

Wednesday, 18 February 2026

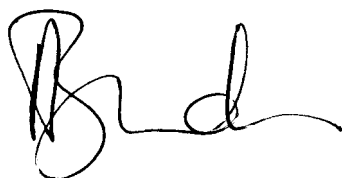
Meeting of the Council

Dear Member

I am pleased to invite you to attend a meeting of Torbay Council which will be held in **The Burdett Room, Riviera International Conference Centre, Chestnut Avenue, Torquay, TQ2 5LZ** on **Thursday, 26 February 2026** commencing at **5.30 pm**

The items to be discussed at this meeting are attached.

Yours sincerely,



Anne-Marie Bond
Chief Executive

(All members are summoned to attend the meeting of the Council in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1972 and Standing Orders A5.)

A Healthy, Happy and Prosperous Torbay

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June Gurry, Town Hall, Castle Circus, Torquay, TQ1 3DR

Email: governance.support@torbay.gov.uk - www.torbay.gov.uk

Meeting of the Council Agenda

1. **Opening of meeting**
2. **Apologies for absence**
3. **Minutes** (Pages 5 - 10)
To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 11 December 2026.
4. **Declarations of interests**
 - (a) To receive declarations of non pecuniary interests in respect of items on this agenda
For reference: Having declared their non pecuniary interest members may remain in the meeting and speak and, vote on the matter in question. A completed disclosure of interests form should be returned to the Clerk before the conclusion of the meeting.
 - (b) To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of items on this agenda
For reference: Where a Member has a disclosable pecuniary interest he/she must leave the meeting during consideration of the item. However, the Member may remain in the meeting to make representations, answer questions or give evidence if the public have a right to do so, but having done so the Member must then immediately leave the meeting, may not vote and must not improperly seek to influence the outcome of the matter. A completed disclosure of interests form should be returned to the Clerk before the conclusion of the meeting.

(**Please Note:** If Members and Officers wish to seek advice on any potential interests they may have, they should contact Governance Support or Legal Services prior to the meeting.)
5. **Communications**
To receive any communications or announcements from the Civic Mayor, the Leader of the Council, the Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinator or the Chief Executive.
6. **Petitions** (Pages 11 - 12)
To receive petitions and any oral representations from the public in accordance with Standing Order A23.
7. **Members' questions** (Pages 13 - 20)
To respond to the submitted questions asked under Standing Order A12.

8. **Revenue and Capital Budget 2026/2027** (Pages 21 - 216)
To consider the recommendations of the Cabinet on the Revenue and Capital Budget 2026/2027.
9. **Council Tax 2026/2027** (Pages 217 - 222)
To consider a report on the setting of the Council Tax for 2026/2027.
10. **Torbay Council Annual Pay Policy Statement and Review of Pensions Discretions** (Pages 223 - 252)
To consider the recommendations of the Cabinet on the Torbay Council Annual Pay Policy Statement and Review of Pensions Discretions.
11. **Civic Mayor Elect 2026/2027**
In accordance with the Council's Standing Orders (A9.1) to select, the Civic Mayor-Elect for the 2026/2027 Municipal Year.
12. **Deputy Civic Mayor Elect 2026/2027**
In accordance with the Council's Standing Orders (A9.1) to select, the Deputy Civic Mayor-Elect for the 2026/2027 Municipal Year.

Live Streaming

To encourage more people to engage in our public meetings the Council is live streaming our Council meetings on our YouTube channel in addition to recording the meetings and publishing the recording on our website. To watch the meeting live please visit <https://www.youtube.com/user/torbaycouncil>.

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Minutes of the Council (Council decisions shown in bold text)

11 December 2025

-: Present :-

The Worshipful The Mayor of Torbay (Councillor Barbara Lewis) (In the Chair)
Deputy Civic Mayor of Torbay (Councillor Foster)

Councillors Amil, Atiya-Alla, Billings, Brook, Bryant, Bye, Carter, Cowell, George Darling, Mandy Darling, Steve Darling, Douglas-Dunbar, Fellows, Fox, Johns, Chris Lewis, Long, Penny, Pentney, Spacagna, Stevens, Strang, David Thomas, Jacqueline Thomas, Tranter, Twelves, Tyerman and Virdee

43 Opening of meeting

The meeting was opened with a prayer.

44 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Harvey, Hutchings, Law, Maddison, Nicolaou and Tolchard.

The Chief Executive advised that Councillor Virdee was due to arrive later in the meeting.

(Note: Councillor Virdee arrived during consideration of Minute 48.)

45 Minutes

The Worshipful The Mayor of Torbay proposed and Councillor Foster seconded a motion, which was agreed (unanimously) by the Council as set out below:

that the Minutes of the Extraordinary meeting of the Council, held on 20 November 2025, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by The Worshipful The Mayor of Torbay.

46 Declarations of interests

No interests were declared.

47 Communications

The Worshipful The Mayor of Torbay and the Chief Executive presented long service certificates to both Councillors and officers. The following Councillors and officers received certificates in recognition of their dedication to public service in Torbay:

Councillor Darren Cowell
Councillor Amanda Darling
Councillor Tyerman
Councillor Barbara Lewis (presented by the Chief Executive, Anne-Marie Bond)

Officers:
Barbara Ashplant
Joanne Beer
Lisa Russell

The Worshipful The Mayor of Torbay announced that Torquay in Bloom had been awarded the Gold National Britain in Bloom Award and presented the award to Tim Eley (Torquay in Bloom Partnership) and Mark Hackett and Laura Gough (SWISCo) at the meeting.

The Worshipful the Mayor of Torbay further announced that the Civic Carol Service was due to be held on Sunday 14 December 2025 at 3.30 pm, at St Pauls Church, Preston, and all Members, along with family and friends, were invited to attend.

The Leader of the Council provided an update on the following developments for Torbay, which strengthened our visitor offer and boosted the local economy:

- a) Libéma would be managing Paignton Zoo and its sister site in Newquay from January 2026, bringing commercial expertise in conservation-led attractions and high-quality visitor experiences. The transition was expected to secure the long-term future of the Zoos, protect jobs, and strengthen the local economy. The Leader of the Council extended thanks to the Zoo's staff and the Wild Planet Trust for their continued dedication during the transition; and
- b) the Bay of Lights continued to grow, with the addition of an ice-skating rink, to enhance Torbay's winter offer. Residents and visitors were encouraged to book sessions early as some were close to selling out.

48 Members' questions

Members received a paper detailing questions, notice of which had been given in accordance with Standing Order A12. The paper also contained the answers to the questions which had been prepared by Councillors Billings, Brook, Bye, Chris Lewis, Strang, David Thomas, Jaqueline Thomas, Tranter and Tyerman was circulated prior to the meeting.

The Worshipful The Mayor of Torbay advised that she had accepted an urgent question from Councillor Steve Darling and in accordance with Standing Order A12.2(ii).

Supplementary questions were put and answered by Councillors Billings, Bye, Chris Lewis, Strang, Tranter and Tyerman arising from their responses to the questions in respect of the urgent question and questions 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 13, 16, 17 and 18.

After 30 minutes, the Worshipful the Mayor of Torbay advised that, in accordance with Standing Order A12.7, the remaining questions (questions 21 and 22) were deemed as withdrawn.

(Note: Councillor Virdee arrived at the meeting during this item.)

49 Review of Council Tax Support Scheme 2026/27

The Council considered the recommendations of the Cabinet and the submitted report, on an overview of the current local Council Tax Support Scheme and recommendations for a proposed change to the Scheme to be introduced for 2026/27, and in accordance with statutory requirements. Members noted that the Council Tax Support Scheme provided a discount on Council Tax for those households that were on a low income, to assist them in paying their Council Tax.

Councillor Tyerman proposed and Councillor David Thomas seconded a motion, which as agreed by the Council as set out below:

that the Council Tax Support Scheme for 2026/27 be amended as follows:

- 1. the financial support to some of our working age households within our community is increased by aligning the income bands that allocate Council Tax Support discounts for single parents with couples that have children. By making this change it will help to alleviate the cumulative effects of welfare cuts and rising household costs; and**
- 2. income bands will be increased by the September 2025 Consumer Price Index inflation rate, at 3.8%.**

50 Council Tax Base 2026-2027

Members considered the submitted report which set out the Council tax base for Council Tax purposes for 2026/2027.

Councillor Tyerman proposed and Councillor Cowell seconded a motion, which as agreed (unanimously) by the Council as set out below:

- 1. that, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax base) (England) Regulations 2012, the amount calculated by**

Torbay Council as its Council Tax base for the year 2026/27 is 49,488.48 as set out in Appendix 1 to the submitted report; and

- 2. that, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax base) (England) Regulations 2012, the amount calculated by Torbay Council as the Council Tax base for Brixham Town Council for the year 2026/27 is 6,622.66 as set out in Appendix 2 to the submitted report.**

51 Budget Monitoring - Revenue and Capital Outturn 2025/26 Quarter 2

The Council received the Cabinet's recommendations and the submitted report on the high-level budget summary of the Council's revenue and capital income and expenditure for quarter 2 (up to 30 September 2025) of the 2025/2026 financial year. The projected overspend of £1.223 million was noted.

The submitted report also included recommendations for revisions to the Council's Capital Investment Plan, with a total revised capital budget of £101.756 million for the period up to 2027/28 and a revised budget for £79.730 million for 2025/26.

Councillor Tyerman proposed and Councillor David Thomas seconded a motion, which was agreed (unanimously) by the Council as set out below:

that the revisions to the Capital Investment Plan, as set out in Appendix 1 to the submitted report, be approved.

52 Corporate Parenting Strategy 2026-2028

The Council considered the recommendation of the Cabinet and the submitted report on the adoption of the revised Corporate Parenting Strategy 2026-2028 which formed part of the Council's Policy Framework. Members noted the revised Strategy built on previous versions and represented the Council's unrelenting intention to fulfil its role to the highest standard thereby ensuring that our children and young people received the best possible support.

Councillor Bye proposed and Councillor Long seconded a motion, which was agreed (unanimously) by the Council as set out below:

that the Corporate Parenting Strategy 2026-2028 set out at Appendix 1 to the submitted report be approved.

53 Licensing Act 2003 - Proposed Licensing Statement of Principles (Licensing Policy) 2026 - 2031

The Council considered the recommendations of the Cabinet and the submitted report on a review of the Licensing Statement of Principles 2026 to 2031, which outlined how the Council would administer applications and regulate licensable activities. It also specified under what circumstances applications may be successful and the measures necessary to promote the licensing objectives.

Councillor Tranter proposed and Councillor Bye seconded a motion, which was agreed (unanimously) by the Council as set out below:

that the Licensing Act Statement of Principles (Licensing Policy) 2026 to 2031, as set out in Appendix 2 to the submitted report be adopted with effect from 7 January 2026.

54 Streetlighting Central Management System and Light Emitting Diode (LED) Upgrade Project

The Council considered the Cabinet's recommendations and the submitted report on funding for solutions to improve streetlighting to reduce their energy consumption and make financial savings.

Councillor Billings proposed and Councillor Chris Lewis seconded a motion, which was agreed (unanimously) by the Council as set out below:

that prudential borrowing for the sum of £2,154,162 over a 10 year period based on a 4.65% interest rate be approved, for the purchase and hosted service of Telensa Computer Management System, and the purchase and upgrade of 3,431 new LED lanterns to upgrade Streetlighting in Torbay.

(Note: the submitted report set out a revised officer recommendation (published after the Cabinet meeting on 18 November 2025) which clarified the borrowing arrangements.)

55 Torbay Waste Transfer Station and Household Waste Recycling Centre - Paignton

The Council considered the recommendation of the Cabinet and the submitted report on funding for capital investment for the expansion of Torbay Waste Transfer Station and Household Waste Recycling Centre, Paignton, to ensure the facilities were compliant and met central government directives.

A Liberal Democrat amendment was published prior to the meeting which was incorporated by Councillor Billings in his motion below.

Councillor Billings proposed and Councillor Fox seconded a motion, which was agreed (unanimously) by the Council as set out below:

- 1. that Council delegate to the Chief Finance Officer the approval of the expenditure of monies (including by prudential borrowing if necessary) required to cover the acquisition of the land to enable the development of Waste Facilities for Torbay Council and associated statutory and non-statutory waste and recycling operations Street identified red on the plan attached at Appendix 1 to the submitted report, and any land, interests or rights as may**

be required for the scheme, either by agreement or by CPO, on the basis that there continues to be a clear business case for the development of waste facilities, which demonstrates how the monies are to be used, and how any prudential borrowing (if necessary) is to be repaid; and

2. that Council recommends to Cabinet that the Director of Pride in Place be requested to open up conversations with Devon County Council to explore the possibilities to enable Torbay Council residents to access the Brunel Road Recycling Centre, Brunel Road, Newton Abbot, to encourage greater recycling and responsible waste disposal, and reduce fly tipping in Torbay and the surrounding area.

56 2025/26 Treasury Management Mid-Year Review

The Council noted the review of Treasury Management activities during the first part of 2025/2026, as set out in the submitted report.

The Worshipful The Mayor of Torbay

Petition - Roundham Road Speed Limit

30 e-petition signatures

We, the undersigned, being residents of Roundham, Paignton, TQ4, hereby petition and request Torbay Council to reduce the speed limit on Roundham Road and its environs from 30mph to 20mph, also for the Council to provide, at the very least, double yellow, or preferably, double red lines, at the eastern junction with Alta Vista Road, based on the grounds listed below. Whilst we believe that there is a compelling case for applying this request for 20 mph for the whole of the Roundham area, this petition relates mainly to the upper part of Roundham Road between the junction with Alta Vista Road at the eastern end and that with Youngs Park Road to the west.

Grounds for Petition:

1. There is no pedestrian pavement on the section of the north side of Roundham Road, from the junction of Alta Vista Road, up to the junction of Belle Vue Road, which, with a continuous line of parked cars on the south side, negates the possibility of two-way traffic at several points along this part of the thoroughfare. As a consequence, traffic turning into the road from its junction with Alta Vista Road is required to wait until oncoming vehicles travelling east are able to exit on to the lower part of Roundham Road and where, as a result, there is then a build-up of traffic from all directions at this busy junction.
2. Many of the residents in this area are elderly and / or infirm, as a result of which, those that fall into either category are slow to negotiate crossing the road, where, particularly at the aforementioned eastern junction with Alta Vista Road, the absence of a pavement adjacent the former Cleve Court Hotel extends around the corner into Cleveland Road, thus compromising the safety of those pedestrians.
3. Vehicles are regularly parked inconsiderately on and near the southern corner of the above referenced junction, thereby impairing sight lines, but in particular, preventing wheelchair users from accessing the dropped pavement provided, all in contravention of the instructions laid down in Rule 243 of the Highway Code. Hence, we believe that there is a strong case for the Council to provide, at the very least, double yellow, or preferably, double red lines at this point.
4. A good many of the longstanding and aged properties on both sides of the subject section of Roundham Road are situated behind high boundary walls or hedges, which, together with parked vehicles, have created 'blind' exits across pavements and entry on to the thoroughfare. However, despite exercising extreme caution when leaving their properties by car, residents then regularly find themselves immediately being 'tailgated' by motorists who, albeit may be proceeding within the existing legal speed limit of 30mph, then often express their frustration by excessive and disproportionate use of their car horn.

5. In addition to the aforementioned difficulties, the situation is made worse by selfish vehicle owners parking on the albeit only advisory, Access Protection Markings (APMs) / 'H bar' white lines adjacent each exit / entrance. We submit that there is a strong case for these lines to be upgraded from 'request / advisory' to 'mandatory', by the application of double yellow lines at each location.
6. Grounds 3, 4 and 5 above are particularly relevant when applied to the users of mobility scooters, of which there are a goodly number residing in the subject area.
7. Traffic exiting Belle Vue Road into Roundham Road is presented with potential difficulties from both directions insofar that (a) the sight line to the west is severely restricted due to a sharp bend immediately beyond a high hedge atop a brick wall and (b), vehicles travelling in a westerly direction have no option but to straddle the dotted white line in the middle of the road whilst overtaking the continuous line of parked cars on the south side. It is significant that the Council have recognised the potential dangers at this location, by placing what now appears to have become a permanent 'SLOW' sign on the western approach to the junction.
8. On the brow of the hill, fallen leaves from the plethora of large trees overhanging the road (and pavement) create another potential seasonal hazard during the Autumn / Winter months, where braking vehicles have been known to slide. A reduction of the speed limit to 20mph will mitigate the potential dangers arising from such an occurrence.
9. Vehicles exiting both Braeside Road and St Andrew's Road are also faced with reduced sight lines due to high walls, and further, drivers emerging from Youngs Park Road have to deal with an extremely difficult acute angle, 'over the shoulder' rear assessment of approaching traffic, before proceeding on to Roundham Road.
10. The recent closure of Sands Road due to the unforeseen occurrence of a large sinkhole and the prolongation of works that ensued as a consequence of the unknown extent of the ensuing void, resulted in traffic being diverted via, and hence a substantial increase in the volume of traffic along, Roundham Road, thus negatively impacting the lives of local residents. We understand that more utilities works are now scheduled to take place from 24th October through to 23rd December, involving (in three phases?), the closure of the remainder of Sands Road, plus Whitstone Road through to Dartmouth Road, all of which will cause further disruption in the subject area, hence we request that the measures requested herein are implemented as a matter of applied 'urgency'.

Meeting of the Council, Thursday, 26 February 2026

Members' Questions Under Standing Order A12

A member may only submit three questions for consideration at each Council Meeting. Each member will present their first question in turn, when all the first questions have been dealt with the second and third questions may be asked in turn. The time for member's questions will be limited to a total of 30 minutes.

First Round

Question 1

Councillor Carter to the Cabinet Member for Pride in Place, Transport and Parking (Councillor Billings)

In late January there was flooding on Dartmouth Road, caused by debris partially blocking the outfall screen and Goodrington Beach. Can the Cabinet Member for Pride in Place, Transport and Parking please explain why the appropriate maintenance to keep this free of debris had not occurred?

Question 2

Councillor Steve Darling to the Cabinet Member for Adult and Community Services, Public Health and Inequalities (Councillor Tranter)

I understand that ambulances that were formerly based in Paignton have now been relocated to Torquay. Following this relocation there is a need for a new Community Ambulance Point. Can I be advised as to how the council are working with South West Ambulance Service Trust to identify the new Community Ambulance Point?

Question 3

Councillor Virdee to the Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinator (Councillor Long)

It is pleasing that the Memorial Bench Policy will be reviewed at the April Overview and Scrutiny Meeting. Could the Overview and Scrutiny Chair advise whether, in his opinion, this policy should have come before Overview and Scrutiny before it was implemented?

Question 4

Councillor Harvey to the Cabinet Member for Pride in Place, Transport and Parking (Councillor Billings)

Following damage caused by a recent vehicle collision, the Council has removed and is refusing to repair damage to one of the Chilcote Memorial Street lamps. The lamp is Grade 2 Listed as part of the 'Chilcote Memorial Including 3 Street Lamps' and is central to St Marychurch's heritage. Will the Cabinet Member for Pride in Place, Transport and Parking reconsider and commit to repairing this Grade 2 Listed Monument.

Question 5

Councillor George Darling to the Cabinet Member for Pride in Place, Transport and Parking (Councillor Billings)

The St Marychurch and District Community Partnership were recently informed that the Council does not have access rights to Haytor Park from Westhill Road. This has led to problems with public access, maintenance, and concerns about the future of the park. Can the Cabinet Member for Pride in Place, Transport and Parking advise what action the Council and SWISCo will take to secure and improve access to Haytor Park?

Question 6

Councillor Long to the Cabinet Member for Place Development and Economic Growth (Councillor Chris Lewis)

Can the Cabinet Member for Place Development and Economic Growth provide an update on the proposed solar farm at Nightingale Park in Torquay?

Question 7

Councillor Fox to the Cabinet Member for Place Development and Economic Growth (Councillor Chris Lewis)

Can the Cabinet Member for Place Development and Economic Growth provide an update on the regeneration scheme proposed for Torre Marine?

Question 8

Councillor Douglas-Dunbar to the Cabinet Member for Place Development and Economic Growth (Councillor Chris Lewis)

Sites in Torbay fall under the designations of "special sites of scientific interest" and "special areas of conservation." Could the Cabinet Member for Place Development and Economic Growth confirm what these designations mean in the management of the sites which fall under them, and how are SWISCo and other partner agencies equipped to fulfil the requirements of these designations?

Question 9

Councillor Johns to the Cabinet Member for Tourism, Events & Culture and Corporate Services (Councillor Jackie Thomas)

The MyBay Discount card has staffing and administrative costs of £39,350 and advertising costs of £12,100. 2,200 residents paid to have a card (with 704 given free to carers). Can the Cabinet Member for Tourism, Events & Culture and Corporate Services advise what the measurable outputs of this scheme are?

Question 10

Councillor Law to the Cabinet Member for Housing and Finance (Councillor Tyerman)

Can the Cabinet Member for Housing and Finance please advise how many people have inherited properties which are having the additional Council Tax premium applied to them as a result of the inheritors not being able to sell them?

Question 11

Councillor Pentney to the Cabinet Member for Tourism, Events & Culture and Corporate Services (Councillor Jackie Thomas)

There have been reports of Royal Mail returning postal votes undelivered due to addresses being printed incorrectly in the recent Brixham Town Council by-election. Are these reports correct?

Second Round

Question 12

Councillor Steve Darling to the Cabinet Member for Adult and Community Services, Public Health and Inequalities (Councillor Tranter)

People living with dementia and their families in Devon are facing increasing pressure, with only three Dementia Support Workers now covering the county and many people receiving only very limited support following diagnosis. We have also been told that Devon's dementia strategy was not formally ratified by the Integrated Care Board, leaving no clear timetable for a dedicated dementia plan, and risking decisions being dominated by a small, clinician-led, Cornwall-centric approach with little community or democratic input.

Can the Cabinet Member for Adult and Community Services, Public Health and Inequalities explain what action the Council is taking to secure a properly resourced, Devon-focused dementia strategy, ensure meaningful involvement of communities and elected members, and improve support for people with dementia and their families in the short and long term?

Question 13

Councillor Virdee to the Cabinet Member for Pride in Place, Transport and Parking (Councillor Billings)

Last year, the public bin next to the Lady Mount Temple Statue on Babbacombe Downs was removed following a vehicle collision. The railings and signage were replaced yet the bin was not; can the Cabinet Member for Pride in Place, Transport and Parking explain why the Council has not committed to replacing this?

Question 14

Councillor Harvey to the Cabinet Member for Pride in Place, Transport and Parking (Councillor Billings)

In December, the Cabinet agreed to list the Reddenhill Road toilet block as a surplus asset for disposal. This runs contrary to the Council's recent draft Play Strategy, which encourages the development of amenities at principal parks; Reddenhill Road Toilets historically served Cary Park, with community aspirations to see them brought back into use now dashed. Will the Council listen to these community aspirations and commit to exploring alternative options for toilet services at Cary Park, in line with its Play Strategy?

Question 15

Councillor George Darling to the Cabinet Member for Pride in Place, Transport and Parking (Councillor Billings)

Many residents have contacted colleagues and I about the sudden changes to the 35A and 35C bus routes in St Marychurch. This decision was made without resident or local councillor consultation, with discussion only being arranged in retrospect, and is causing significant difficulties for residents. Can the Cabinet Member for Pride in Place, Transport and Parking tell us why residents and local councillors were not consulted earlier, before the changes, to find a workable solution?

Question 16

Councillor Long to the Cabinet Member for Place Development and Economic Growth (Councillor Chris Lewis)

Can the Cabinet Member for Place Development and Economic Growth Provide an update on progress being made to bring forward homes on the former gas works at Hollicombe?

Question 17

Councillor Carter to the Cabinet Member for Place Development and Economic Growth (Councillor Chris Lewis)

Can the Cabinet Member for Place Development and Economic Growth provide an update on the regeneration proposed for Station Square, and the multi storey car park to ensure there's sufficient car parking in paignton?

Question 18

Councillor Douglas-Dunbar to the Cabinet Member for Pride in Place, Transport and Parking (Councillor Billings)

What are the land management plans that the Council has inherited from Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust, and what assurances can the Council make to ensure these will be fulfilled and/or enhanced going forward?

Question 19

Councillor Johns to the Cabinet Member for Pride in Place, Transport and Parking (Councillor Billings)

Will the Cabinet Member for Pride in Place, Transport and Parking join me in thanking the council officers who are working so well with the community who are striving to provide a replacement for Victoria Skatepark?

Question 20**Councillor Law to the Cabinet Member for Place Development and Economic Growth (Councillor Chris Lewis)**

Why are businesses on Lucius Street in Torquay excluded from receiving grants from the Enterprise Fund?

Third Round

Question 21**Councillor Virdee to the Cabinet Member for Pride in Place, Transport and Parking (Councillor Billings)**

Many residents were left to manage excess household waste over the Christmas and New Years period due to delays in SWISCo's recycling and bin collections. This was attributed to 'icy conditions and excess cardboard,' neither of which are unforeseeable around Christmas. Will the Cabinet Member for Pride in Place, Transport and Parking inform us what review and action SWISCo is undertaking to prevent this happening this year too?

Question 22**Councillor Harvey to the Cabinet Member for Adult and Community Services, Public Health and Inequalities (Councillor Tranter)**

Since the closure of the TSB Bank in St Marychurch, many residents have raised concerns regarding access to local banking services. The original Torbay Community Wealth Building report referenced the possibility of providing a local credit union and supporting the South West Mutual. Can the Cabinet Member for Adult and Community Services, Public Health and Inequalities inform us of what progress the Council has made on this to provide local banking hubs for residents?

Question 23**Councillor George Darling to the Cabinet Member for Pride in Place, Transport and Parking (Councillor Billings)**

Parents have raised concerns regarding the safety of pupils crossing Barewell Road outside of St Margarets School. Several have suggested a zebra crossing outside of the school to tackle this, in line with the Council's stated priority of school safety. Will the Cabinet Member for Pride in Place, Transport and Parking direct Highways to explore this and bring to the next Road Network and Transport Working Party?

Question 24

Councillor Douglas-Dunbar to the Cabinet Member for Pride in Place, Transport and Parking (Councillor Billings)

How will the Council intend to look at its green space and nature strategy to ensure that the Bay's green spaces are accessible to, and delivering for its residents?

Question 25

Councillor Steve Darling to the Cabinet Member for Adult and Community Services, Public Health and Inequalities (Councillor Tranter)

Public data on sexual and reproductive health services show considerable unmet need in Torbay. The most recent available data for Torbay Council shows that:

- In 2022, there were 1,516 conceptions in Torbay – of which 36.5% led to an abortion (compared to a national average of 29.7%)
- The rate of repeat abortions amongst under 25s was 31% in 2023 (compared to national average of 29%)
- 7 per 1,000 women were provided emergency contraception in sexual and reproductive health services in 2024/2025 (compared to a national average of 4 per 1,000) – including 11 per 1,000 13-to-15-year-old girls (the highest in the country)

I would welcome the Cabinet Member for Adult and Community Services, Public Health and Inequalities reassurances on how the Council are tackling these issues.

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Meeting: Cabinet
Council

Date: 17 February 2026
Date: 26 February 2026

Wards affected: All

Report Title: Revenue Budget 2026/2027

When does the decision need to be implemented?

Immediately

Cabinet Member Contact Details: Alan Tyerman, Cabinet Lead for Finance
alan.tyerman@torbay.gov.uk

Director/Divisional Director Contact Details: Malcolm Coe, Director of Finance
malcolm.coe@torbay.gov.uk

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The Council has a statutory responsibility to set a budget each year. By setting and approving the net revenue budget for 2026/27 and the budget allocations proposed, the budget will be used to achieve a range of objectives across several plans within the Council including the ambitions expressed within the Community and Corporate Plan and related strategies.
- 1.2 In accordance with the Council's Constitution, members will consider the Cabinet's recommended budget proposals at the meeting of the Council being held on 26 February 2026 and are asked to either adopt the Cabinet's proposals or put forward a notice of motion to amend the budget (in accordance with Standing Order A13.4).
- 1.3 In setting the budget, the Chief Finance Officer must statutorily provide advice as to the robustness of the budget and this report sets out this opinion.

2. Reason for Proposal and its benefits

- 2.1 The Council has a statutory responsibility to set a revenue budget each year.

3. Recommendation(s) / Proposed Decision

- 3.1 That Council Tax is increased by 4.99% for 2026/27, which includes a 2.99% increase plus a 2% levy for Adult Social care).
- 3.2 That for 2026/27 net revenue expenditure of **£205.3m**, resulting in a Council Tax requirement of **£101.2m** be approved.
- 3.3 That the proposed Fees and Charges for 2026/27 be approved.
- 3.4 That, in accordance with the requirement of the Local Government Act 2003, the advice given by the Chief Finance Officer with respect to the robustness of the budget estimates and the adequacy of the Council's Reserves, (as set out in the Reserves Statement published in November 2025), be noted.
- 3.5 That it be noted that the Brixham Town Council precept for 2026/27 of £656,123 will be included as part of the Torbay Council budget for Council Tax setting purposes.
- 3.6 That the Capital Strategy 2026/27 and Treasury Management Strategy 2026/27 be approved as published for Cabinet on 2 December 2025.
- 3.7 That any technical adjustments to the Revenue and Capital Budget be delegated to the Section 151 in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing and Finance.
- 3.8 That it is agreed that any underspend from the current financial year (2025/2026), will be considered for allocation into priority areas identified by the consultation results on the 2026/2027 budget.

Background Information

- 4.1 The Cabinet published its budget proposals on 2 December 2025 and commenced a period of consultation that ran until 18 January 2026. The proposals are available to all Members of the Council with the supporting information published alongside the proposals:
 - Budget Overview and Proposals for 2026/27
 - Fees and Charges 2026/27
 - Revenue Reserves Policy (Nov 2025 Review and update)
 - Summary of Financial Sustainability Plans
 - Capital Strategy 2026/27
 - Capital Investment Plan 2026/27 and Grant Funding pending list
 - Treasury Management Strategy 2026/27
- 4.2 Feedback has been received from members of the public as well as from the Overview and Scrutiny Board who considered the draft budget proposals in December 2025. The provisional Local Government Finance Settlement was published on 17 December 2025, part way through the consultation period, and the Overview and Scrutiny Board subsequently received an update on the material changes to funding and resource assumptions on 7 January 2026.
- 4.3 Following discussions within Cabinet and the Overview and Scrutiny Board it was felt necessary to increase Council Tax by the full 4.99% (includes 2% Adult Social Care (ASC)

precept) in 2026/27 rather than the 4.75% initially proposed during consultation. This is required in order to maximise any Government protection arrangements and optimise base funding levels for 2027/28 and 2028/29. This would provide an additional £230k of base budget funding in 2026/27.

- 4.4 The final funding settlement was received on 9 February 2026 and stated that Torbay Council would receive £3.5m additional core spending power funding compared with Torbay Council's initial budget proposals, published for consultation in November 2025. This was £2.1m more funding than was indicated through the provisional settlement, mainly due to an increase to Torbay's allocation of the Recovery grant guarantee and the introduction of a new Recovery Uplift Grant. This funding enables the initial budget gap of £0.700m to be closed and leaves additional base budget funding of £2.8m.
- 4.5 Considering recent statements and uncertainty regarding the future of the Integrated Care Organisation, with Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust and given the costs health and social care services are under significant pressure, it is felt that this is the highest priority for any unallocated funds. To mitigate this risk an additional £730k funding will be put into an ASC Transition reserve, which can support specific 'invest to save' projects linked to our ASC transformation programme. The funding would then be added to the base ASC budget in 2027/28. This would enable the Council to continue working proactively with our colleagues in Health to transform the existing care services in order to deliver a more sustainable, long-term model of care.
- 4.6 The final settlement gave a commitment to resolving 90% of local authorities' SEND Dedicated Schools Grant High Needs deficits accrued to the end of 2025-26. All local authorities with a SEND deficit will be eligible to receive this grant funding subject to submitting and securing the Department for Education's approval of a local SEND reform plan. From 2028/29, SEND spending will be covered by the overall government DEL budget, meaning local authorities are not expected to fund future SEND costs from general funds, once the Statutory Override ends at the end of 2027/28. Torbay Council forecast cumulative deficit at the end of 2025/26 is £17.1m. Details are not yet clear as to the 10% contribution required, and as such it is believed to be prudent to create a reserve now of an amount equivalent to 10% of this value i.e. £1.7m, so as to protect the Council from needing to identify this at the time it is required to be paid.
- 4.7 Allocation of the remaining additional funding (£0.4m) is to be transferred into a MTFP transition reserve to support the Council in its preparations for reduced levels of funding in 2027/28 and 2028/29. The financial challenges facing the Council in 2027/28 and 2028/29 are highlighted within our Medium Term Financial Plan below.

MEDIUM TERM RESOURCE PLAN - SUMMARY				
2026/27 - 2028/29				
	Base Increase Projection 26/27 £m	Base Increase Settlement 26/27 £m	Base Increase Projection 27/28 £m	Base Increase Projection 28/29 £m
FUNDING				
Council Tax	-5.050	-5.281	-5.555	-5.876
Funding through Fair Funding Formula allocation	-2.202	-6.901	5.051	5.073
Other income inc specific grants	-1.092	-1.459	-0.251	0.027
Total estimated funding	-8.344	-13.641	-0.755	-0.776
PRESSURES				
Staffing incl pay and superannuation	2.360	2.360	1.813	1.867
General and Contract inflation	4.034	4.034	4.402	4.625
Demand	1.450	1.450	0.000	0.000
Rebase budgets	0.308	4.084	-0.300	0.550
Ringfenced grant exp	0.892	1.713	0.240	0.237
Total estimated spending pressures	9.044	13.641	6.154	7.279
ESTIMATED BUDGET GAP (deficit)	0.700	0.000	5.400	6.503

4.8 The Cabinet has published its revised budget proposals, which take into account changes announced within the final Settlement.. The following revised and updated documents supplement the draft budget papers as published in November 2025:

- Chief Finance Officer's update report to Overview and Scrutiny – 7 January 2026
- Consultation report (including the report of the Overview and Scrutiny Board)
- Cabinet Response to Consultation
- Revised Fees and Charges 2026/27
- Equalities Impact Assessment

4.9 The proposed 2026/27 Revenue Budget is detailed in the table below.

Proposed Budget 2026/27 - Service Summary					
(Indicative proposed budget figures by Service)					
Directorate/Service	Net budget 2025/26 £m	Initial (consultation) Proposed net budget 2026/27 £m	FINAL SETTLEMENT Proposed net budget 2026/27 over 2025/26 budget) £m	Revised Variance £m	FINAL SETTLEMENT Proposed net budget Re-presented 2026/27 £m
Net Revenue Budgets:					
Adults and Community	49.3	51.3	51.3	2.0	79.7
Childrens	46.0	49.3	49.3	3.2	62.9
Public Health	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Corporate Services	15.4	16.6	16.6	1.2	16.6
Finance	12.4	13.1	15.9	3.6	20.3
Investment Properties	-4.1	-4.1	-4.1	0.0	-4.1
Place	28.6	30.0	30.0	1.4	30.0
Total	147.5	156.1	158.9	11.4	205.3
		8.6			
Sources of Funding					
Council tax	-96.2	-101.2	-101.5	-5.3	-101.5
Fair Funding Allocation	-51.3	-54.2	-57.5	-6.2	-90.6
Recovery Grants			0.0	0.0	-9.4
Consolidated grants			0.0	0.0	-3.8
Total	-147.5	-155.4	-158.9	-11.4	-205.3

4.10 A detailed Budget Digest will be produced after approval of the final Council budget in February 2026 and before the start of the new financial year. For reference, the 2025/26 Budget Digest can be accessed through the link [budget-digest-2025-26-for-publishing.pdf](#)

5. Robustness of the budget estimates

- 5.1 Key to budget setting is the robustness of the budget proposals, which is linked to both service demands, and the risks associated with those services. Several assumptions have been made in the development of the budget for 2026/27 to mitigate against the risks. Several specific risks and their mitigation are shown below:

Risk	Risk Rating	Mitigation
Inability to deliver a balanced budget over the next three financial years	High	The Council has set its 2026/27 revenue budget without the need for savings plans or drawdown from financial reserves. The Medium-Term Resource Plan has been revised and updated following the multi-year provisional settlement published in December 2025, with final Settlement figures confirmed on 9 th February 2026. This highlights a concerning financial position in 2027/28 and 2028/29 where the Council will receive inadequate additional funding from the base levels received in 26/27, despite receipt of protection funding from Government, budget gaps of £5.4m and £6.5m are currently estimated over these two years. Once the budget for 26/27 is finalised, we will start focusing attention on addressing the challenges that we face in 2027/28 and 2028/29. The Council's Financial Sustainability Plans will continue to focus on key risk areas and relevant actions required to manage cost pressures and deliver longer term financial sustainability. These plans will be added to over the coming months to reflect the disappointing Settlement figures for 2027/28 and 2028/29. A specific MTFP transition reserve of £400k will be created as part of the 2026/27 budget setting process.
Identified budget reductions for 2026/27 are not achieved	Low	No specific saving proposals are required in order to balance the budget in 26/27, but Directors, Divisional Directors and all budget managers have a responsibility to ensure they maintain spend within their approved budget allocation. As pressures emerge discussions will need to take place to identify saving opportunities from elsewhere in the Directorate to offset these pressures. As above the Financial Sustainability Plans will continue to be reviewed by the Senior Leadership Team with the aim of driving out costs / increasing income across key areas.
Overspend against the proposed 2026/27 Children's Services budget	High	Despite significant additional base funding over the last few years and actions taken by the service to manage pressures, an overspend is being forecast in 25/26 relating to Childrens' social care placements. The Director of Children's Services (DCS) continues to progress several work streams to mitigate against further spending pressures, but this is challenging for Councils

Risk	Risk Rating	Mitigation
		across the Country. The Council maintains a specific Children's Services reserve which acts as a contingency against any un-forecasted overspending.
Delivery of the Safety Valve (Dedicated Schools Grant) Improvement Plan	Medium	Government announced, on 9 th February 2026, that 90% of funding will be provided to offset accrued DSG deficits at the end of the 2025/26 financial year. The information recently announced suggest the Council will have to find 10% of the deficit. As such, an earmarked reserve will be created as part of 2026/27 budget setting for £1.7m (based on 10% of an estimated accumulated deficit of £17m at the end of 2025/26).
Overspend against the proposed 2026/27 Adult Social Care budget	High	An integrated Adult Social Care and Health contract was extended for a further 5 years, (from April 2025), with the Council paying a fixed payment for the Integrated Care Organisation, (ICO), to provide Adult Social Care Services. The Council continues to work jointly with the Health Trust in a programme of transformation to identify savings and manage spending pressures. However, current total spending against the S75 contract exceeds available budget by circa £35m (which is inclusive of Health-related costs). There is a risk that the ICO provides formal notice, from 31 March 2026, to exit the contract due to the financial challenges faced within the sector. If this occurs, the Council has a relatively short timeframe, (12 months), to safely transition all statutory social care services back into the Council's management. Part of this process will involve ascertaining the relevant financial liability for each respective partner, reviewing all existing, (circa 2,850), care packages and on-boarding a relevant, sustainable staffing structure. A specific Adult Social Care transformation / transition reserve of £730k will be created as part of the 2026/27 budget setting process.
Insufficient income generated	Medium	Several income budgets have increased significantly in recent years resulting in some shortfalls. The cost of living may have contributed to some shortfalls. A prudent view has been taken of income streams in 2026/27 and some budgets were rebased as part of the 2025/26 budget proposals. A contingency is held in respect of varying rent levels on the Council's Commercial Investment estate.

Risk	Risk Rating	Mitigation
Collectability of council tax and NNDR	Low	The Council introduced a new Council Tax Support Scheme for 2024/25 which improved the process for residents to access the financial support required. Increases in Local Housing Allowances provided financial assistance to those in rented accommodation and, alongside inflationary increases to pensions, the number of residents accessing financial support for their Council Tax has fallen. 2025/26 Collection rates for both Business Rates and Council Tax are currently in line with the budget set. Provision for appeals and non-collection of NNDR is included in 2026/27 NNDR income estimate.
Insufficient reserve levels because of a significant budget variance or unforeseen event.	Medium	A revised Revenue Reserves Policy has been presented as part of the 2026/27 budget setting process. The General Fund balance is estimated to remain at the desired level of 5% and the Comprehensive Spending Review Reserve is estimated to be maintained above the £3m target balance at year end.
Exposure to changes in interest rates	Medium	Treasury Management Strategy has been reviewed and updated as part of 2026/27 budget setting. All historic long term borrowing is currently on fixed rate deals. Interest rates have started to reduce recently, which could reduce the future costs of council borrowing.
Inflationary pressures	High	Budget build has included estimates of inflation at a rate of between 2.5% and 4% depending on the contract. A 3.0% pay award has been estimated and catered for within the 2026/27 base budget, with a contingency set aside to mitigate the risk of a higher pay award. Services will be expected to manage general non-pay inflation, but a modest central contingency is being held to address any exceptional unforeseen increases in pay and commissioned services. Improved governance arrangements continue to operate to provide greater transparency, and control, over the development and delivery of capital projects.
Income linked to major prudential borrowing schemes not achieved at forecast levels.	Medium	There have been examples during the last couple of years whereby certain income streams linked to historical borrowing have been at risk.

Risk	Risk Rating	Mitigation
		Future Business Cases which require Council borrowing will be subject to closer political scrutiny with greater financial information and detailed business cases provided prior to Council approval.
Insufficient funding to maintain the Council's Property Asset Base	Medium	The Council holds an extensive asset base which includes assets held outside the Bay that generate £13m income per annum and assets within the Bay that contribute £8m per annum. In recent years the property maintenance budget has been increased in recognition of this risk and a major repairs reserve established. The Council will look to dispose of surplus assets and use the subsequent proceeds to re-invest to make tangible progress against identified backlog maintenance.
Economic impact of cost of living.	Medium	The Council Tax Support Scheme continues to provide additional support to those most in need alongside recent increases in Local Housing Allowances. Grants relating to Homelessness and rough sleeping have continued into 2026/27, which will help fund continued support. A reserve has also been retained for crisis support.

5.2 In accordance with the requirement of the Local Government Act 2003, the Chief Financial Officer must report to the Council on “the robustness of the estimates made for the purposes of the (budget) calculations” and the “adequacy of the proposed financial reserves”.

5.3 Taking account of the financial risks facing the Council and the mitigations outlined in paragraph 5.1 above, the **Chief Financial Officer's Statement** is as follows:

“I have taken into account information, risks and assurances from the Leader of the Council, the Cabinet and Council Directors in forming my opinion. My opinion is that the 2026/27 budget is based on robust budget estimates.”

This opinion is supported by the current financial position across the Council, with a small overspend forecast in 25/26 and material known pressure areas being addressed through the 2026/27 budget setting process.

The key risks are outlined in the table above.

5.4 In relation to reserve levels, a thorough review of all reserves held by the Council has been undertaken, as detailed within the Chief Finance Officer's Revenue Reserves Statement for 2026/27. The paper states:

“With these actions taken, and with the principles detailed consistently applied, as Section 151 Officer, I believe the reserves to be adequate”.

5.5 Actions are required in relation to the following key risks:

- a) That the Council maintains the focus on social care, both adults and children's, as the biggest financial risks to the Council.
- b) That the Council continues to maintain its focus on proactive prevention and support for homelessness alongside managing temporary accommodation needs in an effective and efficient manner.
- c) That the Council continues to assess the financial viability of the projects with its Capital Investment Plan.

