

Minutes of the Cabinet

18 February 2021

-: Present :-

Councillor Steve Darling (Chairman)

Councillors Carter, Cowell, Law, Long, Morey and Stockman

(Also in attendance: Councillors Barnby, Brooks, Brown, Bye, Foster, Hill, Kennedy, Barbara Lewis, Chris Lewis, Loxton, Manning, Mills, David Thomas, Jacqueline Thomas and Barrand)

156. Communications

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Steve Darling, advised that this was Caroline Dimond's (Director of Public Health) last Cabinet meeting before her retirement. Councillor Steve Darling and the Cabinet Member for Adult Services and Public Health, Councillor Stockman, paid tribute and thanks to Caroline Dimond for her dedication to the Council and the community through her work and wished her long and happy retirement.

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Councillor Law, highlighted the work the Early Years Advisory Team had been undertaking with the Warberries Care Home in Torquay to enable childminders and early years children to befriend older residents as part of an intergenerational co-located programme. The project had managed to continue using a virtual model during the Covid-19 pandemic. Councillor Law advised that the work had won the 'Inclusive Practice' award at the annual Nursery World awards and congratulated all those involved.

The Cabinet Member for Corporate and Community Services, Councillor Carter, highlighted the consultation currently being undertaken on proposals to extend the Public Space Protection Orders for dog fouling and continuing the orders for restricting drinking alcohol in the streets of town centres. Councillor Carter encouraged people to respond to the consultation which could be found on the Council's website at [Public Space Protection Orders - Torbay Council](#)

The Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration, Tourism and Housing, Councillor Long, advised that the new Strategic Housing Board was due to hold its first meeting on 1 March 2021. The Board would provide a strategic partnership approach to housing, including housing associations and Alistair Allender would be the Board's independent Chairman. Councillor Long also highlighted that he was

due to meet Royal Mail to discuss their concerns in respect of proposals for Crossways.

Councillor Stockman outlined some of the projects and activities to be funded from the Adult Social Care precept for 2021. She advised £693,000 had been allocated and invested across a variety of projects, such as community sector investment, voluntary sector helpline, mental health and sport, details of which would be shared at a later date.

Councillor Steve Darling was pleased to announce the launch of the Community Fund of £1,500 per ward councillor for councillors to work with Community Partnerships to identify and support grass roots projects in their wards for this financial year.

157. Revenue Budget 2021/2022

This item was not required as the Council approved the Revenue Budget at its adjourned meeting held on 11 February 2021.

158. Matters for Consideration

The Cabinet considered the following matters, full details of which (including the Cabinet's decisions and recommendations to Council) are set out in the Record of Decisions appended to these Minutes.

159. Budget Monitoring 2020/21 - Quarter Three

The Cabinet noted the contents of the revised submitted report which provided a high level budget summary of the Council's revenue and capital income and expenditure for 2020/21. Full discussion on the report had taken place at the Overview and Scrutiny Board on 17 February 2021.

160. Community Engagement and Empowerment Strategy

161. Resource Management and Waste Strategy

162. Local Plan Housing Need

163. Torbay Council Annual Pay Policy Statement including Gender Pay Gap Report and Review of Pensions Discretions

164. Director of Public Health Annual Report 2020

The Cabinet noted and endorsed the submitted annual report of the Director of Public Health, which outlined the work undertaken by the Public Health Team during 2020. This year's report focussed on the response to Covid-19 in Torbay and the recommendations contained in the report were due to be considered by the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Record of Decisions

Community Engagement and Empowerment Strategy

Decision Taker

Cabinet on 18 February 2021

Decision

That Cabinet recommends to Council:

- (i) that the Policy Framework be amended to replace the Communication, Engagement and Consultation Strategy with the Community Engagement and Empowerment Strategy;
- (ii) that the Community Engagement and Empowerment Strategy set out at Appendix 3 to the submitted report be approved; and
- (iii) that Head of Policy, Performance and Community Engagement, working as part of the 'Our Communities' project team, takes responsibility for implementing the plans required to deliver this Strategy.

Reason for the Decision

To update the current Community Engagement and Empowerment Strategy which is out of date and to meet the commitment made at the first Community Conference.

Implementation

The recommendations of the Cabinet will be considered at the Council meeting on 25 February 2021.

Information

The Community Engagement and Empowerment Strategy had been developed following feedback from the first Community Conference and to deliver the Council's determination to engage with communities more effectively. The Strategy set out the plan to address some of the key themes emerging from the Conference and clear statements about the Council's offers, commitments and actions, working with the community to build more positive and trusted relationships. It also outlined how the Council intended to meet its mission to be a Council that works in partnership with its residents, communities and partnerships based around six key elements.

The consultation taken on the draft strategy did not require any changes to the draft strategy, but provided a wealth of feedback to inform the implementation plan for the strategy.

Councillor Carter proposed and Councillor Cowell seconded a motion which was agreed unanimously by the Cabinet at set out above.

Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision

Alternative options were set out in the submitted report.

Is this a Key Decision?

Yes – Reference Number: I074345

Does the call-in procedure apply?

