Local Authorities and Boards.

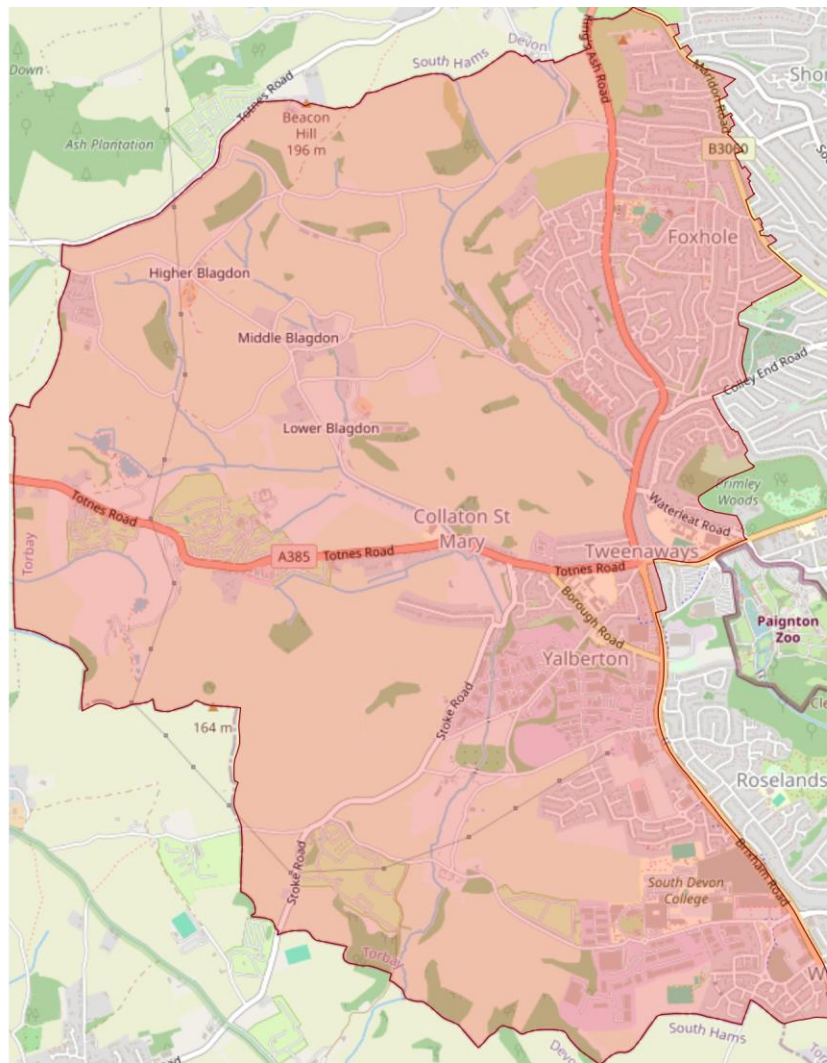
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Data caveats

- The data sources in this pack are the latest available as of 1st January 2026. The metrics in this pack do not account for any boundary request changes submitted by places.
- Data supply issues within the Greater Manchester area mean that crime data figures are missing for MSOAs that fall within this area.
- Lockdown restrictions and the furlough scheme were in place at the time Census 2021 was conducted, which significantly impacted 'travel to work methods' data. As such, the data are not reflective of current commuting patterns. We have therefore used Census Travel to work estimates using assumed pre-coronavirus travel behaviours- Office for National Statistics (June 2023).

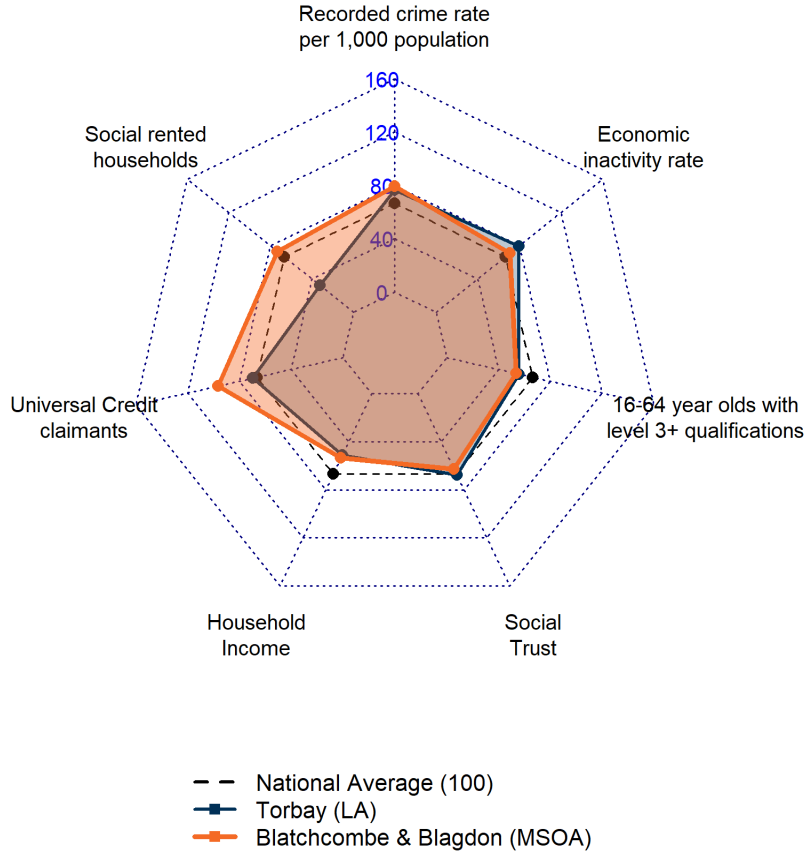


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**Map showing the boundary and surrounding context of
Blatchcombe & Blagdon**



Overview of indicators

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This radar chart compares the relative performance of Blatchcombe & Blagdon across seven key indicators against both the Torbay Local Authority average and the National baseline (set at 100). Values plotted outside the thick black national line indicate rates higher than the national average, while values inside indicate lower rates. Note that being above or below the baseline can be positive or negative depending on the indicator. For example, higher than average Universal Credit claimants represents a negative outcome, whereas higher than average household income represents a positive outcome.



Safety, Security and Cohesion

Recorded crime type per 1,000 population

Category	Blatchcombe & Blagdon	Torbay	National
Burglary	2.7	2.9	3.9
Criminal damage and arson	9.4	10.0	7.4
Drugs	4.2	4.9	3.6
Other crime	2.5	2.2	2.2
Other theft	7.1	7.9	7.0
Possession of weapons	1.5	1.2	1.0
Public order	6.3	6.4	7.0
Robbery	0.3	0.7	1.4
Shoplifting	6.9	9.3	8.6
Theft from the person	0.4	1.0	2.2
Vehicle crime	4.1	3.1	5.4
Violence and sexual offences	57.3	48.8	35.8