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Budget 2026-2027

Chief Finance Officer's Update Report for Priorities and Resources Review Panel

January 2026

Introduction

1. The Council issued its 2026/27 draft budget papers for consultation in November 2025. This was in advance of Government announcing details of the Provisional Local Government Financial Settlement on 17 December 2025. The Final Settlement is not expected until early February 2026, which will include actual allocations for Councils.
2. The Provisional Financial Settlement includes a 2026/27 funding allocation for Torbay Council that is greater than the amount estimated within its budget proposals, currently published for consultation. In determining where to allocate new funding, consideration will be given to:
 - The draft budget gap of £700k that was reported in December;
 - Results from the 2026/27 budget consultation;
 - Feedback from the most recent residents survey;
 - Feedback from the Priority and Resources Panel sessions;
 - Further areas of risk and uncertainty in relation to the medium term financial position.

Impact of the Provisional Settlement

3. The Settlement indicates that Torbay Council will receive £204.377m as its Core Spending Power allocation in 2026/27. This is a 5% increase on the baseline figure for 2025/26 used within their model. However, the model does assume a higher increase to our Council Tax base than we have forecasted and therefore a higher level of Council tax funding. After adjusting for our local figures, we would receive a slightly lower increase of 4.4%.
4. Many of the previous specific grants have been rolled into the main funding formula, although some have remained separate and have been consolidated into four new grants. Torbay Council's allocations for the new consolidated grants are shown within the table below.

Local Government Finance Settlement - Consolidated Grants 2026/27 to 2028/29 ¹				
Select authority:				
Torbay				
Consolidated Grant	2026/27 £m	2027/28 £m	2028/29 £m	Total £m
Homelessness, Rough Sleeping and Domestic Abuse Grant ^{2,3}	1.9	1.9	1.9	5.7
Public Health Grant ^{4,5}	13.0	13.2	13.5	39.6
Crisis and Resilience Funds ⁶	2.5	2.5	2.4	7.4
Children, Families and Youth Grant ⁷	2.5	2.4	2.2	7.0
Mayoral Capacity Funding	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	19.8	20.0	20.0	59.8

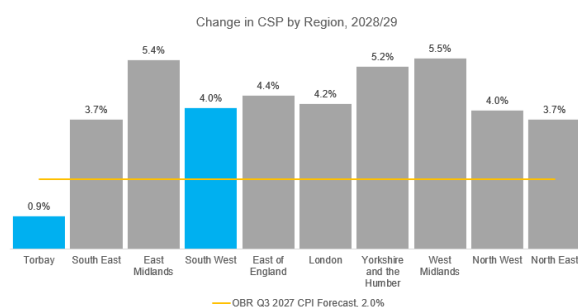
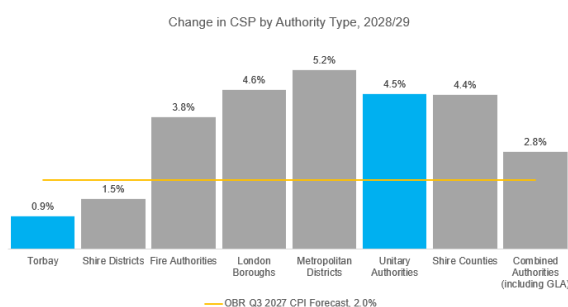
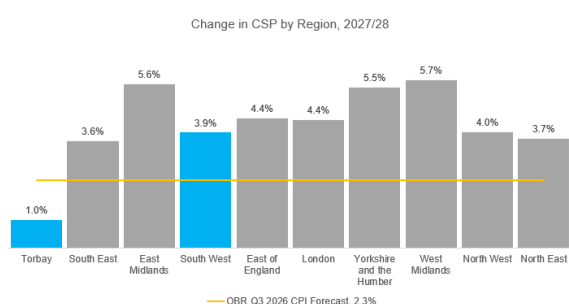
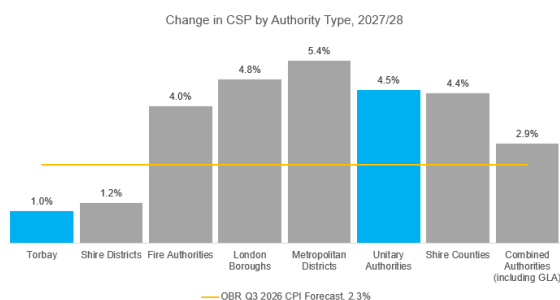
5. Although some minor changes are expected within the final settlement, in general there appears to be real term reductions in these grants, with the exception of a small inflationary uplift to the Public Health Grant (circa 2%).

6. Compared to 2025/26, there is an increase in the Children's, Families and Youth Grant of £458k in 2026/27. However, there is then a 12% reduction shown over the next two years to 2028/29 that will need to be planned for. It will therefore be important for the additional £458k to be spent in a way that does not see all of it committed to the base budget, setting aside funding to offset future reductions in grant.
7. Although the 2026/27 settlement for Torbay Council is reasonable, of real concern is its allocation of funding in years two and three of the multi-year settlement. The table below shows how our Core Spending Power allocation would only increase by a maximum of 1% in both 2027/28 and 2028/29 with cash increases of just £1.9m, compared with the increase of £9.7m (5%) in 2026/27.

Illustrative Core Spending Power of Local Government:

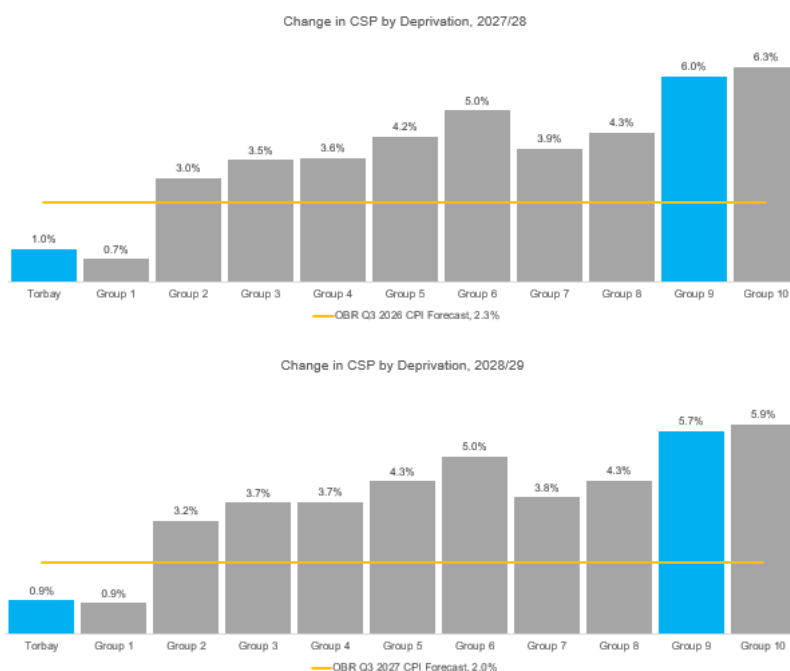
	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
	£ millions	£ millions	£ millions	£ millions	£ millions
Core Spending Power	178.1	194.6	204.4	206.3	208.3
Core Spending Power year-on-year change (£ millions)		16.6	9.7	1.9	1.9
Core Spending Power year-on-year change (%)		9.3%	5.0%	1.0%	0.9%

8. The significant reductions in Torbay Council's Funding formula assessment and allocation of grants from 2026/27 onwards, already assume 4.99% increases from Council Tax each year and an overly optimistic increase in the Council's Council Tax base figures. The net funding increase of £1.9m per annum will be well below predicted inflation and not sufficient to fund areas such as uplifts on salaries and wages and increased demand for Social Care.
9. This settlement for Torbay is particularly poor when compared with other councils. The table below shows how Torbay's percentage funding increase for 2027/28 and 2028/29 compares with the average increase across other Unitary Authorities and other Councils across the Southwest.



This analysis excludes City of London, for which bespoke arrangements will be made after 2027/28, meaning there is no published CSP

10. The new Fair Funding Formula refers to supporting areas of deprivation as one of its main aims, yet it clearly does not appear to be achieving this for Torbay. The graph below shows how Torbay compares with other Councils that have similar levels of deprivation, using the Index of multiple deprivation. Torbay Council is within the second highest banding (group 9), which has an average increase in Core Spending Power for 2027/28 of 6% compared with Torbay's 1% increase. Similarly, in 2028/29, the average increase is 5.7% compared with Torbay 0.9% increase.



11. The Council will be making representations to Government and be liaising with local Members of Parliament with regards to how poorly Torbay has fared for future year funding allocations prior to final national figures being confirmed in early February 2026. If representations are unsuccessful, the Council will face significant funding gaps in future years as stated in paragraph 23.

Impact on the budget proposals for 2026/27

12. Figures included within the provisional settlement provide £1.2m more funding compared with the Torbay budget proposals published for consultation in November 2025. This would enable the budget gap of £0.700m to be closed and leave funding of £0.5m remaining.
13. In addition, there is £658k of additional Families First Funding, as initially estimated, which is ringfenced for new spending within Children's Services, and a further £458k funding through the new consolidated Children's, Families and Youth Grant.
14. Within the recent Settlement information, there is reference to transitional protection for Councils who see their income fall as a result of Fair Funding formula changes. This protection, as well as determination of Recovery Grant Guarantees, assumes local authorities use the full Council Tax flexibility available to them, i.e. the rate increase of 4.99%. This is the rate that Government has applied for each year

across the three-year Settlement period to determine their stated Core Spending Power. Not applying the full Council Tax increase in 2026/27 could put the Council at risk of receiving less protection funding. This risk has been notified to the Cabinet who are minded to increase the charge to the full 4.99%, which would eliminate this risk. Further engagement will be undertaken.

15. With the forecasted net reduction in real term resources from Government in 2027/28 and 2028/29, and considering the Council's future financial sustainability, it is important not to significantly increase base budget spending in 2026/27 only to then have to consider significantly reducing spend, and budgets, in future years.
16. Also, given recent statements regarding risks to the future of the Section 75 agreement for integrated Adult Social Care services, it is important to consider this as an additional significant emerging spending pressure that has arisen since the draft budget papers were produced.

Additional Budget priorities post Settlement

Adult Social Care

17. The draft budget papers highlighted the Council's commitment within the Adult Social Care (ASC) integrated care contract and proposed an increase in the contract fee of £1.7m, which represented the equivalent to 2% ASC Council Tax precept. Also, in recognition of the spending pressures across the service, we committed a further increase for 2026/27 of £850k equivalent to 1% Council Tax.
18. Recent statements have highlighted a risk to the future of the Integrated Care Organisation, with Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust considering giving notice to the contract in January 2026. Given that actual costs of providing integrated health and social care services are currently significantly higher than the level of funding available, it is being considered whether some funding should be allocated for ASC. . In 2026/27 this would fund specific 'invest to save' projects linked to our ASC transformation programme, which could then be added to the base budget in 2027/28. This would enable the Council to continue working proactively with our colleagues in Health to transform the existing care services in order to deliver a more sustainable, long-term model of care.

Regeneration

19. The Council remains ambitious in its plans for large scale regeneration across the Bay. However, despite attracting significant government funding to date, the viability and delivery of major projects such as Crossways, Union Square, the Strand, Brixham Port Infrastructure and the Paignton Waterfront Project remain challenging.
20. With this in mind, consideration will be given to creating a designated regeneration reserve to help part fund identified funding gaps for projects which have marginal viability.

Consultation and Resident Feedback

21. Following the current budget consultation (running until 18 January 2026), consideration will also be given for **one-off / time-limited** funding allocations in 2026/27 to reflect the investment priorities of our local residents, as being displayed through the current budget consultation and resident survey feedback. Such areas include:

- Operation Town Centres;
- Providing support for job creation and local businesses;
- Operation Brighter Bay;
- Helping to improve the skills base of local residents;
- Improving our play parks and outdoor activity spaces.

Revised 2026/27 Revenue Budget by Directorate

22. The revised 2026/27 Revenue Budget will be re-presented upon final approval of the remaining surplus funding for allocation. For reference, the existing 2025/26 budget, by Directorate, is detailed in the table below. A detailed Budget Digest will be produced immediately after approval of the final Council budget in February 2026. For reference, the 2025/26 Budget Digest can be accessed through the link: [budget-digest-2025-26-for-publishing.pdf](#)

Proposed Net budget for 2025/26				
2024/25 Net £m	Re-presented 2024-25 Net £m	Directorate/Service	Initial 2025/26 Net £m	Revised 2025/26 Net £m
55.9	55.9	Adult Services (Inc. Community & Customer Services)	58.3	60.4
	-9.3	- (Adults share of Social Care Grant)	-9.3	-11.1
54.6	54.6	Children's Services	56.3	57.1
	-9.3	- (Childrens share of Social Care Grant)	-9.3	-11.1
10.7	10.7	Public Health	11.0	11.6
	-10.7	- (Public Health Grant)	-11.0	-11.6
13.8	14.0	Corporate Services and Chief Executive	14.8	15.4
-16.6	7.1	Finance (Includes NIC Grant)	7.4	6.7
0	5.6	Treasury Management	5.6	5.6
-4.1	-4.1	Investment Properties	-4.1	-4.1
24.9	24.9	Place Services	27.7	28.6
139.2	139.4	TOTAL	147.3	147.5
		Sources of Funding		
88.4	88.4	Council Tax	95.2	96.2
0	0.2	Services Grant	0.0	0.0
8.2	8.2	Revenue Support Grant	8.4	8.5
42.4	42.4	Business Rates (National Non-Domestic Rates)	43.1	42.8
0.2	0.2	New Homes Bonus	0.2	0.0
139.2	139.4	TOTAL	146.9	147.5

Medium Term Financial Outlook

23. Despite being able to present a balanced budget for 2026/27, with some areas of marginal investment, if the draft Settlement figures don't improve in February 2026, there will be significant budget gaps for 2027/28 and 2028/29 as a result of reductions in Torbay's fair funding allocation. We will continue to work through the medium term financial implications of this. Initial funding shortfalls are estimated to be circa £3m for each of these financial years assuming no further funding or management action is taken.

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Budget 2026/2027 - Consultation Report

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Executive Summary

The Cabinet published draft proposals for the Council's revenue and capital budget for 2026/27 in December 2025 and an online survey was created to gather public views. Paper copies were distributed to the main libraries. The consultation opened on Wednesday 3 December 2025 and closed at midnight on 18 January 2026.

There were 189 responses to the consultation survey, all were completed online. All percentages shown within this report use the number of people that completed the survey as the denominator. All comments within this report are shown as written by the respondent. No written representations or completed paper copies of the survey were received.

During the course of the consultation, residents and stakeholders were encouraged to take part with posts on our Facebook, LinkedIn and Nextdoor pages as well as articles in One Torbay.

A summary of responses to the key questions in the survey is shown in the table below.

Question	Important/ Support	%	Not Important/ Oppose	%
How important do you think it is for the council to invest in improving play parks and outdoor activity spaces compared to other priorities?	156	82.54%	29	15.34%
How important do you think it is for the council to support job creation and local businesses?	179	94.71%	7	3.70%
How important do you think it is for the council to increase the skills of those who live in the Bay to improve their aspirations?	166	87.83%	19	10.05%

What are your views on continuing Operation Brighter Bay and its focus in residential areas?	173	91.53%	9	4.76%
What are your views on continuing Operation Town Centres to make our town centres more welcoming?	179	94.71%	3	1.59%

Introduction

The Cabinet published their draft proposals for the Council's revenue and capital budget for 2026/27 in December 2025. An online survey was created to gather the views of the public and paper surveys were available in the main libraries.

The consultation opened on 3 December 2025 and closed at midnight on 18 January 2026.

The audience for this consultation was all those that live in or run a business in one of the three towns of Torbay – Torquay, Paignton and Brixham.

An online consultation was launched, with paper copies available on request and at the libraries in Torquay, Paignton and Brixham.

The consultation was promoted in a number of ways. This included:

- Media briefing
- Members' briefing
- The Council's e-Newsletter One Torbay
- Through regular staff news updates (as the majority of our employees are also Torbay residents)
- Press releases
- Social media
- On the Consultation webpage on the Council's website
- Two press releases were sent out, one at the start of the consultation and another later on in January, encouraging people to take part.

21 social media posts were scheduled in total (16 last year). This was across Facebook, LinkedIn and Nextdoor. Across all the social media channels the posts had a reach of 19,960 (compared to 10,452 last year) and made 33,625 impressions (compared to 16,029 last year). There were 181 clicks on the links to view the budget consultation (126 last year). 45 comments were left on the posts (32 last year), 38 reactions (15 last year) and 12 shares (21 last year).

Eight articles (4 last year) were shared through either the One Torbay or Staff News e-newsletters. In total these articles encouraged 187 subscribers (141 last year) to click on the links to the consultation 201 times (168 last year).

Consultation responses

The total number of responses received overall was 189 (146 last year).

All the 189 responses were completed online, in comparison, 145 were completed the same way last year. No paper surveys were received (1 last year).

The results below show all the responses. The percentages may not always add up to 100% due to rounding, and not all respondents answering all questions. Microsoft CoPilot was used to assist analysis of the themes in the comments.

Responses to individual survey questions

(Question numbers are different to those used in the survey due to introduction statement and data use question)

Question 1

We have been carrying out a review of our play parks and outdoor activity spaces that are used by our children and young people. We know investment will be needed to improve these and have been talking to our children and young people on their views on what they would like. How important do you think it is for the council to invest in improving these spaces compared to other priorities?

Option	Total	Percent
Very important	68	35.98%
Quite important	88	46.56%
Not very important	24	12.70%
Not important at all	5	2.64%
Don't know	4	2.12%
Total	189	

Question 2

What do you feel is missing from our play parks and outdoor spaces?

128 comments.

Theme	Summary
Maintenance and condition 94 mentions	Respondents consistently say play parks feel tired and poorly maintained. Broken equipment, mud, graffiti and general wear reduce confidence and usage. Many say that basic upkeep matters more than new features and that neglected parks discourage families and older children from using them.
More and better equipment 89 mentions	People want more modern, varied play equipment rather than the same small layouts repeated everywhere. Requests span toddlers to teenagers, with stronger interest in challenging equipment and exercise options. Variety is seen as key to repeat visits and wider appeal.

Facilities for older children and teenagers 67 mentions	Many residents feel older children and teenagers are overlooked. They ask for skate parks, pump tracks, BMX facilities and climbing features. Without these, young people are seen as drifting into streets and town centres instead of using safe, active spaces.
Water play, seating and facilities 51 mentions	Splash parks and water play are widely requested, especially on seafront sites. Seating, toilets, shelter and refreshments are also seen as crucial. These facilities allow families to stay longer and use parks in varied weather.
Safety, lighting and inclusion 46 mentions	Concerns focus on poor lighting, vandalism and intimidating behaviour. Many also highlight inclusive design, accessible equipment and toilets. Parks should feel safe, welcoming and usable for disabled children and carers.

Question 3

We want to create the conditions here in the Bay for a strong and sustainable economy that supports a diverse mix of businesses, industries and jobs that inspire. How important do you think it is for the council to support job creation and local businesses?

Option	Total	Percent
Very important	136	71.96%
Quite important	43	22.75%
Not very important	5	2.64%
Not important at all	2	1.06%
Don't know	3	1.59%
Total	189	

Question 4

Is there a particular area that you would like us to focus on with regard to creating jobs and supporting local business?

133 comments.

Theme	Summary
Supporting small and independent businesses 104 mentions	Respondents strongly favour local and independent businesses. These are seen as vital to community identity and resilience. Many believe current conditions discourage small traders and allow town centres to hollow out.

Town centre regeneration and empty shops 92 mentions	Residents see town centres as essential to economic recovery but currently unattractive. Empty shops damage confidence and footfall. People support pop-ups, mixed uses, culture and residential conversion.
Business rates, rents and affordability 88 mentions	High rents and rates are described as the main reason shops close or never open. Many argue lower income is better than empty units and see affordability as a direct lever the Council can influence.
Year-round jobs and job quality 76 mentions	There is frustration with seasonal, low-paid work. Respondents want stable, year-round jobs with progression. Better quality employment is seen as key to retaining young people.
Key growth sectors 71 mentions	Hospitality remains important but fragile. Construction, manufacturing, skilled trades and technology are highlighted as offering more stable, better-paid employment.

Question 5

We want to encourage aspiration among our residents of working age and provide opportunities for everyone, driving training opportunities to empower people to improve their skills. How important do you think it is for the council to increase the skills of those who live in the Bay to improve their aspirations?

Option	Total	Percent
Very important	100	52.91%
Quite important	66	34.92%
Not very important	15	7.94%
Not important at all	4	2.12%
Don't know	4	2.12%
Total	189	

Question 6

Are there any particular sectors that we need to be providing better opportunities for training and skill development?

106 comments.

Theme	Summary
Apprenticeships and work experience 88 mentions	Apprenticeships are the most frequently supported solution. Respondents want clear routes from education into work, across many sectors. Work experience is seen as critical for confidence and employability.
Skilled trades and construction 72 mentions	Concern is strong about declining trade skills. Training in plumbing, electrical, engineering and construction is viewed as urgent and well matched to local needs.
Health and social care skills 64 mentions	Care roles feature heavily due to workforce shortages. Respondents highlight low pay and stress the need for training and progression to make care a sustainable career.
Hospitality and service careers 61 mentions	Many want hospitality treated as a serious career. Better training, leadership development and progression routes are seen as necessary for sector stability.
Adult learning and inclusion 55 mentions	Adult education, reskilling and basic skills appear frequently. Disabled people, carers and older workers are highlighted as needing flexible and accessible training options.

Question 7

We are proud of our place, and for the past two years investment has been put into improving our area through Operation Brighter Bay. This has seen line marking re-done, increased grass cutting and more flower displays. We now want to expand this into residential areas. What are your views on continuing this programme and its focus in residential areas?

Option	Total	Percent
Strongly support	95	50.26%
Support	78	41.27%
Oppose	6	3.17%
Strongly oppose	3	1.59%
Don't know	7	3.70%
Total	189	

Question 8

Are there any other improvements you would like to see in your local area that are not currently part of Operation Brighter Bay?

131 comments.

Theme	Summary
Street cleaning, litter, dog fouling and bins 119 mentions	This is the strongest theme. Residents describe persistent litter, overflowing bins and dog fouling. Cleanliness is directly linked to pride, wellbeing and perceptions of safety.
Roads, pavements and potholes 112 mentions	Poor surfaces, potholes and trip hazards dominate comments. Issues especially affect older and disabled residents and are seen as neglected basics.
Weeds, hedges and verge maintenance 98 mentions	Overgrown vegetation blocking pavements is a common frustration. Respondents want consistent maintenance and enforcement of responsibilities.
Drainage and surface water flooding 63 mentions	Blocked drains and surface water flooding are regularly described. Many feel these problems are avoidable with better routine maintenance.
Parking and neighbourhood management 51 mentions	Residential parking pressure, vans and campervans feature strongly. Calls focus on clearer rules and consistent enforcement.

Question 9

Under Operation Town Centres we have been addressing a range of things including anti-social behaviour. This has included the introduction of Town Centre Officers, Street Marshals, and improvements to CCTV. However, we believe there is more work to be done in making these spaces more welcoming. What are your views on continuing this programme to make our town centres more welcoming?

Option	Total	Percent
Strongly support	125	66.14%
Support	54	28.57%
Oppose	1	0.53%
Strongly oppose	2	1.06%
Don't know	7	3.70%
Total	189	

Question 10

Are there any other improvements you would like to see in your local town centre that are not currently part of Operation Town Centres?

124 comments.

Theme	Summary
Safety, anti-social behaviour and confidence 127 mentions	Feeling unsafe dominates town centre feedback. Visible drug use and intimidating behaviour reduce visits, particularly for families and older residents. Perception is as important as incidents.
Visible policing and enforcement 111 mentions	Respondents want more visible police patrols rather than wardens alone. Presence is seen as key to deterrence and reassurance.
Factory Row and related services 96 mentions	Factory Row in Torquay is repeatedly cited as symbolic. Many question the concentration of services in a central location and its effect on safety, dignity and town centre recovery.
Empty shops and town centre decline 93 mentions	Vacant units are linked to poor image, reduced footfall and fear. Respondents want active uses to restore life and confidence.
Cleanliness, graffiti and appearance 71 mentions	Graffiti, lighting, toilets and general upkeep shape perceptions. Clean, well-maintained spaces are seen as essential to revitalising town centres.

Demographic questions

Which town do you live in? Select only one

Option	Total	Percentage
Torquay	107	56.61%
Paignton	53	28.04%
Brixham	21	11.11%

First letters/numbers of postcode

Option	Total	Percentage
TQ1	62	32.80%
TQ2	43	22.75%
TQ3	24	12.70%
TQ4	30	15.87%
TQ5	20	10.58%
TQ12	2	1.06%

Responding as a resident or business

Option	Total	Percentage
Resident	180	95.24%
Business	4	2.12%
Prefer not to say	5	2.64%

Which of the following age groups applies to you? Tick one only

Option	Total	Percentage
0-15	0	0%
16-24	3	1.59%
25-34	16	8.47%
35-44	31	16.40%
45-54	25	13.23%
55-64	47	24.87%
65-74	38	20.11%
75+	18	9.52%
Prefer not to say	11	5.82%

What is your gender? Select only one

Option	Total	Percentage
Male	75	39.68%
Female	103	54.50%
Prefer not to say	11	5.82%

Which of the following best describes your ethnic background?

Option	Total	Percentage
White	174	92.06%
Mixed ethnicity	7	3.70%
Asian or Asian British	1	0.53%
Black or Black British	3	1.59%
Chinese	0	0%
Prefer not to say	4	2.12%

Employment Status

Option	Total	Percentage
Working full-time in Torbay	47	24.87%
Working full-time elsewhere in Devon	11	5.82%
Working part-time in Torbay	28	14.81%
Working part-time elsewhere in Devon	7	3.70%
Self-employed – full, or part-time	13	6.88%
Student	1	0.53%
Looking after Family/Home	3	1.59%
Temporary Sick	0	0%
Long-Term Sick	1	0.53%
Retired	63	33.33%
Unemployed	2	1.06%
Prefer not to say	11	5.82%

Do you consider yourself to be disabled in any way?

Option	Total	Percentage
Yes	30	15.87%
No	144	76.19%
Prefer not to say	15	7.94%

If you answered "Yes", please tell us how it affects you.

Option	Total	Percentage
It affects my mobility	19	10.05%
It affects my vision	1	0.53%
It affects my hearing	2	1.06%
It affects me in another way	6	3.17%
Prefer not to say	1	0.53%

- Have you spent any time in care?

Option	Total	Percentage
Yes	6	3.17%
No	172	91%
Prefer not to say	10	5.29%

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Torbay Residents Satisfaction Survey Results 2025

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Foreword from the Leader of the Council

I'd like to thank everyone who took part in our second Residents' Satisfaction Survey. Whether you completed it online, filled in a paper copy, or spoke to us at one of our roadshows, your feedback has helped us understand what life feels like in Torbay right now, including what's improving, what still frustrates people, and where we should focus our effort next.

I particularly want to thank the young people aged 12–15 who took part in the young people's version of the survey, helping us understand what it feels like growing up in Torbay.

We received 22% more responses than when we first ran this survey in 2023, plus a 40% increase in the number of 12-15 year olds who completed the survey specifically designed for that age group. These higher response rates matter as it gives us a stronger, more reliable picture of what residents think and what you want us to improve.

The improvements you're seeing and why they matter

The most encouraging message from this year's results is that seven of the core measures have improved since 2023, including several that go right to the heart of what residents tell us matters most: value for money, trust, and whether the Council acts on local concerns. We also saw improvement across most questions in the survey for 12–15 year olds, including liking where they live, belonging, feeling listened to and trust.

The results show that the Council is delivering for residents – satisfaction with Torbay as a place to live increasing from 56% to 58%, and satisfaction with how Torbay Council runs things has risen from 23% to 28%. Among 12–15 year olds, more young people said they like where they live (68% compared to 34%) and feel the Council is doing a good job (32% compared to 6%).

These are not abstract measures. They reflect everyday experience from the condition of local areas to how well services work, through to how confident people feel that we are focused on the right priorities.

One of the clearest improvements is on value for money, up 12 percentage points from 21% with 33% of residents agreeing that the Council provides value for money. This improvement suggests more people are beginning to recognise the steps we're taking but it also comes with a clear challenge: we must keep improving, through visible results, that we are spending public money carefully and well.

The percentage of residents agreeing that we act on local concerns has increased from 26% to 30%. This reinforces the message we heard at roadshows where people told us they want action on the things that affect daily life most, and they want clearer feedback on what has been done and why.

Those who speak positively about the Council increased from 18% to 23% (with those that speak negatively about the Council decreasing by 4% as well). Reported trust in the Council increased from 30% to 35% with those not trusting the Council falling by 8%. Amongst the 12-15 year olds who responded 31% said they trust the Council and 26% said that the Council listens (up from 20% and 15% respectively in 2023).

These improvements are welcome and they tell us we're moving in the right direction, but we recognise that there is still a long way to go.

Changes in services people value

The responses we received highlight where residents have noticed improvements in specific services:

- Satisfaction with **library services** rose by 10% – although the views in our survey for 12-15 year olds were more mixed.
- Satisfaction with **services and support for older people** rose by 8%
- Satisfaction with **sport and leisure services** increased by 5%

We know that these are important services that contribute to people's wellbeing and independence as well as their community connection and quality of life.

At the same time, you also told us that, even where satisfaction has not risen sharply, levels of dissatisfaction have fallen in some of the areas. For example:

- Dissatisfaction with **pavement maintenance** and **road maintenance** reduced by 10% and 9% respectively
- Dissatisfaction with **street cleansing** reduced by 9%

Whilst many residents feel there is still room for improvement, people are less dissatisfied than they were in 2023. This aligns with our focus on Operation Brighter Bay, which we will continue and build on over the next year.

Where we need to do better

This year, fewer residents aged 16+ said they feel safe outside during the day and after dark. Among 12–15 year olds, feelings were more mixed, with more saying they feel safe in the day, but a larger number also saying they feel unsafe, particularly after dark.

Young people also highlighted concerns about drugs, alcohol, homelessness and antisocial behaviour, especially in town centres and parks.

For those aged 12-15 years as well as for those age 16+, there was a mixed view of whether people from different ethnic backgrounds get on well together locally; but what was really clear where the things which matter to young people: feeling safe, tackling antisocial behaviour, being able to trust and hear from the Council, and having more positive things to do and places to go.

This reinforces the need to continue with Operation Town Centres as well as our wider work on community safety and pride in place.

You told us that we need to communicate more clearly, with the proportion of residents feeling well informed about Council services and benefits remaining static at around 40%. When residents explained their views on trust, issues around transparency and, in particular, public consultations were the third highest issue (behind spending and value for money and roads and transport). Young people told us they often don't feel listened to or don't always understand what decisions are being made or why.

We recognise that residents want us to focus on the basics, be more transparent about decisions and spending, and show more visibly how consultation influences outcomes.

Our commitment

It is pleasing to see the improvements around Torbay are being recognised, but we know that our communities have a clear expectation that more needs to be done. We will use these results to sharpen our focus on the areas that matter most to people in Torbay:

- Cleaner streets and better maintained residential areas
- Better roads and pavements, and clearer prioritisation of repairs
- A stronger sense of safety in our communities, town centres and parks
- Greater transparency and continued improvements in communication, including with our young people
- Continued improvement in the services our residents value most, including support for older people
- Supporting more positive opportunities for young people, including safe spaces and activities, reflecting what many of the 12-15 year olds who responded to the survey told us

Most importantly, we will keep listening. This survey is not the end of the conversation, but a checkpoint along the way. We know we need to do more to hear from young people, and we will strengthen how we engage with them ahead of the next survey.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your views and help shape a Torbay that is healthier, happier and more prosperous for everyone.

Cllr David Thomas

Leader of Torbay Council

Introduction

From Tuesday 16 September 2025 to Sunday 2 November 2025 Torbay Council ran its second Residents Satisfaction Survey. As well as making this survey available to complete online, 15 face-to-face Residents Roadshows took place. Understanding resident views is a key element of assessing the effectiveness of a local authority, alongside cost and performance information. It can also strengthen local accountability and be a key part of our approach to managing our own performance.

The purpose of the Survey was to seek the views of our residents on the effectiveness of the Council. We are seeking to use the results from the survey to improve how the Council operates.

This report presents the findings from the main survey aimed at those aged 16 and over who live in Torbay. There is a separate survey which shows the findings from the 12 to 15-year-old survey – you can see this in Appendix 1.

Executive summary of the results

As advised by the Local Government Association (LGA), we have weighted our results against the age of our population. We do this because the people who answer might not perfectly represent the whole of our population. For example, if more older people respond than younger people, which has been the case with this survey, the results could be biased. By weighting the results, this adjusts the data so that each age group reflects its actual share of the population. This means the final results are more accurate and better represent everyone, not just the people who responded. We weighted the results the same way in the 2023 survey.

This year we received in total 1,674 surveys. This was an increase from the 1,369 completed surveys we received when we ran the survey in 2023. That's a 22% increase.

15 engagement events / roadshows were also run this year where 891 people were spoken to with 248 paper surveys completed. This is an increase from 2023, when 10 roadshows took place.

Compared to 2023, in seven questions the results have gone up:

- Asked about their local area as a place to live - those who answered very or fairly satisfied went up by 2% from 56% to 58%
- How Torbay Council runs things - those who answered very or fairly satisfied went up 5% from 23% to 28%
- Asked if we provide value for money - those who answered strongly or tend to agree went up by 12% from 21% to 33%
- Asked if we act on the concerns of local residents - those who answered a great deal or fair amount went up 4% from 26% to 30%
- When asked how you feel about Torbay Council - those that speak positively of the council went up 5% from 18% to 23%
- When asked how strongly do you feel you belong to your local area - those that answered very or fairly strongly went up 2% from 64% to 66%
- When asked if our residents trust us - those that answered a great deal or fair amount went up 5% from 30% to 35%.

One question went down by 1%. This was:

- How well informed our residents are about our services and benefits – Those that answered very or fairly well informed went down from 42% to 41%

Three questions went down 2% or more:

- How safe do you feel when outside in your local area after dark - very or fairly safe - down 2% from 42% to 40%
- How safe do you feel when outside in your local area during the day - very or fairly safe - down 4% from 72% to 68%
- Local area is a place where people from different ethnic backgrounds get on well together - Definitely or tend to agree - down 5% from 53% to 48%

For the questions about our services, please note that this year we asked if our residents were neither satisfied or dissatisfied which we didn't do in 2023. Last time we asked don't know instead.

- Waste collection - very or fairly satisfied - stayed the same at 78% but fairly or very dissatisfied went down by 8% from 21% to 13%
- Street Cleansing - fairly or very dissatisfied - went down by 9% from 52% to 43%. Very or fairly satisfied fell though by 6% from 46% to 40%
- Parks and green spaces - Fairly or very dissatisfied - went down by 6% from 33% to 27 % but very or fairly satisfied also went down 7% from 65% to 58%
- Road maintenance - fairly or very dissatisfied - went down by 9% from 78% to 69%. Very or fairly satisfied changed by 2% from 20% to 18%
- Pavement Maintenance - fairly or very dissatisfied - went down by 10% from 61% to 51%. Very or fairly satisfied went down by 5% from 36% to 31%
- Library services - very or fairly satisfied - went up by 10% from 57% to 67%
- Sport and leisure services - very or fairly satisfied - up by 5% from 44% to 49%
- Services & support for older people - very or fairly satisfied - up by 8% from 26% to 34%. Fairly or very dissatisfied stayed the same at 28%
- Services & support for children & young people - very or fairly satisfied - up by 1% from 23% to 24%. Fairly or very dissatisfied though went up by 5% from 33% to 38%

New questions this year:

- 41% responded definitely or tended to agree that people in their local area pull together.
- A number of Anti-Social Behaviour questions were asked about how they feel in their local area. The highest answer for each one is:
 - Noisy neighbours or loud parties - 41% don't see these as a big problem
 - Rubbish or litter lying around - 24% see this as a fairly big problem
 - Vandalism, graffiti & damage to property / vehicles - 32% don't see this as a very big problem
 - People using or dealing drugs - 45% see this as a very big problem
 - People being drunk or rowdy in public places - 28% see this as a very big problem
 - Groups hanging around the streets - 27% see this as a very big problem

This year, after asking the question about Trust we also asked our residents why they answered the way they did. Microsoft Copilot, which is an AI-powered tool, was used to assist in the analysis and summarisation of the feedback received for this question. Copilot reviewed the free text comments and identified key themes.

Of all the 1,857 individual comments in this section, there were 297 negative comments, 247 positive, and 1,313 neutral comments.

There is clearly more work to be done around the issue of trust in the council, with the largest number of comments on a single issue (267) being around spending and value for money.

The second biggest issue in terms of number of people raising it (197) was around roads and transport, with potholes being a particular concern but also related issues such as bus services.

Transparency was the next biggest issue raised with 190 people commenting on this. Particularly in relation to communications and transparency with public consultations there is a perception that decisions have already been made. This suggests we need to do more to feedback to residents and also involve them at the earliest possible stage. Also raised in this was slow or no replies to emails/complaints and a desire for clearer 'why' behind decisions and spend.

Methodology

In conducting the survey, we took account of the LGA guidance "Are you being served?". The LGA measures resident satisfaction with councils every four months.

Six key indicators are used to measure residents' views of their local council. Respondents are also asked to indicate their level of satisfaction with nine council services. Other questions focus on perceptions of safety, trust in politicians and government, and media coverage of councils.

This year's survey included several new questions that the LGA added into the 2025 survey. These were focused on how people pull together to improve the local area as well as various anti-social behaviour scenarios.

As well as providing a regular, long-term view of public opinions of councils at a national level, this polling also provides comparator figures for councils who wish to benchmark their own local survey results.

Whilst the LGA use a representative random sample of 1,001 British adults (aged 18 and over) to be polled by telephone, we determined that an online survey supplemented by roadshows in each of the three towns would provide the most cost-effective means of reaching as many residents as possible.

In making that decision, we recognised that the mode of data collection can have a marked impact on results. Although results are only accurately comparable with surveys conducted via telephone, we have included the comparator data within the results in this report.

We also decided that we wanted to hear the voice of young people and so the survey was also open to those aged 12 and over (with one question omitted). Please see Appendix 1 for the results of this survey.

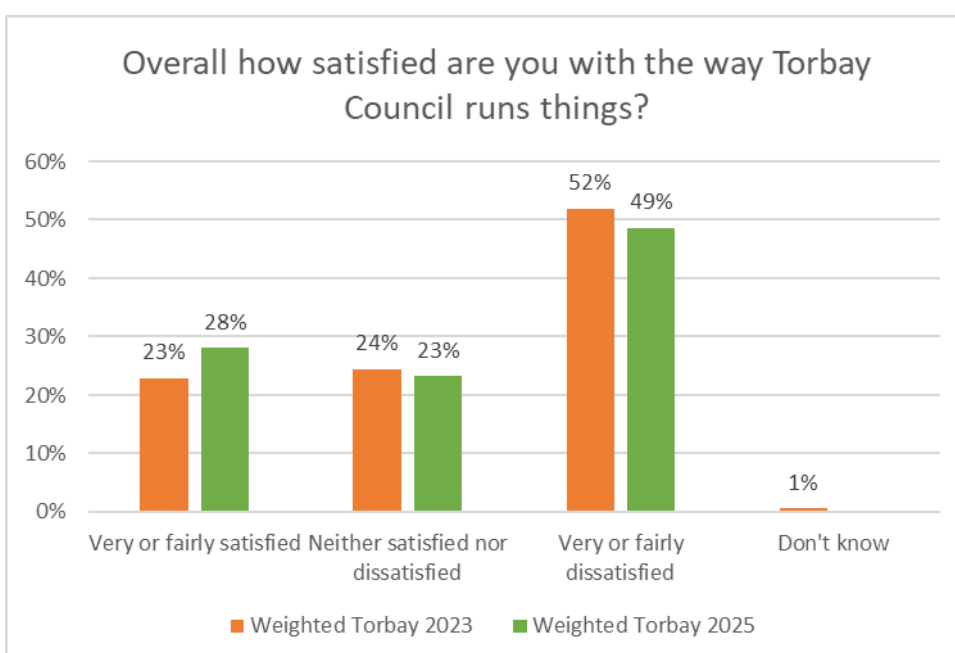
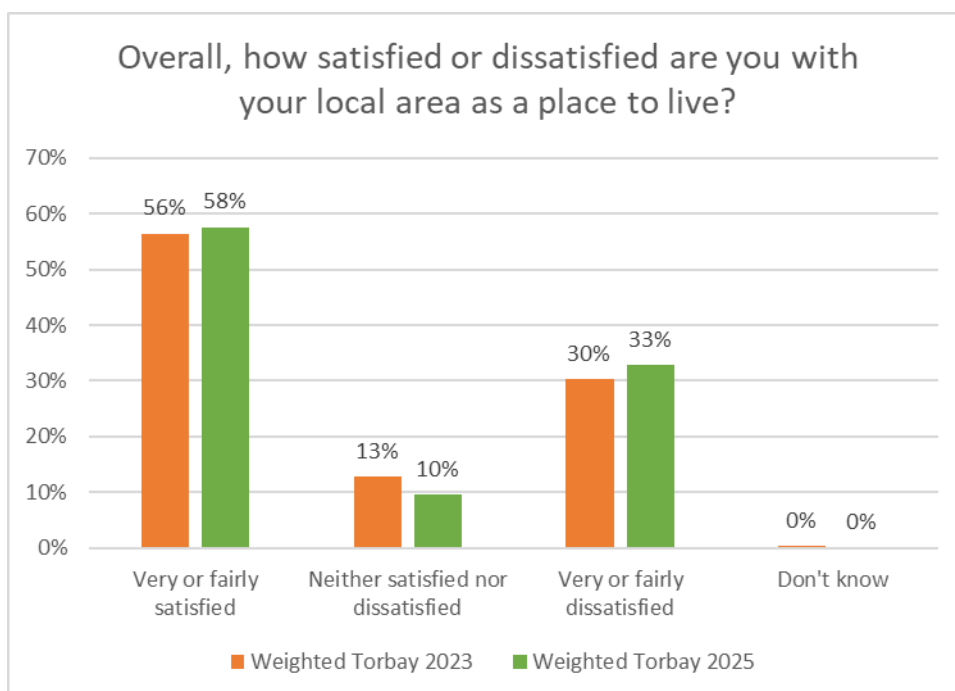
We used a wide range of communication and engagement methods to promote the surveys and encourage Torbay residents to participate. This included face-to-face engagement via the Residents Roadshows at a range of locations across Torquay, Paignton and Brixham which had printed surveys, to online surveys, and paper surveys left at venues including libraries.