No

Declarations of interest (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the Standards Committee)

None

Published

22 February 2021

Signed: _____ Date: 22 February 2021
Leader of Torbay Council on behalf of the Cabinet

Record of Decisions

Resource Management and Waste Strategy

Decision Taker

Cabinet on 18 February 2021

Decision

- (i) that Cabinet recommends to Council that the Resource Management and Waste Strategy be approved; and
- (ii) Cabinet Decision:
 - (a) that the proposed trial of a three weekly collection be paused, whilst efforts are intensified in respect of educating, engaging and communicating with residents regarding recycling is undertaken, along with implementation of other aspects of the Resource Management and Waste Strategy in order to increase recycling rates; and
 - (b) that the covering report be updated in respect of the above prior to its submission to Council.

Reason for the Decision

To ensure the Council has a fit for purpose and up to date strategy for the management of resources and waste to reduce the amount of waste we generate and encourage greater reuse or recycling of materials.

The Cabinet's decision to pause the trial of the three weekly collection will enable intensified efforts of supporting, communicating and engaging with residents alongside other aspects of the strategy, in order to increase recycling rates.

Implementation

The recommendation of the Cabinet in (i) will be considered at the Council meeting on 25 February 2021 and the decision of the Cabinet in (ii) will come into force and may be implemented on 2 March 2021 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in the Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

Information

The Resource and Waste Management Strategy set out the Council's strategy for managing waste and resources to help meet the priorities set out in the Community and Corporate Plan and to enable positive action to be taken to address concerns in respect of climate change. The Strategy had been subject to formal consultation and consideration by the Overview and Scrutiny Board with the final Strategy being revised to taken into account some of the respondent's concerns.

The Cabinet, having considered the Officer's professional recommendation in respect of the benefits of a three weekly bin collection, determined that before any further consideration was

given to the trial of the same, there needed to be intensified efforts of supporting, communicating and engaging with residents alongside other aspects of the strategy, in order to increase recycling rates. As such, the Cabinet's decision above formally pauses the proposed trial of the three weekly bin collection.

Councillor Morey proposed and Councillor Steve Darling seconded a motion which was agreed unanimously by the Cabinet as set out above.

Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision

None

Is this a Key Decision?

Yes – Reference Number: I074476

Does the call-in procedure apply?

Yes

Declarations of interest (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the Standards Committee)

None

Published

22 February 2021

Signed: _____
Leader of Torbay Council on behalf of the Cabinet

Date: 22 February 2021

Record of Decisions

Local Plan Housing Need

Decision Taker

Cabinet on 18 February 2021

Decision

- (i) that the Cabinet recognises, that the standard methodology is the Government's expected approach to calculate housing need;
- (ii) that a call for evidence for any appropriate alternative methods of calculating housing need in Torbay be run in parallel to assessment work and consultation on housing land capacity; and
- (iii) that a Local Development Scheme be updated and published by the Assistant Director of Planning, Housing and Climate Emergency (in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture), to reflect the anticipated programme for updating the Local Plan following this decision.

Reason for the Decision

To agree a way forward for setting the Local Housing Need for Torbay.

Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 2 March 2021 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in the Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

Information

The submitted report provided an update in respect of the Government Policy to significantly boost national housing supply and the need for the Council to decide on the level of Local Housing Need that should be planned for in the updated Torbay Local Plan. The report also set out the available options to progress this. It was noted that the Local Plan required this figure as a basis to work from and that need was not the same as capacity.

Councillor Morey proposed and Councillor Long seconded a motion which was agreed unanimously by the Cabinet as set out above.

Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision

Alternative options were set out in the submitted report.

Is this a Key Decision?

No

Does the call-in procedure apply?

Yes

Declarations of interest (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the Standards Committee)

None

Published

22 February 2021

Signed: _____
Leader of Torbay Council on behalf of the Cabinet

Date: 22 February 2021

Record of Decisions

Torbay Council Annual Pay Policy Statement including Gender Pay

Decision Taker

Cabinet on 18 February 2021

Decision

That Council be recommended to approve:

- (i) the Torbay Council Annual Pay Policy Statement 2021/22 as set out in revised Appendix 1 to the submitted report be approved for publication;
- (ii) the Torbay Council Gender Pay Gap Report, contained within the Annual Pay Policy Statement 2021/22 in Appendix 1 to the submitted report be approved for publication; and
- (iii) the Employers Pensions Discretions set out in Appendix 2 to the submitted report be approved for publication.

Reason for the Decision

To meet the statutory requirements to review these reports and policies.

Implementation

The recommendations of the Cabinet will be considered at the Council meeting on 25 February 2021.

Information

The submitted report set out the Council's Annual Pay Policy Statement, as required under Section 38 (1) of the Localism Act 2011. It was noted that the pay policy statement drew together the Council's overarching policies on pay and conditions and would be published on the Council's Website. The report also set out the annual review of pensions discretions as required by the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations. In addition, the report set out details of the Council's gender pay gap data as required by the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties and Public Authorities) Regulations 2017.

At the Cabinet meeting on 18 February 2021, the Interim Chief Executive advised that the Annual Pay Policy Statement 2021-22 made reference to the Public Sector Exit Payment Regulations which came into force on 4 November 2020. Since the report was published, the Government's Treasury Department had issued a direction on 12 February 2021 to dis-apply, with immediate effect, Public Sector Exit Payment Regulations and it was noted the report to Council would be revised to reflect this.

Councillor Carter proposed and Councillor Cowell seconded a motion which was agreed unanimously by the Cabinet at set out above.

Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision

None

Is this a Key Decision?

Yes – Reference Number: I078885

Does the call-in procedure apply?

No

Declarations of interest (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the Standards Committee)

None

Published

22 February 2021

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Leader of Torbay Council on behalf of the Cabinet