Headlines

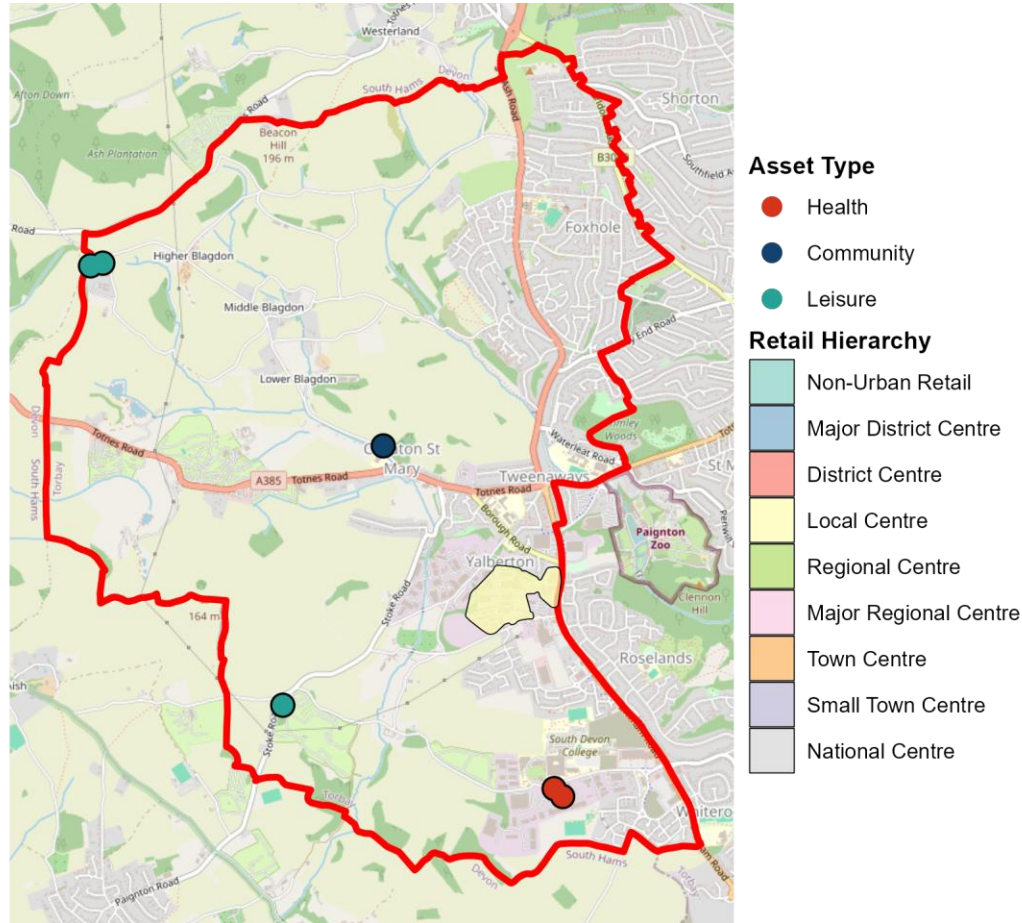
Crime rates in Blatchcombe & Blagdon are higher than the national average for 6 categories, specifically: Criminal damage and arson, Drugs, Other crime, Other theft, Possession of weapons and Violence and sexual offences. Compared to the local authority average (Torbay), this area sees higher rates of Other crime, Possession of weapons, Vehicle crime and Violence and sexual offences.

Category	Blatchcombe & Blagdon	Local Authority	National
Social Trust	-8.9	-1.2	-3.1

[Net social trust](#) is defined as the estimated proportion of people who say they generally trust others. According to Onward (2023), Blatchcombe & Blagdon has a social trust score of -8.9%, which is lower than the England average of -3%.

OFFICIAL High Streets and Community Assets in Blatchcombe & Blagdon

This map shows the location of specific community assets (Health, Community, and Leisure) and designated local retail centres in or near to Blatchcombe & Blagdon. If no icons or shaded areas are visible, no information was found in the source datasets for this area.



Contains OS data © Crown copyright 2026. OS Licence No. AC0000812160. © OpenStreetMap contributors

Map showing community assets and high streets in Blatchcombe & Blagdon



Transport and Connectivity in Blatchcombe & Blagdon

Headlines

Travel times to key services in Blatchcombe & Blagdon are strong, with access to Food Store, GP Surgery, Hospital being faster than national averages.

The most popular employment destination for residents in Blatchcombe & Blagdon is Paignton Central (Torbay) (17.8%), followed by Torquay Central (Torbay) (17.6%).

Commuter destinations

Rank	Destination	Number
1	Paignton Central (Torbay)	414
2	Torquay Central (Torbay)	409
3	Shiphay & the Willows (Torbay)	385
4	Totnes Town (South Hams)	299
5	Newton Abbot, Town Centre (Teignbridge)	217
6	Brixham Town (Torbay)	145
7	Dartmouth (South Hams)	135
8	Upton & Hele (Torbay)	126
9	Chelston, Cockington & Livermead (Torbay)	103
10	Marldon, Stoke Gabriel & Kingswear (South Hams)	97

Travel time to services (mins)

Service	Blatchcombe & Blagdon	Torbay	National
Employment (500+)	17.5	10.7	11.7
Food Store	6.8	6.6	7.1
Further Education	29.0	20.1	22.2
GP Surgery	11.0	13.3	13.3
Hospital	33.7	36.2	41.6
Primary School	9.5	8.8	9.1
Secondary School	16.5	18.1	18.5
Town Centre	18.7	15.4	20.8

Source: ONS Census (2021) Travel to Work estimates.



Education and Employment in Blatchcombe & Blagdon

Headlines

Residents in Blatchcombe & Blagdon with no formal qualifications (19.5%) are higher than the national average (18.1%). UC claimant rates (22.4%) are higher than national averages (15.4%) and above the wider Torbay rate (16.2%). The total economic inactivity rate is lower than the Torbay average.

Qualifications (16-64) (%)

Category	Blatchcombe & Blagdon	Torbay	National
Level 3 Qualifications or above	40.9	42.6	50.8
No Qualifications	19.5	19.8	18.1

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Universal Credit Claimants (%)

Area	Value
Blatchcombe & Blagdon	22.4%
Torbay	16.2%
England	15.4%

Inactivity by reason (%)

Category	Blatchcombe & Blagdon	Torbay	National
Retired	21.9	30.3	21.5
Student	4.4	3.3	5.6
Looking after home or family	5.9	4.3	4.8
Long-term sick or disabled	6.7	5.9	4.1
Other	2.8	2.9	3.1
TOTAL INACTIVITY	41.6	46.7	39.1

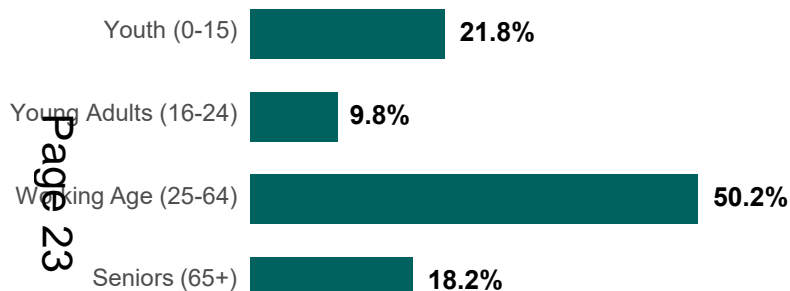
Source: ONS Census (2021) and DWP (2024).

Health and Demographics in Blatchcombe & Blagdon

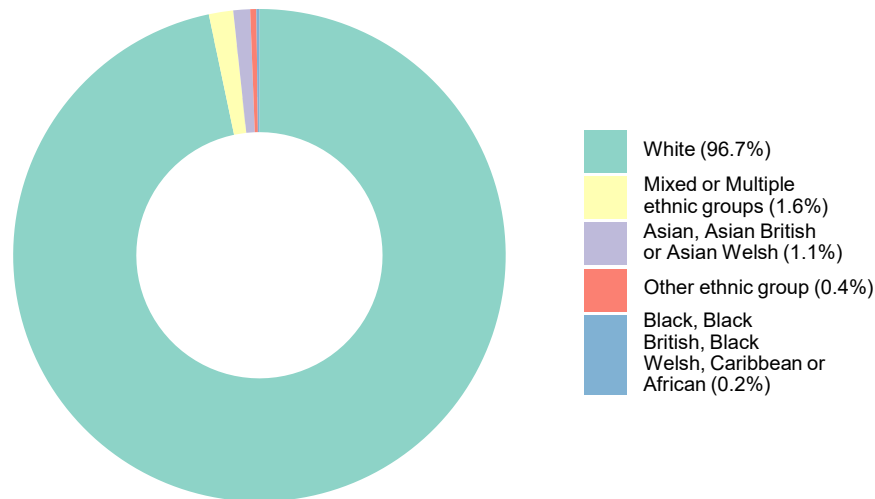
Demographics & Health Overview

The largest age group in Blatchcombe & Blagdon is Working Age (25-64) (50.2%). The most prominent ethnic group is White (96.7%). Overall, 78.5% of residents report having 'Very Good' or 'Good' health, which is lower than the national average of 82.2%.