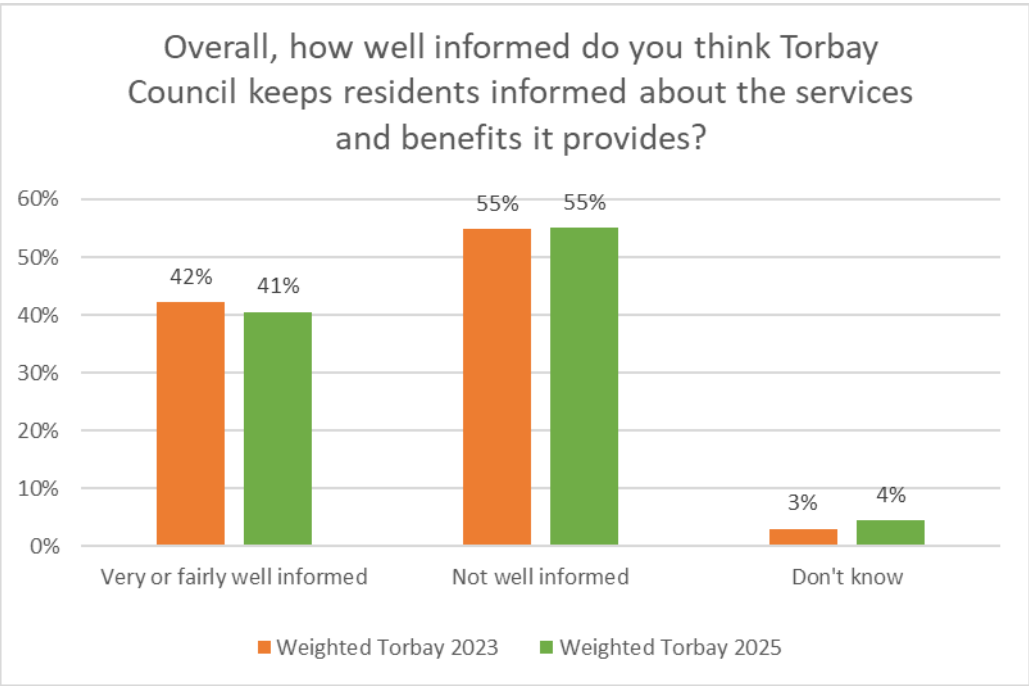
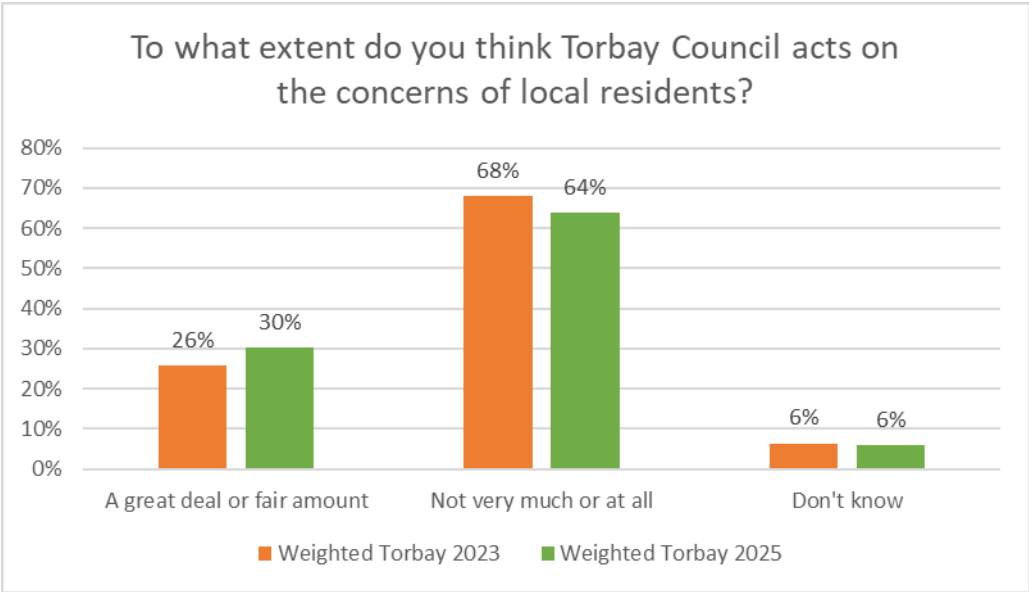
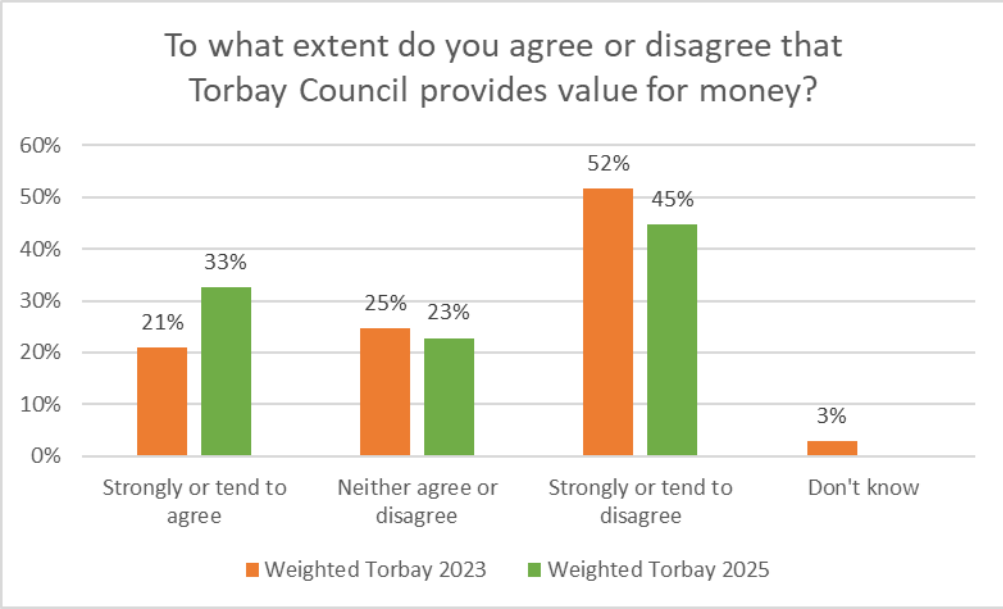
Findings

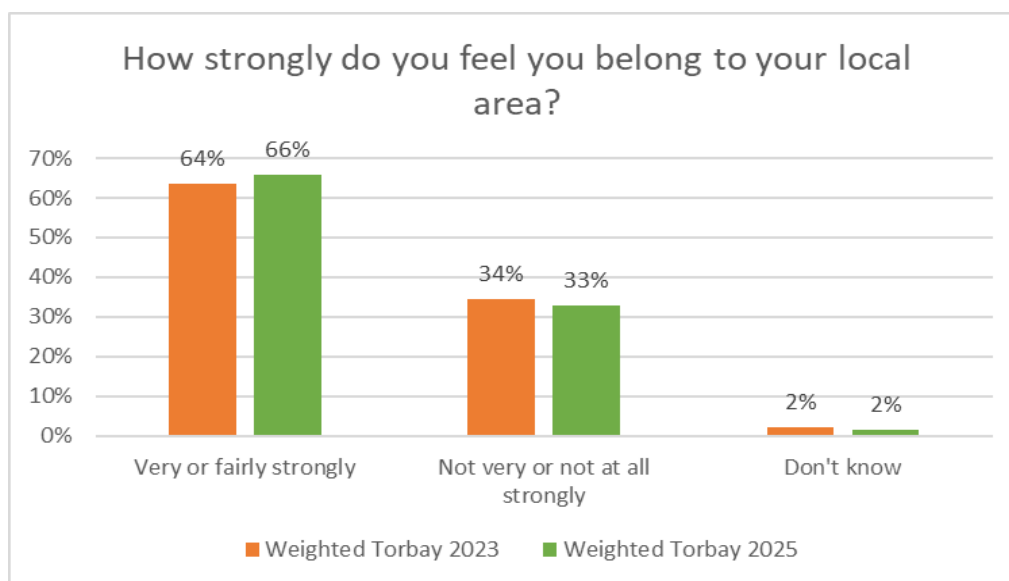
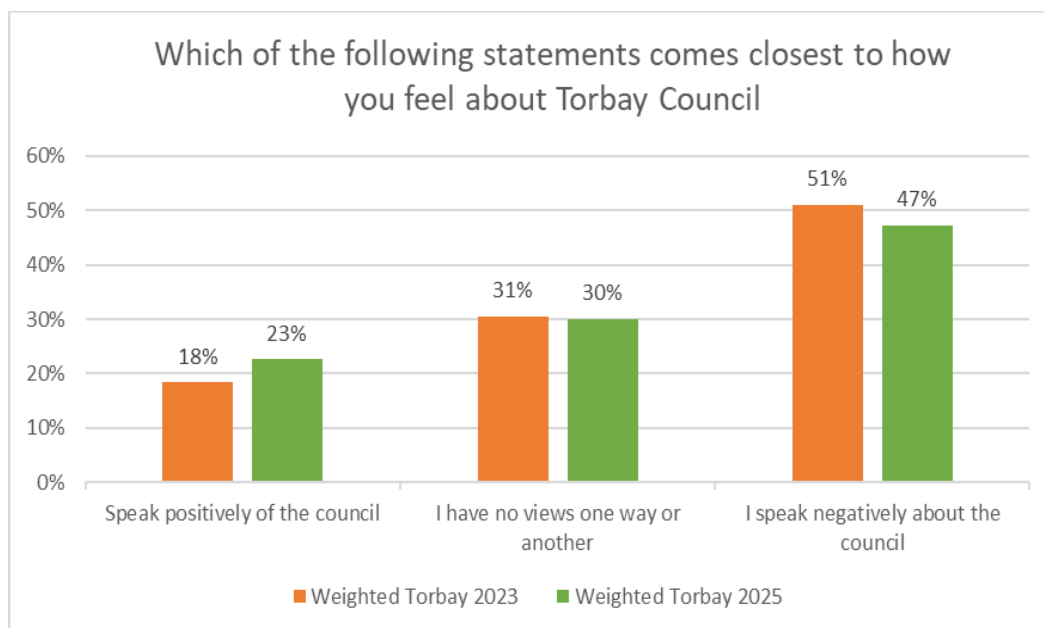
A total of 1,674 surveys were completed – 1,419 online and 255 from the roadshows and/or paper surveys. This is an increase from 2023 when a total of 1,369 surveys were completed (931 online and 438 from the roadshows and/or paper surveys).

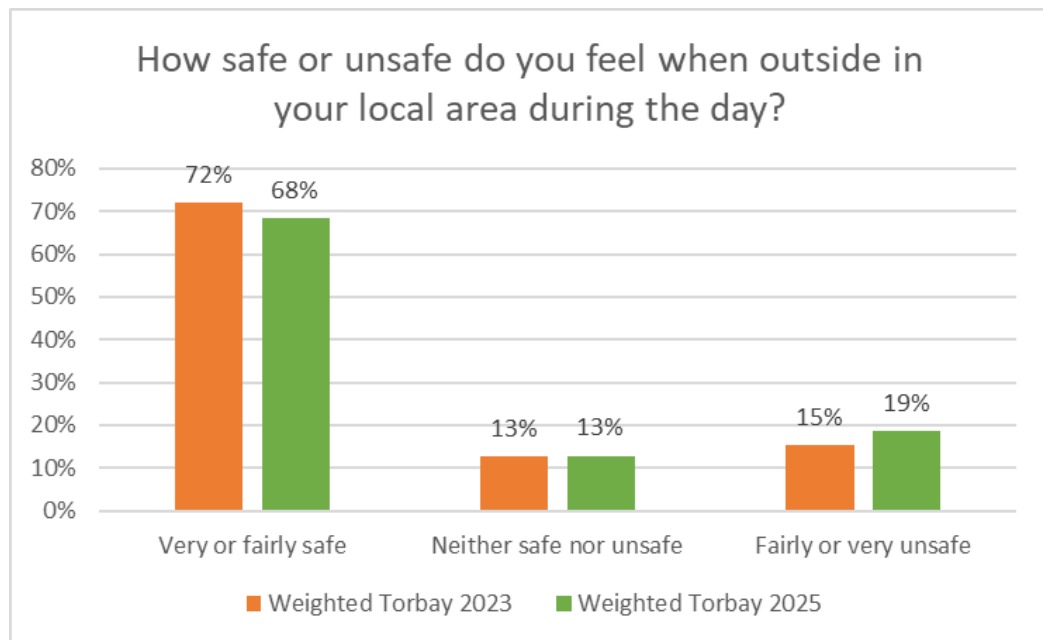
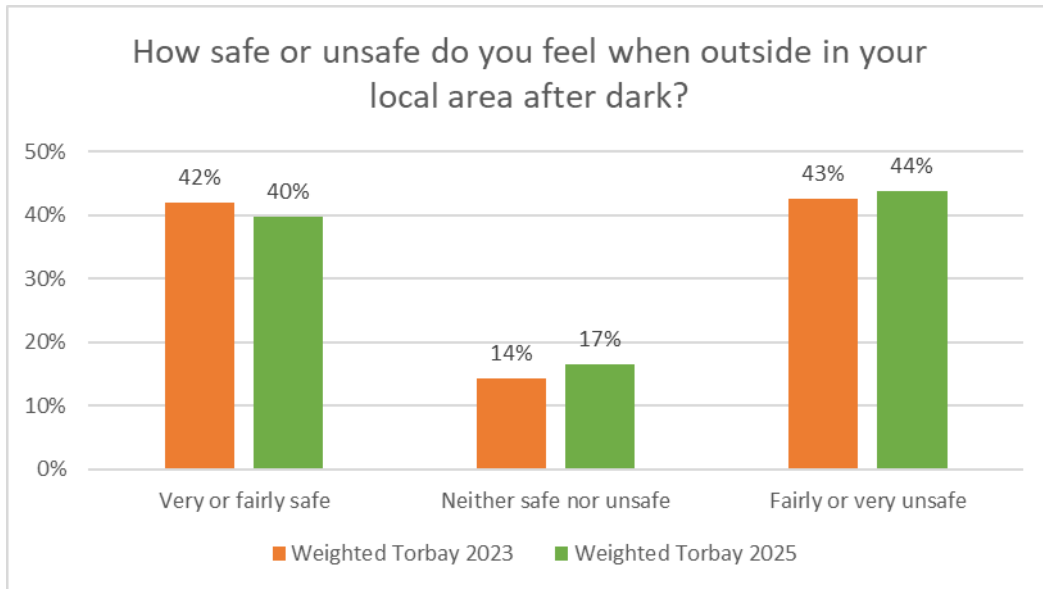
In total, 891 people were spoken to at the 15 engagement events with 248 paper surveys completed during them.

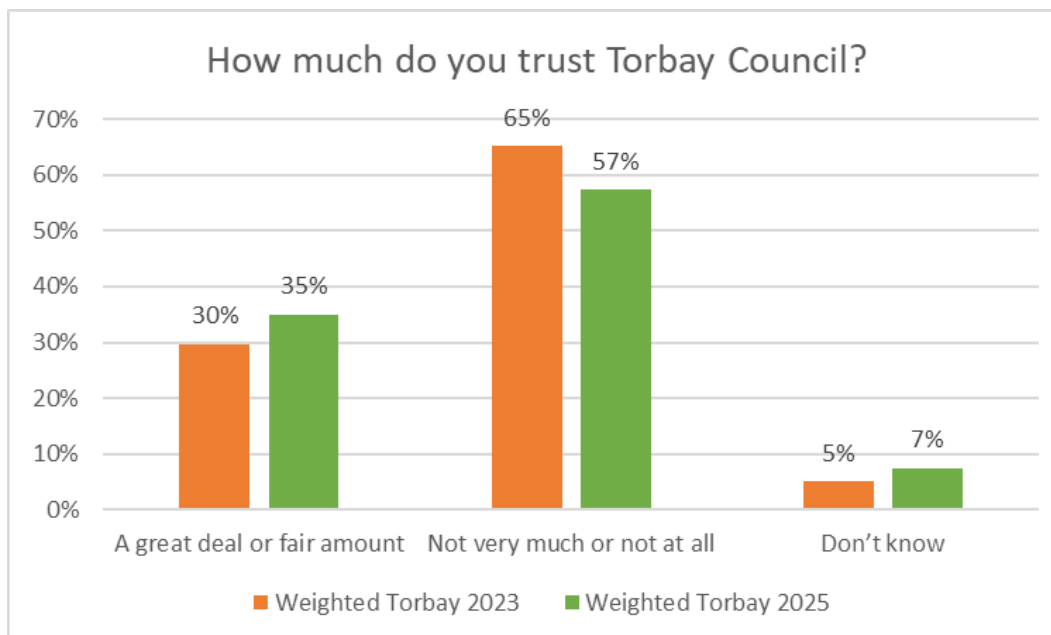
In accordance with the LGA guidance, we have taken the overall responses and weighted them by age. Below are the graphs that show the weighted results, comparing the 2023 results with the latest survey carried out in 2025.











In this year's survey, following this question we included a free text question which asked the respondent to elaborate on why they answered the way they did. Microsoft Copilot was used to assist in the analysis and summarisation of the feedback received for this. Copilot, an AI-powered tool, reviewed the free text comments from the provided dataset, identifying key themes.

Of all the 1,857 individual comments in this section, there were 297 negative comments, 247 positive, and 1,313 neutral comments.

Although more than a thousand residents responded to the survey and a wide variety of subjects and views came up, and there were some local variations depending on where people lived, there were a number of themes that were fairly consistent across the Bay.

There is clearly more work to be done around the issue of trust in the council, with the largest number of comments on a single issue (267) being around spending and value for money.

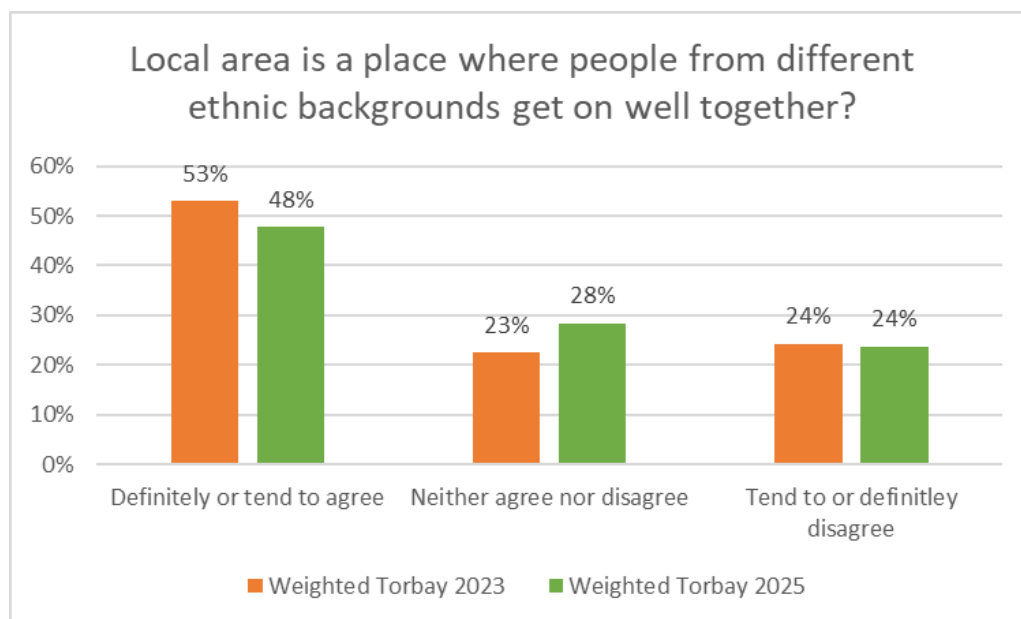
The second biggest issue in terms of number of people raising it (197) was around roads and transport, with potholes being a particular concern but also related issues such as bus services.

Transparency was the next biggest issue raised with 190 people commenting on this and particularly in relation to public consultations there is a perception that decisions have already been made. This suggests we need to do more to feedback to residents and also involve them at the earliest possible stage.

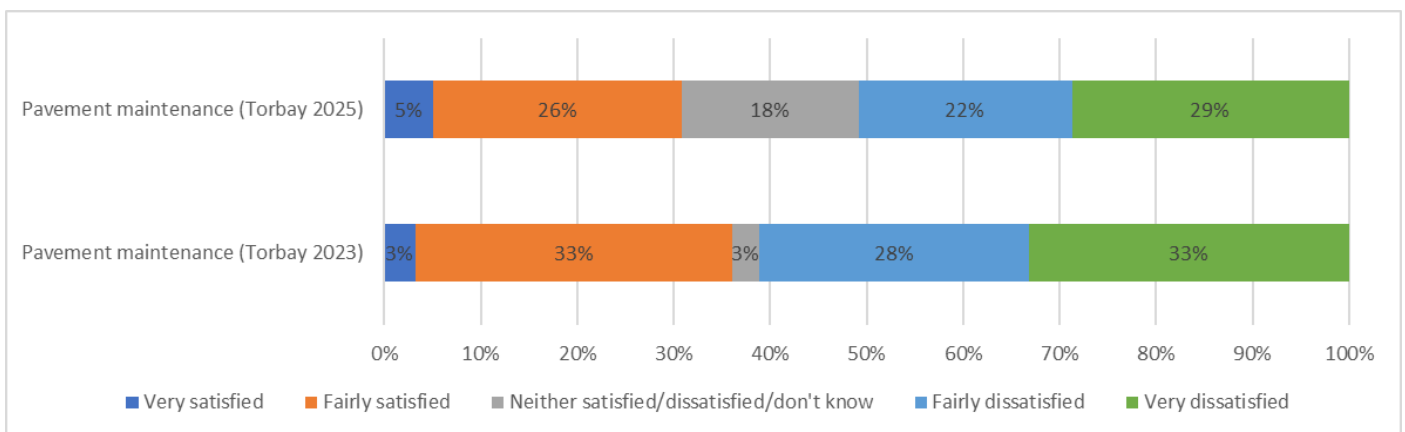
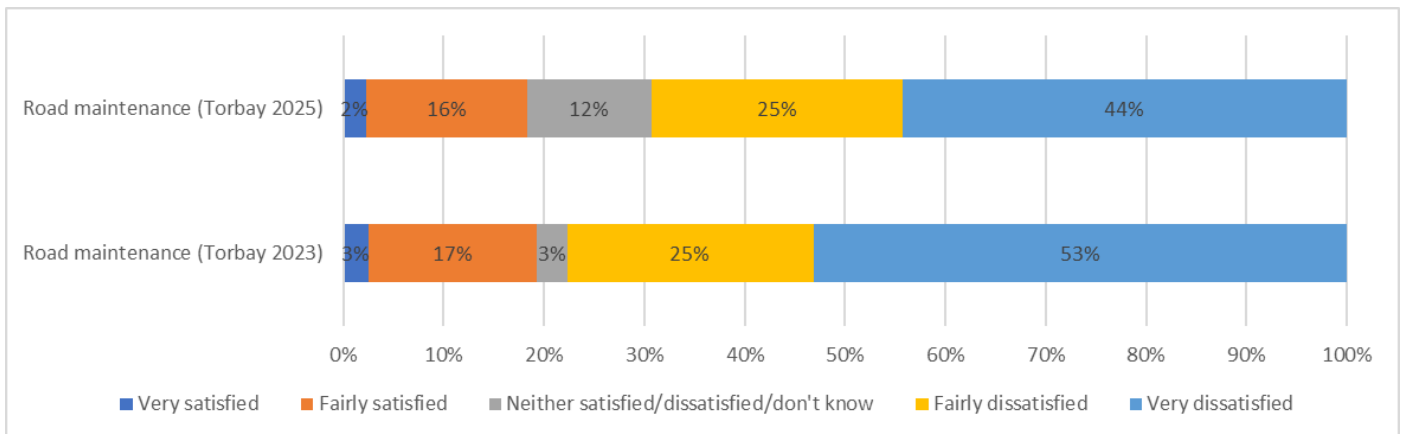
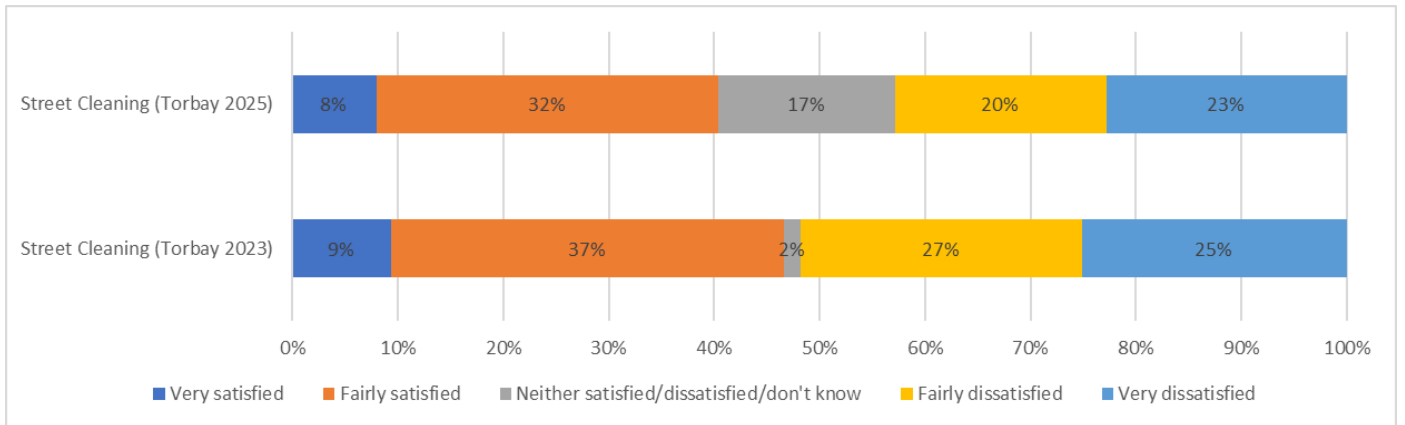
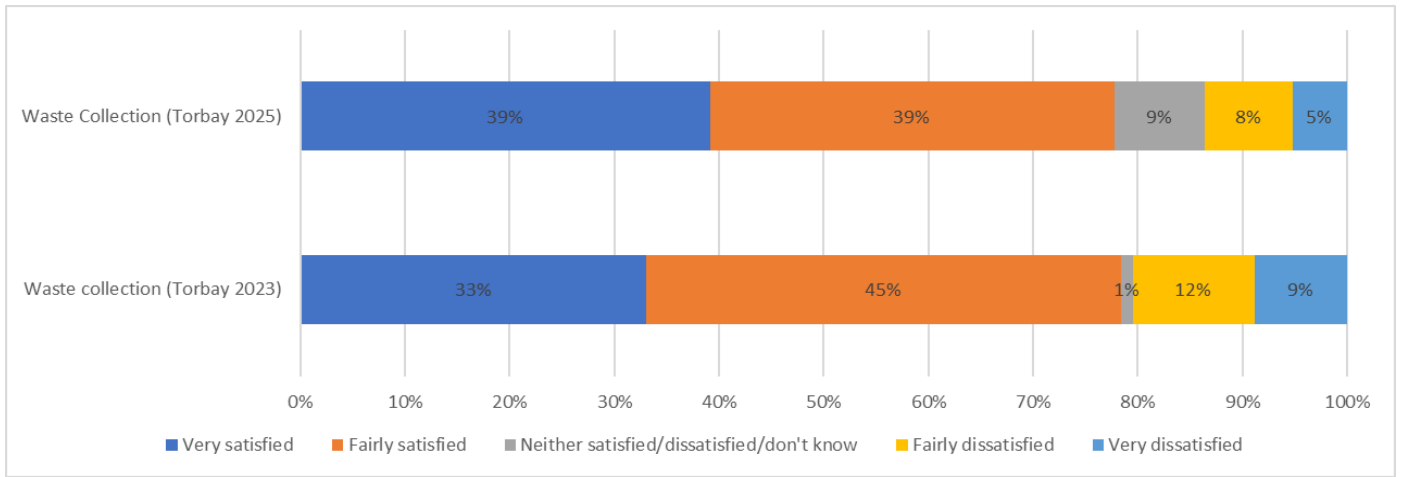
Below is a summary of the main issues that were mentioned:

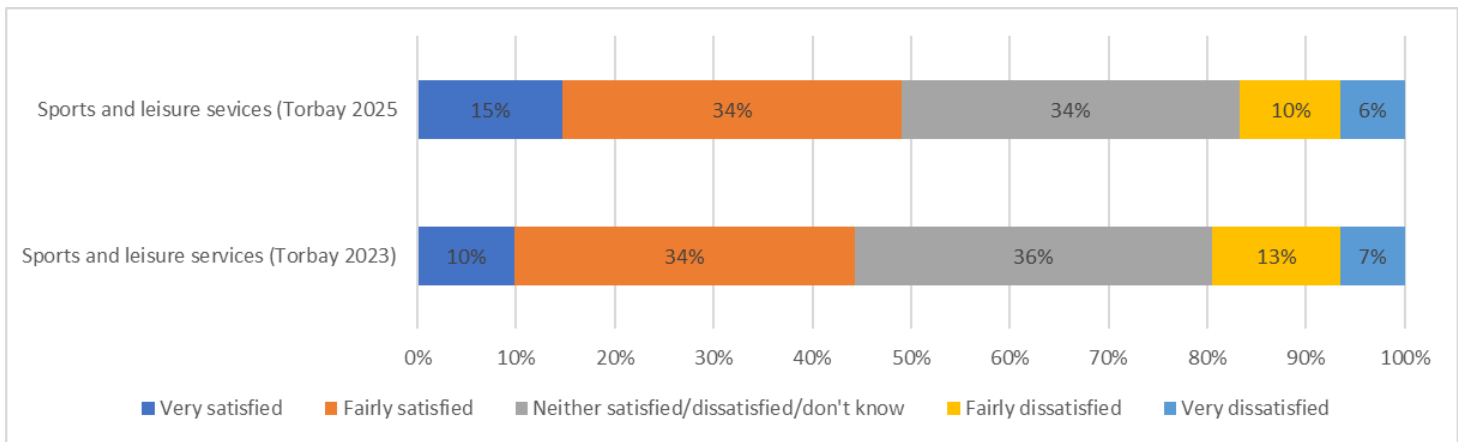
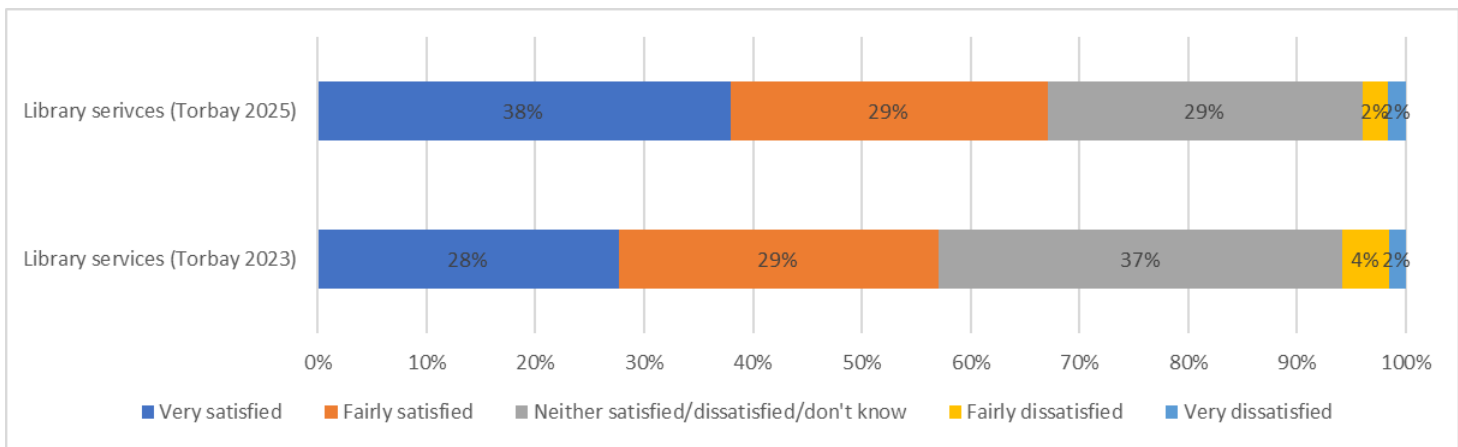
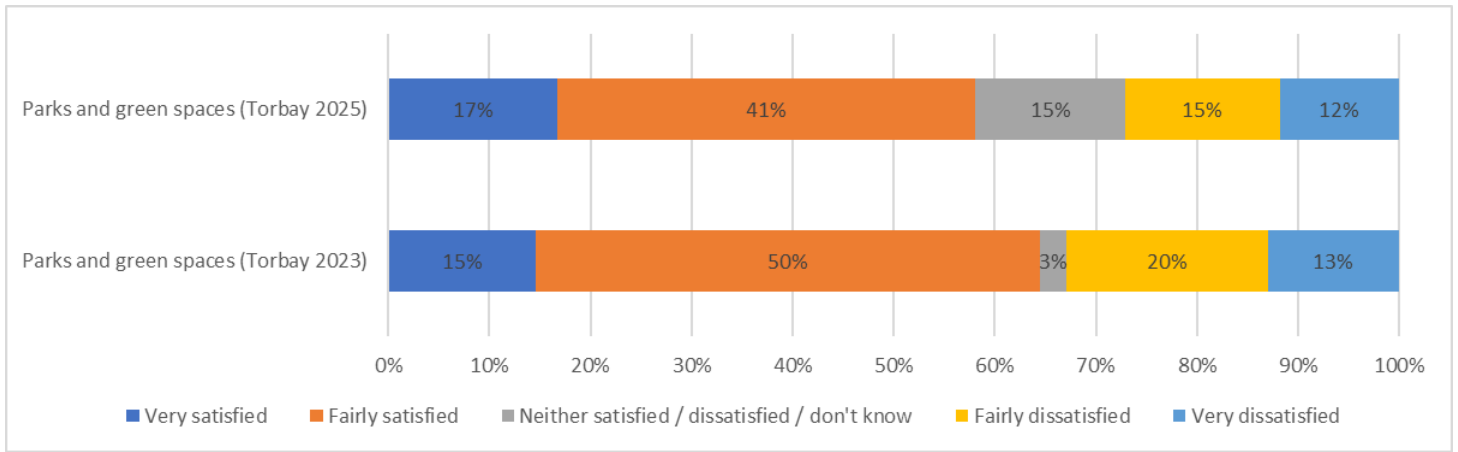
Theme or issue	How many comments on the issue
Spending and value for money – a perception that the council wastes money, rising council tax without improvements, a suggestion that we should focus on the basics rather than large capital investment.	267
Roads and transport – in particular around potholes, traffic flow, parking charges and bus services.	197

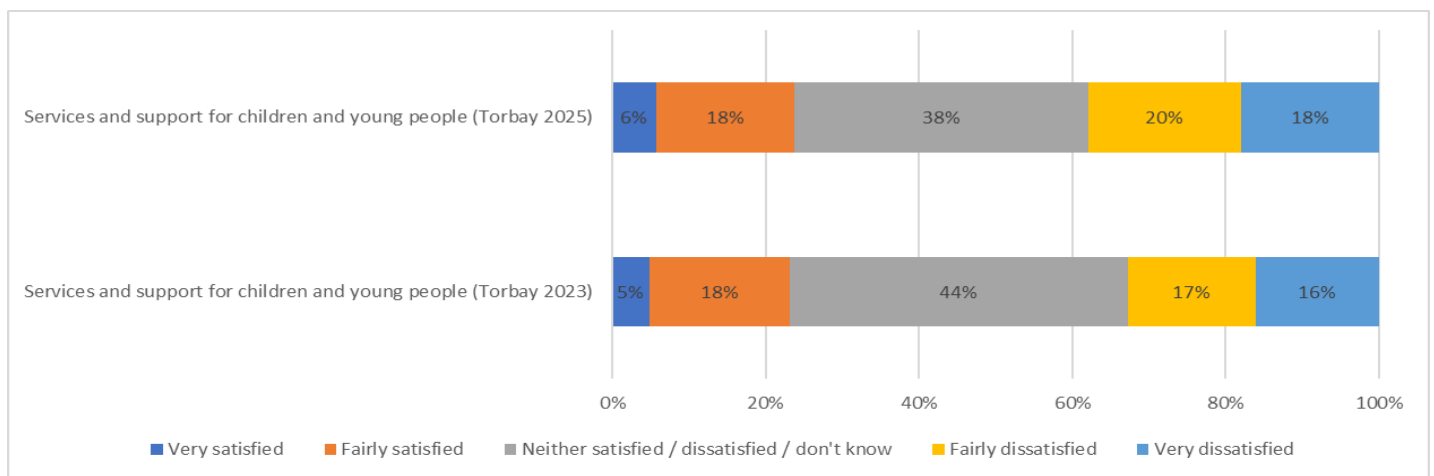
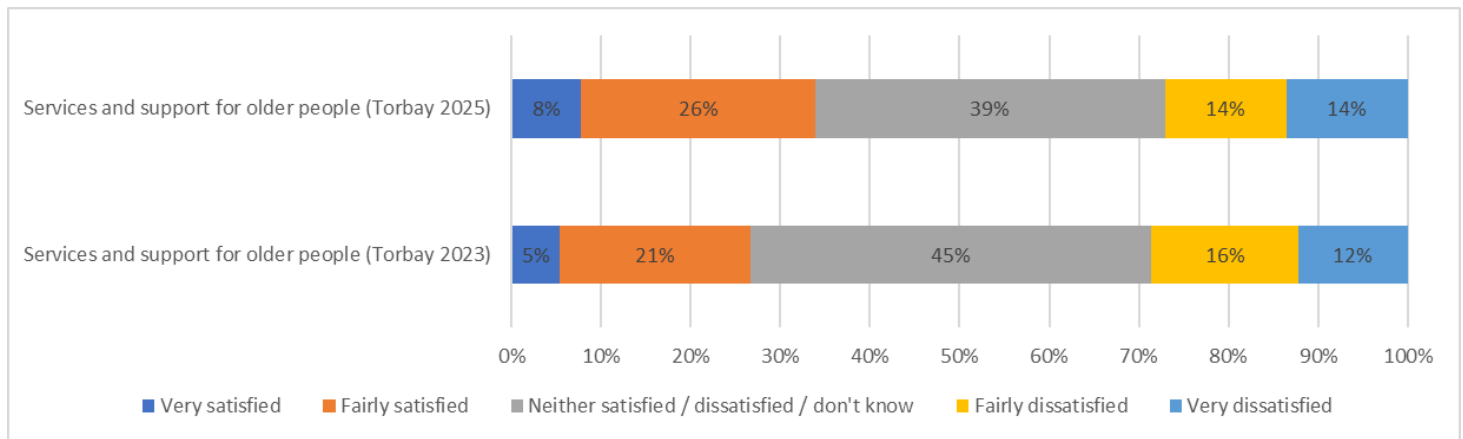
Communication, transparency and consultation. Perceived lack of early- stage engagement, consultations seen as “decided already,” slow or no replies to emails/complaints/FOI, and desire for clearer “why” behind decisions and spend.	190
Perceived inequality between the different parts of Torbay (Torquay vs Brixham vs Paignton) - Paignton and Brixham residents regularly say they feel neglected relative to Torquay (e.g., public realm, enforcement, road maintenance). Paignton often cited as “run down” or “messy”; Brixham residents reference harbour decisions and town- centre priorities.	153
Maintenance and cleanliness - Requests to increase frequency/quality of street cleaning, weed control, gully clearing, graffiti removal, and verge cutting.	128
Planning and development decisions - design quality/heritage fit, enforcement consistency and perceived deference to large developers. Calls for more transparency and heritage stewardship.	91
Crime and anti-social behaviour - Feeling unsafe in parts of Torquay (e.g., Castle Circus, Upper Union Street), visible street drinking/drug use, and desire for more wardens/police on foot and consistent PSPO enforcement.	89
Customers and access – Comments regarding unanswered calls, being passed around departments etc. Residents want accountable case handling and timely responses.	81
Concern about housing and Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMOs) - Concerns about HMOs in tourist areas; demand for affordable housing for locals; frustration at second- home tax impacts and clarity on how those revenues are used.	78



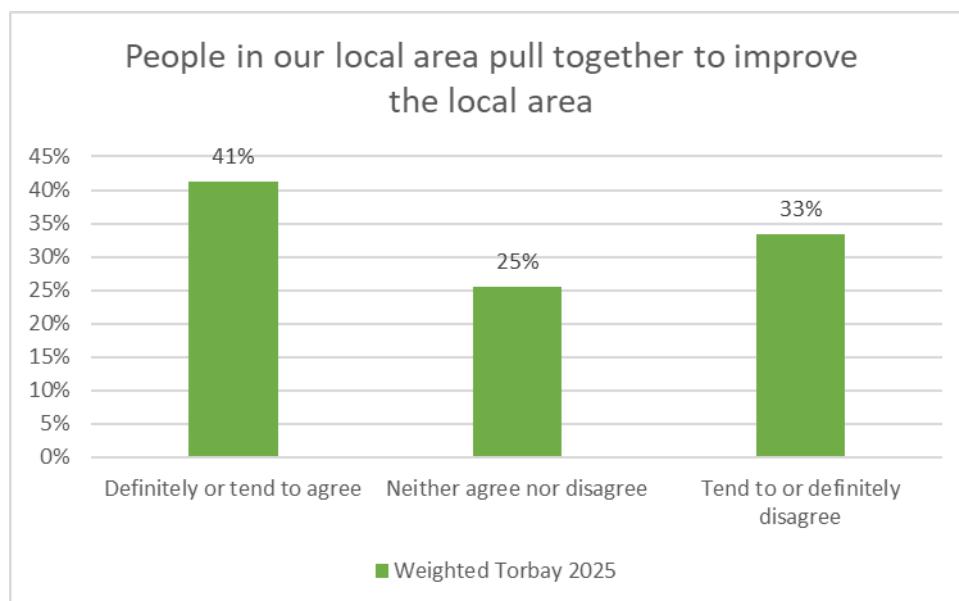
How satisfied are our residents with their services:

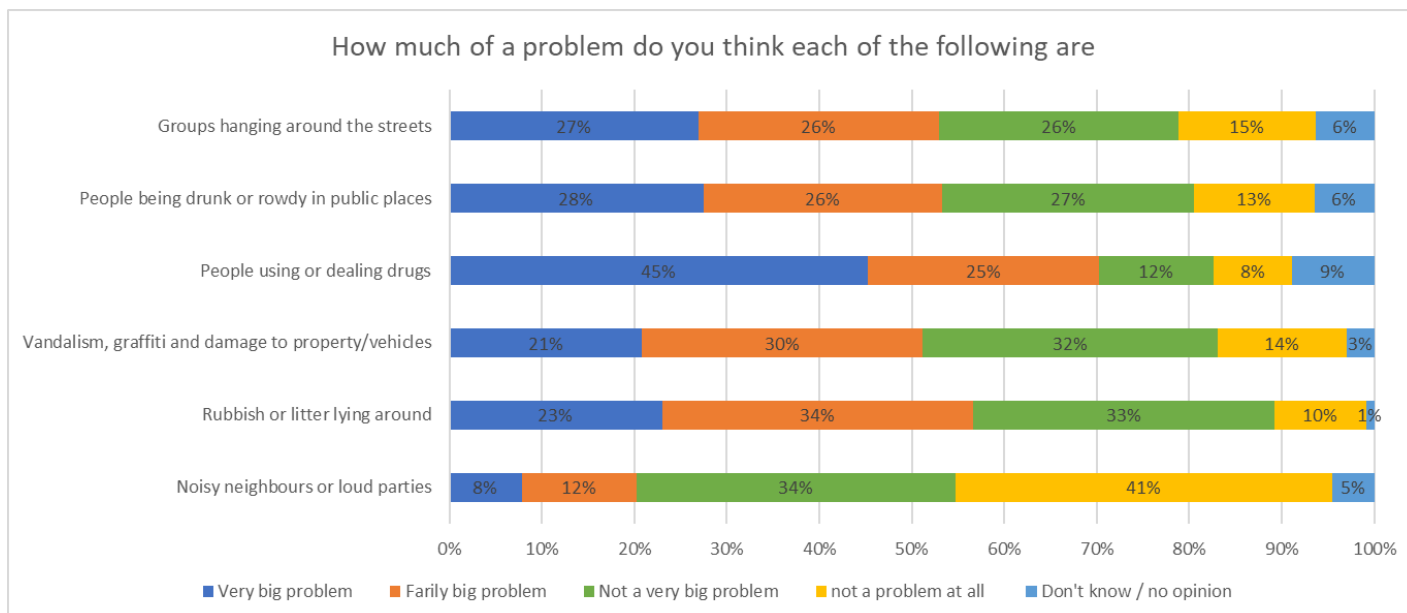






The next questions were new additions to this year's survey and don't have comparable data from 2023:





Key themes from the Roadshows

Although more than 1,500 residents responded to the survey and a wide variety of subjects and views came up, as well as there were some local variations depending on where people lived, there were several themes that were consistent across the Bay.

From both talking to people at the Roadshows and through the Surveys it was clear that there are still certain services, notably household waste and recycling collections and parks and green spaces where a significant proportion of respondents were either satisfied or very satisfied.

It was equally clear that there were some services that residents weren't satisfied with, such as road maintenance and pavement maintenance.

In addition to the surveys, at the Roadshows we also used enquiry forms to capture some of the main issues residents were facing, so that these could be looked into and acted upon.

Analysis of the themes captured during the conversations at the Roadshows was also done using CoPilot. The following list is of the five most common themes (number of mentions in brackets):

- Empty shops and town centre vitality (6)
 - Examples: “Empty shops”; “Too many empty shops in Paignton”; “Viability of local shops”; “Open closed shops for popup businesses”.
- Regeneration and development progress (5)
 - Examples: “What is happening with regeneration in Paignton”; “Questions over plans for central car park”; “When will Victoria Street works start”; “Former hotel in Victoria Street”.
- ASB and community safety (4)
 - Examples: “ASB Union Street” (twice); “ASB in town centre”; “Need to tackle ASB in Paignton”.
- Roads and highways maintenance and safety (3)
 - Examples: “Concern over road maintenance/ number of potholes”; “Poor state of roads”; “Speeding traffic”.
- Cleanliness and upkeep of public spaces (3)

- Examples: “Pavement litter/dog mess”; “Town needs deep clean”; “Parks poorly maintained”.

Demographics

Age

Considerable effort was made to target all age groups and particularly younger age groups. Despite this, and perhaps reflecting Torbay's older demographic, there were many more people aged 55 or over (1,106) responding to the survey than in the groups aged 54 and under (431).

This also reflected the Roadshow events where the vast majority of people we spoke to were in the older, 55 and above, bracket. The largest age bracket was the 65-74 age bracket with 433 respondents to the survey, compared to the lowest bracket which was the 16-24 demographic with 30 responses.

0-15	16-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 plus
2	30	79	122	198	384	433	289

Gender

Female	Male	Prefer not to say
858	683	53

Ethnicity

The vast majority of respondents to the Residents Survey identified as White British (1,495), compared to 28 who answered Mixed Ethnicity, 13 as Asian or Asian British, 8 as Black or Black British, 2 as Chinese and 39 as Other Ethnic Group.

Again, this reflected the experience of the Roadshows where there were far more residents that spoke to us who were White British than any other ethnic groups.

Disability

Of the respondents, 397 considered themselves disabled compared to 1,147 respondents who didn't. Of the disabled respondents most (293) said it affected their mobility.

It affects my mobility	It affects my vision	It affects my hearing	It affects me in another way	Prefer not to say
293	45	80	130	46

We asked two new demographic questions for this survey, which have been in place on our other survey's for a while now. This is about considering yourself to be a carer or spending time in care:

Do you consider yourself to be a carer (unpaid carer to a friend or relative?)

Yes	No	Prefer not to say
-----	----	-------------------

15	51	5
----	----	---

Have you spent any time in care?

Yes	No	Prefer not to say
7	54	11

Communications and engagement evaluation

We used a wide range of communication and engagement methods to promote the surveys and encourage Torbay residents to participate. This included face-to-face engagement via the Residents Roadshows at a range of locations across Torquay, Paignton and Brixham, printed and online surveys and paper surveys left at venues including libraries.

Below is a summary of the channels and methods used and the reach each one had. The majority of surveys (1,419) were completed online through our Consultation webpage, while a total of 255 were completed at the Residents Roadshows either on paper surveys or on MS Forms. There were also 50 paper surveys completed from the ones that were left at libraries and local businesses. Web traffic was directed to our Consultation webpages through a range of channels.

Press releases

Three press releases were issued to the media.

In total over the survey period, the articles on the News section of our website they received 186 views, from 73 active users.

- 5 November 2025: [Still time for 12-15 year olds to have their say on life in Torbay - Torbay Council](#) - 9 views, 1 active user, average engagement time 1m 42s
- 22 October 2025: [Just over a week to go to have your say on Torbay Residents' Satisfaction Survey - Torbay Council](#) - 24 views, 19 active users, 16s
- 19 September 2025: [Have your say – Residents in Torbay to be asked their views in wide-ranging survey as part of an autumn of engagement - Torbay Council](#) - 153 views, 53 active users, 28s

Other media

17 September 2025: Torbay Weekly, [Leader's Column](#)

Social media

A social media campaign ran from 18 September to 2 November 2025. The campaign was extended to 15 November for the 12-15 Survey.

Posts were published on our channels on Facebook, LinkedIn and NextDoor to publicise the survey and the engagement events.

- Total posts: 67
- Total clicks: 267
- Total reach: 36,668
- Total impressions: 69,357
- Engagement rate: 0.72%

- Total comments: 96
- Total likes: 63
- Shares/reposts: 67

Meta (Social Media) advertising

A separate paid-for post was made using the Meta network which appeared on the Facebook and Instagram social media platforms. This included a link to the online survey. The post was targeted at adults aged 18 and over living in Torbay.

£93.20 was spent from 15 October to 1 November. This resulted in 586 link clicks, at a cost of £0.16 per click, which is the average for similar ads.

The post reached 12,276 accounts with 32,227 impressions.

Email newsletters

10 articles were included in email newsletters - one Members' Briefing and nine in One Torbay. These were seen 52,351 times and generated 389 clicks to the Consultations page of the website or directly to the main survey and 12-15 survey pages.

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Appendix 1 - Residents Satisfaction Survey 2026 for 12-15 year olds Results

Introduction

A survey for 12-15 year-olds in Torbay was launched on 19 September 2025 at the same time as the wider Residents Satisfaction Survey (which was for all residents aged 16 and over), to capture the views of some of Torbay's younger population.

It is the second time that Torbay Council has participated in the Local Government Association's survey. Understanding resident or customer views is a key element of assessing the effectiveness of a local authority, alongside cost and performance information. It can also strengthen local accountability and be a key part of our approach to managing our own performance.

Executive summary of the results

There were 77 responses to this year's survey. This is an increase from the 55 completed surveys we received when we ran this in 2023. That is a 40% increase.

The survey was part of the main Residents Survey on our website. It was mentioned in all press releases about the Residents Satisfaction Survey and promoted via social media. Direct emails were sent to key stakeholders such as schools and organisations working with young people. There is more information on where the survey was sent in the communications and engagement section of this report.

Compared to 2023, the results went up in most of the questions:

- Asked if we listen to people - those that answered yes went up 11% from 15% to 26%.
- For how strongly do you belong to your area - those that answered yes went up 17% from 36% to 53%
- When asked about trusting the Council - those that answered yes went up by 11% from 20% to 31%.
- Asked if they feel the council tells people what it's doing - those that answered yes went down very slightly from 22% to 19% but that said not really or no also went down from 62% to 46%
- When answering do you like where you live - those that answered yes went up by 34% from 34% to 68%
- For if the feel the council is doing a good job - those that answered yes went up by 26% from 6% to 32%
- Asked if they feel safe outside after dark- those that answered very or quite safe went up by 2% from 13% to 15%. Those that answered not very safe or not safe at all also went up by 6% from 65% to 71%
- When asked about feeling safe outside during the day - those that answered very or quite safe went up by 11% from 58% to 69%. And those that answered not very safe or not safe at all also went up by 2% from 22% to 24%

- Asked if people from different backgrounds get on in their area - those that answered yes definitely or mostly went up from 7% from 35% to 42%.

When it came to how services are delivered, they answered:

- With rubbish collections, 43% were very or quite happy compared to 33% last time. That is a 10% increase
- With street cleaning, 31% were very or quite happy compared to 22% last time. That is a 9% increase
- For road repairs, 19% were very or quite happy compared to 16% last time. That is a 3% increase
- With pavement repairs, 30% were very or quite happy compared to 31% last time. That is a decrease of 1%.
- With parks and green spaces, 42% were very or fairly satisfied with 32% compared to last time. That is an increase of 10%
- For Library Services, 49% were very or quite happy compared to 64% last time. That is a decrease of 15%
- With sport and leisure services, 47% were very or quite happy compared to 45% last time. That is an increase of 2%
- For help for older people, 28% were very or quite happy compared to 37% last time. That is a decrease of 9%
- And help for children and younger people, 31% were very or quite happy compared to 22% last time. That is a 9% increase.

Several Anti-Social Behaviour questions were asked about how they feel in their local area. The highest answer for each one is:

- 40% felt noisy neighbours or loud parties were not a problem
- 45% felt litter and rubbish was a fairly big problem
- 40% felt vandalism or graffiti was a fairly big problem
- 34% felt drugs was a fairly big problem
- 34% felt drunk or loud people in public was a fairly big problem
- 35% felt groups hanging around was a fairly big problem

This year, after asking the question about Trust we also asked our residents why they answered the way they did. Microsoft Copilot, which is an AI-powered tool, was used to assist in the analysis and summarisation of the feedback received.

The themes of the comments were around lack of trust and communication, safety concerns and negative perception of the area. A few comments acknowledge professionalism or occasional good decisions made by the council. There was also feedback about lack of facilities and activities for young people and frustration, housing and accessibility issues with council priorities.

Methodology

The content and questions of both the main Residents Satisfaction Survey (16+) and the additional survey for 12-15 year-olds was based on LGA guidance "Are you being served?".

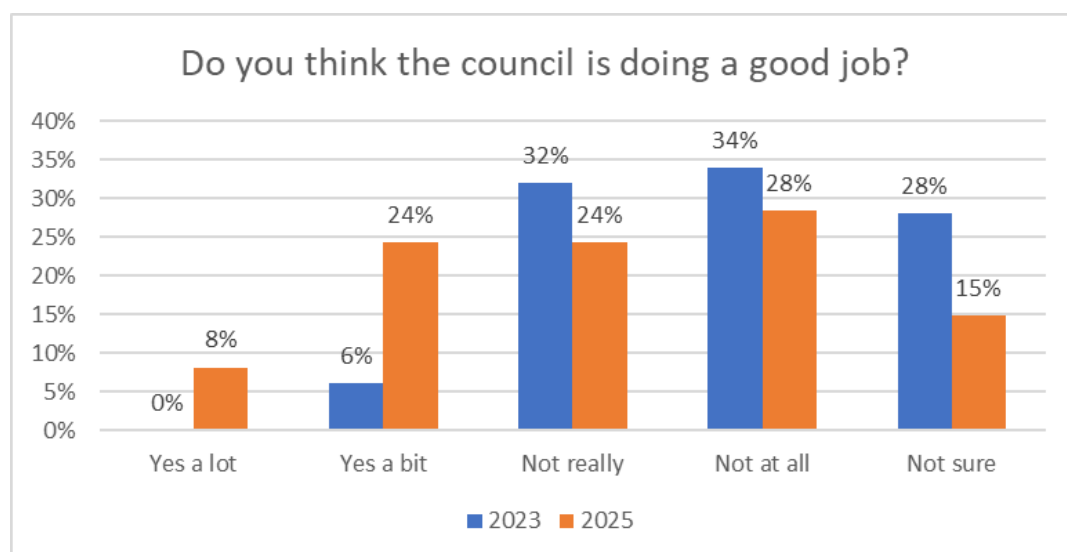
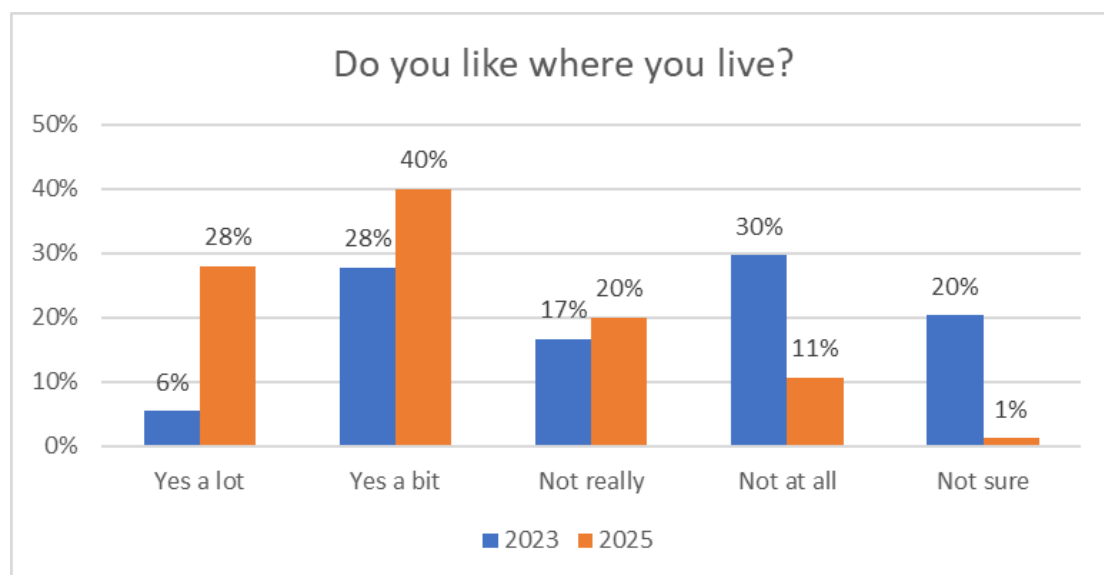
Six key indicators are used to measure residents' views of their local council. Respondents are also asked to indicate their level of satisfaction with nine council services. Other questions focus on perceptions of safety, trust in politicians and government, and media coverage of councils.

This survey was predominantly the same as the general Residents Survey, with a slight difference as there was an additional question on the survey for 12-15 year olds to ask for their views on anti-social behaviour.

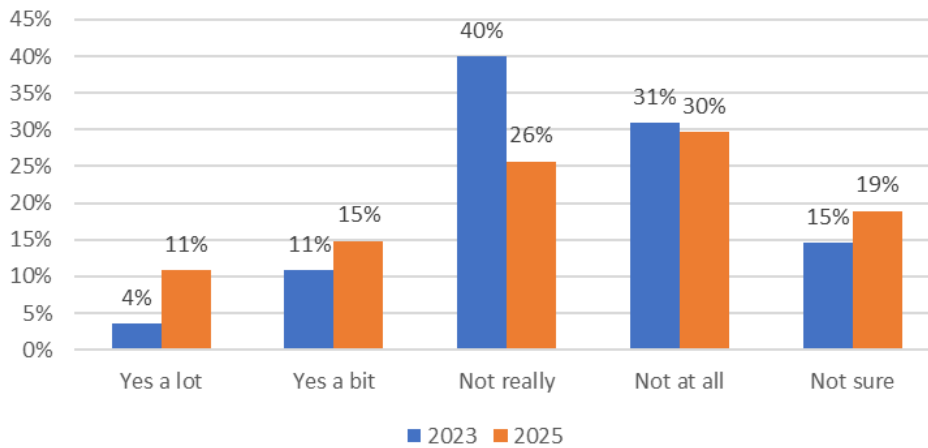
The survey was linked from the main Residents Survey on MS Forms, from the Torbay Council website. It was mentioned in all press releases about the Residents Survey and promoted via social media. Direct emails were sent to key stakeholders such as schools and organisations working with young people. There is more information on where the survey was sent in the communications and engagement section of this report.

Findings

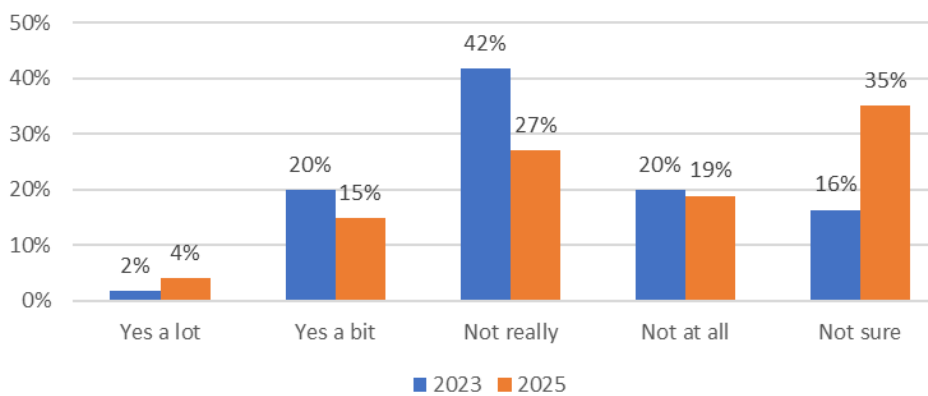
There were 77 responses to this survey, which is higher than the number of responses (55) to the previous survey in 2023. Below are the results to each question compared to the results of the previous survey. Please note, the questions from the LGA survey were taken and simplified, to make them more age appropriate and to encourage participation.



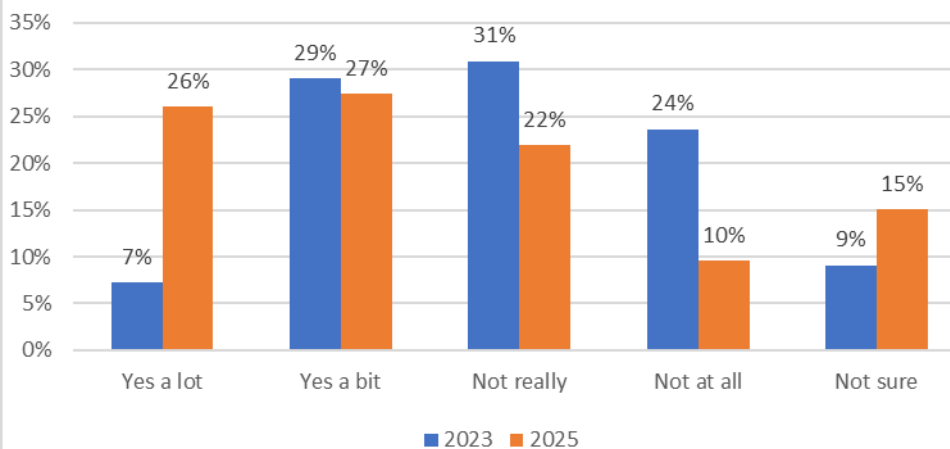
Do you think the council listens to people?

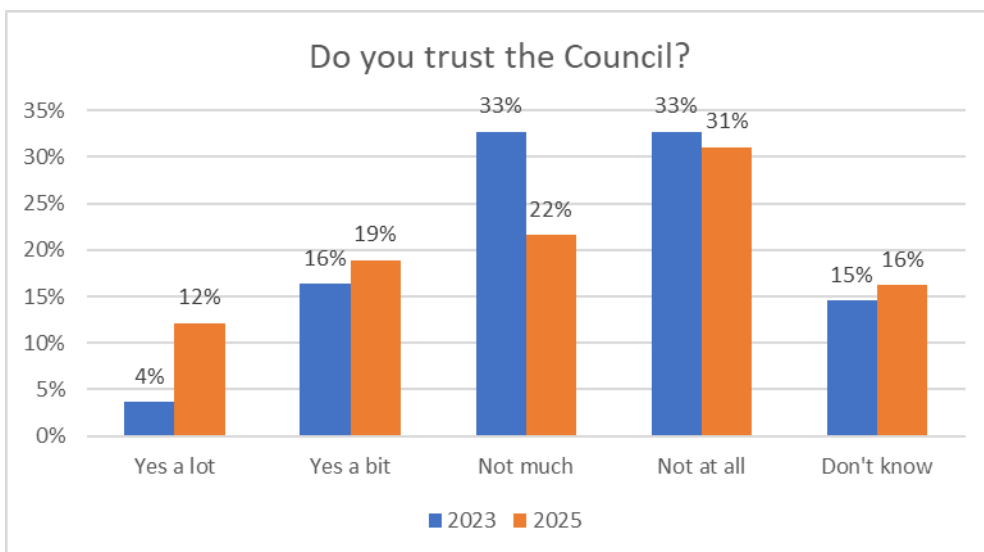
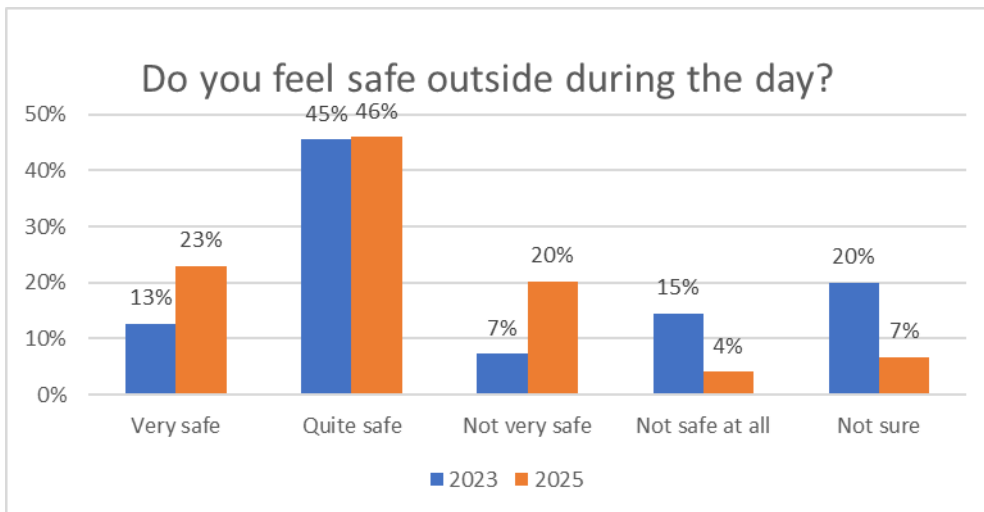
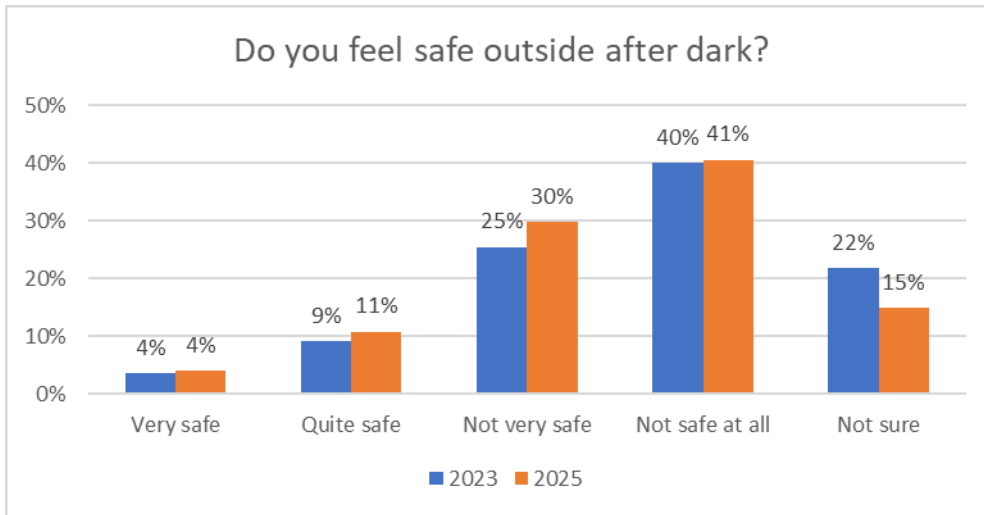


Do you feel the council tells people what it's doing?



How strongly do you belong to your area?

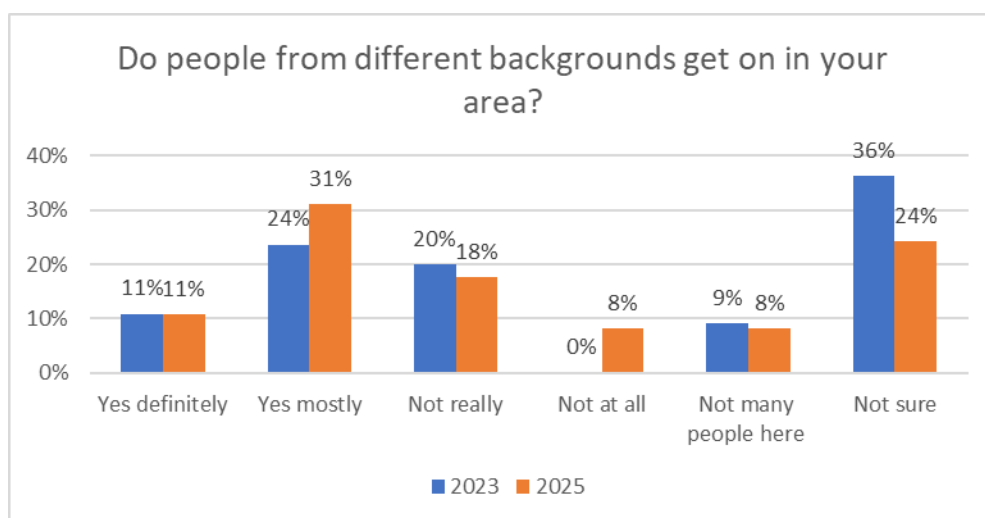




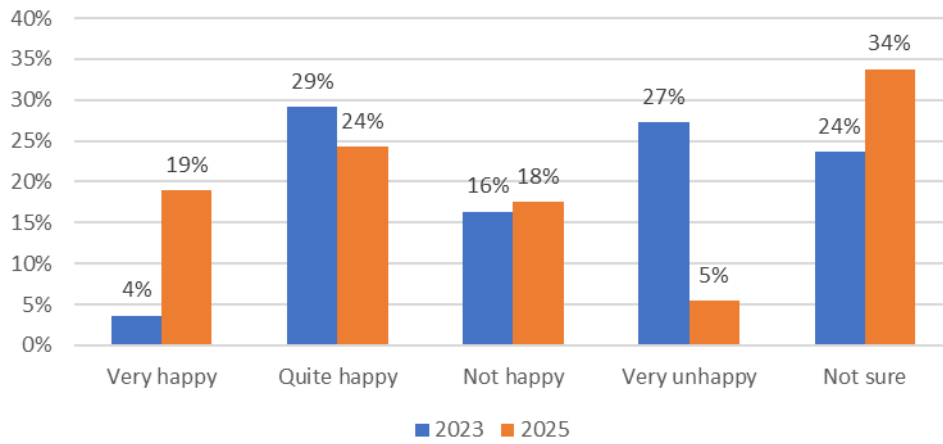
In this year's survey, following this question we included a free text question which asked the respondent to elaborate on why they answered the way they did. Microsoft Copilot was used to assist in the analysis and summarisation of the feedback received for this. Copilot, an AI-powered tool, reviewed the free text comments from the provided dataset, identifying key themes.

Below is a summary of the main issues that were mentioned:

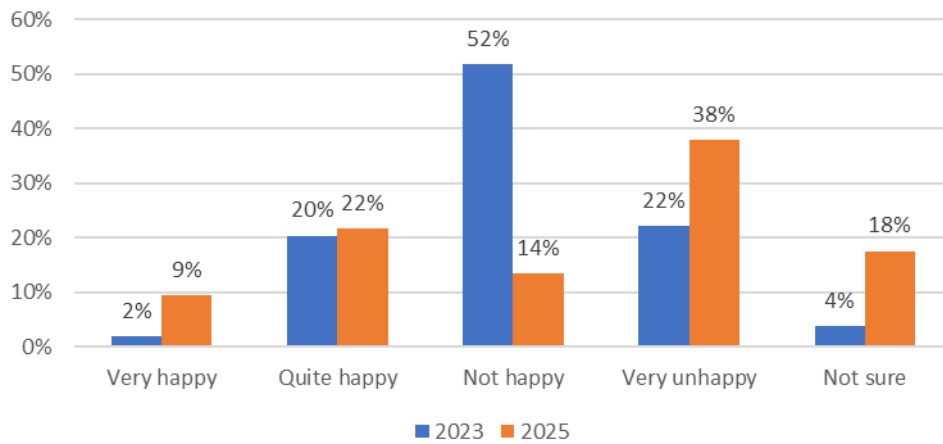
Lack of trust and communication	Many of those who responded feel the council does not listen to their opinions or communicate decisions clearly. Comments like “Because they don’t listen”, “I want to trust but I don’t think they listen”, and “we don’t know what decisions they make” highlight this.
Safety concerns	Strong concerns about feeling unsafe in town and parks due to drugs, alcohol, homelessness, and antisocial behaviour. Examples: “I don’t feel safe in town”, “Torquay is scary lots of homeless around and drug people”, “Unsafe after dark”.
Negative perception of area	Descriptions of Torquay and Paignton as rundown, dirty, and unsafe. Comments include “Everything down here is rubbish”, and complaints about rubbish, potholes, and congestion.
Lack of facilities and activities for young people	Requests for more skate parks, youth clubs, safe spaces, and free sports activities. “Council need more skate parks... now!”, “We need safe spaces outside to meet”.
Frustration with council priorities	Perception that money is spent on unnecessary projects while essential services and facilities decline. “Spending money on things that are not necessarily needed!”, “Parks are falling apart”.
Housing and accessibility issues	Complaints about housing allocation, lack of fencing in parks, and poor accessibility for children with additional needs. “People from outside the UK get priority for housing”, “Parks not accessible for children with additional needs”.
Mixed or neutral views	A few comments acknowledge professionalism or occasional good decisions. “They’re professional”, “Sometimes they make good decisions”.



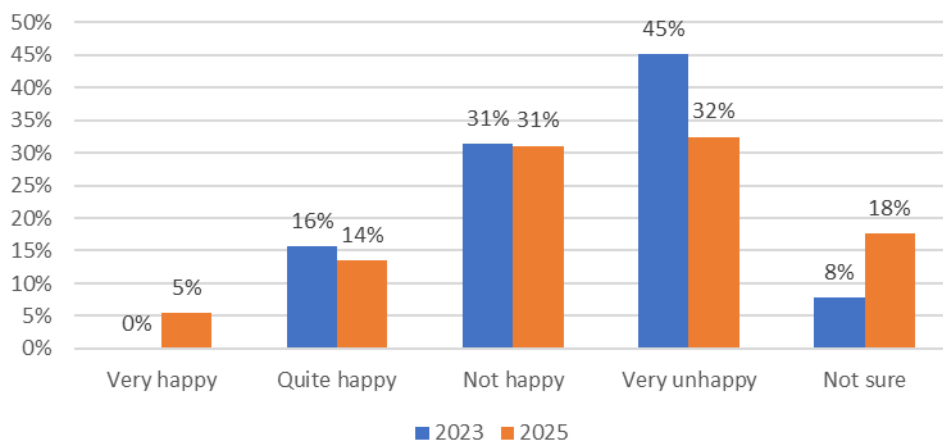
How happy are you with your rubbish collections?



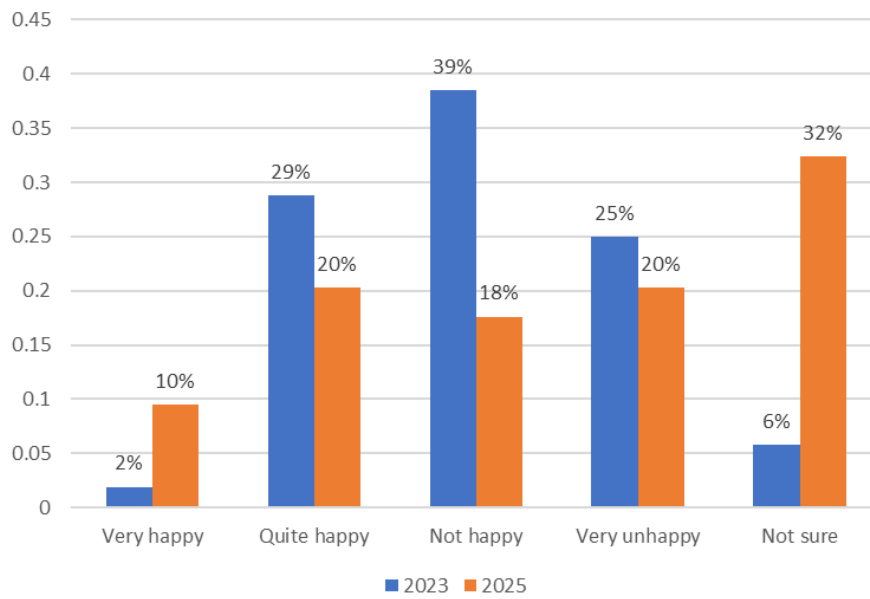
How happy are you with street cleaning?



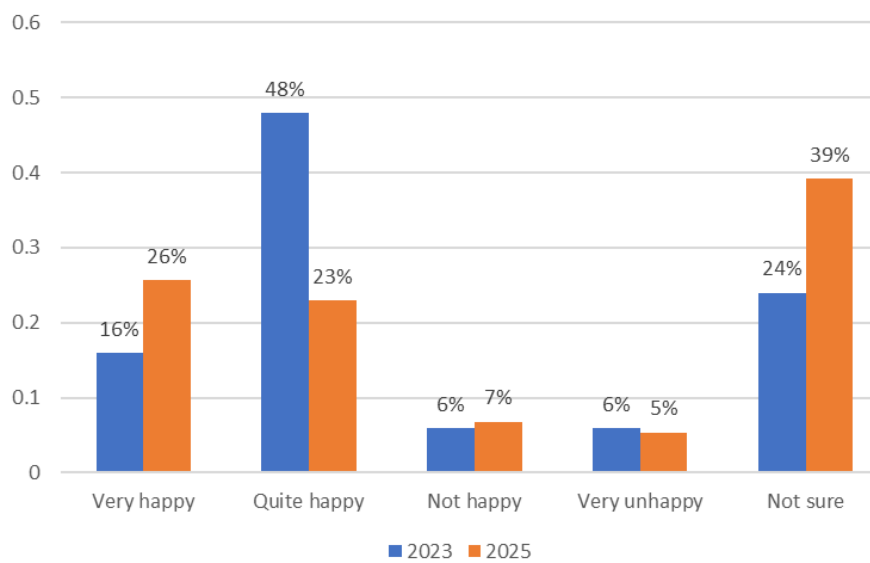
How happy are you with road repairs?



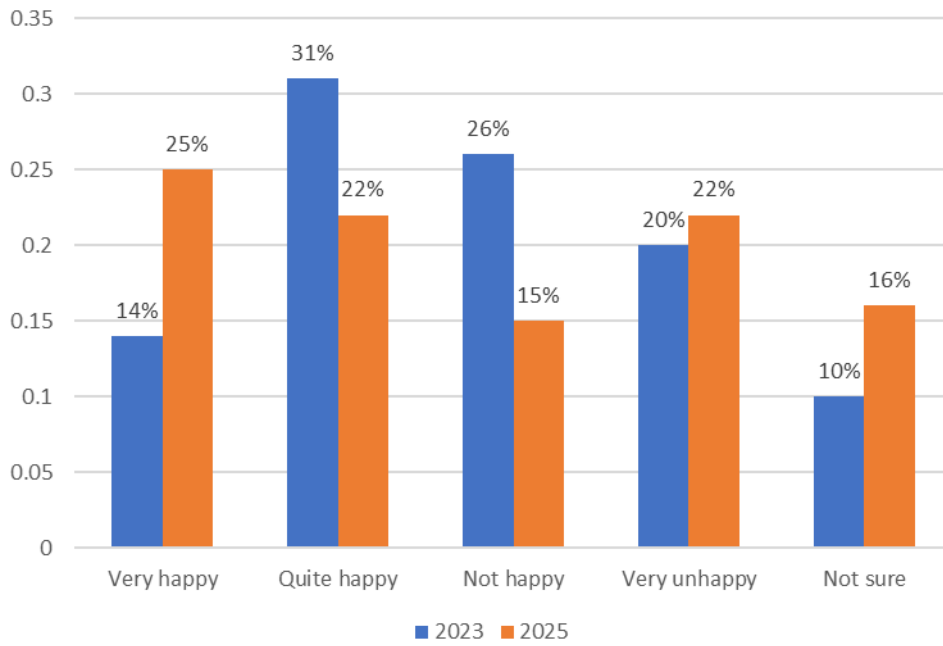
How happy are you with pavement repairs?



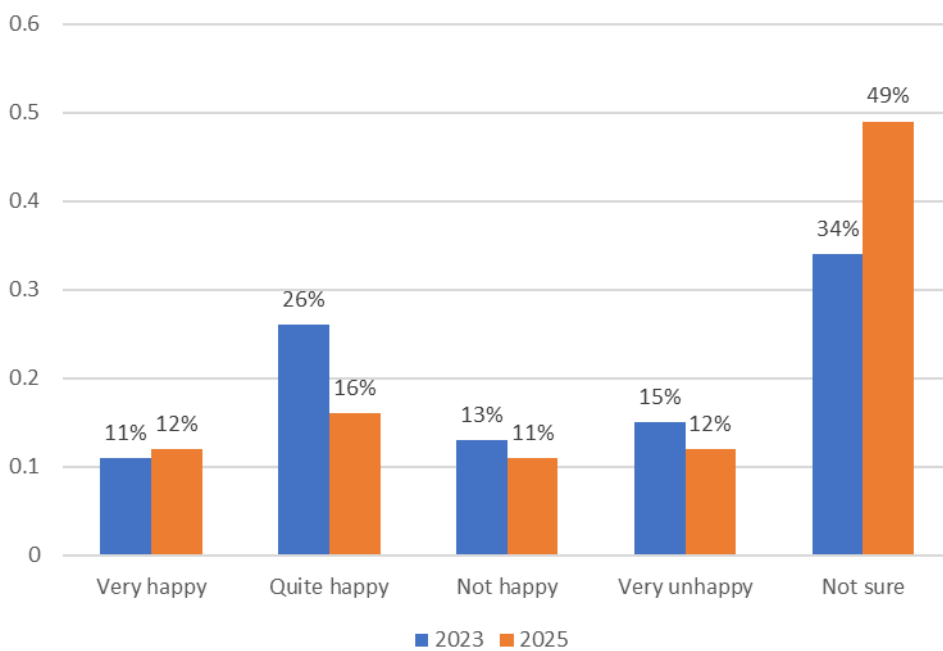
How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with Library Services?



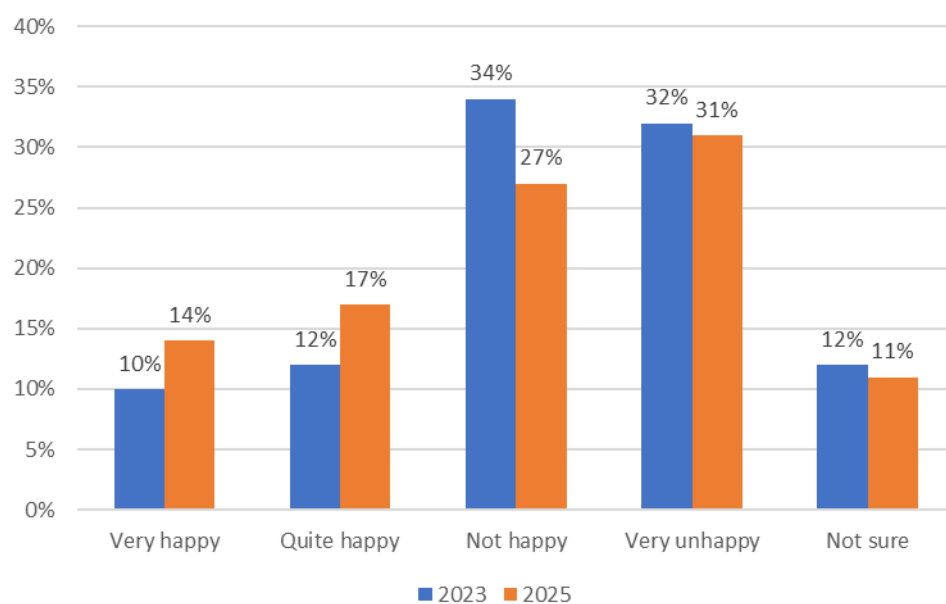
How happy are you with sport and leisure services



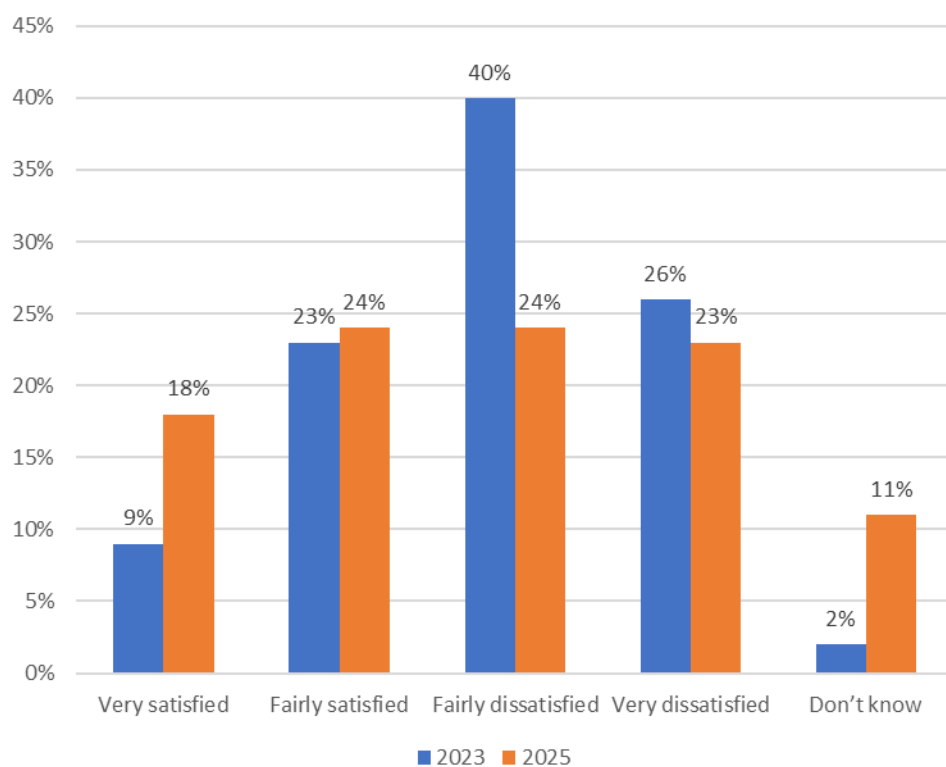
How happy are you with help for older people

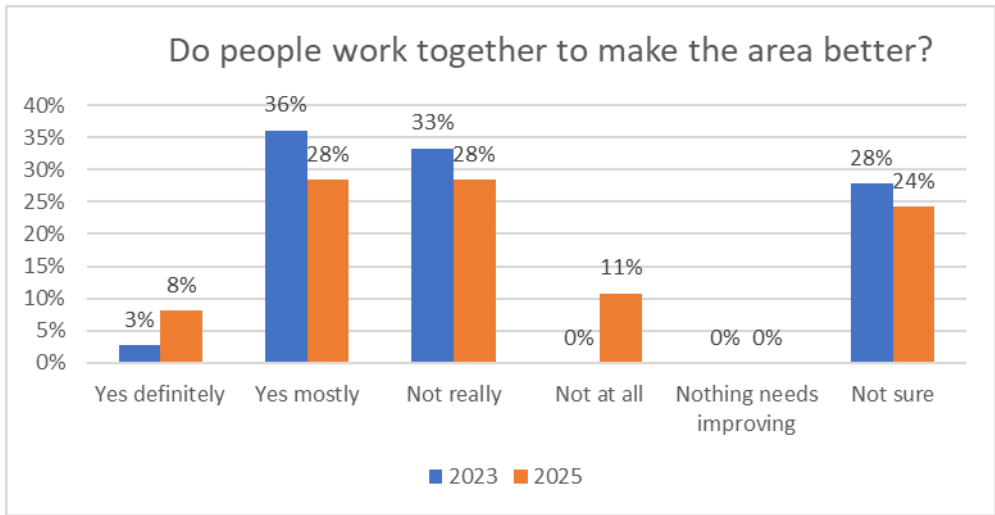


How happy are you with help for children and younger people

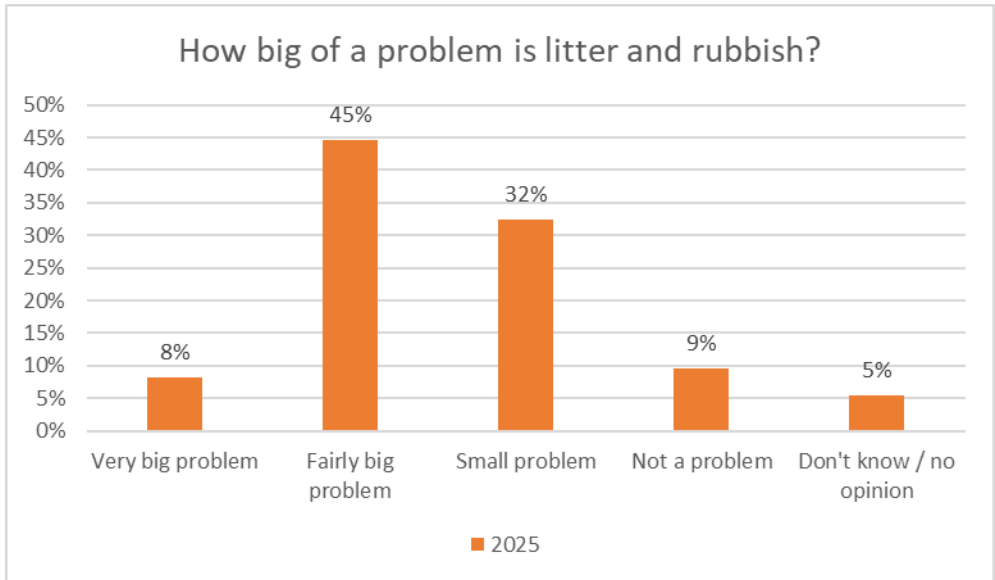
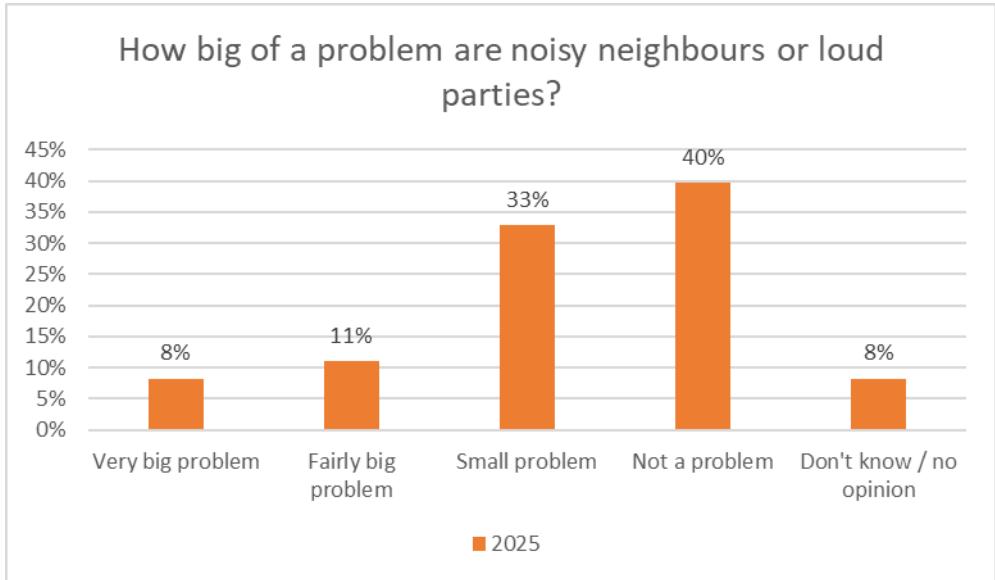


How happy are you with parks and green spaces?