Age Profile: Blatchcombe & Blagdon



Ethnicity Profile: Blatchcombe & Blagdon



General Health Profile (%)

Status	Blatchcombe & Blagdon	Torbay	National
Very Good	43.9	42.2	48.5
Good	34.6	34.2	33.7
Fair	14.7	16.2	12.7
Bad	5.3	5.7	4.0
Very Bad	1.6	1.7	1.2

Source: ONS Census (2021).

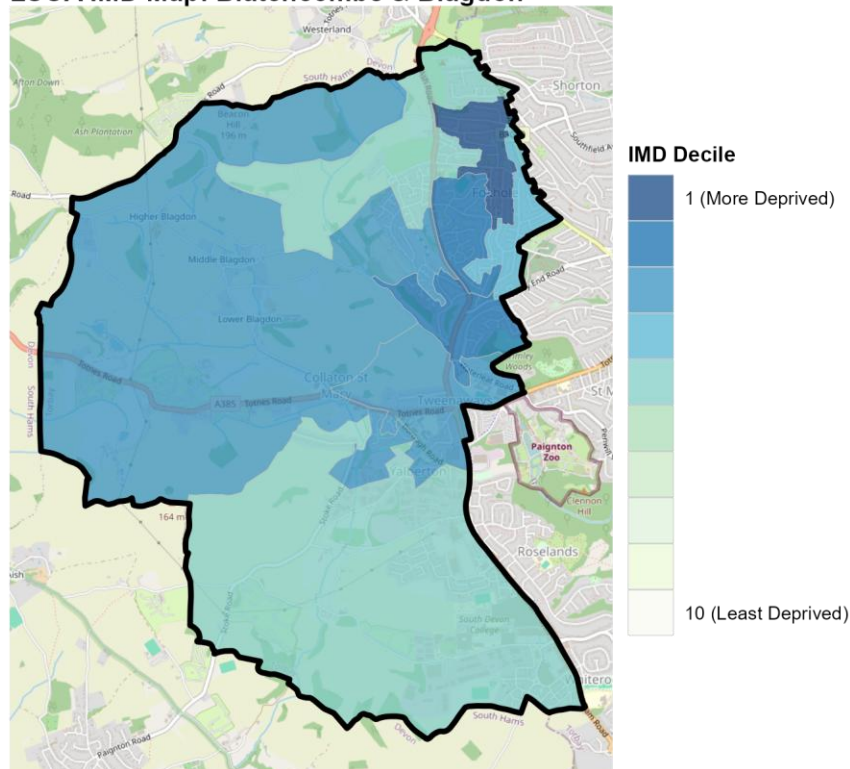


Deprivation Overview: Blatchcombe & Blagdon

Headlines

This area of Blatchcombe & Blagdon comprises 8 LSOAs. Overall, these fall into Decile(s) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. The area faces significant challenges in Employment and Education, Skills & Training and Health & Disability and Income.

LSOA IMD Map: Blatchcombe & Blagdon



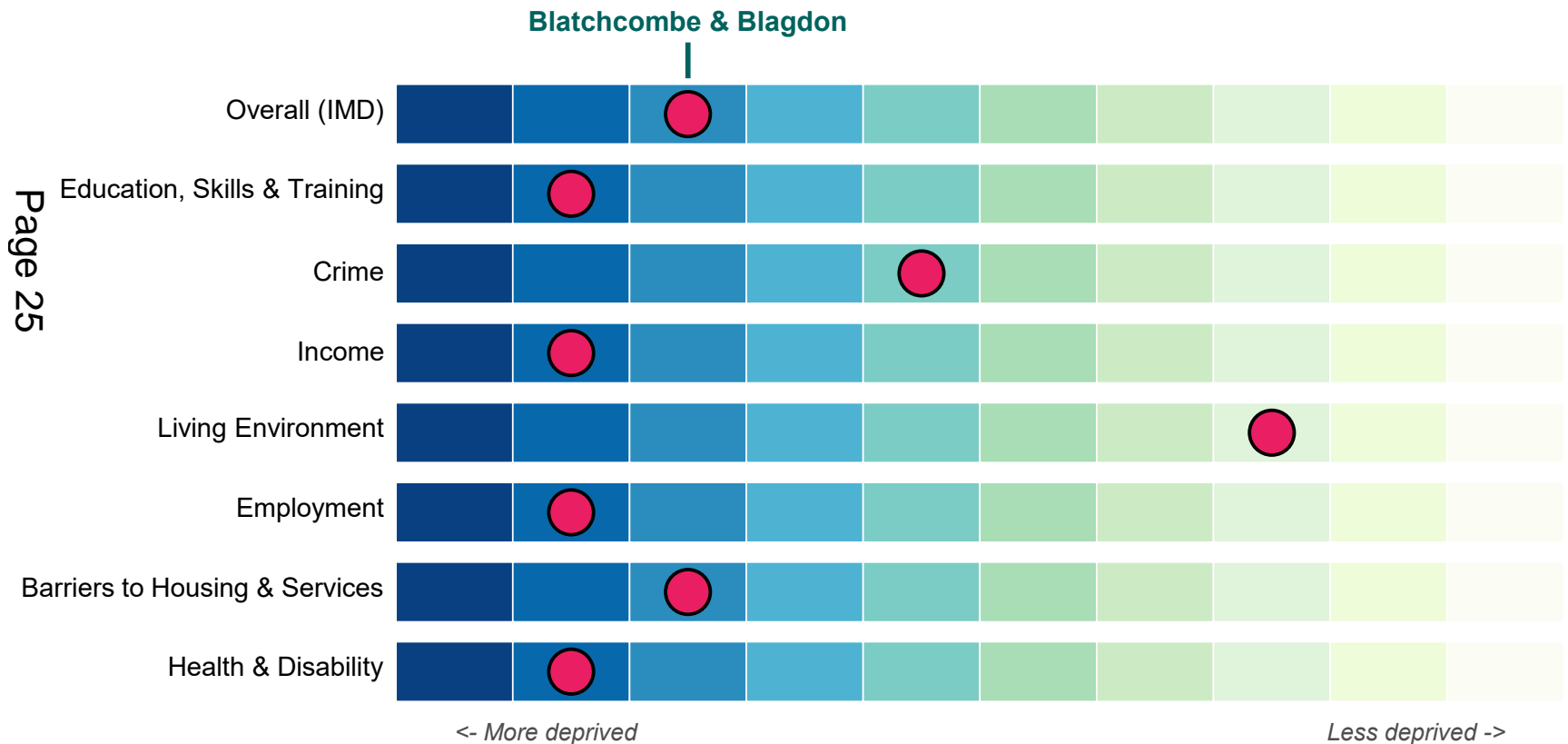
Source: MHCLG - Index of Multiple Deprivation (2025).



Deprivation Overview: Blatchcombe & Blagdon

Understanding the Chart

This chart illustrates the relative level of deprivation for Blatchcombe & Blagdon in comparison to all other MSOAs nationally. Scores range from 1 (most deprived) to 10 (least deprived) across various domains. These figures have been recalculated and population-weighted from the standard LSOA-level Index of Multiple Deprivation to provide an aggregated MSOA score.