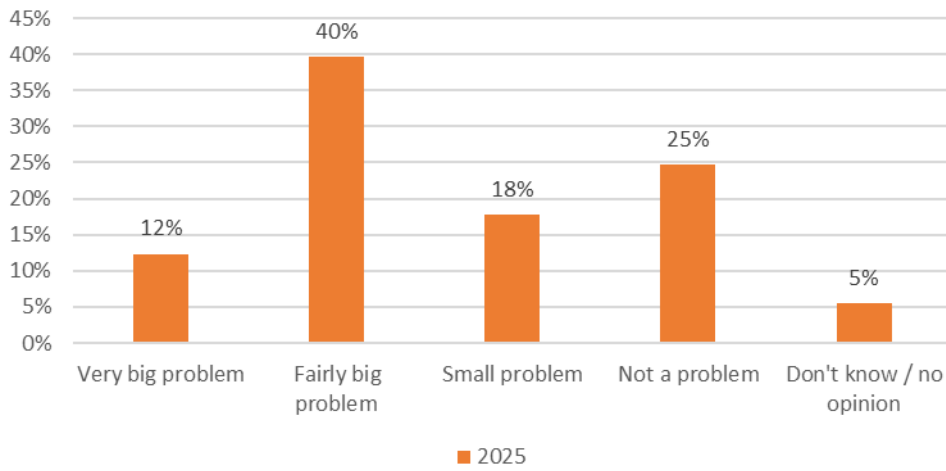




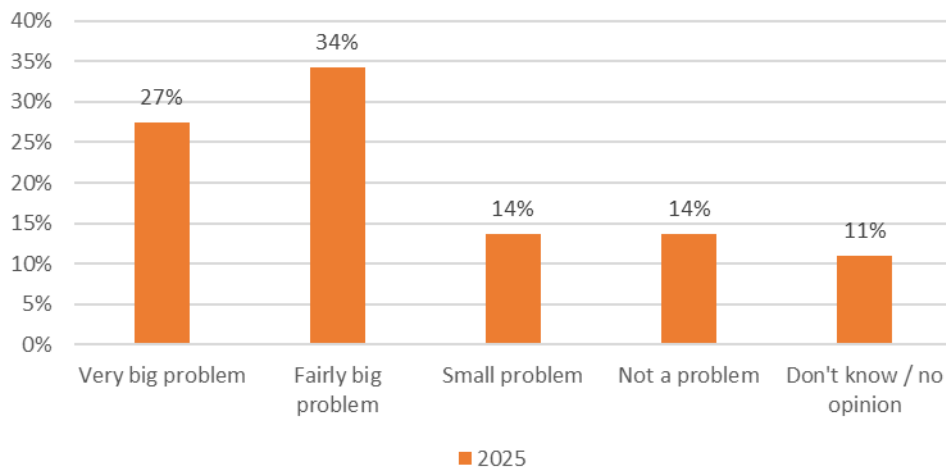
The next questions were new additions to this year's survey and don't have comparable data from 2023:



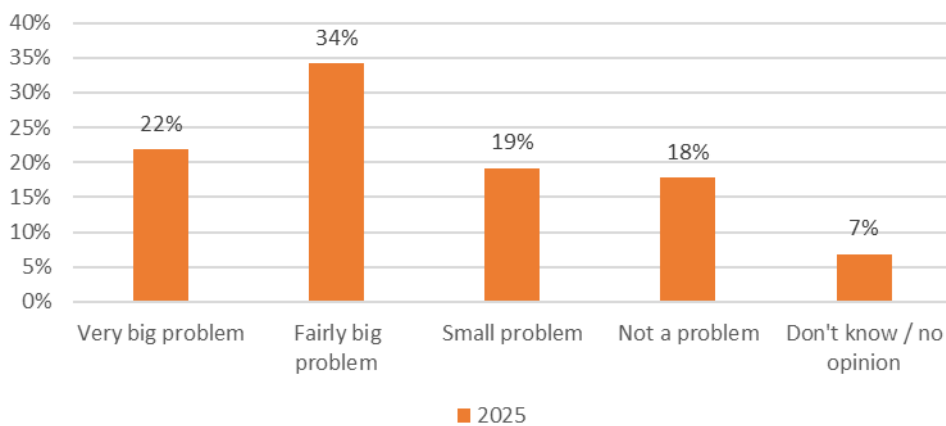
How big of a problem is vandalism or graffiti?

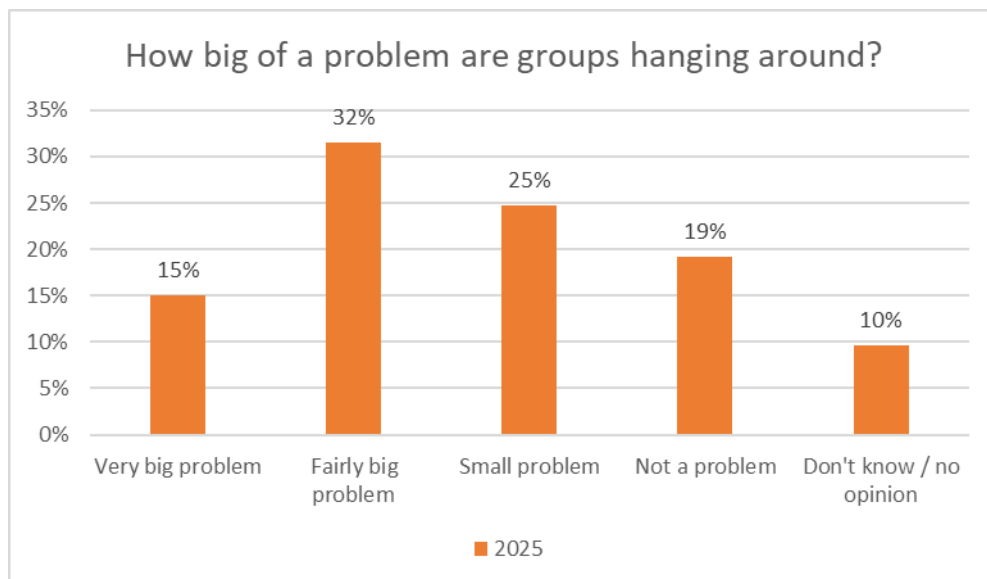


How big of a problem are drugs?



How big of a problem are drunk or loud people in public?





Demographics

Age

This survey was for 12-15 year olds. The main Residents' Satisfaction Survey was for everyone aged 16+. Though there were also two responses to the main Resident's Survey which marked the 0-15 age bracket.

For this survey we did not ask the age so we can assume that all those who filled out the 12-15 survey were in this age group.

Gender

What is your sex?

Female	Male	Prefer not to say
39	27	8

Ethnicity

Which of the following best describes your ethnic background? Select one option only.

White	Mixed ethnic background	Asian or Asian British	Black or Black British	Chinese	Other
68	2	0	1	0	2

Disability

Do you consider yourself to be disabled in any way?

Yes	No	Prefer not to say
26	41	6

If you answered yes to the previous question, please tell us how your disability affects you. Select as many as apply.

It affects my mobility	It affects my vision	It affects my hearing	My disability affects me in another way	Prefer not to say
8	1	1	15	9

Communications and engagement evaluation

This survey was promoted using a range of methods. This included the Torbay Council website, social media channels, newsletters such as One Torbay and our Schools newsletter. It was also mentioned and linked to in all the communications around the main Residents' Satisfaction Survey, and linked from the [Consultation page](#) of the council's website.

The online version of the survey was also emailed to a range of stakeholders, including:

- Our Fostering families
- Torbay Communities
- Imagine This Partnership
- Play Torbay
- HealthWatch
- Local NHS partners
- Brixham Town Council
- Torbay Association of Primary Schools (TAPS)
- Torbay Association of Secondary Schools (TASH)
- Six local scout and cadet groups
- Young people involved with the Children and Young People's Participation Team.

Paper copies of the survey were taken to all the Roadshows held for the main Residents Satisfaction Survey. There were also separate sessions with the Children and Young People's Participation Team. Paper copies were also taken to additional events and venues such as:

- Baton of Hope event
- Cockington Apple Day
- Torre Abbey
- Torquay Museum
- Riviera International Conference Centre
- Torquay, Brixham and Paignton Libraries
- Brixham Town Council
- Sound Communities
- Youth club at the Acorn Centre in Torquay

Lessons learned

In general, engagement with young people in the survey is much lower than older demographics. We know that we need to work much harder to get one young person to respond to our surveys than to get a relatively high volume of responses from older, particularly retired people. This is particularly the case with something like a general Residents' Survey where many of the local

services mentioned such as waste collections possibly don't seem that relevant to some young people.

Running the 12-15 survey alongside the main Residents' Satisfaction Survey is challenging because the main focus is on the main survey and roadshows and this takes up most of the time and capacity of those working on it which does not leave much room for the additional survey. For future surveys it may be better to run this survey at a slightly different time to the main Resident's Satisfaction Survey. For example, just before or just after, or in fact to have a member of the team focused solely on the 12-15 survey to ensure it is able to be prioritised more. This is particularly the case when seeking younger people's views. As mentioned above, we find we have to work much harder to get young people's views, whereas if you do a roadshow in a town centre you will get a lot of older people proactively giving their views for the surveys.

Although there was some targeted work with young people through community and voluntary sector and with help from the Children and Young People's Participation Team, there is definitely scope to do more next time around but we would need to invest a lot more time, for example possibly spending time in school PHSE classes and other relevant lessons.

Recommendations for next year

The main recommendation for next time would be to either do the 12-15 survey at a different time to the main Resident's Satisfaction Survey to ensure it could be given the necessary focus and targeting, or to assign one member of the team to focus on the 12-15 survey.

There would also need to be more of a focus on targeted events for 12-15 year olds so it might be that we need to reduce the number of town centre roadshows for the general Residents' Satisfaction Survey and focus more on getting responses from a younger demographic.

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Revenue and Capital Budget 2026/2027 – Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Board

**Report to Cabinet to be considered as part of the budget
consultation**

Background

1. The Cabinet's Draft Revenue and Capital Budget proposals for 2026/2027 were published on 4 December 2025 and available on the Council's website at [Proposed Budget for 2026/2027 - Torbay Council](https://yoursay.torbay.gov.uk/project/bbf6ff87-6e0f-4af7-928c-ce1fadd55eb5)<https://yoursay.torbay.gov.uk/project/bbf6ff87-6e0f-4af7-928c-ce1fadd55eb5>. The Panel considered the following documents as part of the consultation process:

- Revenue Report:
 - Budget Overview Report;
 - Fees and Charges;
 - Reserves Statement
 - Financial Sustainability Plans Summary;
- Capital Report:
 - Capital Strategy;
 - Treasury Management Strategy;
 - Grant Funding Pending Business Case;
 - Updated Capital Investment Plan;
- Round Table Feedback paper from session held on 24 November 2025;
- Key Lines of Enquiry Responses; and
- Chief Finance Officer's Update Report and Indicative Budget Figures by Service.

2. The background papers to the Review can be found at:

[Agenda for Priorities and Resources Review Panel 2026/2027 on
Wednesday, 10 December 2025, 5.00 pm](#)

[Agenda for Priorities and Resources Review Panel 2026/2027 on Monday, 15
December 2025, 5.00 pm](#)

[Agenda for Priorities and Resources Review Panel 2026/2027 on
Wednesday, 7 January 2026, 5.00 pm](#)

3. The Priorities and Resources Review Panel 2026/2027 was established to scrutinise the proposals and to make comments, observations and recommendations as necessary to the Cabinet's Revenue and Capital Budget proposals for 2026/2027. The Review Panel comprised of the Councillors on the Overview and Scrutiny Board, as they had developed a strategic and overall knowledge of the Council's revenue and capital budgets through quarterly monitoring meetings held throughout the year, namely, Councillors Cowell, Douglas-Dunbar, Fellows, Foster, Johns, Law, Long, Spacagna, Stevens and Tolchard, with Councillor Bryant representing Councillor Stevens at the meeting on 7 January 2026 (Chaired by Councillor Long).
4. The Review Panel met in public on 10 and 15 December 2025 and 7 January 2026 and heard evidence from the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council, the Cabinet Members as well the Chief Executive and Directors.

Key Findings

5. The Panel considered the proposals for investment in services, efficiencies and income generation for 2026/2027 and the Capital Budget and the findings from their meetings are set out in this report. The report was presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Board 14 January 2026 and approved unanimously and will now be submitted to the Cabinet as part of the consultation process.

Revenue Budget

6. Budget Overview

- 6.1 The Panel reviewed all the Consultation documents for the proposed Revenue and Capital Budget 2026/2027. Unlike other Councils who continue to report financial difficulties and the need to reduce services, Torbay Council has remained in a secure financial position through careful financial management and investment. It was acknowledged that there were relatively few changes to the budget compared with last year with a continuation of the Financial Sustainability Plans to help to ensure that high-cost budget items remain on track, with innovative solutions expanded and delivered to provide the best outcomes within the financial envelope the Council works within. At the point of the launch of the consultation and the initial Priorities and Resources meetings, Members noted that the Local Government Finance Settlement figure had not yet been confirmed by Government and therefore the proposed budget had been prepared during a period of uncertainty. The detail was expected on 17 December 2025 which would include the three-year settlement thus giving more certainty for future years, however, it was recognised that it was likely that overall Torbay Council would receive less Government financial support going forward.
- 6.2 It was however expected that the final Settlement detail would cover the £700,000 shortfall that existed for 2026/2027 in the consultation documents as well as potentially allowing for some additional investment as there had been in previous years and the public's views were being sought on areas for investment.

- 6.3 Following receipt of the final Settlement the Chief Finance Officer provided a written statement setting out the final implications of the funding, which was considered at the meeting on 7 January 2026. The key updates were:

The Settlement indicated that Torbay Council will receive £204.377m as its Core Spending Power allocation in 2026/2027. This provided £1.2m more funding compared to the figures published for consultation, which would close the gap of £700,000 and leave £500,000 remaining to be allocated. This was a 5% increase on the baseline figure for 2025/2026 used within the Government's model. However, the model does assume a higher increase to our Council Tax base than forecasted and therefore a higher level of Council Tax funding. After adjusting for Torbay's local figures, this would mean an increase of 4.4%.

Many of the previous specific grants have been rolled into the main funding formula, although some have remained separate and have been consolidated into four new grants. Torbay Council's allocations for the new consolidated grants are shown within the table below.

Local Government Finance Settlement - Consolidated Grants 2026/27 to 2028/29 ¹				
<i>Select authority:</i>				
Torbay				
	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	Total
Consolidated Grant	£m	£m	£m	£m
Homelessness, Rough Sleeping and Domestic Abuse Grant ^{2,3}	1.9	1.9	1.9	5.7
Public Health Grant ^{4,5}	13.0	13.2	13.5	39.6
Crisis and Resilience Funds ⁶	2.5	2.5	2.4	7.4
Children, Families and Youth Grant ⁷	2.5	2.4	2.2	7.0
Mayoral Capacity Funding	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	19.8	20.0	20.0	59.8

Although some minor changes are expected within the final settlement, in general there appears to be real term reductions in these grants, with the exception of a small inflationary uplift to the Public Health Grant (circa 2%). Compared to 2025/2026, there is an increase in the Children's, Families and Youth Grant of £458k in 2026/2027. However, there is then a 12% reduction shown over the next two years to 2028/29 that will need to be planned for. It will therefore be important for the additional £458k to be spent in a way that does not see all of it committed to the base budget, setting aside funding to offset future reductions in grant.

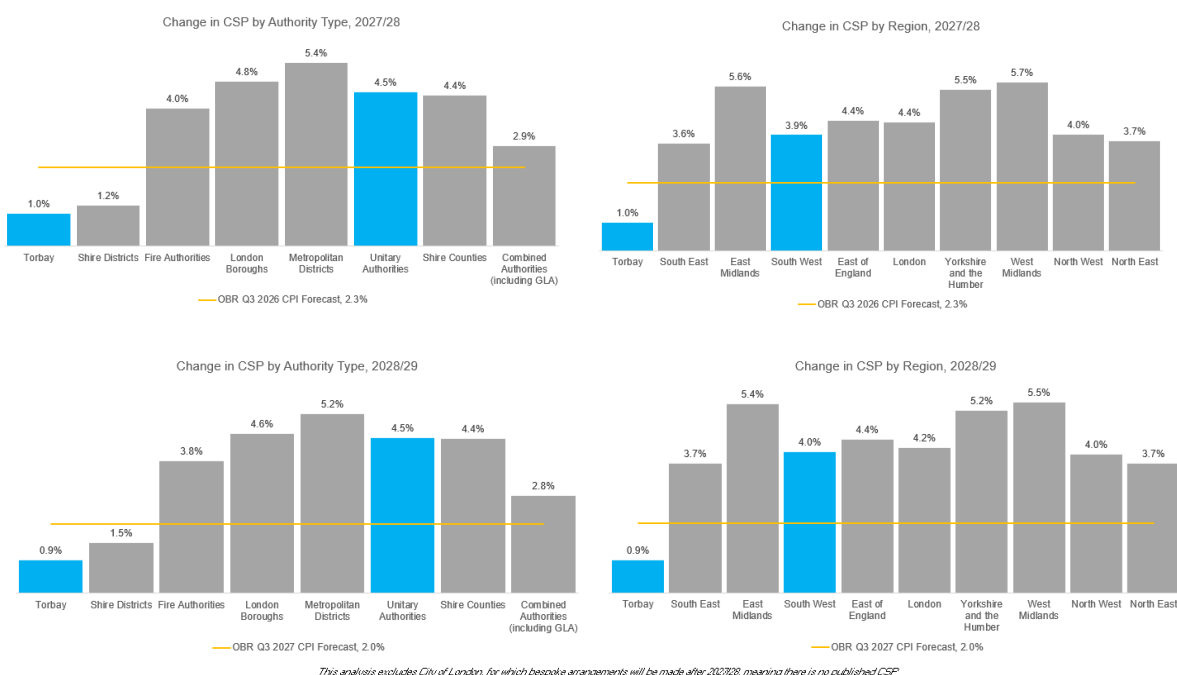
Although the 2026/2027 settlement for Torbay Council is reasonable, of real concern is its allocation of funding in years two and three of the multi-year settlement. The table overleaf shows how Torbay Council's Core Spending Power allocation would only increase by a maximum of 1% in both 2027/2028 and 2028/2029 with cash increases of just £1.9m, compared with the increase

of £9.7m (5%) in 2026/2027.

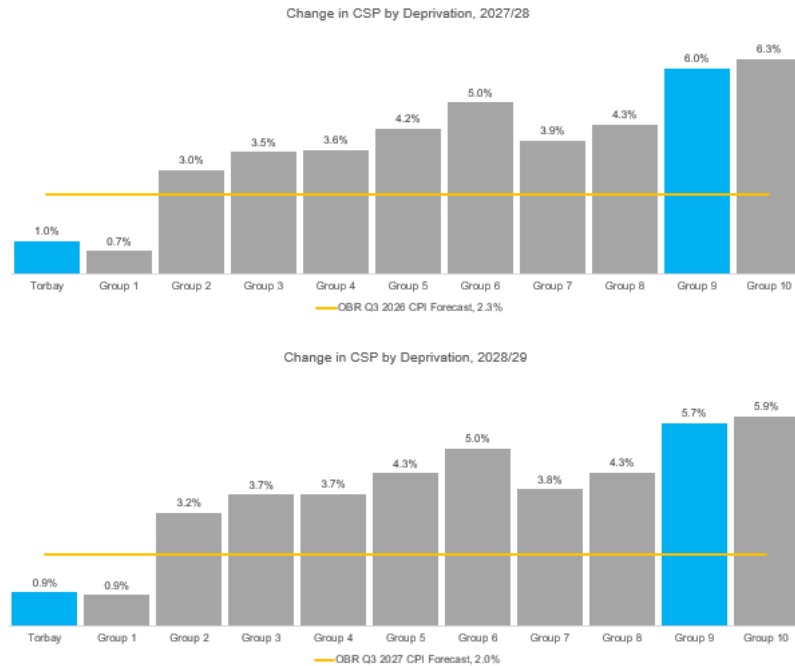
Illustrative Core Spending Power of Local Government:					
	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
	£ millions	£ millions	£ millions	£ millions	£ millions
Core Spending Power	178.1	194.6	204.4	206.3	208.3
Core Spending Power year-on-year change (£ millions)		16.6	9.7	1.9	1.9
Core Spending Power year-on-year change (%)		9.3%	5.0%	1.0%	0.9%

The significant reductions in Torbay Council's Funding formula assessment and allocation of grants from 2026/2027 onwards, already assume 4.99% increases from Council Tax each year and an overly optimistic increase in the Council's Council Tax base figures. The net funding increase of £1.9m per annum will be well below predicted inflation and not sufficient to fund areas such as uplifts on salaries and wages and increased demand for Social Care.

This settlement for Torbay is particularly poor when compared with other Councils. The table below shows how Torbay's percentage funding increase for 2027/2028 and 2028/2029 compares with the average increase across other Unitary Authorities and other Councils across the Southwest.



The new Fair Funding Formula refers to supporting areas of deprivation as one of its main aims, yet it clearly does not appear to be achieving this for Torbay. The graph overleaf shows how Torbay compares with other Councils that have similar levels of deprivation, using the Index of multiple deprivation. Torbay Council is within the second highest banding (group 9), which has an average increase in Core Spending Power for 2027/2028 of 6% compared with Torbay's 1% increase. Similarly, in 2028/2029, the average increase is 5.7% compared with Torbay 0.9% increase.



The Council will be making representations to Government and liaising with local Members of Parliament with regards to how poorly Torbay has fared for future year funding allocations prior to final national figures being confirmed in early February 2026. If representations are unsuccessful, the Council will face significant funding gaps in future years of circa £3m a year.

The paper highlighted the future pressures in adult social care and the need for significant investment in adult social care transformation and risk to the future of the Integrated Care Organisation with Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust and an overspend of circa £30m in this area. Together with challenges to deliver ambitious regeneration plans across Torbay and that this was an area the Cabinet was also considering further investment in alongside suggestions received from the public consultation and feedback from the Priorities and Resources Review Panel. Due to the shortfall in future years it was highlighted that investment should be used for one off funding, rather than adding to the Base Budget.

- 6.4 The proposals within the published budget consultation papers included one off funding for 2026/2027 to address non-reoccurring pressures:

	2026/27
Estimated one-off or time limited pressures	£
LGR preparation costs	0.100
Fleet walk - required investment	0.650
Paignton and Preston waterfront - reduced income	0.300
Assets under transition - e.g. Union Square, The Strand	0.500
ICT - replacement server	0.200
H&S works on on former TCCT land & assets	0.200
Special Housing reserve for those most in need	0.500
	2.450

- 6.5 The Cabinet's original consultation proposals set a Council Tax rate of 2.75% plus the 2% precept for adult social care. With each 1% of Council tax estimated to generate £850,000 of additional income to deliver services. However, Members were advised that following the Provisional Local Government Financial Settlement received on 17 December 2025, the Cabinet were proposing to set a Council Tax rate of 4.99% including the precept for adult social care due to the significant reduction in the proposed allocation from Government in Years 2 and 3 of the three year settlement.
- 6.6 From April 2025, the Council increased the amount of Council Tax payable on second homes to 100% which was continuing in 2026/2027.

7. Key Lines of Enquiry

- 7.1 Members asked questions around which stand-alone grants would continue in the budget and which ones had been rolled over as part of the overall statement and what were the implications.

There were lots of changes proposed as part of the new Fair Funding Formula 2.0 arrangements. Some grants were expected to be included within the main settlement formula allocation (SFA) with others being consolidated into larger grants that fund similar services/outcomes.

The Council received details and allocations within the provisional settlement on 17 December 2025, but there would be winners and losers as different formulas were being used to allocate many of the grants. It would be easier to reconcile and identify variances in the consolidated grants, but more difficult where they had gone into the main formula.

Consolidated grants

Four new consolidated grants were being established, which brought together funding streams that fund similar services and outcomes. All 4 consolidated grants would be ringfenced. Further detail on these grants would be provided at the Provisional Settlement, along with multi-year allocations and information on their distribution and conditions, which the Council would be required to regularly report against specific criteria to ensure the funding was being spent as intended. All funding figures below were across the 3 years of the multi-year Settlement.

In response to questions around safeguarding that grants were being used as intended, Members were advised that part of the Government's reason for the change was to ensure that money was spent in the right way and the Council would need to demonstrate how the money had been spent and what it had delivered against the specific criteria. This was monitored through quarterly returns to the Government.

Homelessness, Rough Sleeping and Domestic Abuse Grant (£2.4 billion). This grant would be in Core Spending Power, with the total amount confirmed at the final Settlement. It would bring together:

- a. Almost £1.1 billion for the Prevention, Relief and Staffing element of the Homelessness Prevention Grant (HPG). This funding would be distributed

using the prevention and relief element of the HPG funding formula which was consulted on earlier this year;

- b. Rough Sleeping Prevention and Recovery Grant (RSPARG) and Rough Sleeping accommodation Programme (RSAP) funding, worth £879 million. This funding would be distributed using a rough sleeping and single homelessness formula developed with local authorities; and
- c. The Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Grant, which was delivered through the Settlement in 2025/2026, worth at least £480 million.

Children, Families and Youth Grant (£3.1 billion). This would bring together:

- a. Funding for children's social care reform worth £2.4 billion, which would be in Core Spending Power, consisting of:
 - The Children's Social Care Prevention Grant, worth £809 million;
 - Families First Partnership programme funding (previously Supporting Families) within the Children and Families Grant, worth £760 million;
 - New funding from the Transformation Fund announced at the 2025 Spending Review, worth £319 million; and
 - Further new investment now confirmed, worth £547 million.
- b. The Holiday, Activities and Food Grant (HAF), worth over £623 million. This included funding worth £12.9 million for the 2026/2027 financial year to support local authority capacity on school-age childcare across the HAF programme, wraparound childcare and new free breakfast clubs.
- c. The Pupil Premium Plus Post-16 Grant, worth £41.5 million.

There was a separate grant for Family Hubs but that had been amalgamated with the grant for the Best Start to Life and had been secured for three years with separate key performance indicators which had to be reported against.

Public Health Grant (£13.45 billion). This would bring together funding from the existing Public Health Grant, using the same distribution approach as in previous years, with the following funding streams. Further detail on their distribution would be published at the provisional Settlement.

- a. Drug and Alcohol Treatment and Recovery Improvement Grant (DATRIG), worth £1 billion. This included the Rough Sleeping Drug and Alcohol Treatment grant worth £185 million, which would continue to fund existing local authorities receiving this funding component, with a modest expansion to
 - a. Small number of additional local authorities with high levels of need;
 - b. Local Stop Smoking Services and Support Grant, worth £210 million;
 - c. Individual Placement and Support Grant, worth £67.3 million; and
 - d. Existing public health funding for the Swap to Stop scheme, worth £50 million.

Crisis and Resilience Fund (£2.5 billion). This would make it easier for local authorities to provide preventative support to communities and assist people when faced with a financial crisis, by bringing together the following

grants, which would end in March 2026, into one new, streamlined fund. This would not be in Core Spending Power.

- a. Household Support Fund; and
- b. Discretionary Housing Payments (in England).

Consolidation into the Revenue Support Grant

The proposals were expected to consolidate 17 funding streams into the unringfenced Revenue Support Grant (Core Spending Power). All figures below were national allocations across the 3 years of the multi-year Settlement:

Consolidating funding new to the Settlement, keeping existing distributions:

- a. War Pensions Disregard grant (£36 million); and
- b. Social Care in Prisons grant (£33 million).

Consolidating funding new to the Settlement, redistributed using the new Fair Funding Assessment:

- a. Temporary accommodation funding worth £969 million over the multi-year Settlement, previously part of the Homelessness Prevention Grant. The Fair Funding Assessment included a temporary accommodation formula to reflect this change;
- b. Virtual School Head for Children with a Social Worker and Children in Kinship Care (£61 million);
- c. Biodiversity Net Gain Planning Requirement (£29 million);
- d. Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards Funding (£15 million);
- e. Local Government Finance Data Review (<£1 million);
- f. Enforcement of Location Restriction and Volume New Burdens grant (<£1 million);
- g. Enforcement of Calorie Labelling Regulations New Burdens grant (<£1 million);
- h. Awaab's Law New Burdens grant (<£1 million); and
- i. Social Housing New Burden grant (<£100,000).

Consolidating existing Settlement funding, redistributed using the new Fair Funding Assessment. The values associated with the first 5 funding streams below assume that in 2025/2026 they would have, without simplification, been held flat and continued to be paid as a separate grant:

- a. Social Care Grant (£17.8 billion);
- b. Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund (£3.2 billion);
- c. Employer National Insurance Contributions (£1.5 billion);
- d. New Homes Bonus (£871 million);
- e. Funding Floor (£364 million); and
- f. Funding from the following grants (treated as one funding stream in our totals) brought together into the Children and Families Grant in 2025/2026 (worth £483 million):
 - i. Supported Accommodation Reforms (£284 million);
 - ii. Staying Put (£100 million);
 - iii. Virtual School Heads Extension for previously looked after children (£23 million);
 - iv. Leaving Care Allowance uplift (£40 million); and
 - v. Personal Advisors Extended Duty (£36 million).

- 7.2 Members questioned how the funding streams for Children's Services due to end in March 2026 had been addressed within the budget proposals and what the implications of this was.

The Council was not expecting any material reductions in grant funding relating to Children's Services in 2026/2027. It was believed that the inclusion and allocation of the Social Care Grant within the main SFA was a contributing factor to Torbay Council's estimated poor settlement allocation – due to different formulas being used. 50% of this grant was always used to fund Children's Services. This reduction had been taken into account within Torbay Council's budget proposals.

- 7.3 Members questioned what the impact would be of the Government's announcement that it was going to take over special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and the impact on the higher needs block of the dedicated schools grant.

Any change would not impact on the 2026/2027 financial year and would be from 2028 onwards. It was not clear how the Government intended to deal with historic spend. There were expected challenges to the higher needs block in terms of pressures arising from the pay award and the impact on schools' budgets which could mean that schools need additional SEND funding to be able to deliver early support to SENDK (special educational and disabilities known), as well as the potential for element three to increase which would put more pressure on the higher needs block and safety valve. The Council would be working with school leaders to look at ways of mitigating and managing these risks with 2026/2027 being the last year of the safety valve with £3.1 million to draw down, as well as impacts of falling numbers of children on role, which impacted on the funding per pupil schools receive.

- 7.4 Members asked if the updated figures showing a 12% reduction in funding for Children's Families and Youth Grants was due to the Government intending to take over responsibility for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) from the Local Authority and if deprivation had been taken into account.

Torbay Council had been assisted by the Government with SEND through the Safety Valve which has balanced some of the impact of funding pressures within that area. It was expected that the Government would be taking over SEND from 2028 but that was separate to the Financial Settlement. Whilst it was recognised that the Council had received an additional £458,000 Children's Services grant funding in 2026/2027, there was increased pressure of high-cost placements moving forward with the Council looking at options to address this including securing its own children's home run by a qualified provider.

- 7.5 Members asked questions around how the funding streams for Adult Social Care, including domestic abuse, due to end in March 2026 been addressed within the budget proposals and what the implications of this were.

The Council was not expecting any material reductions in Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation grant, which was expected to continue and be consolidated within the Homelessness, Rough Sleeping and Domestic Abuse

Grant in 2026/2027. Funding also included the Rainbow Grant for domestic abuse. The Council was recruiting to a Domestic Abuse Lead post as the current postholder was retiring.

Changes were expected to the Homelessness Prevention Grant (HPG), which would see it split up and the Prevention, Relief and Staffing element allocated through a consolidated grant and the Temporary Accommodation element wrapped up into the main SFA. There was a risk that the Council may see a reduction in funding compared to the current baseline due to formula changes and would assess this once we have the settlement figures. The base budget for 2025/2026 was not increased from the 2024/2025 value with increases being used as one-off to mitigate against the risk of any grant funding reductions.

It was expected that the conditions around the HPG would continue to focus on prevention to prevent people becoming homeless and if they do support through temporary accommodation. There were no proposed changes to service delivery.

The Director of Finance believed that the inclusion and allocation of the Social Care Grant within the main SFA was a contributing factor to Torbay Council's estimated poor settlement allocation – due to different formulas being used. 50% of this grant was always used to fund Adult Social Care Services. This reduction was taken into account within Torbay Council's budget proposals.

- 7.6 Members questioned how the £150k voluntary and community sector contracts funding would be allocated.

This fund had been built in to help build some capacity within the voluntary and community sector to support valued services e.g. the community helpline where people were presenting with more complex needs, which takes longer to provide support and involves more call backs. It was recognised that it was important to support this sector to reduce pressures on statutory services.

- 7.7 Members questioned how costs for care home fees had been built into the budget and if the Council was likely to have increased costs due to increases in national insurance and living wage.

The funding of the care home market was part of the Section 75 agreement with the NHS as part of the Integrated Care Organisation (ICO). An uplift had been agreed, with the market sustainability and investment fund being passported to the ICO to support providers and help support a sustainable care market. The NHS sets the fees with the Council working in partnership with the providers. These fees were higher in Torbay compared to our neighbouring authorities and other areas within the region.

- 7.8 Members asked if funding had been identified within the budget for a data analysis post to support Safer Torbay with evidence-based evaluation of their work.

A review was being carried out around the Safer Partnership role looking at how the Partnership was tracking outcomes with the Cabinet Member for Adult and Community Services working with officers to look at how the

Council could support this. There was a commitment to utilise some existing resource to pull together an outcomes framework within the existing budget.

- 7.9 Members asked questions around how the funding streams for Public Health, including drugs and alcohol, due to end in March 2026 been addressed within the budget proposals and what the implications of this were.

Further detail on the distribution and allocations of Public Health grant funding would be published at the provisional Settlement, but the Council was not expecting any material reductions in funding or negative impact on services.

The level of funding for Drug and Alcohol Treatment and Recovery Improvement Grant (DATRIG) and stop smoking grant in 2026/2027 was expected to be similar to the amount of grant received in 2025/2026 and therefore no additional budget allocation was proposed in 2026/2027. Should the funding allocation be less than expected there was sufficient Public Health reserves to support the smoking provisions that need to be continued in 2026/2027, without the need for any wider Council budget requirement.

The Healthy Weight Framework looks at how Public Health support people with their weight which was being addressed holistically. There was no specific funding to support obesity in young people. But there was money to invest in individual weight management for adults. The NHS continues to have a specific programme, but it was not clear if this was targeted at young people. Most of the work was around diabetes working with adults and co-ordinating support for families.

- 7.10 Members asked, following a recommendation from the Audit Committee, if additional funding had been included in the budget for resourcing for the Counter Fraud Team.

Rather than provide additional funding for Counter Fraud, the Council had been working closely with Devon Assurance Partnership and had subsequently seconded two FTE Torbay Council fraud staff to the partnership for an initial 12 month period. This had enabled the Council to gain access to a wider pool of fraud staff, and expertise, covering a larger geographical patch. To date, this had been a positive move – the Council would keep the arrangement under review over the coming months.

- 7.11 Members discussed the potential impact of Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) on Service budgets and questioned if the £100k was a sufficient reserve to cover costs, which were unknown at this stage but could be wide ranging if Torbay does not stay the same size. It was acknowledged that funding could be impacted if Torbay's boundaries expand due to us currently receiving favourable funding for areas such as Public Health due to high levels of deprivation within our existing boundaries. It was noted that the funding Settlement was based on Torbay Council staying the same and that LGR implications had not been factored into the three year Settlement.

- 7.12 Members challenged the submitted sustainability plans and progress made to date and received the following updates:

- Home to school transport was maintaining a position of not increasing spend and may come in £100k underspent in the 2025/2026 financial year, but more work was required around post 16 working with Adult Services colleagues.
- The Locality Model pilot was showing positive signs linking to SEND and the safety valve.
- The placement plan for children's social care was more challenging with high unregulated provider costs and the requirement for post 16 supported accommodation to be Ofsted Registered which was increasing their costs. The Council was looking at how to bridge the gap to ensure that providers could still support the young people who need their services. The Government was looking at Regional Care Co-operatives and work around placement sufficiency which was impacting on the sector. There were benefits and weaknesses of this model as it could increase pressure of areas competing with each other for scarce placements. The Minister also wants to encourage Fostering Hubs to help increase the number of families coming forward to become foster carers, but pilots which had been rolled out for 18 months were not producing the increases in families expected. Also learning from secure welfare when it went into a national responsibility when a placement was requested there were 60 or more others wanting a placement. Members welcomed any initiatives that would help increase the number of foster carers in Torbay and supported Member involvement in any campaigns or initiatives.
- Housing and homelessness were still a pressure, and a reserve had been included within the budget for affordable accommodation to enable the Council to move from the traditional temporary accommodation as it was better for families to move to a lifetime home rather than temporary accommodation. The reserve would be used to assist with delivery options when they arise e.g. Aria and Midvale to bring properties online. There was an increase in demand, but the prevention work was working well with rent support and working and negotiating with landlords to enable families to maintain their homes. The Renters Rights Bill would put pressure on landlords, and this was being monitored on a monthly basis. Schemes such as Hotels to Homes were driving forward innovation within Torbay.
- Adult Social Care Transformation - there was still a lot of work to do around this area working with Channel 3 and the ICO. Including looking at how to reshape the care market, how we support people with supported living, model of care, transition of young people with SEND from Children's Services and pressures around staffing. There was a disparity between reablement from the hospital which was very good compared to reablement within the community. A new Reablement Service had been procured and would be announced in the New Year working with three local providers to support people in the community funded through the Better Care Fund. This was a test and learn pilot with a view to moving to the Revenue Budget in future years.

7.13 Members asked questions around how the Budget related to the Business Plan and the Management Fee for SWISCo and sought reassurance that the SWISCo budget was sufficient taking into account additional in-year requests in 2025/2026.

- 7.14 Members asked questions around the Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust (TCCT) going into liquidation, including implications for Sites of Specific Scientific Interest (SSI).

It was too early to tell what the costs to the Council would be as a result of the changes to TCCT. There was a cost for SWISCo to provide the services and an ask for some capital investment for some of the trees and coast path to be maintained. The excellent work of the TCCT volunteers was acknowledged and the need for SWISCo to work with the volunteers and some of the former staff moving forward. There was a lot of expertise within SWISCo and they were looking to compliment that with who they need to bring in from the former TCCT and what the requirements were for management, including co-ordinating the volunteers. There had been issues with the maintenance of some of the vehicles and buildings and there may be better ways of delivering some of the elements of the services previously provided by the TCCT. SWISCo would not be running the farming operation and there would be a change in the way in which some of the land was being managed going forward. It was expected that more detailed information would be known by the Summer. Natural England and The Heritage Lottery Fund had been briefed.

- 7.15 Members asked questions around heritage and events, including if there were proposals to do more in the Town Centres, if employing apprentices would help with capacity in the Events Team and if there was sufficient funding in the budget for Torquay Museum and Brixham Museum and the swimming pools.

Members were advised that capacity in the Events Team was always a challenge when the Council directly delivers events such as the Illumination trail and the English Riviera Airshow. There was a lot of work involved around health and safety compliance. Apprentices would not help in this particular area. There was a need to work with Councillors and partners to ensure that we focus resources on the right things. This was covered in one of the Place Sustainability Plans looking to help prioritise staff resources. The Council was already working with South Devon College and their students having work experience with the ice rink. There was a need to make sure Torbay has skills in the community to put on events themselves.

Torquay Museum, Brixham Museum and the Geopark were all areas which needed to be reviewed, there was no intention to reduce the funding for the Museums and the National Lottery Heritage Fund was supporting work with the Geopark with Terra Firma over the next 12 months to see how they can make the Geopark intrinsic to the wider Bay. Paignton Picture House had also been supported by the Council and was due to open next year.

Members were advised that the Bay of Lights covered more than just the illumination trail in Torquay, including the train of lights in Paignton and lights and lanterns and illuminations in Brixham. There was a desire to widen the illumination trail but this was already very costly to put on and would require more investment from local businesses in order to deliver this on a wider scale. Approximately £20,000 sponsorship had been received this year towards the illumination trail as well as contributions from the English Riviera

Business Improvement District Company (ERBID). The Council needed to improve how we identify and ask local businesses to contribute towards our events which bring a lot of visitors into the Bay and money into local businesses.

It was noted that each pool was now becoming more financially secure since the Swimming Pool Support Fund grant improvement works, these works have enabled them to become more energy efficient. Officers understand that the annual grant (£12,000) from Torbay Council was helping the pools stay on top of essential maintenance works. Officers are aware that Admiral Swimming Pool is identifying and applying for grants and raising funds to renew their ventilation system and Swim Torquay are applying for grants and raising funds to refurbish their changing rooms. The Council has not had any requests from them for further Council funding.

- 7.16 Members asked questions around the funding for Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) and if funding was provided by the Government.

All costs associated with LGR had to be met by the local authorities themselves. There was no additional funding from the Government to cover any costs.

- 7.17 Members were advised that the key costs impacting on Corporate Services related to ICT, Legal Services and LGR and making sure that the Council can keep running properly and safely. The Council was still facing staffing challenges in Legal Services with the current approach to directly appoint staff being successful but the volume of work against available staff was still a challenge. Investment was required to maintain our IT resilience. There were also additional costs for the Libraries to cover increases in National Insurance etc. costs.

Capital Budget

8 Key Lines of Enquiry

- 8.1 Members asked questions in relation to the SWISCo capital programme e.g. fleet replacement scheme.

The Council had approved a capital loan to SWISCo on 11 September 2025 to enable them to modernise their fleet of vehicles to be funded from reduced costs on leases and maintenance of older vehicles – see [Agenda for Council on Thursday, 11 September 2025, 5.30 pm](#). A note on the fleet replacement was circulated to the Members of the Panel on 9 January 2026.

- 8.2 Members sought reassurance that lessons had been learned from the overspend and delay for the Armada Park and Torre Valley North projects.

It was noted that this had been impacted by ability to use unallocated Section 106 funding, tying down match funding and relationships with the voluntary groups. A lessons learnt report was due to be presented to the Capital and Growth Board in January 2026 and would come to the Cabinet Regeneration and Capital Projects Working party after that. Reassurance was given that all

requests for Section 106 Funding above £50,000 would go via the Capital and Growth Board in the future to include details of the scheme, funding and costs. A report would also be presented to the Working Party on CIL and Section 106 funding so that Members were updated on the current sums available to see what opportunities there were for more flexible use or combining funds where appropriate. It was noted that the pace of CIL contributions was going to decrease due to the lack of developments and the number of proposals being land banked. This was also impacted by affordable housing schemes with a need for more private led housing schemes to come through.

8.3 Members asked for a written response on the amount of loss in business rates and rents for The Strand and Union Square.

For the Strand an overspend on Business rates of **£108k** for 2026/2027 was estimated.

For Union Square an overspend of £400k as the net pressure across the following areas was estimated:

- Business Rates = **£100k**
- Loss of rental income = **£300k**

The total estimated pressure was £508k, hence the £500k proposed within the 2026/2027 budget papers.

8.4 Members asked for clarification on the Reserves.

The Revenue Reserves Policy was included within the Priorities and Resources Review Panel pack for the 10 December 2025 meeting (pages 119 - 130) and provides further information on the Council's reserves and their governance and principles etc.

This year the only transfer planned/highlighted within the paper was the transfer of surplus reserves within the collection fund to increase the Major Repairs and Maintenance reserve to £1m.

The Reserves Statement was included as a table at the end of the document, which summarises the actual and estimated balance at the start of each financial year.

9. Conclusion

9.1 The Panel reflected and debated the information provided to them, both verbal and written, following which recommendations were formed (as set out below). Members welcomed that due to prudent management of the Revenue Budget over the past few years, there were no specific cuts to services identified within the proposals with focus being given to the high-spend areas via the Financial Sustainability Plans. Overall Members supported the Revenue and Capital Budget 2026/2027 consultation proposals. Members welcomed the additional £1.2m funding in 2026/2027 but were disappointed that due to the lack of proposed funding from the Government in future years there was a need to increase the Council Tax by the full 4.99% instead of 4.75% to try to

protect some of the Base Budget moving forward, rather than helping to ease some of the financial pressures of Torbay's residents.

- 9.2 Members were gravely concerned over the impact of the Government's Financial Settlement Proposals for 2027/2028 and 2028/2029. Members felt that the new Fair Funding Formula was far from fair as it failed to recognise one of its main aims being the intention to support areas of deprivation in respect of Torbay. Compared with other Councils that have similar levels of deprivation, using the Index of multiple deprivation Torbay Council is within the second highest banding (group 9), which has an average increase in Core Spending Power for 2027/2028 of 6% compared with Torbay's 1% increase. Similarly, in 2028/2029, the average increase is 5.7% compared with Torbay 0.9% increase. This will have a huge impact on Torbay's residents and the ability for the Council to provide the required support with continued cost of living pressures and high levels of poor health and people out of work. Members felt that all efforts should be made to raise awareness of this and to try to get a fair deal for Torbay moving forward and to take advantage of any opportunities for additional funding/grants.
- 9.3 The Panel formed the following recommendations to the Cabinet which were approved by the Overview and Scrutiny Board on 14 January 2026. On being put to the vote, the motion was declared carried unanimously.

10. Recommendations

- 10.1 That the Cabinet be recommended:
1. that any additional money received in the final Government Financial Settlement be used for an adult social care transformation reserve and that all appropriate steps be taken to work with the Government to secure additional funding to help deliver this;
 2. that the Panel acknowledge the Cabinet's intention to increase the Council Tax by 4.99% in recognition of the impact on the Council's funding in 2027/2028 and 2028/2029; and
 3. that the Cabinet, Directors and the Members of Parliament be recommended to continue to take all appropriate steps to provide evidence and put the Council's case forward that the Fair Funding Formula does not recognise Torbay's deprivation and the impact that it will have moving forward.

Cabinet's Response to Consultation

February 2026

Budget 2026-2027

Statement from the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance

In accordance with the Council's Constitution, the Cabinet is proposing a balanced net Revenue Budget of £205.3 million for 2026/2027 and a Capital Investment Plan of £126.9 million for the period up to 2028/29, for the Council's consideration. As we said when we launched the consultation, our approach in proposing this budget continues to be one of focusing on the ongoing revenue pressures, delivering against our financial sustainability plans and our Capital Investment Plan. As always, we want to ensure we concentrate on the things that residents have told us matter to them.

We'd like to thank everyone who took the time to provide feedback on the draft proposals, whether by completing the questionnaire or engaging with us through our social media channels. We are also grateful to the Overview and Scrutiny Board for the time it dedicated to reviewing our proposals and for endorsing the suggestions we brought forward.

This year, the Government decided to provide local authorities with a three-year settlement, which is a welcome position as it offers certainty for medium-term planning. This allows us to make decisions in the overall context for the three-year period. Just before Christmas, Government shared with us the proposed settlement for Torbay. Whilst the financial position for year one (2026/27) of the settlement is reasonable, their proposal would have resulted in a significant funding gap of almost £20 million across years two and three. Between Christmas and February, we engaged extensively with multiple Government departments to make the case that the settlement did not adequately reflect the needs of our residents in Torbay.

On 9 February 2026, the Government confirmed the final settlement, and that they have reconsidered elements of this. As a result, comparably we are now in a slightly improved position over the three-year period than we had originally feared, with an estimated funding gap of £12 million. During the engagement with Government on the budget, it was made clear that they expect Councils to apply the full Council Tax increase available to them, which is 4.99%. If Councils did not do this then there was a risk to receiving government funding. Therefore, whilst our proposals for consultation set out our plan to limit any increase in Council tax to a maximum of 4.75%, the Government's expectation has left us with no option but to proceed with a 4.99% increase to optimise our funding.

We recognise that this places additional pressure on residents, and while our flexibility in this area is extremely limited, we will continue to do everything possible to manage and mitigate the impact. This includes changes to our Council Tax Support Scheme to support families, which has already been approved at our Council meeting in December.

Whilst we are pleased that the budget reductions are not as severe as originally planned by Government, the level of savings required are very significant in years two and three. It is essential therefore that we manage our finances even more prudently and responsibly so as to minimise the impact of the required reductions in future years. We are proposing to allocate additional monies received for this year on a one-off basis only, meaning that it can be used to contribute to required

savings next year. In respect of the one-off allocations, it is also important that these are used sensibly to ensure that the Council is in the best possible position to meet future challenges. We are therefore proposing to:

- Allocate £400,000 to fund transformation activity to sustainably reduce the Council's budget in future years, and
- Allocate £1.7 million to create a Higher Needs Block reserve, to fund the required 10% Council contribution arising from Dedicated Schools Grant national policy changes.

We believe that this combination of approaches puts the Council in the best possible position to face the challenges arising from the funding settlement.

Within the consultation responses, we were pleased to see overwhelming support for continuing with our flagship programmes, Operation Brighter Bay and Operation Town Centres. Many of you told us you have already seen a marked improvement because of Operation Brighter Bay. At the same time, you asked that going forward we place a stronger emphasis on residential areas, not just our well-known visitor hotspots. We have listened carefully to this feedback and will be ensuring that Operation Brighter Bay delivers more visible improvements in neighbourhoods across our communities.

The Council faces significant uncertainty in respect of the delivery of adult social care. Whilst we hope that these services will continue to be delivered by Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust, we recognise that significant transformation activity needs to take place to reduce costs. We are proposing to establish a new adult social care reserve and allocate £730,000 to it in the 2026/27 financial year to fund transformation activity, and to start to develop funding solutions for future years.

Despite the significant challenges in today's financial environment and the continued rise in costs, we have maintained a steady and responsible position as a Council, carefully managing your money. We are continuing with our ambitious regeneration plans, while also making sure that the everyday services you rightly expect and rely on remain in place. We are clear-eyed about the financial pressures ahead, but by taking prudent and sensible decisions in year one, we are putting ourselves in a stronger position and helping to smooth the path for future years.



Councillor David Thomas
Leader of Torbay Council



Councillor Alan Tyerman
Cabinet Member for Housing and Finance

Appendix 1 – Cabinet’s response to the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Board

Recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Board	Cabinet’s Response
1. Any additional money received in the final Government Financial Settlement be used for an adult social care transformation reserve and that all appropriate steps be taken to work with the Government to secure additional funding to help deliver this.	Cabinet is proposing to allocate additional monies as follows to address the full range of risks facing the Council; 1) Creation of an Adult Social Care reserve, allocating revenue funding of £730,000, 2) Creation of a Higher Needs Block reserve, allocating on a one-off basis £1.7m to fund the Council’s required contribution, 3) Allocation of £400,000 on a one off basis to fund transformation activity to reduce revenue expenditure in future years.
2. The Panel acknowledge the Cabinet’s intention to increase the Council Tax by 4.99% in recognition of the impact on the Council’s funding in 2027/2028 and 2028/2029; and	Cabinet is proposing to raise Council Tax by 4.99% in light of the Government’s clear expectation and risk to other funding were the Council not to do so.
3. Cabinet, Directors and the Members of Parliament be recommended to continue to take all appropriate steps to provide evidence and put the Council’s case forward that the Fair Funding Formula does not recognise Torbay’s deprivation and the impact that it will have moving forward	This was undertaken and Cabinet hope this contributed to the slightly improved position we now face.

Torbay Council Fees & Charges

This document outlines the fees & charges applied by Torbay Council in exchange for goods or services provided by the Council. Fees & charges are categorised to assist decision making.

Category	Description	Suggested basis for change
National	Fee set nationally in statute, by a regulator or similar. The Council is not able to vary these fees or charges.	As per national changes
Cost Recovery	Fee set based on recovery of the full cost to deliver the goods or service. The Council must ensure full cost recovery in the provision of this service.	Where full cost recovery is in place, the increase should reflect any changes to the cost of delivering the service. An increase of at least 3.5% is recommended to cover the estimated pay and price increases. This approach ensures fees & charges are rising in line with the costs associated with support/delivery. Where full cost recovery is not in place, prices are recommended to rise to ensure full cost recovery to prevent inadvertent tax payer subsidy.
Traded	This is a service which is also offered in a commercial environment and the price should reflect market factors such as supply, demand and competition.	Increase by estimated level of inflation -currently assumed to be 3.5% and matches assumptions in our MTFP.
Subsidised	Fee set below cost to deliver in order to incentivise a particular activity. This category of fee or charge is therefore subsidised by the taxpayer	Increase by at least 3.5% to cover the average impact of inflation/pay award. This ensures fees & charges are rising in line with the staff costs associated with support/delivery.
Levy	Fee or retrospective charge as a result of activity which the Council is able to levy an additional charge. These fees/charges are typically higher to act as a general disincentive or penalty to prevent non-compliance or failure to meet an agreed course of activity	Increase by estimated level of inflation - currently assumed to be 3.5% and matches assumptions in our MTFP.

FEES AND CHARGES PROPOSED FOR 2026/27

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Building Control Fees and Charges

<http://www.torbay.gov.uk/planning-and-building/building-control/bc-fees/>

Standard application charges for new dwellings and those created by conversion (Houses, flats and maisonettes not exceeding 300m ² in area and 3 storeys in height)	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate SR			
1 dwelling	1110.00	1175.00	Traded
2 dwellings	1382.00	1463.00	Traded
3 dwellings	1553.00	1644.00	Traded
4 dwellings	1723.00	1824.00	Traded
5 dwellings	1884.00	1994.00	Traded
6 dwellings	2045.00	2164.00	Traded

For developments in excess of 6 units, please contact the Building Control Division for details

Standard charges for small domestic buildings, extensions, rooms in the roof	£ Current 2025/26 Full Plans Charge	£ Current 2025/26 Building Notice Charge	£ Proposed 2026/27 Full Plans Charge	£ Proposed 2026/27 Building Notice Charge	Category
VAT Rate SR					
Extension not exceeding 10m ²	570.00	655.00	600.00	690.00	Traded
Exceeding 10m ² but not over 40m ²	850.00	925.00	900.00	980.00	Traded
Exceeding 40m ² but not over 100m ²	955.00	1060.00	1005.00	1120.00	Traded
Any non-exempt Garage/Carport	465.00	530.00	490.00	560.00	Traded
Loft Conversion	725.00	850.00	760.00	895.00	Traded
Conversion of domestic garage to habitable accommodation	445.00	520.00	470.00	550.00	Traded

(Areas are total floor areas of all storeys measured internally)

Where the total or the aggregation of the floor area of one or more extensions exceeds 40m², please contact the Building Control Department for

Standard charges for the Renovation of Thermal elements, Window replacement and Electrical/Controlled Installations for small domestic buildings VAT Rate SR	£ Current 2025/26 Full Plans Charge	£ Current 2025/26 Building Notice Charge	£ Proposed 2026/27 Full Plans Charge	£ Proposed 2026/27 Building Notice Charge	Category
Renovation of a thermal element to a single dwelling, (replacement roof covering, render, internal plaster or insulation)	260.00	260.00	280.00	280.00	Traded
Controllable electrical work to a domestic dwelling, (not competent persons)	190.00	190.00	205.00	205.00	Traded
Electrical work comprising of re- wiring a whole house (not competent persons)	285.00	285.00	305.00	305.00	Traded
Replacement of windows/doors (not competent persons) 1-4	165.00	165.00	180.00	180.00	Traded
Replacement of windows/doors (not competent persons) 5+	240.00	240.00	255.00	255.00	Traded
Installation of microgeneration systems or the installation of solid fuel, gas or oil fired appliances	210.00	210.00	230.00	230.00	Traded

Standard charges for all other building work (including renovation of thermal elements to Non Domestic Buildings) VAT Rate SR	£ Current 2025/26 Full Plans Charge	£ Current 2025/26 Building Notice Charge	£ Proposed 2026/27 Full Plans Charge	£ Proposed 2026/27 Building Notice Charge	Category
Under £2,000	250.00	310.00	265.00	330.00	Traded
£2,001 – £5,000	395.00	455.00	415.00	485.00	Traded
£5,001 – £10,000	485.00	585.00	510.00	620.00	Traded
£10,001 – £25,000	775.00	775.00	820.00	820.00	Traded
£25,001 – £50,000	925.00	925.00	980.00	980.00	Traded

For developments in excess of £50,000 please contact the Building Control Division for details

Regularisation Fees Domestic Extensions and Alterations VAT Rate OS	£ Current 2025/26
Extension not exceeding 10m sq	865.00
Exceeding 10m sq but not over 40m sq	1230.00
Exceeding 40m sq and over	1528.00
Any garage/carport	735.00
Conversion of domestic garage to habitable accommodation	735.00
Loft conversion	1392.00
Renovation of a thermal element to a single dwelling, (replacement roof covering, render, internal plaster or insulation)	352.00
Installation of microgeneration systems or the installation of solid fuel, gas or oil fired appliances	300.00
Controllable electrical work to a domestic dwelling	270.00
Electrical work comprising of re- wiring a whole house	352.00
Replacement of windows 1-4	240.00
Replacement of windows 5+	323.00
Regularisation Fees The Building or Conversion of New Dwellings VAT Rate OS	£ Current 2025/26
1 dwelling	1325.00
2 dwellings	1,656.00

£ Proposed 2026/27	Category
915.00	Levy
1310.00	Levy
1630.00	Levy
790.00	Levy
790.00	Levy
1445.00	Levy
400.00	Levy
340.00	Levy
310.00	Levy
400.00	Levy
270.00	Levy
340.00	Levy
£ Proposed 2026/27	Category
1469.00	Levy
1829.00	Levy

3 dwellings	1884.00
4 dwellings	2067.00

2080.00
2280.00

Levy
Levy

Regularisation Fees	£
Calculation of Charges for all Other Building Work:	Current
Estimated Cost of Work	2025/26
VAT Rate OS	
Under £2,000	414.00
£2,001 – £5,000	560.00
£5,001 – £10,0000	834.00
£10,001 – £25,000	1025.00
£25,001 – £50,000	1,242.00

£
Proposed
2026/27
430.00
606.00
863.00
1065.00
1286.00

Category
Levy
Levy
Levy
Levy
Levy

For works with an estimated value over £50,000 please contact

Parking - Off Street

Off Street Parking Places – Zone 1 (charges apply 7am to midnight)

VAT Rate SR

Brixham

Car Park	Up to 30 minutes	Up to 1 hour	Up to 2 hours	Up to 3 hours	Overnight ²
Brixham Central Car Park ¹	£0.90	£1.80	£3.00	£4.30	£5.00

¹ – Maximum stay of 3 hours permitted during the period 7am to 6pm every day.

² - Overnight is available 6pm to midnight

Paignton

Car Park	Up to 1 hour	Up to 2 hours	Up to 3 hours	Up to 4 hours	Up to 6 hours	Up to 17 hours	Overnight ²
Churchward Road Car Park	£1.80	£3.00	£4.30	£5.40	£7.80	£9.90	n/a
Crown & Anchor Car Park	£1.80	£3.00	£4.30	£5.40	£7.80	£9.90	n/a
Great Western Car Park ¹	£1.80	£3.00	£4.30	n/a		n/a	£5.00
Hyde Road Car Park	£1.80	£3.00	£4.30	£5.40	£7.80	£9.90	n/a
Preston Gardens Car Park	£1.80	£3.00	£4.30	£5.40	£7.80	£9.90	n/a
Station Lane Car Park ³	£1.80	£3.00	£4.30	£5.40	£7.80	£9.90	n/a
Victoria Car Park	£1.80	£3.00	£4.30	£5.40	£7.80	£9.90	n/a

¹ – Maximum stay of 3 hours permitted during the period 7am to 6pm every day.

² - Overnight is available 6pm to midnight

³ – Long stay car park also has a section of parking bays that allow a maximum stay of 60 minutes.

Torquay

Car Park	Up to 1 hour	Up to 2 hours	Up to 3 hours	Up to 4 hours	Up to 6 hours	Up to 17 hours	Overnight ²
Brunswick Square Car Park	£1.80	£3.00	£4.30	£5.40	£7.80	£9.90	n/a
Chilcote Close Car Park	£1.80	£3.00	£4.30	£5.40	£7.80	£9.90	n/a
Lower Union Lane Multi Storey Car Park	£1.80	£3.00	£4.30	£5.40	£7.80	£9.90	n/a
Lower Union Lane Shoppers Car Park ⁴	£1.80	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	£5.00
Lymington Road Coach Station Car Park	£1.80	£3.00	£4.30	£5.40	£7.80	£9.90	n/a
Melville Street Car Park	£1.80	£3.00	£4.30	£5.40	£7.80	£9.90	n/a
St Marychurch Car Park	£1.80	£3.00	£4.30	£5.40	£7.80	£9.90	n/a
Town Hall Car Park	£1.80	£3.00	£4.30	£5.40	£7.80	£9.90	n/a
Union Square Car Park	£1.80	£3.00	£4.30	£5.40	£7.80	£9.90	n/a

² - Overnight is available 6pm to midnight

⁴ – Maximum stay of 1 hour permitted during the period 7am to 6pm every day.

Off Street Parking Places – Zone 2 (charges apply 7am to midnight)

VAT Rate SR

Brixham

Car Park	Up to 1 hour	Up to 2 hours	Up to 3 hours	Up to 4 hours	Up to 6 hours	Up to 17 hours
Freshwater Car Park	£1.90	£3.10	£4.40	£5.70	£8.60	£11.00
Oxen Cove Car Park	£1.90	£3.10	£4.40	£5.70	£8.60	£11.00

Paignton

Car Park	Up to 1 hour	Up to 2 hours	Up to 3 hours	Up to 4 hours	Up to 6 hours	Up to 17 hours
Clennon Valley Car Park	£1.90	£3.10	£4.40	£5.70	£8.60	£11.00
Roundham Car Park ⁵	£1.90	£3.10	£4.40	£5.70	£8.60	£11.00

⁵ – Winter parking charges apply during the period 1st November to 20th March (dates inclusive), these charges are listed at end of this Schedule.

Torquay

Car Park	Up to 1 hour	Up to 2 hours	Up to 3 hours	Up to 4 hours	Up to 6 hours	Up to 17 hours
Cockington Court Car Park	£1.90	£3.10	£4.40	£5.70	£8.60	£11.00
Cockington Cycle Hub Car Park	£1.90	£3.10	£4.40	£5.70	£8.60	£11.00
Cockington Village Car Park	£1.90	£3.10	£4.40	£5.70	£8.60	£11.00
Hampton Avenue Car Park	£1.90	£3.10	£4.40	£5.70	£8.60	£11.00
Harbour Car Park	£1.90	£3.10	£4.40	£5.70	£8.60	£11.00
Meadfoot Road Car Park	£1.90	£3.10	£4.40	£5.70	£8.60	£11.00
Princes Street Car Park	£1.90	£3.10	£4.40	£5.70	£8.60	£11.00
Shedden Hill Car Park	£1.90	£3.10	£4.40	£5.70	£8.60	£11.00
Torre Valley Car Park ⁵	£1.90	£3.10	£4.40	£5.70	£8.60	£11.00
Walls Hill Car Park	£1.90	£3.10	£4.40	£5.70	£8.60	£11.00

⁵ – Winter parking charges apply during the period 1st November to 20th March (dates inclusive), these charges are listed at end of this Schedule.

Winter Tariff (only available during the period 1st November to 20th March – dates inclusive) – the above charges apply outside

Car Park	Up to 1 hour	Up to 2 hours	Up to 4 hours	Up to 17 hours
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Roundham Car Park	£1.20	£1.60	£2.50	£3.70
Torre Valley Car Park	£1.20	£1.60	£2.50	£3.70

Off Street Parking Places – Zone 3 (charges apply 7am to midnight)

VAT Rate SR

Brixham

Car Park	Up to 1 hour	Up to 2 hours	Up to 3 hours	Up to 4 hours	Up to 6 hours	Up to 17 hours
Breakwater Car Park ⁵	£2.00	£3.40	£4.80	£6.10	£8.50	£11.30

⁵ – Winter parking charges apply during the period 1st November to 20th March (dates inclusive), these charges are listed at end of this Schedule.

Paignton

Car Park	Up to 1 hour	Up to 2 hours	Up to 3 hours	Up to 4 hours	Up to 6 hours	Up to 17 hours	Overnight ²
Broadsands Car Park ⁵	£2.00	£3.40	£4.80	£6.10	£8.50	£11.30	n/a
Cliff Park Road Car Park ⁵	£2.00	£3.40	£4.80	£6.10	£8.50	£11.30	n/a
Colin Road Car Park	n/a	£3.40	£4.80	£6.10	£8.50	£11.30	n/a
Goodrington ¹	n/a	£3.40	£4.80	n/a		n/a	£5.20
Quaywest Car Park	n/a	£3.40	£4.80	£6.10	£8.50	£11.30	n/a
Youngs Park Car Park	n/a	£3.40	£4.80	£6.10	£8.50	£11.30	n/a

¹ – Maximum stay of 3 hours permitted during the period 7am to 6pm every day.

² - Overnight is available 6pm to midnight

⁵ – Winter parking charges apply during the period 1st November to 20th March (dates inclusive), these charges are listed at end of Schedule 7.

Torquay

Car Park	Up to 1 hour	Up to 2 hours	Up to 3 hours	Up to 4 hours	Up to 6 hours	Up to 17 hours
Abbey Park Car Park	n/a	£3.40	£4.80	£6.10	£8.50	£11.30
Beacon Quay Car Park	n/a	£3.40	£4.80	£6.10	£8.50	£11.30
Kilmore Car Park ⁵	£2.00	£3.40	£4.80	£6.10	£8.50	£11.30
Meadfoot Beach Car Park ⁵	£2.00	£3.40	£4.80	£6.10	£8.50	£11.30

⁵ – Winter parking charges apply during the period 1st November to 20th March (dates inclusive), these charges are listed at end of this Schedule

Winter Tariff (only available during the period 1st November to 20th March – dates inclusive) – the above charges apply outside of this period

Car Park	Up to 1 hour	Up to 2 hours	Up to 4 hours	Up to 17 hours
Breakwater	£1.20	£1.60	£2.50	£3.70
Broadsands	£1.20	£1.60	£2.50	£3.70
Cliff Park Road	£1.20	£1.60	£2.50	£3.70
Kilmore	£1.20	£1.60	£2.50	£3.70

Meadfoot Beach	£1.20	£1.60	£2.50	£3.70
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Off Street Parking Places – Commercial Vehicle Locations (Charges apply 7am to midnight)

VAT Rate SR

Brixham

Car Park	Up to 1 hour	Up to 4 hours	Up to 17 hours
Freshwater Car Park	£6.30	£12.80	£18.80

Paignton

Car Park	Up to 1 hour	Up to 4 hours	Up to 17 hours
Clennon Valley Car Park	£6.30	£12.80	£18.80

Victoria Car Park	£6.30	£12.80	£18.80
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Torquay

Car Park	Up to 1 hour	Up to 4 hours	Up to 17 hours
Hampton Avenue Car Park	£6.30	£12.80	£18.80
Lymington Road Coach Station Car Park	£6.30	£12.80	£18.80
Shedden Hill Car Park	£6.30	£12.80	£18.80

Promotional Parking Charges

VAT Rate SR

<u>Parking period up to:</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Parking Promotion 1 – up to 6 hours	50p
Parking Promotion 1 – up to 12 hours	£1.00

Car Parking - Pay and Display Charges

Agreed charges for 2026/27

On Street Parking Places – Zone 1

VAT Rate OS

Paignton

Street	Charging Hours	Up to 4 hours	All day
Sands Road	8am to 6pm, daily	£2.10	£3.20
Steartfield Road	8am to 6pm, daily	£2.10	£3.20

Torquay

Street	Charging Hours	Up to 4 hours	All day
Lymington Road (commuter spaces)	9am to 5pm, Mon-Sat	£2.10	£3.20
Magdalene Road	9am to 5pm, Mon-Sat	£2.10	£3.20
Newton Road	8am to 6pm, daily	£2.10	£3.20

On Street Parking Places – Zone 2

VAT Rate OS

Paignton

Street	Charging Hours	Up to 30 minutes	Up to 1 hour	Up to 1.5 hours	Up to 2 hours	Up to 3 hours	Up to 4 hours	Up to 5 hours	Up to 6 hours	All day
Adelphi Road	8am to 6pm, daily	£1.40	£2.00	£2.90	£3.60	£4.80	£6.00	£7.10	£8.20	£11.70
Dendy Road	8am to 6pm, daily	£1.40	£2.00	£2.90	£3.60	£4.80	£6.00	£7.10	£8.20	£11.70
Hyde Road	8am to 6pm, daily	£1.40	£2.00	£2.90	£3.60	£4.80	£6.00	£7.10	£8.20	£11.70
Palace Avenue	9am to 6pm, Mon-Sat	£1.40	£2.00	£2.90	£3.60	£4.80	£6.00	£7.10	£8.20	£11.70
Queens Road	8am to 6pm, daily	£1.40	£2.00	£2.90	£3.60	£4.80	£6.00	£7.10	£8.20	£11.70
Torbay Road	9am to 6pm, daily (one section is 10am to 6pm daily)	£1.40	£2.00	£2.90	£3.60	£4.80	£6.00	£7.10	£8.20	£11.70
Torquay Road	8am to 6pm, daily	£1.40	£2.00	£2.90	£3.60	£4.80	£6.00	£7.10	£8.20	£11.70

Torquay

Street	Charging Hours	Up to 30 minutes	Up to 1 hour	Up to 1.5 hours	Up to 2 hours	Up to 3 hours	Up to 4 hours	Up to 5 hours	Up to 6 hours	All day
Abbey Road	9am to 5pm, daily	£1.40	£2.00	£2.90	£3.60	£4.80	£6.00	£7.10	£8.20	£11.70
Babbacombe Road	8am to 6pm, Mon-Sat (one section is 8am to 6pm, daily)	£1.40	£2.00	£2.90	£3.60	£4.80	£6.00	£7.10	£8.20	£11.70
Briary Lane	8am to 6pm, daily	£1.40	£2.00	£2.90	£3.60	£4.80	£6.00	£7.10	£8.20	£11.70
Castle Road	8am to 6pm, Mon-Sat	£1.40	£2.00	£2.90	£3.60	£4.80	£6.00	£7.10	£8.20	£11.70
Lymington Road	8am to 6pm, Mon-Sat	£1.40	£2.00	£2.90	£3.60	£4.80	£6.00	£7.10	£8.20	£11.70
Market Street	8am to 6pm, daily	£1.40	£2.00	£2.90	£3.60	£4.80	£6.00	£7.10	£8.20	£11.70
Parkhill Road	8am to 6pm, daily	£1.40	£2.00	£2.90	£3.60	£4.80	£6.00	£7.10	£8.20	£11.70
Pedmlico	8am to 6pm, daily	£1.40	£2.00	£2.90	£3.60	£4.80	£6.00	£7.10	£8.20	£11.70
The Terrace	8am to 6pm, daily	£1.40	£2.00	£2.90	£3.60	£4.80	£6.00	£7.10	£8.20	£11.70
Torwood Gardens Road	8am to 6pm, daily	£1.40	£2.00	£2.90	£3.60	£4.80	£6.00	£7.10	£8.20	£11.70
Torwood Street	8am to 6pm, daily	£1.40	£2.00	£2.90	£3.60	£4.80	£6.00	£7.10	£8.20	£11.70
Union Street	8am to 6pm, Mon-Sat	£1.40	£2.00	£2.90	£3.60	£4.80	£6.00	£7.10	£8.20	£11.70

On Street Parking Places – Zone 3

VAT Rate OS

Paignton

Street	Charging Hours	Up to 30 minutes	Up to 1 hour	Up to 1.5 hours	Up to 2 hours	Up to 3 hours	Up to 4 hours	Up to 5 hours	Up to 6 hours	24 hours
Eastern Esplanade	24 hours a day, daily	£1.50	£2.20	£3.10	£3.80	£5.20	£6.30	£7.40	£8.50	£12.20
Marine Drive	24 hours a day, daily	£1.50	£2.20	£3.10	£3.80	£5.20	£6.30	£7.40	£8.50	£12.20

Torquay

Street	Charging Hours	Up to 30 minutes	Up to 1 hour	Up to 1.5 hours	Up to 2 hours	Up to 3 hours	Up to 4 hours	Up to 5 hours	Up to 6 hours	24 hours
Yorbbay Road	24 hours a day, daily	£1.50	£2.20	£3.10	£3.80	£5.20	£6.30	£7.40	£8.50	£12.20

Parking Permits - Fees and Charges

Types of Parking Permits – Off-Street		Current Charges 2025/26	Charges 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate SR				
Permit Type	Coverage			
Annual (up front)*	Covers use in all Torbay Council car parks	£475.00	£495.00	Traded
Monthly	Covers use in all Torbay Council car parks	£77.00	£79.00	Traded
8 days	Covers use in all Torbay Council car parks	£54.00	£55.50	Traded
4 days	Covers use in all Torbay Council car parks	£30.00	£31.00	Traded
Off Peak	Valid 3.00 p.m. to 10.00 a.m. and covers use in all Torbay Council car parks	£77.00	£79.00	Traded
Weekly Commercial	Covers use in all commercial vehicle spaces at applicable Torbay Council car parks	£75.50	£75.50	Traded
Disabled Persons Parking Permit	Covers use in all Torbay Council car parks	£48.00	£48.00	Cost recovery
Administration fee to change vehicle registration details on car park permits	All car park permits	£25.00	£25.00	Cost recovery

***Note – Cost of Annual Permit increases to £544.50 if paid for using Direct Debit option**

Reserved Bays		Current Charges 2025/26	Proposed Charges 2026/27	Category
Beacon Quay	3 spaces	£700.00	£715.00	Traded
Breakwater	2 spaces	£700.00	£715.00	Traded
Chilcote Close	10 spaces	£700.00	£715.00	Traded
Freshwater	24 spaces	£700.00	£715.00	Traded
Harbour Car Park	Not specified	£700.00	£715.00	Traded
Harbour Car Park - Museum Road	Not specified	£700.00	£715.00	Traded
Lymington Road Coach Station	Innovation centre tenants only (28 spaces) Not for general public sale	N/A	N/A	Traded
St Dominics Close	4 spaces	£700.00	715	Traded
Victoria	40 spaces	£700.00	£715.00	Traded
Shedden Hill Car Park	Torquay Lawn Tennis Club only (10 spaces)	N/A	N/A	Traded
Southern Quay	Residential	£760.00	£780.00	Traded
Southern Quay	Business	£1,590.00	£1,640.00	Traded
Reserved Bays	Notification of change of business	£50.00	£50.00	Cost recovery

Types of Parking Permits – On-Street		Current Charges 2025/26	Charges 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate 0 S				
Permit Type	Coverage			
Annual On Street Permit (up front)**	Covers use in all Torbay Council on street pay and display bays (Zones 1 to 3)	£720.00	£740.00	Traded
Monthly On Street Permit	Covers use in all Torbay Council on street pay and display bays (Zones 1 to 3)	£108.00	£111.00	Traded
Monthly Communter On Street Permit	Covers use in all Zone 1 on street pay and display areas	£65.00	£67.00	Cost recovery
Healthcare and Emergency Badge	Available to organisations who administer emergency care, provides exemption from limited number of on street restrictions	£15.00	£18.50	Cost recovery

Community Safety Fees & Charges

Food, Health & Safety and Public Safety Discretionary Fees

Body alteration registrations	£	£	Category	2026/27 % rise
	Current 2025/26	Proposed 2026/27		
http://www.torbay.gov.uk/business/licensing/skin-piercing/				
VAT Rate OS				
Tattooing, Electrolysis and Body Piercing (excluding cartridge systems) – Premises	300.00	310.00	Cost Recovery	3.33%
Tattooing, Electrolysis and Body Piercing (excluding cartridge systems) – Practitioner	173.00	179.00	Cost Recovery	3.47%
Practitioner registration at reduced rate per person when completing a joint application (Premises and Practitioner)	104.00	108.00	Cost Recovery	3.85%
Tattooing, Electrolysis and Body Piercing : Amendment to registration (e.g change of name)	57.00	59.00	Cost Recovery	3.50%
Ear piercing using an approved cartridge system – Premises	165.00	171.00	Cost Recovery	3.64%
Ear piercing using an approved cartridge system – Practitioner	145.00	150.00	Cost Recovery	3.45%
Ear Piercing using an approved cartridge system - Practitioner registration at reduced rate per person when completing a joint application (Premises and Practitioner)	87.00	90.00	Cost Recovery	3.45%
Ear Piercing: Amendment to registration (e.g. change of name)	57.00	59.00	Cost Recovery	3.50%

Fish Export Certificates	£	£	Category		2026/27 % rise
	Current 2025/26	Proposed 2026/27			
VAT Rate OS					
*Export Support Attestation	140.00	145.00	Cost Recovery	rounded up and ok	3.57%
*Any Export Certificates (fish) – Advanced	140.00	145.00	Cost Recovery		3.57%
*Any Export Certificates (fish) – Advanced - Late Notice where notified after 1pm	187.00	194.00	Cost Recovery		
*Any Export Certificates (fish) – Advanced (where re-issued required due to error caused by business)	140.00	145.00	Cost Recovery		3.57%

*Charges applicable Monday-Friday

Factual reports to Solicitors following accidents	£	£	Category	2026/27 % rise
	Current 2025/26	Proposed 2026/27		
VAT Rate OS				
Factual report	248.00	256.68	Cost Recovery	3.50%
Photocopying per sheet	1.78	1.84	Cost Recovery	3.50%
Photographs	Actual costs	Actual costs	Cost Recovery	

Sports Grounds	£	£	Category	2026/27 % rise
	Current	2025/26		
VAT Rate OS				
General or Special Safety Certificate (Sports grounds) - new	3767.00	3900.00	Cost Recovery	3.53%
General or Special Safety Certificate (Sports grounds) – alteration requested by sports grounds	1076.00	1114.00	Cost Recovery	3.53%
Regulated Stand (Sports grounds) - new	1076.00	1114.00	Cost Recovery	3.53%
Regulated Stand (Sports grounds) - alteration requested by sports grounds	538.00	557.00	Cost Recovery	3.53%

Licensing Discretionary Fees

Street Trading		£	£		2026/27 % rise
http://www.torbay.gov.uk/business/licensing/street-and-trading/street-trading/		Current	2025/26	Proposed	2026/27
VAT Rate OS					
Annual		1178.00	1219.00	Cost Recovery	3.48%
3 months		525.00	543.00	Cost Recovery	3.43%
1 month		224.00	232.00	Cost Recovery	3.57%

Daily	172.00	178.00	Cost Recovery
Replacement or amendment	40.00	41.00	Cost Recovery
Small Traders 0-15 #			
1 day only	200.00	207.00	Cost Recovery
2-3 days	354.00	366.00	Cost Recovery
4-6 days	517.00	535.00	Cost Recovery
7-9 days	678.00	702.00	Cost Recovery
10-12 days	839.00	868.00	Cost Recovery
13-15 days	1000.00	1035.00	Cost Recovery
16+ days	1161.00	1202.00	Cost Recovery
Medium Traders 16-30 #			
1 day only	400.00	414.00	Cost Recovery
2-3 days	857.00	887.00	Cost Recovery
4-6 days	1259.00	1304.00	Cost Recovery
7-9 days	1661.00	1719.00	Cost Recovery
10-12 days	2068.00	2140.00	Cost Recovery
13-15 days	2469.00	2555.00	Cost Recovery
16+ days	2792.00	2890.00	Cost Recovery
High Traders 31+ #			
1 day only	600.00	621.00	Cost Recovery
2-3 days	1373.00	1421.00	Cost Recovery
4-6 days	2024.00	2095.00	Cost Recovery
7-9 days	2666.00	2759.00	Cost Recovery
10-12 days	3311.00	3427.00	Cost Recovery
13-15 days	3949.00	4087.00	Cost Recovery
16+ days	4604.00	4765.00	Cost Recovery
Annual Fee for Outdoor Torquay Town Centre Market Supported by Torbay Council (up to 15 stalls)	1000.00	1035.00	Cost Recovery
Annual Fee for Outdoor Torquay Town Centre Market Supported by Torbay Council (up to 30 stalls)	1300.00	1346.00	Cost Recovery
Annual Fee for Outdoor Torquay Town Centre Market Supported by Torbay Council (31 stalls plus)	1600.00	1656.00	Cost Recovery
If an applicant applying for an event/events, applies for a number of days within a given time period, even if those days are not consecutive or not at the same location			
# Local Community Street Trading Events (i.e. friend of park etc.) where the purpose is charitable, but where stall holders <u>only pay a contribution</u> for charitable			
# Council Event, run by the Events Team (as opposed to an event support by TBC) then fee will be half the fee listed listed in the trader fee table above.			
Charitable Street Trading Events, where ALL money raised is for charitable purposes - Free (with agreement from Council)			

3.49%
2.50%
3.50%
3.39%
3.48%
3.54%
3.46%
3.50%
3.53%
3.50%
3.50%
3.57%
3.49%
3.48%
3.48%
3.51%
3.50%
3.50%
3.51%
3.49%
3.50%
3.49%
3.50%
3.50%
3.54%
3.50%

Zoo Licensing	£	£	
	Current 2025/26	Proposed 2026/27	Category
http://www.torbay.gov.uk/business/licensing/animals/zoo/			
VAT Rate OS			
First ever licence	3100.00	3200.00	Cost Recovery
Statutory six yearly inspection	2060.00	2130.00	Cost Recovery
Periodic three year inspection	2060.00	2130.00	Cost Recovery
Informal annual inspection	515.00	530.00	Cost Recovery
Transfer of Licence	280.00	290.00	Cost Recovery

2026/27 % rise
3.23%
3.40%
3.40%
2.91%
3.57%

Dangerous Wild Animal Licences	£	£	
	Current 2025/26	Proposed 2026/27	Category
http://www.torbay.gov.uk/business/licensing/animals/			
VAT Rate OS			
Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976**	621.00	643.00	Cost Recovery
** Plus costs of vets fees as required			

2026/27 % rise
3.54%

Primate Keeper Licences (NEW)	£	£	
	Current 2025/26	Proposed 2026/27	Category
Primate Keeper Licence**	N/A	675.00	Cost recovery
** Plus costs of vets fees as required			

2026/27 % increase
N/A (new fee)

Any Animal Licences (except Zoo and DWA) (see Footnote)	£	£	
	Current 2025/26	Proposed 2026/27	Category
http://www.torbay.gov.uk/business/licensing/animals/			
VAT Rate OS			
Home Boarding **	549.00	568.00	Cost Recovery
Kennels inc Catteries **	621.00	643.00	Cost Recovery
Pet Shops **	652.00	675.00	Cost Recovery
Dog Breeding **	652.00	675.00	Cost Recovery
Day Care **	569.00	589.00	Cost Recovery
Horses (Riding Establishments) **	797.00	825.00	Cost Recovery
Keeping or Training Animals for Exhibition ** (was Performing Animals)	569.00	589.00	Cost Recovery
Rescore Visit	275.00	285.00	Cost Recovery
Admin fee (change of circumstances such as change of name, add host to franchisee)	25.00	26.00	Cost Recovery
Licence variation fee (e.g. request to add/remove species)	55.00	57.00	Cost Recovery

2026/27 % rise
3.46%
3.54%
3.53%
3.53%
3.51%
3.51%
3.51%
3.64%
4.00%
3.64%

** Plus costs of vets fees as required

Footnote:
In all cases where there is more than one activity per licence. The fee will be:
- Highest Cost Activity - Full Fee, plus;
- Second (or second Highest) Cost Activity - 30% of fee
- Any third or subsequent activity add 10% of fee

Sex Entertainment Premises	£	£	
	Current 2025/26	Proposed 2026/27	Category
http://www.torbay.gov.uk/business/licensing/sex-entertainment-venue/			
VAT Rate OS			
Sex Shop Establishment: New Application	7000.00	7245.00	Cost Recovery
Sex Shop Establishment: Annual Licence Fee	4050.00	4192.00	Cost Recovery
Sex Shop Establishment: Transfer of Licence	665.00	688.00	Cost Recovery
Sex Shop Establishment: Variation	665.00	688.00	Cost Recovery
Sexual Entertainment Venue: New Application	7000.00	7245.00	Cost Recovery

2026/27 % rise
3.50%
3.51%
3.46%
3.46%
3.50%

Sexual Entertainment Venue: Annual Licence Fee	4050.00	4192.00	Cost Recovery
Sexual Entertainment Venue: Transfer of Licence	665.00	688.00	Cost Recovery
Sexual Entertainment Venue: Variation	665.00	688.00	Cost Recovery