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Deprivation Domain Matrix: Blatchcombe & Blagdon

The table below details the specific decile ranking for each Output Area (OA - small neighbourhood) within Blatchcombe & Blagdon. The values represent the count of OAs falling into each decile.

Notably, within the 'Overall IMD' domain, 5 out of 40 Output Areas fall into the most deprived 10% nationally (Decile 1).

Decile	Overall IMD	Crime	Employment	Education, Skills & Training	Health	Income	Housing	Living Environment
1	5	5	5	5	5	5	0	0
2	10	0	14	14	14	5	5	0
3	9	0	10	11	10	15	11	0
4	5	5	5	5	11	15	10	5
5	11	15	6	5	0	0	5	9
6	0	9	0	0	0	0	9	5
7	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11



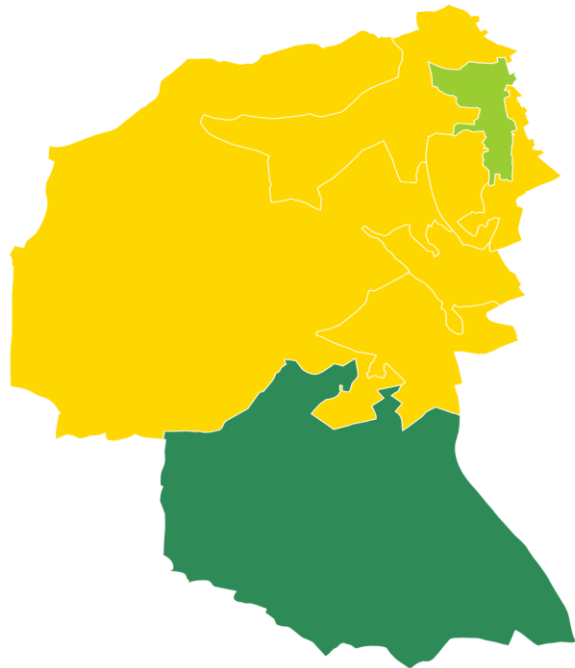
Housing: Quality and Age

Highlights

The maps below provide a granular view of the housing characteristics within the LSOAs of Blatchcombe & Blagdon. The map on the left displays the most common Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating, indicating energy efficiency. The map on the right illustrates the most common property age band, highlighting the historical development of the area.

Most Common EPC Rating

Housing Quality (EPC)

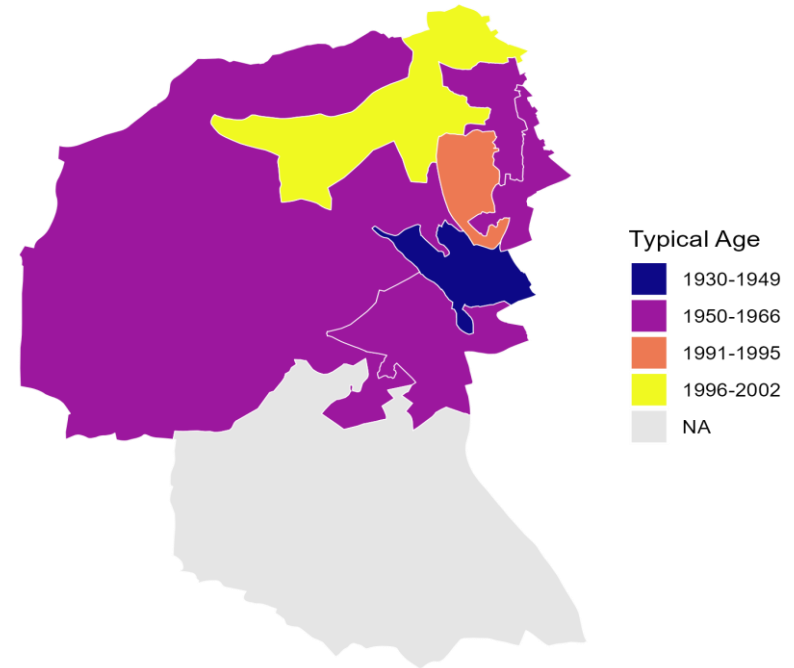


Typical Band

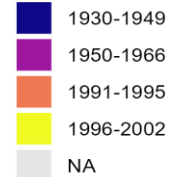


Most Common Property Age

Typical Building Age



Typical Age



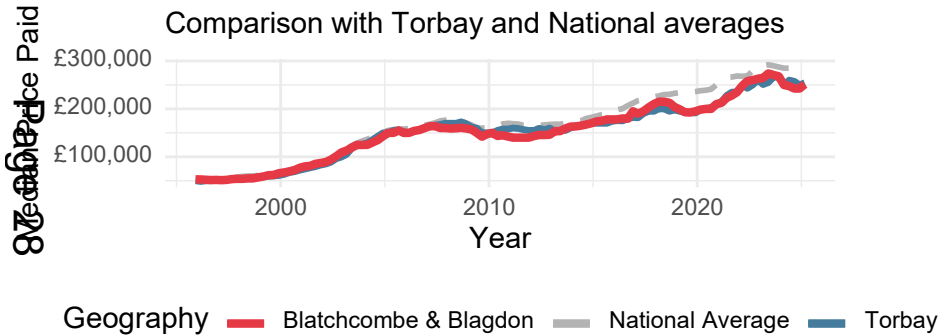
Housing Market Overview

Headlines

Housing is more affordable than the wider Local Authority, with an affordability ratio of 7.5 compared to 7.5. Over the observed period, local house price growth has lagged behind the Local Authority average (376% vs 409%).

Median House Price Trend

Median House Price Trend: Blatchcombe & Blagdon



Affordability Ratios

Geography	Disposable Net Income	Avg House Price	Affordability Ratio
National Average	£39,478	£290,250	7.4
Torbay	£33,267	£250,748	7.5
Blatchcombe & Blagdon	£35,302	£264,500	7.5

Housing Stock Summary (%)

Category	Blatchcombe & Blagdon	Torbay	National Average
Owned: Owns outright	32.3	39.2	32.5
Owned: Owns with a mortgage or loan	29.9	24.9	28.8
Shared ownership: Shared ownership	2.9	1.0	1.0
Social rented: Rents from council or Local Authority	2.5	0.9	8.3
Social rented: Other social rented	16.3	7.4	8.8
Private rented: Private landlord or letting agency	14.5	24.1	18.2
Private rented: Other private rented	1.6	2.5	2.2
Lives rent free	0.0	0.0	0.1

Source: Office for National Statistics (2025).

Pride in Place Torquay Vision Submission

Section 1: Local Context

Torquay is a town with a proud heritage and a resilient spirit. Our story is one of transformation, shaped by our stunning coastline, generous communities, and a tradition of working together. As one of three towns that make up Torbay, Torquay's identity is rooted in its people and the stories that have shaped the town into what it is today, along with the hopes for the future that lies ahead. The Torbay Story is one of revival. It is based around community lives and our future distinctiveness: tech by the bay, active adventurers, and a premier marine and natural experience. The town centre has already seen good recent progress through initiatives including the Torquay Town Investment Plan. Hopes are high around building this next chapter through Pride in Place.

Torquay's population is circa 69,000 with a median age of 47 - older than the England average. Our neighbourhoods are diverse, and many truths are masked by the English Riviera destination image of microclimate and palm trees. Significant parts of the population face challenges in everyday life: over half are among England's most deprived, and life expectancy is lower than the national average. Community engagement reveals a strong sense of pride but also some frustration at the pace of change, being overlooked and unheard, and the importance of inclusive growth. As one resident put it, 'We want to see real change, not just promises. Everyone should feel part of Torquay's future.'

Section 2: Spatial Targeting

The boundary for this programme covers the whole of Torquay, as recognised by our community. Spatial targeting data was used to help identify areas to initially consult in Torquay, especially where engagement is traditionally low. The premise was to physically go out to those areas to meet communities. The response from that significant engagement work has given the Board their wider geographic area of Torquay, but also key areas of deprivation to focus on. Having reviewed all data, the Board will focus on interventions in the town centre including the nearby residential area, plus Ellacombe, Hele, Barton and Watcombe, and other small neighbourhoods identified through engagement and data analysis as having the greatest need. These areas reflect both the challenges and opportunities for regeneration, and interventions will be targeted to maximise impact.



Section 3: Vision for the Future

Torquay is transforming. Our communities are part of a once-in-a-generation transformation journey and this Pride in Place funding will help bring some of the tangible changes our communities have asked for. Our vision is for a town where everyone feels pride, belonging, and opportunity - a place that is welcoming, safe, and full of possibility. Over the next decade money through Pride in Place will physically transform our town centre and neighbourhoods. Some will make people feel safer, some will expand life opportunities, some will improve quality of life. All will have come about from a community or partnerships already working to try to deliver meaningful change. Change will be delivered through collaborative projects, many of which will be co-produced, that reflect public priorities and build on our strengths and Torquay's unique identity.

Short Vision Statement:

Torquay will be a place where its community sees progress and change through quick wins, medium term stewardship and delivery of long-term projects. Now is the time for change and for Torquay's changemakers to work together to make it happen. Our town centre will become more vibrant and welcoming, our neighbourhoods who are worst off will see tangible impact. We'll work together across politics and people and draw together all expertise and voices through the Torquay Place Leadership Board. Pride in Place funding allocation will be different by definition and will help tackle some sticky issues traditional methods haven't. By working together, we will build a future that honours the heritage of people living in Torquay, embraces innovation and change for the future, ensuring that Torquay remains a place to be proud of for generations to come.

Vision for Torquay

Torquay envisions a vibrant, sustainable, and inclusive future, celebrating its rich coastal heritage while evolving into a dynamic hub for innovation, culture, and wellbeing. We see a town where residents, businesses, and visitors thrive in harmony with the natural environment, and where our stunning seafront, historic charm, and diverse communities are revitalised and enhanced.

Our future Torquay will be a place of opportunity for all: a town where young people are inspired to build their futures, entrepreneurs are supported to grow bold new ideas, and creative industries, sustainable tourism, and green technologies flourish. The town centre will be reimagined as a lively, accessible destination, blending culture, retail, and public spaces in ways that reflect the spirit and aspirations of our community. Our communities will have Pride in Place.

Success will be judged by tangible improvements in quality of life.

We will measure success by ensuring residents feel secure. Progress will also be evident in the physical transformation of some of our communities and having more activities and life choices for families and young people. Torquay's town centre will have transformation that is clear to see. Additionally, we will focus on expanding work and skills opportunities, addressing economic inactivity, supporting access to well-paid jobs, and creating pathways for young people to thrive.

Above all, Torquay's vision is rooted in a shared commitment to progress which honours our past, responds to the present, and shapes a better tomorrow. Together, we will create a Torquay that is proud, prosperous, and prepared for the future.

Resident hopes:

“We want safer streets, more opportunities for young people, and a town centre we can be proud of.”

“Torquay should be a place where everyone feels they belong and can succeed.”

Section 4: Strategic Case for Change

Torquay faces acute and persistent challenges that are well-evidenced by both local and national datasets:

- **Deprivation:** Over 50% of Torquay’s Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) are in the top 20% most deprived in England for employment. In fact, 28.2% of LSOAs are in the top 10% most deprived nationally for employment, and 20.5% for crime. Child poverty is a significant concern, with 25.8% of under-16s living in relative low-income households—4.5 percentage points above the England average.
- **Economic Inactivity:** 14,000 working-age residents are economically inactive, with the highest rates among those aged 25–49. This is compounded by a lack of well-paid jobs and limited opportunities for young people, especially outside the seasonal hospitality sector.
- **Crime and Safety:** Torquay’s recorded crime rate is 98.3 per 1,000 population, significantly higher than the England average of 76.7. Anti-social behaviour is also elevated at 28.4 per 1,000, compared to 14.8 nationally. Violence and sexual offences are 56.0 per 1,000, nearly double the national rate.
- **Housing:** The 2021 Housing and Economic Needs Assessment identified a need for 720 affordable homes per year, but delivery is constrained by limited viable land, environmental protections, and flooding risks. High rents, lack of social housing, and homelessness remain persistent issues. Torbay’s MP Steve Darling, a Board member, has highlighted affordable housing as the primary concern of his constituents.
- **Skills and Employment:** Apprenticeship and work-based learning opportunities are limited, with barriers for SEND and neurodivergent residents. Level 3+ qualifications lag behind national averages, and digital exclusion is a concern.

Alignment to Objectives

Thriving Places

- The top three priorities identified by 1,204 residents in the July/August 2025 engagement (with a 92–98% confidence level) were: physically improving the town centre, reducing crime and improving safety, and regenerating neighbourhoods including affordable housing. These accounted for 51% of all community ‘votes’.
- Projects such as Torquay town centre redevelopment, town centre CCTV upgrades, and public realm improvements are designed to address neglected spaces, increase vibrancy, and tackle visible disorder.

- The need for 720 affordable homes per year is being met through a brownfield-first strategy, intensification of underused sites, and the Hotels to Homes programme, alongside active homelessness prevention. This fund will allow for further schemes to be progressed.

Stronger Communities

- The engagement process reached marginalised voices, with 26% of respondents identifying as disabled (vs. 23.6% of the population) and 4.7% as BME (vs. 3.8% population), ensuring interventions are inclusive. Their ideas around stronger communities will be brought forward.
- Social trust in Torquay is -5% (2023), below the national average, and 56% of residents feel they cannot influence local decisions. The programme's governance model is designed to rebuild trust and participation through transparent, community-led decision-making.
- Interventions brought forward by the community around crime prevention through environmental design, community hubs, and multi-use facilities in targeted areas with the highest deprivation and safety concerns will help create stronger communities.

Taking Back Control

- The Torquay Place Leadership Board operates as a partnership neighbourhood board, with cross-party representation, independent chair, strategic and operational Board Members, and with delegated authority for funding decisions, ratified by the Council's Chief Finance Officer. It is tackling trust issues head on.
- Residents and stakeholders have direct input into project prioritisation, with 769 people expressing interest in ongoing involvement and 63 community-led proposals submitted for funding.
- Participatory budgeting, co-production workshops, and ongoing engagement ensure that power is devolved as close to communities as possible. The Board adopted an iterative decision-making process around interventions which is on track to see first interventions from April 2026. Torquay's neighbourhoods will see 'you said we did' change from the outset, leading to a sense of taking back control.

Intended Use of Powers

- **Statutory Powers:** The Board uses delegated authority to allocate funding, approve interventions, and manage procurement, following Torbay Council’s Standing Orders and Nolan Principles. Conflict of interest declarations and open papers ensure transparency.
- **Community Co-production:** Powers are exercised through co-production, with community representatives actively involved in designing, delivering, and monitoring projects. This includes targeted engagement with groups such as the Imagine Cultural Group, Islamic Centre, Disability Support, and Learning Disability Champions.
- **Investment Appraisal:** All projects are scored against a weighted matrix for impact, deliverability, and alignment with priorities. This ensures resources are directed to interventions with the greatest evidence-based need and potential for long-term change.
- **Additional powers:** The board will be further exploring additional powers in 2026, further opportunities for independence and self-sustainment.