3.51%
3.46%
3.46%

Distribution of printed matter	£	£	
	Current	2025/26	Proposed 2026/27
			Category
http://www.torbay.gov.uk/business/licensing/street-and-trading/leaflets/			
VAT Rate OS			
Consent under CNEA to distribute free printed matter – one distributor	149.00	154.00	Cost Recovery
For each additional distributor up to a maximum of six	28.00	29.00	Cost Recovery

2026/27 % rise
3.36%
3.57%

Park Homes	£	£	
	Current	2025/26	Proposed 2026/27
			Category
http://www.torbay.gov.uk/business/licensing/caravan-and-park-home-sites/			
VAT Rate OS			
Annual Licence Fee (Lower band)	171.00	177.00	Cost Recovery
Annual Licence Fee (Higher band)	3230.00	3343.00	Cost Recovery
Application Fee for a Site Licence	835.00	864.00	Cost Recovery
Application to Transfer a Site Licence	440.00	455.00	Cost Recovery
Application to vary conditions on a Site Licence	440.00	455.00	Cost Recovery
To post site conditions on Council website	103.00	107.00	Cost Recovery
Compliance Notice – Cost of Notice*	103.00	107.00	Cost Recovery

2026/27 % rise
3.51%
3.50%
3.47%
3.41%
3.41%
3.88%
3.88%

*The costs of enforcement will then be added to this figure

Hackney Carriage	£	£	
	Current	2025/26	Proposed 2026/27
			Category
http://www.torbay.gov.uk/business/licensing/taxis/hackney-carriage/			
VAT Rate OS			
Vehicle Annual - New (Includes plate and bracket)	273.00	283.00	Cost Recovery
Vehicle Annual Renewal	199.00	207.00	Cost Recovery
Driver (New) (includes first attempt of Knowledge Test)	388.00	408.00	Cost Recovery

2026/27 % rise
3.66%
4.02%
5.15%

Driver (Renewal)	279.50	294.00	Cost Recovery	5.19%
Drivers badge (replacement)	33.00	34.00	Cost Recovery	3.03%
Vehicle Licence Transfer Fee	74.00	76.00	Cost Recovery	2.70%
Change of vehicle registration (Cherished number plate)	74.00	76.00	Cost Recovery	2.70%
Plate	74.00	76.00	Cost Recovery	2.70%
Replacement bracket	35.00	36.00	Cost Recovery	2.86%
Knowledge test	80.00	83.00	Cost Recovery	3.75%
Replacement paper licence fee	15.00	16.00	Cost Recovery	6.67%
Licence refund fee	15.00	16.00	Cost Recovery	6.67%

Private Hire Vehicles	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category	2026/27 % rise
http://www.torbay.gov.uk/business/licensing/taxis/private-hire/				
VAT Rate OS				
Vehicle Annual New (Includes plate and bracket)	243.00	252.00	Cost Recovery	3.70%
Vehicle Annual Renewal	169.00	176.00	Cost Recovery	4.14%
Driver (New) (includes first attempt of Knowledge Test)	388.00	408.00	Cost Recovery	5.15%
Driver (Renewal)	279.50	294.00	Cost Recovery	5.19%
Drivers badge (replacement)	33.00	34.00	Cost Recovery	3.03%
Operator (per vehicle) - 1 year	72.50	125.00	Cost Recovery	72.41%
Operator (per vehicle) 5 year licence	118.00	500.00	Cost Recovery	323.73%
Vehicle Licence Transfer Fee	74.00	76.00	Cost Recovery	2.70%
Change of vehicle registration (Cherished number plate)	74.00	76.00	Cost Recovery	2.70%
Plate	74.00	76.00	Cost Recovery	2.70%
Replacement bracket and holder	35.00	36.00	Cost Recovery	2.86%
Knowledge test	80.00	83.00	Cost Recovery	3.75%
Replacement paper licence fee	15.00	16.00	Cost Recovery	6.67%
Licence refund fee (e.g. for refused driver applications)	15.00	16.00	Cost Recovery	6.67%

Other Charges	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category	2026/27 % rise
VAT Rate SR				
Handbook & replacements	28.00	28.00	Cost Recovery	0.00%
Assistance/advice appointment	72.50	75.00	Traded	3.45%

Gambling Fees	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category	2026/27 % rise
http://www.torbay.gov.uk/business/licensing/gambling/gambling-premises-licence/				
VAT Rate OS				
Application for new premises licence				
Small Casino	8,000.00	8,000.00	National	0.00%
Bingo Premises	3,500.00	3,500.00	National	0.00%
Betting Premises (Tracks)	2,500.00	2,500.00	National	0.00%
75	3,000.00	3,000.00	National	0.00%
Adult Gaming Centres	2,000.00	2,000.00	National	0.00%
Licensed Family Entertainment Centre	2,000.00	2,000.00	National	0.00%
Application to vary premises licence				
Small Casino	4,000.00	4,000.00	National	0.00%
Casino (existing)	2,000.00	2,000.00	National	0.00%
Bingo Premises	1,750.00	1,750.00	National	0.00%
Betting Premises (Tracks)	1,250.00	1,250.00	National	0.00%
Betting Premises (Other)	1,500.00	1,500.00	National	0.00%
Adult Gaming Centres	1,000.00	1,000.00	National	0.00%

Licensed Family Entertainment Centre	1,000.00	1,000.00	National
1st Annual Fee			
Small Casino	5,000.00	5,000.00	National
Casino (existing)	3,000.00	3,000.00	National
Bingo Premises	1,000.00	1,000.00	National
Betting Premises (Tracks)	1,000.00	1,000.00	National
Betting Premises (Other)	600.00	600.00	National
Adult Gaming Centres	1,000.00	1,000.00	National
Licensed Family Entertainment Centre	750.00	750.00	National
Application to transfer the premises licence			
Small Casino	1,800.00	1,800.00	National
Casino (existing)	1,350.00	1,350.00	National
Bingo Premises	1,200.00	1,200.00	National
Betting Premises (Tracks)	950.00	950.00	National
Betting Premises (Other)	1,200.00	1,200.00	National
Adult Gaming Centres	1,200.00	1,200.00	National
Licensed FEC	950.00	950.00	National
Application for re-instatement of premises licence			
Small Casino	1,800.00	1,800.00	National
Casino (existing)	1,350.00	1,350.00	National
Bingo Premises	1,200.00	1,200.00	National
Betting Premises (Tracks)	950.00	950.00	National
Betting Premises (Other)	1,200.00	1,200.00	National
Adult Gaming Centres	1,200.00	1,200.00	National
Licensed Family Entertainment Centre	950.00	950.00	National
Application for a provisional statement			
Small Casino	8,000.00	8,000.00	National
Bingo Premises	3,500.00	3,500.00	National
Betting Premises (Tracks)	2,500.00	2,500.00	National
Betting Premises (Other)	3,000.00	3,000.00	National

0.00%
0.00%
0.00%
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0.00%
0.00%
0.00%
0.00%
0.00%

Adult Gaming Centres	2,000.00	2,000.00	National
Licensed Family Entertainment Centre	2,000.00	2,000.00	National
Application for a premises licence for a premises which already has a provisional statement			
Small Casino	3,000.00	3,000.00	National
Bingo Premises	1,200.00	1,200.00	National
Betting Premises (Tracks)	950.00	950.00	National
Betting Premises (Other)	1,200.00	1,200.00	National
Adult Gaming Centres	1,200.00	1,200.00	National
Licensed Family Entertainment Centre	950.00	950.00	National
Application checking service for Licensing & Gambling applications*			
Premises Licence & Club Premises Certificate applications (Licensing Act 2003 & Gambling Act 2005)	57.00	59.00	Traded
Transfer and Vary DPS application (Licensing Act 2003 & Gambling Act 2005)	23.00	24.00	Traded
Personal Licence applications (Licensing Act 2003)	18.00	19.00	Traded
Permits (Gambling Act 2005)	18.00	19.00	Traded
TEN application, assistance and send	15.00	16.00	Traded
Rate per hour for other application checks	80.00	83.00	Traded

0.00%
0.00%
0.00%
0.00%
0.00%
0.00%
0.00%
0.00%
3.50%
4.35%
5.56%
5.56%
6.67%
3.75%

Advice and Support	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate SR			
Licensing advice and support visits for Businesses*			
Application licence advice (Up to 2 hours, including site visit & short report, identifying key issues)	225.00	233.00	Traded
Food and Safety training, advice and support visits for Businesses*			
VAT Rate OS			
New Business Advice (Up to 2 hours, including site visit & short report, identifying key priorities)	225.00	233.00	Traded
DPS Rescore visit	210.00	218.00	Traded

2026/27 % rise
3.56%
3.56%
3.81%

*These services are in the process of being developed and further notification will be given before the service and therefore

Pavement Licences www.torbay.gov.uk/pavement-licence/	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate OS			
New Application - Pavement Licence (issued for a maximum of 2 years)	500.00	500.00	National
Renewal Application - Pavement Licence (issued for a maximum of 2 years)	350.00	350.00	National

2026/27 % rise
0.00%
0.00%

Environmental Protection Discretionary Fees http://www.torbay.gov.uk/asb-environment-and-nuisance/	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate OS			
Stray Dogs			
Carriage of Stray Dogs	86.00	89.00	Cost Recovery
Carriage of Stray Dogs (Government Fine £25.00) plus dog warden transportation costs	122.00	126.30	Cost Recovery
Out of hours call out (stray dogs)	110.00	113.85	Cost Recovery
Payment Plan Arrangement Fee	19.00	19.70	Cost Recovery
Private Water Supply Charges			
Risk Assessment	270.00	279.45	Cost recovery
Sampling Visit	114.00	118.00	Cost recovery
Investigation	142.00	146.95	Cost recovery
Granting Authorisation	142.00	146.95	Cost recovery
Missed Appointment	49.00	50.75	Cost recovery
Scrap Metal Act			

2026/27 % rise
3.49%
3.52%
3.50%
3.68%
3.50%
3.51%
3.49%
3.49%
3.57%

Site Licence Application Fee (3 years)	1010.00	1038.00	Cost recovery	2.77%
Collectors Licence Application Fee	517.00	527.00	Cost recovery	1.93%
Variation Cost	116.00	121.00	Cost recovery	4.31%
Renewal Fee – Site Licence	757.00	781.00	Cost recovery	3.17%
Renewal Fee - Collector	379.00	384.00	Cost recovery	1.32%

Environmental Crime - Fixed Penalty Notice Charges	£	£	Category	Comments	2026/27 % rise
	Current 2025/26	Proposed 2026/27			
VAT Rate OS					
PSPO Hopes Nose and Berry Head	100.00	100.00	National		0.00%

PSPO (Dispersal)	80.00	80.00	National		0.00%
PSPO (Alcohol)	80.00	80.00	National		0.00%
Littering - with a £50 discount to £100 for early payment (within 10 days)	150.00	150.00	National	National Banding £65 min to £500 max. Payment within 10 days (beginning date of notice) discounted to £100 (minimum discount allowable £50)	0.00%
PSPO (Dog Fowling)	100.00	100.00	National	£100 maximum set by Torbay council PSPO. Payment within 10 days (beginning date of notice) discounted to £80 (minimum discount	0.00%
PSPO (Dog off lead)	100.00	100.00	National	£100 maximum set by Torbay council PSPO. Payment within 10 days (beginning date of notice) discounted to £80 (minimum discount	0.00%
Graffiti	150.00	150.00	National	National Banding £65 min to £500 max. Payment within 10 days (beginning date of notice) discounted to £100 (minimum discount allowable £50)	0.00%
Fly Posting	150.00	150.00	National	National Banding £65 min to £500 max. Payment within 10 days (beginning date of notice) discounted to £100 (minimum discount allowable £50)	0.00%
Abandoning a Vehicle	200.00	200.00	National	Nationally set at £200. No early repayment discount.	0.00%
Fly Tipping - Upper Offence	600.00	600.00	National	National Banding £150 min to £1000 max. Payment within 10 days (beginning date of notice) discounted to £300 (minimum discounted rate allowable £120).	0.00%
Fly Tipping - Lower Offence	400.00	400.00	National	National Banding £150 min to £1000 max. Payment within 10 days (beginning date of notice) discounted to £200 (minimum discounted rate allowable £120).	0.00%
Failure to Produce a Waste Transfer Note	300.00	300.00	National	Nationally set at £300.00. No early repayment discount.	0.00%

Domestic Waste Receptical Offences	60.00	60.00	National	National Banding £60 min to £80 max. Payment within 10 days (beginning date of notice) discounted to £40 (minimum discount allowable £40)	0.00%
Household Waste Duty of Care	400.00	400.00	National	National Banding £150 min to £600 max. Payment within 10 days discounted to £300 (minimum discounted rate allowable £180)	0.00%
Industrial and Commercial Waste Receptical Offences	110.00	110.00	National	National Banding £75min to £110 max. Payment within 10 days (beginning date of notice) discounted to £80 (minimum discount allowable £60)	0.00%
Nuisance Parking	100.00	100.00	National	Nationally set at £100, No early repayment discount	0.00%

Notes on Fixed Penalty Notices:

Littering: Dropping litter anywhere is an offence. Litter is everything from food packaging to cigarette butts and chewing gum. It can also include feeding birds. Urinating is an offence under various legislation to urinate on public surfaces, roads, pavements or streets and may be treated as littering when acted upon by the Council.

Dog fouling (PSPO): Dog fouling in a public place and failing to pick it up it is an offence.

Dogs not on lead (PSPO): Allowing a dog/s to be off a lead in an area designated that it must be on a lead, is an offence.

Flyposting: It is an offence to display advertising material on buildings and street furniture without the consent of the owner. We will remove any fly posting on the highway and issue an FPN for offences or prosecute in **serious cases**.

Fly-tipping: Fly-tipping is the illegal dumping of waste. It can vary in scale significantly, from a bin bag of rubbish, to larger bulky waste items being dumped, such as mattresses or white goods.

Domestic duty of care: Where fly-tipped waste or waste in the hands of a non registered waste holder is traced back to an individual who is found to have failed to take reasonable steps to ensure they transferred the waste to an authorised person. An FPN can be offered in place of a prosecution.

Commercial waste duty of care: Businesses have a duty of care to ensure their waste is removed by a licensed waste carrier. If we suspect a business is not dealing with its waste responsibly, we can issue a notice requiring the production of waste transfer documents. Failure to produce the documents results in the issue of a fine.

Private Sector Housing http://www.barnack.gov.uk/councilandadministration/councilandadministration				2026/27 % rise
	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category	
VAT Rate OS				
HMO Licensing - New application	1997.00	2007.00	Cost Recovery	0.50%
HMO Licensing - New application (enforced)	2843.00	2859.00	Levy	0.56%
HMO Licensing - Renewal	1701.00	1709.00	Cost Recovery	0.47%
HMO Licensing – Renewal (enforced)	2043.00	2054.00	Levy	0.54%
Charges for Housing Act Notices plus reasonable costs incurred by the Council	Variable from 124.00 to 622.50	Variable from 125.78 to 628.90	Cost Recovery	
Immigration Inspection Fee	204.52	211.68	Cost Recovery	3.50%
Administrative Charge for landlords who fail to submit documentation when requested	59.20	61.27	Levy	3.50%
Works in Default (minimum admin charge)	£119.60 or 30% of total works (whichever is greater)	£125.00 or 30% of total works (whichever is greater)	Levy	
General Fees for all services				2026/27 % rise
	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category	
VAT Rate SR				

Personal Search/Solicitor Enquiries	97.29	100.70	Traded
Contaminated Land Searches (per hour)	112.82	116.77	Traded
Repayment of fee where error was the applicant's	38.30	39.64	Traded
Replacement licence certificates	45.54	47.13	Traded

Note: Visits carried out partly or entirely outside normal office hours may incur a surcharge of 50% on the standard fee or on

3.50%
3.50%
3.50%
3.50%

	£	£	
Domestic Minimum Energy Efficiency Standard Regs (MEES)	Current 2025/26	Proposed 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate OS			Levy
Civil Penalty	From 1,000 to 5,000 as per policy	From 1,000 to 5,000 as per policy	Levy

2026/27 % rise

	£	£	
Disabled Facility Grant (Agreed via Housing Assistance Policy)	Current 2025/26	Proposed 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate SR			
Project Management Fee	15% fee applied to the first £30,000.00 with 12% applied to discretionary element above £30,000.00	15% fee applied to the first £30,000.00 with 12% applied to discretionary element above £30,000.00	Traded

2026/27 % rise

	£	£	
Temporary Accommodation	Current 2025/26 weekly rate	Proposed 2026/27 weekly rate	Category
VAT Rate			
Council Tax	0	Variable - See note	
- Tenants are liable for full amounts, subject to valid housing and Council tax claim and amount of award given.			
Licence Fee	0	Variable - See note	
- Tenants are liable for full amounts, subject to valid housing and Council tax claim and amount of award given.			
*Note: Council Tax and weekly licence charges will vary depending on the size of the property and Council tax banding.			

Sevices Charges Utilites - Weekly			
Water		£4.10	
Heating (Gas/Elec)		£35.25	
Lighting		£2.85	
Laundry/Bedding		£4.10	
Cleaning		£2.85	
Cooking		£4.10	
Breakfast (per person)		£4.30	
* Note - These deductions are the amounts set by the DWP that are not included with any claim. If for example breakfast is provided, then the amount will not be deducted from the costs.			
Some accommodation provisions will have additional charges added to the property due to property maintenance being provided by Torbay Council. These costs are not covered by Housing Benefit and therefore the applicant will be liable for these costs.			
*Note: Where the licensee has sole use of the property at an address, e.g. whole house of self contained flat, they will be liable for utilities through the utility provider.			
Service Charge Management Fees - Weekly		£20	

<i>*1 Charges will include but not limited to communal lighting, Health and safety inspections and compliance checks</i>				
Service Charge Management and Furnishings - Weekly		£50		
<i>*2 Charges will include areas but not limited to Windows, Gardens, Guttering, kitchen appliances, cleaning at the end of the tenancy, furniture provisions.</i>				
NEW Removals and Storage of Personal Belongings				
Where assistance is provided full recovery of costs will be recovered from the applicant				
NEW Homeliness Assistance for Pets and Kenneling				
Where assistance is provided full recovery of costs will be recovered from the applicant				
NEW Damage to Emergency Accommodation				
Where damage has been caused full recovery of costs will be recovered from the applicant				
NEW Hostel Service Charge		£17		
CCTV				
Third party requests from Insurance Companies for CCTV and/or still images of Road Traffic Collisions	£102	£106	Cost Recovery	

Culture & Sport

Outdoor Sport http://www.torbay.gov.uk/leisure-sports-and-community/sports/sports-facilities/ VAT Rate OS	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed Charge 2026/27	Category
Soccer, Rugby, Hockey - Per Match			
Seniors: including showers/changing x 1 game	75.00	77.65	Subsidised
Seniors:excluding showers/changing x 1 game	37.00	38.30	Subsidised
Juniors (13 and under): including showers/changing x 1 game	30.00	31.05	Subsidised
Juniors (13 and under): excluding showers/changing x 1 game	18.00	18.65	Subsidised
Football League Clubs - Only League and Cup fixtures Season Fee x 12 games (2 hours) (including showers/changing and cutting/markings)			
Senior	630.00	652.00	Subsidised
Junior (13 and under)	150.00	155.25	Subsidised
Senior: Additional games	52.00	53.85	Subsidised
Junior: Additional games	13.00	13.45	Subsidised
Netball Courts - Upton park, Lymmington Road			
U18's per hour	16.00	16.55	Subsidised
seniors	23.00	23.80	Subsidised
Training Sessions			

2026/27 % rise
3.53%
3.50%
3.50%
3.61%
3.49%
3.50%
3.56%
3.46%
3.44%
3.48%

Use of field x 2 hours (Not Pitch - there will be no cutting or marking) per session	23.00	23.80	Subsidised
Use of field x 2 hours including showers/changing (Not Pitch - there will be no cutting or marking) per session	52.00	53.85	Subsidised

3.48%
3.56%

Outdoor Sport Continued http://www.torbay.gov.uk/leisure-sports-and-community/sports/sports-facilities/	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed Charge 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate OS			
Schools			
Schools Sports Day: No marking or changing rooms	29.00	30.00	Subsidised
Schools Sports Day: With Changing rooms (no marking)	58.00	60.00	Subsidised
Cricket			
Weekend fixtures (full day) including changing rooms	105.00	108.65	Subsidised
Weekend fixtures (full day) excluding changing rooms	74.00	76.60	Subsidised
Afternoon or evening matches, excluding changing rooms: Excluding Saturday and Sunday	74.00	76.60	Subsidised
Athletics Training Session			
Torre Valley North, including marked track and changing facilities	75.00	77.65	Subsidised
Torre Valley North, including marked track. No changing rooms	37.00	38.30	Subsidised
Rounders			
Use of field based on a 2 hour session (No charge per pitch) No changing facilities	37.00	38.30	Subsidised
Use of field based on a day event (tournament/charity day) No changing facilities	74.00	76.60	Subsidised

2026/27 % rise
3.45%
3.45%
3.48%
3.51%
3.51%
3.53%
3.50%
3.50%
3.51%

Torre Abbey Mansion https://www.torre-abbey.org.uk/plan-your-visit/	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed Charge 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate SR			
Adults	11.50	12.00	Traded
Children - (5 - 18 yrs) (under 5's free)	4.00	4.00	Traded
Family 2 adults plus children	27.00	28.00	Traded
Family 1 adult plus children	16.00	16.50	Traded
Annual Ticket Adult	25.00	26.00	Traded
Joint Annual Ticket for 2 adults	40.00	42.00	Traded
Annual Family Ticket 2 adults plus children	45.00	47.00	Traded
Annual family ticket 1 adult plus children	30.00	32.00	Traded
Educational group membership for schools etc.	30.00	32.00	Traded
Groups			
Foreign language schools GROUPS of 15+ under 18's	5.50	5.70	Traded
Adult Group (10+) House and Gardens inc.	7.50	8.00	Traded
Adult Group (10+) House and Gardens including a tour	10.50	11.00	Traded
House and Garden Workshop/Activities			
VAT Rate EX			
Formal education activities (under 18s 10+) half day workshop per student	6.50	6.50	Traded
Formal education activities (under 18s 10+) full day workshop per student	10.00	10.00	Traded
Workshop/Activities for adults (including lectures)	12.45	13.00	Traded
VAT Rate SR (unless directly related to school curriculum: VAT EX)			
Educational guided tour	3.75	3.75	Traded
VAT Rate Depends			
Self guided with worksheets (must have EGM)	2.50	2.50	Traded
Lectures			
VAT Rate EX			
Lecture off site (flat rate)	60.00	65.00	Traded

2026/27 % rise
4.35%
0.00%
3.70%
3.13%
4.00%
5.00%
4.44%
6.67%
6.67%
3.64%
6.67%
4.76%
0.00%
0.00%
4.42%
0.00%
0.00%
8.33%

Torre Abbey Mansion - Room Hire	£	£	
VAT Rate EX (unless additional facilities/services provided)	Current 2025/26	Proposed Charge 2026/27	Category
Spanish Barn (3 day) Friday to Sunday 1st April - 30th Sept	4,000.00	4,000.00	Traded
Spanish Barn (3 day) weekday & weekends 1st Oct - 31st March	2,500.00	2,500.00	Traded
Spanish Barn (3day) Monday to Thursday 1st April - 30th Sept	3,622.50	3,700.00	Traded
Spanish Barn 09.00 - 18.00 (1day)	1,293.75	1,300.00	Traded
Spanish Barn half day	672.75	680.00	Traded
Ballroom (1 day hire up 9:00- 18:00) 1st April - 30th Sept	625.00	650.00	Traded
Ballroom (1 day hire 9:00- 18:00) 1st Oct - 31st March	470.00	490.00	Traded
Gathering Space weekends 1st April -30th Sept (1 day hire 9:00-18:00)	470.00	490.00	Traded
Gathering Space weekends 1st Oct -31st March (1 day hire 9:00-18:00)	360.00	380.00	Traded

2026/27 % rise
0.00%
0.00%
2.14%
0.48%
1.08%
4.00%
4.26%
4.26%
5.56%

Room/Venue Hire - Ceremonies	£	£	
	Current	Proposed	
VAT Rate SR	2025/26	Charge	Category
	2026/27	2026/27	
Spanish Barn (3 day) Friday to Sunday 1st April - 30th Sept	4,916.25	5,000.00	Traded
Spanish Barn (3 day) weekday & weekends 1st Oct - 31st March	2,691.00	2,800.00	Traded
Spanish Barn (3day) Monday to Thursday 1st April - 30th Sept	4,036.50	4,150.00	Traded
Spanish Barn wedding ceremony only up to 200 Sunday to Friday	1,190.25	1,250.00	Traded
Spanish Barn wedding ceremony only up to 200 Saturdays	1,345.50	1,400.00	Traded
Wedding ceremony only capacity 70 1st April - 30th Sept Mon-Fri	703.80	730.00	Traded
Wedding ceremony only capacity 70 1st April - 30th Sept Sat-Sun	879.75	900.00	Traded
Wedding ceremony only capacity 70 31st Oct -31st March Mon-Fri	595.15	620.00	Traded
Wedding ceremony only capacity 70 31st Oct -31st March Sat-Sun	776.25	800.00	Traded
[Closed] Chapel All Year	Closed	Closed	Traded
Palm House ceremony (max capacity 20)	362.25	375.00	Traded
Marquee land charge (per day)	1,035.00	1,075.00	Traded
Formal gardens and ruins (per hour) (photography)	129.40	135.00	Traded
Formal gardens and ruins (per hour) (receptions)	181.15	185.00	Traded
House after 6pm (per hour)	258.75	265.00	Traded
Spanish Barn extended hours (3 day hire past 12pm) (per hour)	362.25	375.00	Traded
Gathering space (only applicable for; Spanish Barn, Chapel, Palm House (per hour)	207.00	215.00	Traded
Room Hire - Learning Lab			
VAT Rate EX (unless additional facilities/services provided)			
Commercial Day Rate	270.00	280.00	Traded
Non-commercial day rate (This rate can also be applied to Undercroft & Ballroom - Undercroft & Ballroom hire - VAT Rate SR)	140.00	145.00	Traded

2026/27 % rise
1.70%
4.05%
2.81%
5.02%
4.05%
3.72%
2.30%
4.18%
3.06%
3.52%
3.86%
4.33%
2.13%
2.42%
3.52%
3.86%
3.70%
3.57%

Customer Services Fees and Charges

	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate OS			
Copies of Housing Benefit payment schedules to Landlords & Agents –			
Requests for schedules less than 6 months	28.26	29.25	Cost Recovery
Requests for schedules over 6 months, per property	113.02	116.98	Cost Recovery

2026/27 % rise
3.50%
3.50%

Data Protection Subject Access Requests - Fees and Charges

	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate OS			
Subject Access Request per person	No Charge	No Charge	
Repeated Subject Access request per person per hour (where we have already dealt with a request)	64.60	66.86	Cost Recovery

2026/27% increase
3.50%

Development Control Fees and Charges

Fees for planning applications - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
The national planning application fees for 2026 will be set based on annual indexation and will be published in March on the GOV.UK planning fees guidance page (Coming into effect as of 1st of April 2026)
http://ecab.planningportal.co.uk/uploads/english_application_fees.pdf (2023/24 Fees Link)
[A Guide to the Fees for Planning Applications in England \(planningportal.co.uk\)](#) (6 December 2023 Fees Link)

All Outline Applications	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27 These are yet to be determined by Government	Category	Proposed 2026/27 increase
VAT Rate OS				
Sites up to and including 2.5 hectares (per 0.1 hectare or part thereof)	N/A subdivided see below		National	
Dwellinghouses not more than 0.5 hectares (per 0.1 hectare or part thereof)	£587.83	£610.17	National	3.80%
Dwellinghouses between 0.5 and 2.5 hectares (per 0.1 hectare or part thereof)	£634.61	£658.73	National	3.80%
Dwellinghouses more than 2.5 hectares (per 0.1 hectare or part thereof)	15,433+ £186 for each additional 0.1 hectare (or part thereof) in excess of 2.5 hectares Maximum fee of £202,500		National	
Buildings (Not Dwellinghouses) not more than 1 hectare (per 0.1 hectare or part thereof)	£587.83	£610.17		3.80%
Buildings (Not Dwellinghouses) between 1 hectare and 2.5 hectares (per 0.1 hectare or part thereof)	£634.61	£658.73	National	3.80%
Sites in excess of 2.5 hectares (Not Dwellinghouses)	15,433+ £186 for each additional 0.1 hectare (or part thereof) in excess of 2.5 hectares Maximum fee of £202,500		National	
Householder Applications	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27 These are yet to be determined by Government	Category	Proposed 2026/27 increase

VAT Rate OS				
Alterations/extensions to a single dwelling, including works within boundary	£262.39	£272.36	National	3.80%

Full Applications (and First Submissions of Reserved Matters)	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27 These are yet to be determined by Government	Category
VAT Rate OS			
Alterations/extensions to a single dwelling, including works within boundary	£262.39	£272.36	National
Alterations/extensions to two or more dwellings (inc flats), including works within boundaries	£517.65	£537.32	National
New dwellings up to and including 50 (per dwelling)	N/A subdivided see below		National
New dwellings up to and including 10 (per dwelling)	£587.83	£610.17	
New dwellings between 10 and 50 (per dwelling)	£634.61	£658.73	
New dwellings more than 50	£30,860 + £186 for each additional dwellinghouse in excess of 50 Maximum fee of £405,000		National
Erection of buildings (not dwellings, agricultural, glasshouses, plant nor machinery):			
No increase in gross floor space or no more than 40m ² created by the development	£297.98	£309.30	National
Increase in gross floor space of more than 40m ² but no more than 1,000 (formerly 75) m ² created by the development	£587.83	£610.17	National
Increase in gross floor space of more than 1,000 (formerly 75) m ² but no more than 3,750m ² created by the development	£624 for each 75 square metres (or part thereof)		National
Increase in gross floor space of more than 3,750m ² created by the development	£30,680 + £186 for each additional 75 square metres (or part thereof) in excess of 3,750 square metres Maximum fee of £405,000		National

Proposed
2026/27
increase

3.80%

3.80%

3.80%

3.80%

3.80%

3.80%

The erection of buildings (on land used for agriculture for agricultural purposes)	£	£	Category	Proposed 2026/27 increase
	Current 2025/26	Proposed 2026/27 These are yet to be determined by Government		
VAT Rate OS				
Not more than 465m ² gross floor space to be created by the development	£122.04	£126.68	National	3.80%
More than 465m ² but not more than 540m ² gross floor space to be created by the development	£587.83	£610.17	National	3.80%
More than 540m ² but not more than 1,000m ² gross floor space to be created by the development	578 for first 540 square metres + £578 for each additional 75 square metres in excess of 540 square metres		National	
More than 1,000m ² but not more than 4,215m ² gross floor space to be created by the development	£624 for first 1,000 square metres + £624 for each additional 75 square metres in excess of 1,000 square metres.		National	
More than 4,215m ² gross floor space to be created by the development	£30,860 + £186 for each additional 75 square metres (or part thereof) in excess of 4,215 square metres Maximum fee of £405,000		National	
Erection of glasshouses (on land used for the purposes of agriculture)	£	£	Category	Proposed 2026/27 increase
	Current 2025/26	Proposed 2026/27 These are yet to be determined by Government		
VAT Rate OS				
Not more than 465m ² gross floor space to be created by the development gross floor space to be created by the development	£122.04	£126.68	National	3.80%
More than 465m ² but not more than 1,000m2	£3,279.83	£3,404.46	National	3.80%
More than 1,000m2	£3,542.21	£3,676.81	National	3.80%

Erection/alterations/replacement of plant and machinery	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27 These are yet to be determined by Government	Category	Proposed 2026/27 increase
VAT Rate OS				
Site area not more than 1 (formerly 5) hectares per 0.1 hectare (or part thereof)	£587.83	£610.17	National	3.80%
More than 1 hectare but not more than 5 hectares per 0.1 hectare (or part thereof)	£634.61	£658.73	National	3.80%
Site area more than 5 hectares	£30,860 + £186 for each additional 0.1 hectare (or part thereof) in excess of 5 hectares Maximum fee of £405,000		National	

Applications other than Building Works	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27 These are yet to be determined by Government	Category	Proposed 2026/27 increase
VAT Rate OS				
Car parks, service roads or other accesses (For existing uses)	£297.98	£309.30	National	3.80%
Waste (Use of land for disposal of refuse or waste materials or deposit of material remaining after extraction or storage of minerals)				
Site area Not more than 15 hectares For each 0.1 hectare (or part thereof)	£321.37	£333.58	National	3.80%
More than 15 hectares	£47,161 + £186 for each additional 0.1 hectare (or part thereof) in excess of 15 hectares Maximum fee of £105,300		National	
Operations connected with exploratory drilling for oil or natural gas				
Site area not more than 7.5 hectares for each 0.1 hectare (or part thereof)	£697.66	£724.17	National	3.80%
Site area more than 7.5 hectares	£51,395 + £204 for each additional 0.1 hectare (or part thereof) in excess of 7.5 hectares. Maximum fee of £405,000		National	
Operations (other than exploratory drilling) for the winning and working of oil or natural gas				
Site area not more than 15 hectares For each 0.1 hectare (or part thereof)	£352.90	£366.31	National	3.80%
Site area more than 15 hectares	£52,002 + additional £204 for each 0.1 hectare in excess of 15 hectares Maximum fee of £105,300		National	
Other operations (winning and working of minerals) excluding oil and natural gas				

Site area not more than 15 hectares For each 0.1 hectare (or part thereof)	£321.37	£333.58	National	3.80%
Site area More than 15 hectares	£47,161 + additional £186 for each 0.1 hectare in excess of 15 hectares Maximum fee of £105,300		National	

Other operations (not coming within any of the above categories)	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27 These are yet to be determined by Government	Category
VAT Rate OS			
Any site area	£293 for each 0.1 hectare (or part thereof) up to a maximum of £2,535		National
Change of Use of a building to use as one or more separate dwellinghouses, or other			
Not more than 50 dwellinghouses (per dwellinghouse)	N/A subdivided see below		National
Not more than 10 dwellinghouses (per dwellinghouse)	£587.83	£610.17	National
Between 10 and 50 dwellinghouses (per dwellinghouse)	£634.61	£658.73	National
More than 50 dwellinghouses	£30,860 + £186 for each additional dwellinghouse in excess of 50 Maximum fee of £405,000		National
Other changes of use of a building or Land	£587.83	£610.17	National
Lawful Development Certificate			
LDC – Existing Use - in breach of a planning condition	Same as equivalent full application		National
LDC – Existing Use LDC - lawful not to comply with a particular condition	£297.98	£309.30	National
LDC – Proposed Use	Half the equivalent normal planning fee.		National
Prior Approval			
VAT Rate OS			
Larger Home Extensions (from 19 August 19)	£122.04	£126.68	National
Additional storeys on a home	£122.04	£126.68	National

Proposed
2026/27
increase

3.80%

3.80%

3.80%

3.80%

Proposed
2026/27
increase

3.80%

3.80%

Agricultural and Forestry buildings & operations or demolition of buildings	£122.04	£126.68	National	3.80%
Demolition of Buildings	£122.04	£126.68	National	3.80%
Communications (Previously referred to as Telecommunications Code Systems Operators)	£587.83	£610.17	National	3.80%
Change of use from commercial/Business/Service (use Class E), or Betting office or Pay Day Loan Shop to mixed use including up to two flats (Use Class C3)	£122.04	£126.68	National	3.80%
Change of Use of a building and any land within its curtilage from Commercial/Business/Service (Use Class E), Hotels (Use Class C1), Residential Institutions (Use Class C2), Secure Residential Institutions (Use Class C2A) to a State Funded School	£122.04	£126.68	National	3.80%
Change of Use of a building and any land within its curtilage from an Agricultural Building to a State-Funded School	£122.04	£126.68	National	3.80%
Change of Use of a building and any land within its curtilage from an Agricultural Building to a flexible commercial use within Commercial/Business/Service (Use Class E), Storage or Distribution (Use Class B8), or Hotels (Use Class C1)	£122.04	£126.68	National	3.80%
Change of use from shops, financial services, takeaways, betting offices, pay day loan shops or launderettes to offices	NA		National	
Proposed Change of Use of Agricultural Building to a flexible use within Shops, Financial and Professional services, Restaurants and Cafes, Business, Storage or Distribution, Hotels, or Assembly or Leisure	£122.04	£126.68	National	3.80%
Proposed Change of Use of a building from Office (Use Class B1) Use to a use falling within Use Class C3 (Dwelling house)	NA		National	

Proposed Change of Use of Agricultural Building to a Dwelling house (Use Class C3), where there are no Associated Building Operations	£122.04	£126.68	National	3.80%
Proposed Change of Use of Agricultural Building to a Dwelling house (Use Class C3), and Associated Building Operations	£262.39	£272.36	National	3.80%
Proposed Change of Use of a building from a Retail (Use Class A1 or A2) Use or a Mixed Retail and Residential Use to a use falling within Use Class C3 (Dwelling house), where there are <u>no</u> Associated Building Operations	NA		National	
Proposed Change of Use of a building from a Retail (Use Class A1 or A2) Use or a Mixed Retail and Residential Use to a use falling within Use Class C3 (Dwelling house), and Associated Building Operations	NA		National	

Prior Approval continued...	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27 These are yet to be determined by Government	Category	Proposed 2026/27 increase
Notification for Prior Approval for a Change of Use from light industrial (Class B1c) and any land within its curtilage to Dwelling houses (Class C3)	NA		National	
Change of use of a building and any land within its curtilage from Commercial/Business/Service (Use Class E) to Dwellinghouses (Class C3) for each dwellinghouse	£122.04	£126.68	National	3.80%
Notification for Prior Approval for a Change of Use from Amusement Arcades/Centres and Casinos, (Sui Generis Uses) and any land within its curtilage to Dwelling houses (Class C3)	£122.04	£126.68	National	3.80%
Notification for Prior Approval for a Change of Use from Amusement Arcades/Centres and Casinos, (Sui Generis Uses) and any land within its curtilage to Dwelling houses (Class C3) and Associated Building Operations	£262.39	£272.36	National	3.80%
Notification for Prior Approval for a Change of Use from Shops (Class A1), Financial and Professional Services (Class A2), Betting Offices, Pay Day Loan Shops and Casinos (Sui Genris Uses) to Restaurants and Cafes (Class A3)	NA		National	
Notification for Prior Approval for a Change of Use from Shops (Class A1), Financial and Professional Services (Class A2), Betting Offices, Pay Day Loan Shops and Casinos (Sui Genris Uses) to Restaurants and Cafes (Class A3) and Associated Building Operations	NA		National	
Notification for Prior Approval for a Change of Use from Shops (Class A1), Financial and Professional Services (Class A2) Betting Offices, Pay Day Loan Shops and Casinos (Sui Genris Uses) to Assembly and Leisure Uses (Class D2)	NA		National	
Notification for Prior Approval for a Development Consisting of the Erection or Construction of a Collection Facility within the Curtilage of a Shop	£122.04	£126.68	National	3.80%

Notification for Prior Approval for the Temporary Use of Buildings or Land for the Purpose of Commercial Film making and the Associated Temporary Structures, Works, Plant or Machinery required in Connection with the Use	£122.04	£126.68	National	3.80%
Provision of Temporary School Buildings on Vacant Commercial Land and the use of that land as a State-funded School for up to 3 Academic Years	£122.04	£126.68	National	3.80%
Notification for Prior Approval for Installation, Alteration or Replacement of other Solar Photovoltaics (PV) equipment on the Roofs of Non-domestic Buildings, up to a Capacity of 1 Megawatt	£122.04	£126.68	National	3.80%
Prior Approval for Construction of new dwellinghouses (from 2 September 2020) - not more than 50 for each dwellinghouse	N/A subdivided see below		National	
Prior Approval for Construction of new dwellinghouses (from 2 September 2020) - not more than 10 for each dwellinghouse	£425.11	£441.26	National	3.80%
Prior Approval for Construction of new dwellinghouses (from 2 September 2020) - between 10 and 50 for each dwellinghouse	£458.67	£476.10	National	3.80%
Prior Approval for Construction of new dwellinghouses (from 2 September 2020) - more than 50	£22,309 + £135 for each dwellinghouse in excess of 50 Maximum fee of £405,000		National	

Reserved Matters	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27 These are yet to be determined by Government	Category	Proposed 2026/27 increase
VAT Rate OS				
Application for approval of reserved matters following outline approval	Full fee due or if full fee already paid then £578.00 due		National	
Approval/Variation/discharge of condition	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27 These are yet to be determined by Government	Category	Proposed 2026/27 increase
VAT Rate OS				
Application for removal or variation of a condition following grant of planning permission	£297.98	£309.30	National	3.80%
Discharge of conditions or request for confirmation that one or more planning conditions have been complied with - Householder	£43.73	£45.39	National	3.80%
Discharge of conditions or request for confirmation that one or more planning conditions have been complied with - All Other	£147.47	£153.07	National	3.80%
Advertising	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27 These are yet to be determined by Government	Category	Proposed 2026/27 increase
VAT Rate OS				
Relating to the business on the premises	£167.81	£174.19	National	3.80%
Advance signs which are not situated on or visible from the site, directing the public to a business	£167.81	£174.19	National	3.80%
Other advertisements	£587.83	£610.17	National	3.80%
	£	£		

Application for a Non-material Amendment Following a Grant of Planning Permission	Current 2025/26	Proposed 2026/27 These are yet to be determined by Government	Category	Proposed 2026/27 increase
VAT Rate OS				
Applications in respect of householder developments	£43.73	£45.39	National	3.80%
Applications in respect of other developments	£297.98	£309.30	National	3.80%
Application for Permission in Principle	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27 These are yet to be determined by Government	Category	Proposed 2026/27 increase
VAT Rate OS				
Site Area for each 0.1 hectare (or part thereof)	£511.55	£530.99	National	3.80%

Governance Fees and Charges

Copies of Agendas, Reports, Minutes, Constitution, Forward Plan	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate OS			
Electronic	FOC	FOC	N/A
Hardcopy: per A4 side	2.96	3.06	Cost recovery

2026/27 % rise
3.50%

Copies of Electoral Register			
Copies of the Electoral Roll per Ward (Calculated pro rata)	cost of request as set out in legislation	cost of request as set out in legislation	

Admission Appeals and Exclusion Reviews	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate SR			
Cost per appeal in the circumstances where an appeal is arranged and heard	240.00	255.00	Subsidy
Cost if an appeal is withdrawn 2 weeks before the hearing date	210.00	210.00	Subsidy
Cost of exclusion review*	£950 per half day (based on one student) for the first 4 hours and then £400 per hour thereafter	£1,000 per half day (based on one student) for the first 4 hours and then £450 per hour thereafter	Subsidy

* Note normal appeals increase by £15 and exclusions by £50 each year.

2026/27 % rise
6.25%
0.00%

*Note this is above the normal rise as the price charge does not cover the cost of administering appeals

Benchmarking shows these are slightly higher than Plymouth City Council and Devon County Council

Note: Kept the same for withdrawn appeal due to revaluation of cost.