Priority Area	Why Focus Here?	Evidence/Engagement
Physically improving our town centre	High public concern about neglected public realm, crime, and lack of vibrancy	“We need a town centre we can be proud of.”
Reducing crime, improving safety	Residents feel unsafe, want more police and visible deterrents	“More police presence, more CCTV, safer streets.”
Physically improving neighbourhoods, including affordable housing	Deprivation, poor housing, lack of activities for families and young people	“Support for families, better housing, more things to do.”
Work and skills	Economic inactivity, lack of well-paid jobs, limited opportunities for young people	“We need more jobs, not just in hospitality.”

Section 5: Alignment with Other Programmes and Investments

This programme complements the emerging themes from the Torbay Employment and Skills Strategy, Torbay Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2024–2030, Torquay Town Centre Vision along with work already done through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Torquay Town Deal Investment Plan. It will be triangulated with a host of Torbay Council strategies aimed at benefiting people and VCSE initiatives already underway. Torquay has a thriving voluntary sector and Pride in Place will only succeed through a coordinated approach where everything from opportunities to collaborate, existing masterplans or funding streams are utilised to maximise impact and avoid duplication.

Section 6: Match Funding and Leveraged Investment

The Board will maximise opportunities for private, public, and philanthropic match funding and investment. Existing commitments include support from charities, local businesses, statutory partners, and community organisations. Future support will be sought through collaborative bids, joint ventures, and engagement with regional and national funders. Plans include leveraging Council funding, National Lottery Heritage Fund, Arts Council England and other sources to ensure co-ordination and sustainability which will maximise the value of interventions.

Torquay's programme is underpinned by a robust approach to attracting and maximizing match funding and leveraged investment.

Over £110 million in grant funding has already been secured for the wider Torbay area through the Torbay Story and Torbay Place Leadership Board, including:

- **£21.9 million Town Deal Funding for Torquay**
- **£13.36 million Future High Streets Funding for Paignton**
- **£1 million Brownfield Land Release Funding**
- **£20.25 million Levelling Up Partnership**
- **£20 million Levelling Up Funding for Brixham Fish Quay Expansion and Technology Production Park**
- **£1.76 million UK Shared Prosperity Fund**
- **£3 million from the County Combined Authority for housing and skills.**
- **National Lottery Heritage Fund:** Torbay is one of nine areas nationally to benefit from a share of £200 million over 10 years, with an initial £250,000 confirmed for the Development Year. This partnership will support heritage-led regeneration, audience development, and capacity building.
- **Arts Council England:** Torbay is identified as a Levelling Up for Culture area, with capital funding supporting cultural infrastructure and programming.

- **NHS and Health Partners:** Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust, University of Exeter, NHS Integrated Care Board, and Devon Partnership NHS Trust are engaged in collaborative projects, including health and wellbeing hubs, with funding and in-kind support for community health initiatives. NHS colleagues are part of both the Torbay and Torquay Place Leadership Boards.
- **Willmott Dixon and Milligan:** Regeneration partners appointed by Torbay Council, bringing expertise and investment to accelerate growth and delivery of major capital projects.
- **English Riviera BID Company, Torbay Business Forum, Devon Chamber of Commerce, Stagecoach South West:** Active partners in business-led town centre improvements, public realm activation, and transport initiatives. Financial contributions and sponsorships are being negotiated for specific projects.

Types of Support and Funding Mechanisms

- **Direct Grants:** Confirmed government allocations.
- **Collaborative Bids:** Joint ventures with charities and businesses to unlock additional funding streams (e.g., Arts Council England, National Lottery, private sponsorship).
- **In-Kind Support:** Volunteer hours, professional expertise, venue provision, and discounted services from community organisations and local businesses.
- **Philanthropic Investment:** Engagement with regional and national funders, including charitable trusts and foundations, to support targeted interventions.
- **Participatory Budgeting:** Community-led allocation of funds for grassroots projects, ensuring local ownership and accountability.

Future Support

The Board will continue to seek:

- **Additional match funding** from regional and national sources (e.g., National Lottery Heritage Fund, Arts Council England, NHS, private sector).
- **Collaborative bids** for major capital projects, leveraging anchor institutions and regeneration partners.
- **Joint ventures** with local businesses to maximize economic and social impact.

Section 7: Community and Stakeholder Engagement

Government seeks: Outline of how the community and stakeholders are involved, including methodology, statistics, and inclusion of marginalised voices

Engagement Methodology and Statistics:

Torbay Communities has been commissioned by the Torquay Place Leadership Board to lead on the community and stakeholder engagement. Torbay Communities is a local community development charity and is the infrastructure organisation for the Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise (VCFSE) sector locally. Over the past 10 years it has built up a strong network of local groups, particularly those who work with the most marginalised in our community and it has a team of community builders working at the grassroots level in the 16 different neighbourhoods of Torquay.

In early 2025 Torbay Communities ran an open process to identify 5 further community representatives to join the stakeholders on the Torquay Place Leadership Board, with a particular focus on marginalised groups and areas of deprivation. Both the community representatives and the stakeholders have a responsibility to cascade information from and to the Board.

At the outset of the Pride in Place process it was agreed to conduct a public engagement to identify the main priorities for the first 4 years of the funding. This was to supplement previous engagement exercises and community prioritisation initiatives e.g. the Torquay Neighbourhood Plan. 1,204 members of the public were involved in this engagement. (The target figure for responses was 1,051 based on a 95% confidence level and a +/- 3% confidence interval, therefore the opinions expressed have a 92%-98% possibility of being true of the wider population of Torquay.)

The methodology was 3-fold – reaching out through existing networks, through groups that work with marginalised communities and via a public media campaign and street-based conversations by the community builders.

The targeted engagement for marginalised voices is via Imagine Cultural Group, Islamic Centre, Community Builder (asylum seekers, refugees, Ukrainian guests), Torbay Pride, Disability Support, Abbey Hall Deaf Group, Learning Disability Champions, Space, Turning Heads, Mencap, Torbay Assembly (older people), Imagine This partnership (children, young people, families), Unleashed Theatre, Shekinah (recovery and homelessness).

This combined methodology worked well with a good geographical spread and representative response in terms of age ranges (except under 12s who were not targeted with this engagement).

Notably we had over-representation in the responses from the black and minority ethnic (BME) community (4.7% of respondents described themselves as not White British

compared to the 3.8% overall population figure) and the disabled community (26% of respondents considered themselves to have a disability compared to the overall 23.6% of population figure).

From this engagement we also had 769 people who indicated they wanted to be actively involved in the Plan for Neighbourhoods as it progresses. Alongside the engagement a call for proposals was also made leading to 63 applications, 90% of which came from the community. The next stage of our process was 3 interactive workshops gathering 54 representatives from community, voluntary sector, business, and statutory sector. and stakeholders to look at the public priorities and the proposals received to identify a long list of initiatives to be prioritised for investment. This was supplemented by one-to-one meetings with those unable to attend. The outcomes from this were communicated to the Torquay Place Leadership Board.

Moving forward our methodology will be to continue to use VCFSE networks and have on-going communication and engagement, including creative engagement activities in and around the Pride in Place investment sites, and co-production with target groups for funded services. This activity is also to be supplemented with a team of volunteer community researchers based in a VCFSE organisation.

Examples of Inclusion:

“We made sure to reach out to groups who don’t always have a voice—people with disabilities, refugees, young people, and those in recovery.”

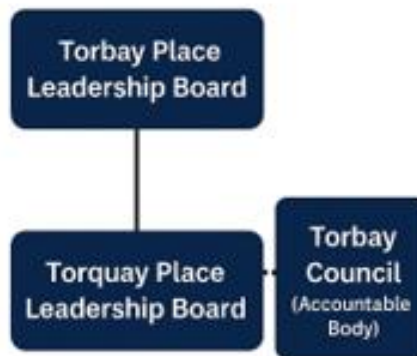
“Everyone should feel part of Torquay’s future, not just those who usually get asked.”

Future Engagement

Having engaged well with communities, the board has stressed the importance of keeping up communication. This will be spearheaded as part of a long commission of a trusted community group to hold sector to sector conversations. It will continue to be supported by expertise from Torbay Council’s communications and engagement team. There will be 12-month communication and engagement plans to come before the board for annual review. Co-producing workshops will continue, along with attending community events rather than simply being in ‘broadcast mode’. One of the gaps identified are around young people, and the board wishes to explore commissioning Sound Communities to create and develop podcasts and social media around Torquay, their values, and the ambition for change.

Section 8: Governance

Government ask: Outline of roles, responsibilities, governance structure, transparency, Nolan Principles, and investment appraisal.



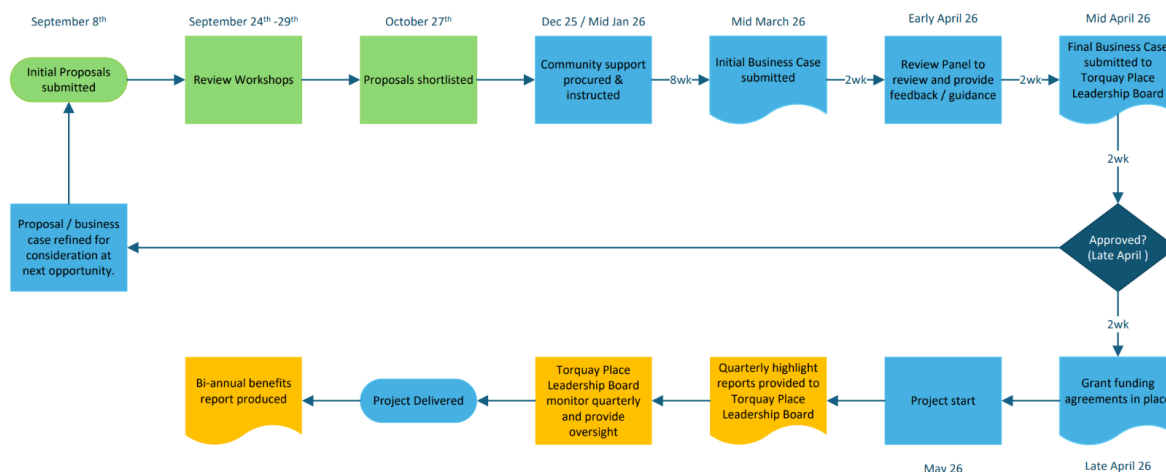
Governance Arrangements:

- The Torquay Place Leadership Board acts as a partnership neighbourhood board, working with Torbay Council as the accountable body.
- Terms of Reference [Torquay Place Leadership Board Terms of Reference and Operation.pdf](#): The Board creates and delivers a bespoke 10-year Regeneration Plan, Investment Plan, and allocates grant funding ratified by the Council's Chief Finance Officer.
- Operation: Quarterly meetings, independent Chair, published agendas and minutes, open papers, conflict of interest declarations, and adherence to Standing Orders.
- Dispensation: Members may speak and remain in meetings but not vote on applications made by themselves or their organisations.
- Nolan Principles and Managing Public Money standards are embedded in all processes.
- Investment appraisal uses a matrix agreed at Board meetings, scoring projects for impact, deliverability, and alignment with priorities.

Section 9: Assurance

Government ask: High-level description of how the programme will be delivered in line with Best Value and Managing Public Money.

Assurance Delivery Framework Committee draft process.



Assurance Processes:

- Monitoring of delivery reviewed at fortnightly meetings between Torbay Communities and the Place Manager.
- Comprehensive reporting, stakeholder consultation summaries, and presentation of findings to the sector and stakeholders.
- Adherence to MHCLG guidance, Standing Orders, and the Subsidy Control Act 2022.
- Programme assurance follows precedent from legacy growth funds, with lines of defence including Board oversight, accountable body checks, external audit and external evaluation.
- Public reporting of expenditure: quarterly high level financial report presented to the Board and shared as part of public papers.

2025 Pride in Place timeline for the Torquay Place Leadership Board

Action	Date
Torquay Place Leadership Board meeting. Agreement to timeline and initial capacity spend to meet timeline and objectives.	23 June 2025
Dedicated procurement officer established. Procurement, conflict of interest and approval processes agreed.	3 July 2025
Indicative capacity spends, likely engagement and procurement routes outlined to MHCLG.	4 July 2025
Torbay Champions event. Outlining Plan for Neighbourhoods opportunities.	18 July 2025
Facilitated Torquay Place Leadership Board workshop for the Board to further explore engagement, data and prioritisation. Light touch draft business case template, scoring matrix and business case support to be discussed. Outcomes to be incorporated into the engagement plan.	28 July 2025
Initial community to community engagement. Explanation of the aims and objectives, community sector organisations to proactively co-ordinate and hold community conversations and events to inform the vision and draw out initial interventions across series of summer events. Premise around taking engagement to communities – plus a transparent open call. Targeted piece of youth engagement work.	29 July to 24 August 2025
Officer analysis of initial business cases against impact matrix. Preparation of documents for Board.	25 to 28 August 2025
Torquay Place Leadership Board. First review of initial business cases. Actions to be agreed to help support and develop emerging interventions.	8 September 2025
Engagement update and public communications. Work begins with communities and groups on to bring business cases together.	9 September 2025

Preparation of final draft business case for the Board.	13 October 2025
Extraordinary Torquay Place Leadership Board – examination of final draft proposals.	27 October 2025
Work on any revisions to the final draft document.	4 to 11 November 2025
Updated communications around final plan and submission to MHCLG.	12 November 2025
Torquay Place Leadership Board to approve scoring criteria for intervention funding and 2026 timetable for processing applications.	15 December 2025

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**Between****The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government****-and-****Torbay Council****-and-****Torquay Neighbourhood Board****1. Purpose**

- 1.1. This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) sets out the terms that will apply to the relationship between the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government (the Secretary of State), Torbay Council (the local authority) and the Torquay Neighbourhood Board regarding the administration and delivery of the Pride in Place Programme (the programme).
- 1.2. This MoU relates to the allocation set out in the [Programme Prospectus](#).
- 1.3. This MoU will be for the first investment period of the programme which spans the period 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2030. Changes will be made only where signatories deem it necessary.
- 1.4. The MoU sets out the conditions and expectations for the Programme.
- 1.5. The Secretary of State and the local authority shall be parties in this agreement.
- 1.6. This MoU is not intended to create legal or binding obligations. It describes the understanding between both parties for the use of funding specified in section 3 of this agreement.
- 1.7. The Neighbourhood Board for Torquay is not a formal party to this agreement, but a signatory in acknowledgement of the Neighbourhood Board's role and responsibilities in programme delivery within their place, as set out in the programme guidance.

2. Background

- 2.1. The Pride in Place Programme was launched on 25 September 2025. The Secretary of State has agreed the Neighbourhood Board's Pride in Place Plan for Torquay.
- 2.2. This MoU covers the funding commitments from the Secretary of State and the delivery, financial expenditure, agreed milestones, reporting and evaluation,

communications and branding expectations between the Parties as well as the steps the Secretary of State could take in the event of underperformance, if required.

2.3. The Secretary of State has published guidance on the delivery of the programme in the [Pride in Place Programme prospectus and guidance](#). The Secretary of State will notify the local authority of any changes to the prospectus and, if necessary, provide guidance on how changes are to be managed.

3. Purpose of the Funding

3.1. The funding from the programme is being provided to deliver activity in line with the prospectus and the priorities for investment agreed by the Neighbourhood Board, based on community engagement activity carried out throughout the programme lifetime.

3.2. The allocation to the local authority is set out in the [Pride in Place Programme prospectus and guidance](#). The local authority will receive annual grant payments as set out in this allocation, subject to the conditions in sections 5 and 6.

3.3. Any changes to the allocation will be notified to the local authority as soon as practicable. Funding will not be withdrawn unreasonably.

3.4. Funding must be spent in line with the rules set out in the [Pride in Place Programme prospectus and guidance](#).

3.5. Funding should be managed through a partnership between the Neighbourhood Board and the local authority, as set out in the [Pride in Place Programme prospectus and guidance](#).

3.6. The local authority is expected to agree a way of working with the Neighbourhood Board which:

- recognises and upholds the Neighbourhood Board's role as decision-maker in relation to how programme funding is used to deliver the strategic aims of the programme in the local area;
- enables development and embedding of appropriate processes and controls for the funding allocation; and
- ensures that residents, businesses, and grassroots organisations are actively involved in programme design and decision-making throughout the lifetime of the programme.

3.7. Funding should be used to deliver in line with the Pride in Place Plan for Torquay which has been agreed with MHCLG. The partnership can make changes to the plan agreed by the Secretary of State. The scale, type and process for making changes is set out in published guidance and at section 10 of this agreement.

4. Reporting

- 4.1. As part of the delegated delivery model, the local authority will provide formal reporting on the use of Pride in Place Programme funding as set out in the [Pride in Place Programme prospectus and guidance](#).

5. Financial Arrangements

- 5.1. The agreed funds will be issued to the local authority as grant payments under Section 50 of the United Kingdom Internal Markets Act 2020 ('UKIM').
- 5.2. Details of the annual funding allocation, broken down into capital and revenue funding, will be confirmed in annual grant determinations.
- 5.3. The grant payment and grant determination letters (GDL) for 2026-27 will be made after this MoU is signed.
- 5.4. The 2027-28, 2028-29 and 2029-30 grant payments will be paid in Quarter 1 (April-June) of each year. Release of payments is dependent on submission of satisfactory Statement of Grant Usage and monitoring reports in the preceding year as set out in [Pride in Place Programme prospectus and guidance](#) and ongoing compliance with the Pride in Place Programme prospectus and guidance.
- 5.5. Grant determination letters (GDL) for years 2027-28, 2028-29 and 2029-30 will be provided following confirmation of the annual payment for each year.
- 5.6. The grant payment arrangements for financial year 2030-31 and beyond will be set out in a separate memorandum of understanding.
- 5.7. Where the local authority is holding any underspend from the Pride in Place programme capacity funding payments made in 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26, this may be retained and brought forward to be spent in future years in line with the Funding Flexibility rules outlined in the [Pride in Place Programme prospectus and guidance](#). The 2026/27, 2027-28, 2028-29 and 2029-30 grant payments from MHCLG will not be adjusted as a result of any brought forward funding.
- 5.8. Capital grant funding, as set out in grant determinations, may only be used for capital expenditure.
- 5.9. Revenue grant funding may be used for revenue or capital expenditure, in line with the local authority's accounting practices.
- 5.10. If the Secretary of State has concerns around future spending plans, based on the experience of local delivery to date, or wider financial issues or governance affecting delivery, then the Secretary of State may pay in instalments, withhold or recover funding.

5.11. The local authority accepts responsibility for meeting any costs over and above the Secretary of State's contribution, agreed in the annual grant determination. This includes potential cost overruns and the underwriting of any funding contributions expected from third parties.

6. Conditions of Approval

6.1. MHCLG's agreement of the Pride in Place Plan for Torquay is conditional upon the following condition/s being completed:

a) N/A

6.2. In the event that the above conditions are not met by the date set out, the Secretary of State may withhold further annual payments until such time as the conditions are satisfactorily completed.

7. Branding and Communication

7.1. The Secretary of State will provide the local authority with guidance on the Branding and Communication associated with the programme in due course.

7.2. The Parties agree to adhere to the guidance and any updates subsequently released by the Secretary of State or HMG on communications linked to the programme.

7.3. The local authority agrees to publish details of Neighbourhood Board membership, place governance arrangements and key documents regarding delivery of the programme in the local area, as outlined in the [Pride in Place Programme prospectus and guidance](#).

7.4. The local authority agrees to make monitoring returns submitted to the department publicly available as outlined in the [Pride in Place Programme prospectus and guidance](#).

8. Evaluation

8.1 The Secretary of State will publish an evaluation strategy, setting out how the programme will be evaluated, in due course.

8.2 The local authority will support any evaluation of the fund through capturing and providing relevant monitoring data and engaging as appropriate with MHCLG or its contractors.

9. Assurance

- 9.1. The Secretary of State has set out the approach to assurance for the programme in the [Pride in Place Programme prospectus and guidance](#).
- 9.2. Funding will be managed within the finance governance framework adopted by local authorities and the existing local authority accountability and assurance regime, under the oversight of the local authority's Chief Financial Officer [England and Wales: Section 151, Scotland: Section 95, Northern Ireland: Section 54].
- 9.3. The Chief Financial Officer will be required to submit an annual Statement of Grant Usage return to MHCLG. This will provide confirmation that they have undertaken to actively apply all the necessary checks to ensure proper administration of its financial affairs regarding the funding programme, and that the funding has been managed with propriety, regularity and value for money.
- 9.4. The local authority is expected to have the necessary governance and assurance arrangements in place and that all legal and other statutory obligations and consents will be adhered to.
- 9.5. As set out in the [Pride in Place Programme prospectus and guidance](#), the local authority is responsible for applying management controls that:
- mitigate the risk of fraud;
 - ensure funding has been used in accordance with UK subsidy control legislation;
 - ensure that any procurement undertaken by a contracting authority funded by the fund has complied with public procurement rules;
 - ensure compliance with its statutory equality obligations;
 - ensure adequate assessment of environmental impacts arising from programme activities and compliance with environmental duty; and
 - ensure that any personal data obtained in connection with the fund's activities is handled in compliance with data protection legislation.
- 9.6. The local authority will respond directly to questions addressing the local delivery of the fund and cooperate with the Secretary of State in any inquiries regarding the delivery of the fund.

10. Changes to agreed Pride in Place Plan

- 10.1. The local authority will notify the Secretary of State of any changes to the activities, expenditure, management processes and governance arrangements set out in their Pride in Place Plan through routine monitoring returns. The local authority does not need approval from the Secretary of State to make changes to its delivery unless the change constitutes a 'material change' as set out in the [Pride in Place Programme prospectus and guidance](#).

10.2. Requests for material changes can be made to the Secretary of State as and when required during delivery, following the published process.

10. Compliance with the MoU

10.1. The Parties to this MoU are responsible for ensuring that they have the necessary systems and appropriate resources in place within their respective organisations to comply fully with the requirements of this MoU.

11. Changes to the MoU

11.1. The arrangements under this MoU will be kept under review. Amendments to this MoU may only be made upon written agreement between the Parties.

12. Resolution of Disputes

12.1. Any dispute that may arise as to the interpretation or application of this MoU will be settled by consultation between the parties.

Signed on Behalf of the Local Authority (by Chief Executive / Chief Financial Officer):

Name:

Job Title:

Date:

Signed on Behalf of Secretary of State:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kay Withers', written in a cursive style.

Name: Kay Withers

Job Title: Director, Communities, Cohesion and Inclusive Growth

Date: 31 March 2026

Signed on Behalf of the Neighbourhood Board in acknowledgement of the Neighbourhood Board role in delivery of the programme:

Name:

Job Title:

Date:

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