Green Space

Helicopter Landings	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed Charge 2026/27	Category
http://www.torbay.gov.uk/roads/helicopters/ VAT Rate SR			
Week Days 09.00 - 17.00: Per landing - up to 2hrs	115.92	119.98	Traded
Additional hourly rate	40.85	42.28	Traded
Out of Hours inc 5pm till dusk: per landing - up to 2hrs	164.70	170.46	Traded
Additional hourly rate	59.20	61.27	Traded
Saturday: Per landing up to 2 hrs	164.70	170.46	Traded
Additional hourly rate	59.20	61.27	Traded
Sunday: Per landing up to 2hrs	214.33	221.83	Traded
Additional hourly rate	82.39	85.27	Traded

2026/27 % rise
3.5%
3.5%
3.5%
3.5%
3.5%
3.5%
3.5%
3.5%

Allotments (Annual Charge)	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed Charge 2026/27	Category
http://www.torbay.gov.uk/leisure-sports-and-community/parks/allotments/ VAT Rate OS			
Per 25 Square Metre with water	6.40	6.62	Subsidised
Per 25 Square Metre without water	4.02	4.16	Subsidised
Tool Lockers – Sherwell Valley	3.77	3.90	Subsidised

2026/27 % rise
3.5%
3.5%
3.5%

Half Plot No water average 50m2	20.00	Subsidised
Full Plot No Water average 250m2	40.00	Subsidised
Tool Lockers – Sherwell Valley	included in plot cost	

The price dropped 2023 as we had to align the prices to those advertised on the Council website. The price of allotment plots has not kept pace with the price of water or inflation in recent

Memorial Benches	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed Charge 2026/27	Category
Torbay Council use a zonal pricing system			
VAT Rate OS			
Zone 1 (Premium Locations) - e.g. Torquay Seafront, Babbacombe Downs, Torre Abbey Gardens			
Shared Bench (per plague)	850.00	850.00	Cost Covery
Exlusive Bench (5-year sponsorship)	2,400.00	2,400.00	Cost Covery
Exlusive Bench (25-year sponsorship)	12,000.00	12,000.00	Cost Covery
Zone 2 (Standard Locations) - e.g. Paignton Seafront, Battery gardens (Brixham), Young Parks			
Shared Bench (per plague)	550.00	550.00	Cost Covery
Exlusive Bench (5-year sponsorship)	1,600.00	1,600.00	Cost Covery
Exlusive Bench (25-year sponsorship)	8,000.00	8,000.00	Cost Covery

2026/27 % rise
0.0%
0.0%
0.0%
0.0%
0.0%
0.0%

Harbours - Visitors Fees and Charges

all of the costs within the 2026 Fees and Charges spreadsheet where vat is applied are the full costs – not net

Visitor Charges Recreational (per night or over 2 hours)	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 3.5% Charge 2026/27	£ Proposed 3.5% Increase to nearest £	Catergory
VAT Rate SR				
Up to 5.5m (18ft) to include waste levy and charges are lower than the Marina	£14.00	£14.49	£16.00	
Over 5.5m (per meter) to include waste levy and charges are lower than the Marina	£3.00	£3.11	£4.00	
Catamaran & Trimaran (per meter)	£4.00	£4.14	£4.00	
Visitor short stay charge up to 4 hours (per hour) Proposed new charge	£1.00		£2.00	
Visitor Charges - Commercial Boats	Per Day	Per Day	Per Day	
VAT Rate SR (except qualifying ships ie ≥15 tons (gross tonnage) etc where HMRC criteria met which can be VAT Rate: ZR)				
Commercial vessels visiting an enclosed harbour (per metre)	£3.00	£3.11	£4.00	
Commercial vessels laid up un-laden (& gas free if applicable)	£10.00	£10.35	£12.00	
Commercial vessels anchored in Tor Bay – per day or part	£164.00	£169.74	£170.00	
(Those seeking shelter are exempt from this charge)				
Vessels anchored in Tor Bay or underwater survey, hull cleaning or repairs – per day or part	£322.00	£333.27	£333.00	
Visitor Charges (per night or over 2 hours)	Per Week	Per Week	Per Week	
VAT Rate SR				
Up to 5.5m (18ft) to include waste levy and charges are lower than the Marina	£71.00	£73.49	£80.00	
Over 5.5m (per meter) to include waste levy and charges are lower than the Marina	£11.00	£11.39	£15.00	
Catamaran and Trimaran (per meter)	£18.00	£18.63	£19.00	
Visitor Charges - Commercial	Per Week	Per Week	Per Week	
VAT Rate SR (except qualifying ships ie ≥15 tons (gross tonnage) etc where HMRC criteria met which can be VAT Rate: ZR)				
Commercial vessels laid up un-laden (& gas free if applicable)	£20.00	£20.70	£22.00	
Visitor Charges - Other	Per Day	Per Day	Per Day	
VAT Rate SR (except qualifying ships ie ≥15 tons (gross tonnage) etc where HMRC criteria met which can be VAT Rate: ZR)				
Commercial vessels taking up or discharging fuel oil or supplies within an enclosed harbour (max stay 24 hours) – per m LOA per day or part	£38.00	£39.33	£39.00	

2026/27 % rise
14%
33%
0%
100%
33%
20%
4%
3%
13%
36%
6%
10%
3%

Launch & Recovery Fees - Daily Slipway Charges	Per Day	Per Day	Per Day	
VAT Rate SR				
Up to 3m	£10.00	£10.35	£10.00	
Up to 5.5m (18ft)	£19.00	£19.67	£20.00	
Over 5.5m	£30.00	£31.05	£31.00	
Canoes/Kayaks/Paddleboards	£6.00	£6.21	£6.00	
Personal Watercraft (Jet Skis) Launching & Recovery on Slipway	Per Day	Per Day	Per Day	
VAT Rate SR				
Standard Charge, Launch per craft Increase charge to discourage unqualified Jet Ski users	£24.00	£24.84	£26.00	
Qualified Charge, Launch per craft	£16.00	£16.56	£17.00	
Personal Watercraft (Jet Skis) Launching & Recovery on Slipway	Per Week	Per Week	Per Week	
VAT Rate SR				
Standard Charge, Launch per craft Increase charge to discourage unqualified Jet Ski users	£118.00	£122.13	£128.00	
Qualified Charge, Launch per craft	£75.00	£77.63	£78.00	
Registration Fee, per craft – Standard & Qualified	£24.00	£24.84	£25.00	
Trailer Parking	Per Day	Per Day	Per Day	
VAT Rate SR				
Trailer parking	£11.00	£11.39	£11.00	
Trailer Parking	Per Week	Per Week	Per Week	
VAT Rate SR				
Trailer parking	£59.00	£61.07	£61.00	
Quayside Berthing, Drying Out & Storage on Quays – subject to availability	Per Day	Per Day	Per Day	
VAT Rate SR				
Use of slipway/beach to dry out/ and other quayside berths for repairs	£5.00	£5.18	£5.00	
Per m/per day				
Use of Grids exclusive of harbour dues Brixham Harbour only	£6.00	£6.21	£6.00	
Per m/per day				
Boat storage on the Quay (on or off a trailer)	£4.00	£4.14	£4.00	
Per m/per day				
Visitor Cargo Dues – Goods (Exclusive of VAT)				
VAT Rate SR				
Vessels undertaking fish and cargo trans-shipments				
Trans-shipment of all cargo and or products, whether at anchor or under way within Tor Bay Harbour jurisdiction				
General Cargo/Other Commodities - per pallet	£4.00	£4.14	£4.00	
General Ships Stores/Spares etc. - per tonne	£3.00	£3.11	£3.00	
Waste Bins (1100 litres) - per unit Remove and use other waste charge	£4.00	£4.14	£4.00	

0%
5%
3%
0%
8%
6%
8%
4%
4%
0%
3%
0%
0%
0%
0%
0%

Visitor Passenger Vessels				
VAT Rate SR (except qualifying ships ie ≥15 tons (gross tonnage) etc where HMRC criteria met which can be VAT Rate: ZR)				
MCA coded vessels and MCA class V,VI, VIA vessels & EU classes & other passenger vessels; per passenger per visit	£4.00	£4.14	£4.00	
Cruise ships; per passenger per visit	£5.00	£5.18	£5.00	
MCA coded vessels and MCA class V,VI, VIA vessels & EU classes visiting Tor Bay Harbour (combined charge)	£393.00	£406.76	£407.00	

0%
0%
4%

Harbours - Annual Fees and Charges

all of the costs within the 2026 Fees and Charges spreadsheet where vat is applied are the full costs – not net

Annual Berthing Charges - Inclusive of Harbour Dues	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 3.5% Charge 2026/27	£ Proposed 3.5% Increase to nearest £	Catergory
Torquay – Minimum 6m charge – Per Berth				
VAT Rate SR (except qualifying ships ie ≥15 tons (gross tonnage) etc where HMRC criteria met which can be VAT Rate: ZR)				
Town Dock & Princes Pier Pontoon – Private and Commercial Vessels up to 6m	£1,889.00	£1,955.12	£1,955.00	Traded
Town Dock & Princes Pier Pontoon – Private and Commercial Vessels up to 8m	£2,519.00	£2,607.17	£2,607.00	Traded
Town Dock & Princes Pier Pontoon – Private and Commercial Vessels up to 10m	£3,148.00	£3,258.18	£3,258.00	Traded
Town Dock & Princes Pier Pontoon – Private and Commercial Vessels up to 12m	£3,778.00	£3,910.23	£3,910.00	Traded
Town Dock & Princes Pier Pontoon – Private and Commercial Vessels over 12m, Per M	£315.00	£326.03	£326.00	Traded
Inner Harbour Private & Commercial Vessel up to 6m	£1,435.00	£1,485.23	£1,485.00	Traded
Inner Harbour Private & Commercial Vessel up to 8m	£1,913.00	£1,979.96	£1,980.00	Traded
Inner Harbour Private & Commercial Vessel up to 9.14m	£2,182.00	£2,258.37	£2,258.00	Traded
Jet Ski pods	£1,184.00	£1,225.44	£1,225.00	Traded
Paignton – Minimum 6m charge - Per Mooring				
VAT Rate SR (except qualifying ships ie ≥15 tons (gross tonnage) etc where HMRC criteria met which can be VAT Rate: ZR)				
Trot mooring (no risers provided) up to 6.1m	£678.00	£701.73	£702.00	Traded
Minimum charge				Traded
Trot mooring (no risers provided) up to 8m	£1,047.00	£1,083.65	£1,084.00	Traded
Commercial Trot mooring (no risers provided) up to 11m	£1,600.00	£1,656.00	£1,656.00	Traded
Commercial Trot mooring (no risers provided) up to 14m	£2,035.00	£2,106.23	£2,106.00	Traded
Outhaul mooring up to 4.5m	£408.00	£422.28	£408.00	Traded
Lying Along the Quayside	£130.00	£134.55	£135.00	Traded
Mooring Licence Fee	£6.00	£6.21	£6.00	Traded

2026/27 % rise	
3%	
3%	
3%	
3%	
3%	
3%	
4%	
3%	
3%	
4%	
4%	
3%	
3%	
0%	Freeze 2025 charge as there are 17 vacant outhaul moorings
4%	
0%	Remove charge to remove liability

Brixham – Minimum 5m charge – Per Mooring				
VAT Rate SR (except qualifying ships ie ≥15 tons (gross tonnage) etc where HMRC criteria met which can be VAT Rate: ZR)				
Outer Harbour Swinging Mooring up to 6.4m	£990.00	£1,024.65	£990.00	Traded
Outer Harbour Swinging Mooring up to 8m	£1,490.00	£1,542.15	£1,490.00	Traded
Outer Harbour Swinging Mooring up to 9.14m	£1,509.00	£1,561.82	£1,509.00	Traded
Outer Harbour Swinging Mooring up to 10m	£1,724.00	£1,784.34	£1,724.00	Traded
Outer Harbour Swinging Mooring up to 11m	£1,906.00	£1,972.71	£1,906.00	Traded
Outer Harbour Swinging Mooring up to 12.19m	£2,123.00	£2,197.31	£2,197.00	Traded
Outer Harbour Swinging Mooring up to 15.24m	£2,591.00	£2,681.69	£2,682.00	Traded
Outer Harbour Swinging Mooring over 15.24 charged per m	£181.00	£187.34	£187.00	Traded
Inner Harbour Trot mooring (no risers provided) up to 5m	£678.00	£701.73	£702.00	Traded
Inner Harbour Trot mooring (no risers provided) up to 6m	£721.00	£746.24	£746.00	Traded
Inner Harbour Trot mooring (no risers provided) up to 7m	£847.00	£876.65	£877.00	Traded
Inner Harbour Trot mooring (no risers provided) up to 8m	£975.00	£1,009.13	£1,009.00	Traded
Inner Harbour Trot mooring (no risers provided) up to 9m	£1,005.00	£1,040.18	£1,040.00	Traded
Inner Harbour Trot mooring (no risers provided) up to 10m	£1,254.00	£1,297.89	£1,298.00	Traded
Lying Along the Quayside, per m	£131.00	£135.59	£136.00	Traded
Use of Town Pontoon by Tenders (At Harbour Master’s discretion) per m	£9.00	£9.32	£15.00	Traded
Waiting List Fees for Mooring & Facilities (Non refundable or transferable)				
VAT Rate SR				
Waiting List Fee – Private berths & moorings	£26.00	£26.91	£27.00	Traded
Waiting List Fee – Commercial berths & moorings	£54.00	£55.89	£56.00	Traded
Boat Parking, Storage on Quayside and Car & Trailer Parking				
VAT Rate SR				
Paignton Harbour Winter Storage Charge – Per m LOA	£56.00	£57.96	£58.00	Traded
Paignton Harbour Summer storage of empty boat trailers (only available between May and October) – per month or part	£31.00	£32.09	£32.00	Traded
				Traded
Paignton Harbour – Annual - Per Year or Part				Traded
• Dinghy Park Space (under 5m on hand launch trolleys)	£395.00	£408.83	£395.00	Traded
• Quay Boat Park Space (vessels under 6m on trailers) per m	£93.00	£96.26	£96.00	Traded
• Multi Hull Spaces per m per day	£118.00	£122.13	£122.00	Traded
• PARC Coastal Boat	£501.00	£518.54	£519.00	Traded
Torquay and Brixham Harbours - Boat parking under 6m LOA at where a facility exists – Annual - Per m/LOA/per year				Traded
• Single hull (includes racks at Torquay)	£91.00	£94.19	£94.00	Traded
• Reduced charge	£47.00	£48.65	£49.00	Traded
• Multi hull (occupying more than one space)	£118.00	£122.13	£122.00	Traded
Paignton Harbour Annual horizontal racks, subject to availability (max. length 3.7m) – per year or part	£223.00	£230.81	£231.00	Traded
Annual Kayak/Canoe rack (where available) – per year or part	£149.00	£154.22	£154.00	Traded
				Traded
Annual Dinghy/tender rack – per year or part	£76.00	£78.66	£90.00	Traded
				Traded
Torquay Beacon Quay Annual car parking (quayside level only) – per year or part	£668.00	£691.38	£691.00	Traded
				Traded
Paignton Annual car parking permit	£259.00	£268.07	£268.00	Traded
Brixham Oxen Cove Annual parking permit – per year or part	£420.00	£434.70	£420.00	Traded
				Traded
Annual trailer parking (only available with private annual launch & recovery pass) – per year or part	£118.00	£122.13	£122.00	Traded
Annual Compound Charges – Passenger Vessels - MCA coded vessels < 24m LOA - per year or part	£124.00	£128.34	£128.00	Traded
Annual Compound Charges – Passenger vessels - MCA class V,VI, VIA vessels, EU classes and coded vessels of 24m & over; per licenced passenger capacity - per person per year or part	£5.00	£5.18	£5.00	Traded

0%	freeze to 2025 charges due to mooring vacancies and low waiting lists
0%	freeze to 2025 charges
0%	freeze to 2025 charges
0%	freeze to 2025 charges
0%	freeze to 2025 charges
3%	
4%	
3%	
4%	
3%	
4%	
3%	
3%	
4%	
4%	
67%	Increased because no increase over last 5 years
4%	
4%	
4%	
3%	remove and use daily/weekly visitor charge due to lack of space
0%	freeze 2025 charges due to vacancies
3%	
3%	
4%	
3%	
4%	
3%	
4%	Remove this charge as only one using this facility and dinghy spaces available
3%	
18%	Frozen mooring prices, incese on tender prices due to demand
3%	
3%	
0%	Freeze due new ANPR system being installed in Brixham Harbour
3%	
3%	
0%	

Launch & Recovery Fees – Annual Slipway Charges				
VAT Rate SR				
Annual launching and recovery pass for private use of slipways – per m per year or part	£52.00	£53.82	£54.00	Traded
				Traded
Annual launching & recovery pass for commercial use of slipways – per m per year or part	£59.00	£61.07	£61.00	Traded
				Traded
Annual Jet ski launching and recovering pass per craft standard charge – per year or part	£355.00	£367.43	£367.00	Traded
				Traded
Annual, Jet ski launching and recovering pass per craft ‘qualified’ charge – per year or part	£237.00	£245.30	£245.00	Traded
				Traded
Passenger Vessels – Landing/Embarkation Charges				
VAT Rate SR (except qualifying ships ie ≥15 tons (gross tonnage) etc where HMRC criteria met which can be VAT Rate: ZR)				
MCA coded vessels and MCA class V,VI, VIA vessels & EU classes & other passenger vessels; per passenger per visit	£4.00	£4.14	£4.00	Traded
Cruise ships; per passenger per visit	£5.00	£5.18	£5.00	Traded
Passenger & Commercial Vessels – Annual Compound Charges				
VAT Rate SR (except qualifying ships ie ≥15 tons (gross tonnage) etc where HMRC criteria met which can be VAT Rate: ZR)				
MCA coded vessels < 24m LOA - per year or part	£124.00	£128.34	£128.00	Traded
MCA class V,VI, VIA vessels, EU classes and coded vessels of 24m & over; per licenced passenger capacity - per person per year or part	£5.00	£5.18	£5.00	Traded
MCA coded and MCA class V,VI, VIA Passenger vessels and EU classes visiting Tor Bay Harbour (combined charge) – per year or part	£393.00	£406.76	£407.00	Traded
Launching & Recovery pass for commercial use of slipways per m/per year	£59.00	£61.07	£61.00	Traded

4%
3%
3%
3%
0%
0%
3%
0%
4%
3%

Remove charge to encourage jet ski users to become qualified

Harbours - Fishing Commercial Fees and Charges

all of the costs within the 2026 Fees and Charges spreadsheet where vat is applied are the full costs – not net

Section 4 - Fishing & Commercial Vessel Facilities	£ Current 2025/26		£ Proposed 3.5% Charge 2026/27		£ Proposed 3.5% Increase to nearest £		Catergory
	Per Day	Per Week	Per Day	Per Week	Per Day	Per Week	
Visiting Motor Fishing Vessel							
VAT Rate SR (except qualifying ships ie ≥15 tons (gross tonnage) etc where HMRC criteria met which can be VAT Rate: ZR)							
Motor fishing vessels landing fish which attract fishing tolls - Free for the day of landing	£35.00		£36.23		£36.00		Traded
	per day for MFV < 20m		per day for MFV < 20m		per day for MFV < 20m		Traded
	£48.00		£49.68		£50.00		Traded
	per day for MFV > 20m		per day for MFV > 20m		per day for MFV > 20m		Traded
Visitor Charges - Commercial Boats - Per m	Per Day	Per Week	Per Day	Per Week	Per Day	Per Week	Traded
VAT Rate SR (except qualifying ships ie ≥15 tons (gross tonnage) etc where HMRC criteria met which can be VAT Rate: ZR)							
Commercial vessels visiting an enclosed harbour	£3.00		£3.11		£3.00		Traded
Commercial vessels laid up un-laden (& gas free if applicable)	£10.00		£10.35		£10.00		Traded
Commercial vessels laid up un-laden (& gas free if applicable)		£19.00		£19.67		£17.00	Traded
Commercial vessels taking up or discharging fuel oil or supplies within an enclosed harbour (max stay 24 hours) – per m LOA per month or part	£38.00		£39.33		£39.00		Traded
Commercial vessels anchored in Tor Bay – per day or part	£164.00		£169.74		£170.00		Traded
(Those seeking shelter are exempt from this charge)							Traded
Vessels anchored in Tor Bay or underwater survey, hull cleaning or repairs – per day or part	£322.00		£333.27		£333.00		Traded
Goods (Exclusive of VAT)	Per Day	Per Week	Per Day	Per Week	Per Day	Per Week	Traded
VAT Rate SR							
Fish (other than cured fish) including shellfish, crabs etc. brought into the harbour or to any place within the limits of the harbour by sea and sold, on the gross proceeds of fish. Per £ (2.5 % Ad Valorem)	0.025	0.025	0.025		0.025		National
Fish overlanded and sold on the Brixham Fish market. Per £ (1.5% Ad Valorem)	0.015	0.015	0.015		0.015		National
Fish overlanded onto the Harbour Estate but <u>not</u> sold on the market. Fish, Shellfish (Overland) and all products brought onto the Harbour Estate via road. Per £ (1.5% Ad Valorem)	0.015	0.015	0.015		0.015		National
Fish and cargo trans-shipments Transshipment of all cargo and or products within Tor Bay Harbour Jurisdiction	0.015	0.015	0.015		0.015		National
General Cargo/Other Commodities - per pallet	£4.00		£4.14		£4.00		Traded
General Ships stores/Spares etc. - per tonne	£3.00		£3.11		£3.00		Traded

2026/27 % rise
3%
4%
0%
0%
3%
4%
3%
0%
0%
0%
0%
0%
0%

Harbour Dues – Motor Fishing Vessels (MFVs) - Per m per year	Annual		Annual		Annual		Traded	
MFV based in and working from Tor Bay Harbour							Traded	
VAT Rate SR (except qualifying ships ie ≥15 tons (gross tonnage) etc where HMRC criteria met which can be VAT Rate: ZR)								
Under 8m LOA	£14.00		£14.49		£15.00	not increased over the years	Traded	7%
8m – 12m LOA	£17.00		£17.60		£18.00		Traded	6%
Over 12m LOA	£19.00		£19.67		£20.00		Traded	5%
							Traded	
Licences	Annual		Annual		Annual		Traded	
VAT Rate OS								
Fish Salesman’s licence	£413.00		£427.46		£428.00		Traded	4%
(Includes use of Fish Market) per annum – Valid from 1 st April each year							Traded	
Fish Buyer’s licence	£413.00		£427.46		£428.00		Traded	4%
(Includes use of Fish Market) per annum – Valid from 1 st April each year							Traded	
Waiting Lists for Mooring & Facilities							Traded	
VAT Rate SR								
Waiting List Fee (For MFV’s landing over £12,000 gross)	£54.00		£55.89		£56.00		Traded	4%
Torquay Annual Berthing – MFV’s landing over £12,000 gross	Annual		Annual		Annual		Traded	
VAT Rate SR (except qualifying ships ie ≥15 tons (gross tonnage) etc where HMRC criteria met which can be VAT Rate: ZR)								
Princess Pier Pontoon up to 6m	£1,560.00		£1,614.60		£1,615.00		Traded	4%
Princess Pier Pontoon up to 8m	£2,079.00		£2,151.77		£2,152.00		Traded	4%
Princess Pier Pontoon up to 10m	£2,600.00		£2,691.00		£2,691.00		Traded	3%
Paignton Annual Berthing Exclusive of Dues	Annual		Annual		Annual		Traded	
VAT Rate SR (except qualifying ships ie ≥15 tons (gross tonnage) etc where HMRC criteria met which can be VAT Rate: ZR)								
Trot mooring (no risers provided) up to 6.1m - Per mooring	£62.00		£64.17		£64.00		Traded	3%
Minimum charge							Traded	
Trot mooring (no risers provided) up to 8m – Per mooring	£432.00		£447.12		£447.00		Traded	3%
Lying Along the Quayside Inclusive of dues – Per m LOA	£130.00		£134.55		£135.00		Traded	4%
Mooring Licence Fee	£62.00		£64.17		£64.00		Traded	3%
Brixham Annual Berthing Exclusive of Dues	Annual		Annual		Annual		Traded	
VAT Rate SR (except qualifying ships ie ≥15 tons (gross tonnage) etc where HMRC criteria met which can be VAT Rate: ZR)								
Outer Harbour Swinging Mooring up to 6.4m	£375.00		£388.13		£388.00		Traded	3%
Outer Harbour Swinging Mooring up to 8m	£876.00		£906.66		£907.00		Traded	4%
Outer Harbour Swinging Mooring up to 9.14m	£893.00		£924.26		£924.00		Traded	3%
Outer Harbour Swinging Mooring up to 10m	£1,108.00		£1,146.78		£1,147.00		Traded	4%
Outer Harbour Swinging Mooring up to 11m	£1,167.00		£1,207.85		£1,208.00		Traded	4%
Outer Harbour Swinging Mooring up to 12.19m	£1,383.00		£1,431.41		£1,431.00		Traded	3%
Outer Harbour Swinging Mooring up to 15.24m	£1,606.00		£1,662.21		£1,662.00		Traded	3%
Outer Harbour Swinging Mooring over 15.24 charged Per m	£118.00		£122.13		£122.00		Traded	3%
Inner Harbour Trot mooring (no risers provided) up to 5m	£62.00		£64.17		£64.00		Traded	3%
Inner Harbour Trot mooring (no risers provided) up to 6m	£106.00		£109.71		£110.00		Traded	4%
Inner Harbour Trot mooring (no risers provided) up to 7m	£232.00		£240.12		£240.00		Traded	3%
Inner Harbour Trot mooring (no risers provided) up to 8m	£359.00		£371.57		£372.00		Traded	4%
Inner Harbour Trot mooring (no risers provided) up to 9m	£389.00		£402.62		£403.00		Traded	4%
Inner Harbour Trot mooring (no risers provided) up to 10m	£639.00		£661.37		£661.00		Traded	3%
Lying Along the Quayside Inclusive of dues – Per m per annum	£131.00		£135.59		£136.00		Traded	4%
Use of Town Pontoon by Tenders (At the Harbour Master’s discretion) - per m per annum	£9.00		£9.32		£9.00		Traded	0%

Harbours - Services Fees and Charges

all of the costs within the 2026 Fees and Charges spreadsheet where vat is applied are the full costs – not net

Section 5 - Services and Other Charges	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 3.5% Charge 2026/27	£ Proposed 3.5% Increase to nearest £	Catergory
Electric	Current Charge			
VAT Rate SR				
Level 1 card	£3	£3.21	£3.00	Cost Recovery
Level 5 card	£12	£12.85	£13.00	Cost Recovery
Level 10 card	£26	£26.78	£27.00	Cost Recovery
Smart cards (available at Torquay & Paignton) – Initial charge for card / Credit added according to customer requirement / Visitor cards available	To be determined by the Harbour Master	To be determined by the Harbour Master	To be determined by the Harbour Master	Cost Recovery
Brixham Harbour KW charge for Motor Fishing Vessels – Invoiced Quarterly	To be determined by the Harbour Master	To be determined by the Harbour Master	To be determined by the Harbour Master	Cost Recovery
Water - Water charges (zero rates VAT)				Cost Recovery
VAT Rate ZR				
Up to 50 tonnes - per tonne	£5	£5.36	£5.00	Cost Recovery
50 tonnes and over - per tonne	£4	£4.28	£4.00	Cost Recovery
Fishing Vessels with freshwater tanks – 0m – 8m - per annum	£51	£52.49	£52.00	Cost Recovery
Fishing Vessels with freshwater tanks – 8m – 12m - per annum	£76	£78.20	£78.00	Cost Recovery
Fishing Vessels with freshwater tanks – 12m – 20m - per annum	£277	£287.09	£287.00	Cost Recovery
Fishing Vessels with freshwater tanks over 20m	To be determined by the Harbour Master	To be determined by the Harbour Master	To be determined by the Harbour Master	Cost Recovery
Brixham Harbour per cubic meter (where facility is in place)	To be determined by the Harbour Master	To be determined by the Harbour Master	To be determined by the Harbour Master	Cost Recovery
Crane				
VAT Rate SR				
Storage on the Quay - per meter LOA per day or part	£4	£4.28	£4.00	Traded
Site rental for mobile crane at Torquay Harbour. Remove	To be determined by the Harbour Master	To be determined by the Harbour Master	To be determined by the Harbour Master	
Use of mobile commercial crane and/or Hiab on Harbour Property/Estate up to 4 hours (Inclusive of launch fee) - per crane	£54	£55.70	£56.00	Traded
Use of mobile commercial crane and/or Hiab on Harbour Property/Estate over 4 hours (Inclusive of launch fee) - per crane/per day	£107	£110.34	£110.00	Traded

2026/27 % rise
-3%
5%
4%
-3%
-3%
3%
3%
3%
-3%
4%
3%

Labour & Equipment				
VAT Rate SR				
Labour charge (during normal working hours) - per hour or part	£56	£57.85	£58.00	Traded
Labour charge (out of hours call out) - per hour or part			£116.00	Traded
Hire of workboat including skipper and crew - per hour or part	£198	£204.60	£205.00	Traded
Hire of workboat including skipper and crew - per day	£923	£955.53	£956.00	Traded
09.00-17.00 hours				Traded
VAT Rate ZR				
Towing within enclosed Harbour - per ½ hour or part. To reflect use staff and workboat time	£34	£35.35	£50.00	Traded
Towing outside enclosed Harbour to nearest enclosed Harbour within Tor Bay - per ½ hour or part. To reflect use staff and workboat time	£68	£70.70	£80.00	Traded
VAT Rate SR				
Pumping out of vessels within the enclosed Harbour Pontoons- per hour	£62	£64.27	£64.00	Traded
Hire of Forklift truck with driver - per hour or part	£69	£71.77	£72.00	Traded
Forklift truck service to Ship’s Agents	£26	£26.78	£27.00	Traded
(Exclusive of VAT) - per pallet				
Storage				
VAT Rate SR				
Unleased quay areas for fish boxes, fishing gear, cargo containers etc. - per m2/per day, at Harbour Masters discretion. This charge has not increase for a number of years and so now increased	£3	£3.21	£4.00	Traded
Unleased quay areas for fish boxes, fishing gear, cargo containers etc. (subject to availability and at Harbour Masters discretion - per m2/per annum	£118	£122.12	£122.00	Traded
Storage of Beams on unleased quay areas - per set/per week, at Harbour Masters discretion	£11	£11.78	£12.00	Traded
Storage of waste bins (1,100 litres) - per bin per day	£4	£4.28	£4.00	Traded
Secured Storage Torquay at the Harbour Masters Discretion- per pallet per day	£11	£11.78	£12.00	Traded
Lock up storage (ship stores only) (Equipment removal & transportation costs at applicable hourly rate)	To be determined by the Harbour Master	To be determined by the Harbour Master	To be determined by the Harbour Master	Traded
Storage lockers at Paignton Harbour (subject to availability) - per annum	£246	£254.95	£255.00	Traded
Licences				Traded
VAT Rate OS				
Fish Salesman’s licence	£413	£427.42	£427.00	Traded
(Includes use of Fish Market) per annum				Traded
Fish Buyer’s licence	£413	£427.42	£427.00	Traded
(Includes use of Fish Market) per annum				Traded
Harbour Estate trading licence (at the Harbour Masters discretion)	As per Council’s Street Trading consent fee	As per Council’s Street Trading consent fee	As per Council’s Street Trading consent fee	Traded
Bunkering (Charges do not apply where fuel is taken from the refuelling stations at BTA fuelling station at Brixham, Brixham Marina or South Pier at Torquay)				Traded
VAT Rate SR (except qualifying ships ie ≥15 tons (gross tonnage) etc where HMRC criteria met which can be VAT Rate: ZR)				
For fuel oil delivered to vessels from tankers on shore or afloat up to 4,000 litres (minimum charge £30.00) - per litre delivered	£0	£0.05	£0.05	Traded
For fuel oil delivered to ships from tankers on shore or afloat over 4,000 litres (minimum charge £30.00) - per 500 litres	£3	£3.22	£3.00	Traded
For fuel oil delivered to ships from tankers on shore or afloat in Tor Bay	To be determined by the Harbour Master	To be determined by the Harbour Master	To be determined by the Harbour Master	Traded

4%
4%
4%
46%
17%
3%
4%
4%
29%
3%
5%
-3%
5%
4%
3%
3%
21%
-3%

Waste				Traded
VAT Rate OS (where the Harbour Authority has a statutory duty otherwise VAT Rate: SR)				
Transportation to the Council refuse tip,	£190	£197.11	£197.00	Traded
Including attendants & use of Council transport etc. per truck load or part load				Traded
Council Tipping Charge	As per weighbridge load	As per weighbridge load	As per weighbridge load	Traded
VAT Rate SR				
Provision of skip for fishing vessels in refit	At cost + 10%	At cost + 10%	At cost + 10%	Traded
VAT Rate OS				
Unauthorised landing of waste (Fly tipping) charge + waste removal costs	£118	£122.12	£500.00	Levy
VAT Rate OS (where the Harbour Authority has a statutory duty otherwise VAT Rate: SR)				
Authorised landing of commercial waste - per dumpy bag/1100L	£48	£49.28	£49.00	Traded
Annual Authorised landing of commercial waste per MFV			To be charged by the meter	Cost Recovery
Passenger Craft Waste Reception Facilities	To be determined by the Harbour Master	To be determined by the Harbour Master	To be determined by the Harbour Master	Traded
Other Charges				
VAT Rate SR				
Administration Charge (This charge is at the discretion of the Harbour Master)	£59	£61.06	£50.00	Levy
Parking of an exhibition vehicle on Harbour Estate - per day or part	£89	£92.13	£92.00	Traded
VAT Rate OS				
Unauthorised Parking Charge for parking without permission on Harbour Estate or exceeding permitted time per day or part there of	£30	£31.07	£40.00	Levy
VAT Rate SR				
Replacement of swipe card or Fob for controlled access/electricity meters - per unit	£11	£11.78	£12.00	Levy
Additional pontoon cleat	£59	£61.06	£61.00	Traded
(Subject to Harbour Master's agreement) - per unit fitted				Traded
Vessels of exceptional construction or methods of propulsion, or not otherwise covered	Such charges as may from time-to-time be fixed	Such charges as may from time-to-time be fixed	Such charges as may from time-to-time be fixed	Traded
VAT Rate EX				
Annual Contractors Pass	£408	£422.06	£422.00	Traded
(For Tradesmen working on the Harbour Estate) (ex VAT) - per year or part				Traded
Daily Contractors Pass	£14	£15.00	£15.00	Traded
(Inc VAT) - per day or part				Traded
VAT Rate SR				
Advertising Charges	To be determined by the Harbour Master	To be determined by the Harbour Master	To be determined by the Harbour Master	Traded
Salt-water extraction charge	£34	£35.35	£35.00	Traded
(Use of quays to pump water for commercial purposes)				Traded
(At the Harbour Masters discretion) per day or part & per year or part	£1,321	£1,366.88	£1,367.00	Traded
Advertising Charges in Harbour – Paignton – A1 Board (60cm x 120cm)	£431	£445.63	£446.00	Traded
Advertising Charges in Harbour - Torquay & Brixham – A1 Board (60cm x 120cm)	£592	£612.74	£613.00	Traded
Advertising Charges in Harbour - Torquay & Brixham – Large Board (150cm x 100cm)	£947	£980.17	£980.00	Traded
Advertising Charges in Harbour - Torquay & Brixham – Banner, plus £50 site fixing fee (75cm x 300cm)	£764	£790.56	£791.00	Traded
Event Charges – As determined by Harbour Master depending on requirements	To be determined by the Harbour Master	To be determined by the Harbour Master	To be determined by the Harbour Master	Traded

3%
324%
3%
-15%
3%
33%
5%
3%
3%
4%
3%
4%

Reduced as this charged is used to change account details, transfer boat or mooring information.

Harbours - Pilotage Fees and Charges

all of the costs within the 2026 Fees and Charges spreadsheet where vat is applied are the full costs – not net

Section 5 - Services and Other Charges	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 3.5% Charge 2026/27	£ Proposed 3.5% Increase to nearest £	Catergory
Pilotage	Current Charge			
VAT Rate ZR				
From Sea to Brixham or Torquay Harbours	£84.00	86.94	£87.00	Traded
From Brixham or Torquay Harbours to Sea	£78.00	80.73	£81	Traded
Shift berth within Torquay or Brixham Harbours	£51.00	52.785	£53.00	Traded
From Sea to Tor Bay Harbour anchorage	£37.00	38.295	£38	Traded
From Tor Bay Harbour anchorage to Sea	£27.00	27.945	£28.00	Traded
Sea to Tor Bay Harbour & Tor Bay Harbour to Sea –	£2.00	2.07	£2.00	Traded
(Surcharge for vessels over 150m LOA)	£84.00	86.94	£87.00	Traded
Minimum charge	£127.00	131.445	£131	Traded
(With or without a pilot on board)				Traded
Detention, after 1 hour	£81.00	83.835	£84.00	Traded
Pilot Boat Charges				
(Shipping or landing a local Pilot)				
Pilotage Exemption Certificates 7				

2026/27 % rise
4%
4%
4%
3%
4%
0%
4%
3%
4%

Highways Fees and Charges

<http://www.torbay.gov.uk/roads/highways-licenses/>

License	Chargeable Matter	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate OS				
Permission to place skip on the public highway (Section 139) or Scaffolding and gantry licence (Section 169) or Consent to deposit building materials / make temporary excavation in the highway. (Section 171) or Consent not to erect hoarding or fence during building (Section 172)	Consideration and administration of application (10 days) Within H/A published notice period (more than 10 days) or renewal of existing licence (more than 5 days notice).	62.25	64.45	Traded
	Consideration and administration of application (10 days) Outside H/A published notice period (10 days and less)	124.50	128.85	Traded
	Where a site visit is required during consideration of application (per visit)	124.50	128.85	Traded
	Where an inspection of the site reveals non-compliance (per visit)	124.50	128.85	Traded

2026/27 % rise
3.53%
3.49%
3.49%
3.49%

Inspection of hoarding or fence set up during building (Section 172 & 173)	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate OS			
Inspections made by H/A to monitor compliance with statutory duties (per visit)	119.50	123.70	Traded
Adopted Highway	60.50	62.60	Traded

2026/27 % rise
3.51%
3.47%

Control of construction of cellars under street		£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate OS				
(Section 179) Or (Section 180[1]) Or Control of light into cellars (Section 180 [2])	Consideration and administration of application	124.50	128.85	Traded
	Where a site visit is required during consideration of application (per visit)	124.50	128.85	Traded
	Where an inspection of the site reveals non-compliance of application (per visit)	124.50	128.85	Traded

2026/27 % rise
3.49%
3.49%
3.49%

Vehicle crossings over footways and verges (Section 184)	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate OS			
Consideration of a request to execute such works as are specified in the request for constructing a vehicle crossing when works executed by H/A contractor	185.90	192.40	Traded
Consideration of a request to execute such works as are specified in the request for constructing a vehicle crossing when works executed by applicants contractor	62.25	64.45	Traded
Where a site visit is required during consideration of application (per visit)	124.50	128.85	Traded
Where an inspection of the site reveals non-compliance (per visit)	124.50	128.85	Traded

2026/27 % rise
3.50%
3.53%
3.49%
3.49%

Clearance of accident debris	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate SR			

2026/27 % rise

Requests which do not form part of the Council's service e.g. removal of items from gullies	At cost	At cost	Cost
VAT Rate OS			
Clearance of accident debris under Section 41 /Section 130	At cost	At cost	Cost

Road closure & traffic restrictions (Section 14[1] & [2])	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate OS (but where related to filming or events the service to contact VAT team for bespoke review)			
Anything done by traffic authority in connection with the making of an order			
Under section 14 (1)	1,835.05	1899.30	Traded
	2016.60	2087.20	Traded
Under section 14 (2) (under 5 days)	360.95	373.60	Traded
Additional exceptional administrative work by traffic authority See New Roads & Street Works Act, Co-Ordination Code of Practice S7.3.22	At cost	At cost	Cost
Advertising	At cost	At cost	Cost

2026/27 % rise
3.50%
3.50%
3.50%

Suspension of parking (Section 49 [4])	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate OS (but where related to filming or events the service to contact VAT team for bespoke review)			
Anything done by the local traffic authority in connection with or in consequence of a request to suspend the use of a parking place or part of it	At cost	At cost	Cost

2026/27 % rise

Route signs (Section 65 [1])	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate OS			
Consideration of request to permit a traffic sign to indicate the route to specified land or premises	At cost	At cost	Cost Recovery
The placing by the traffic authority of a sign in accordance with a request of the kind referred to in the previous	At cost	At cost	Cost Recovery
Provision of Disabled Parking Bay (Anything done by the local traffic authority in connection with or in consequence of a request to provide a disabled parking bay)	107.65	111.45	Subsidised
Disabled Bay Refresh	107.65	111.45	Subsidised
Provision of access lines (Anything done by the local traffic authority in connection with or in consequence of a request to place access lines)	237.00	245.30	Traded
Access Line Refresh	194.30	201.10	Traded
Consideration of requests for Tourism Signage	97.15	100.55	Traded

2026/27 % rise
3.53%
3.53%
3.50%
3.50%
3.50%

Street Naming & Numbering	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate OS			
Amending House/Number change (Cost per address)	59.70	61.80	Traded
New Development - Naming Street (Cost per street)	260.35	269.45	Traded
New Development - Per plot (Cost per plot)	55.95	57.90	Traded

2026/27 % rise
3.52%
3.50%
3.49%

Legislation reference Traffic Signs & General Directions Regs 1994	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate SR			
Design consultancy	At cost	At cost	Cost Recovery
VAT Rate OS			
Portable traffic signals (Reg 32 para 47 & TD 21/85)	At cost	At cost	Cost Recovery
Damage to council property (Anything done by the authority to repair damage caused by others)	At cost	At cost	Cost Recovery
Technical Information			
Basic Search	253.05	261.90	Traded
Large Search	437.85	453.15	Traded

2026/27 % rise
3.50%
3.49%

Extra Large Search	811.95	840.40	Traded
Traffic Data Request	333.10	344.75	Traded

3.50%
3.50%

Street Works Regulation Made Under NRSWA 1991	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate OS			
Random sample (Section 75). Fee per unit of inspection	50.00	50.00	national
Investigatory work from routine inspection. Fee per unit of inspection	120.00	120.00	national
Investigatory works from third party report (Section 72 [1]) Fee per unit of inspection			national
Defect inspection (Section 72 [2]), Joint visit, remedial works in progress, remedial works complete - per unit of inspection	120.00	120.00	national
Defect Notice (per copy) S74, 70, 74A	80.00	80.00	national
Inspection checklist (per copy)	30.00	30.00	national

2026/27 % rise
Fixed Rate by DfT
Fixed Rate by DfT
To be removed (devolved)
Fixed Rate by DfT
Fixed Rate by DfT
Fixed Rate by DfT

Street Works Licence (Section 50)	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate OS			
Licence for new apparatus			
1. Capitalised fee	257.70	266.70	Traded
2. Administration fee	297.55	307.95	Traded
3. Inspection fee (3 phases)	200.05	207.05	Traded
Authorisation for works on existing apparatus			
1. Administration fee	168.95	174.85	Traded
2. Inspection fee (3 phases)	200.05	207.05	Traded

2026/27 % rise	
	3.49%
	3.50%
	3.50%
	3.49%
	3.50%

Overhead structures (including tower cranes, banners etc.)	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate OS			
Consideration and administration of application Within H/A published notice period (3 days or less)	50.85	52.65	Traded
Consideration and administration of application Outside H/A published notice period (3 days or less)	101.7	102.25	Traded
Where a site visit is required during consideration of application (per visit)	101.7	105.25	Traded
Where an inspection of the site reveals non-compliance (per visit)	101.7	105.25	Traded

2026/27 % rise	
	3.50%
	3.50%
	3.50%

Street Works Permits	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate OS			
Provisional Advance Authorisation			
Traffic Sensitive	105.00	105.00	national
Non Traffic Sensitive	35.00	35.00	national
Major Works (>10 Days)			
Traffic Sensitive	240.00	240.00	national
Non Traffic Sensitive	75.00	75.00	national
Major Works (4 to 10 Days)			
Traffic Sensitive	130.00	130.00	national
Non Traffic Sensitive	40.00	40.00	national
Standard Works (4 to 10 Days)			
Traffic Sensitive	130.00	130.00	national
Non Traffic Sensitive	40.00	40.00	national
Major Works (<3 days)			
Traffic Sensitive	65.00	65.00	national
Non Traffic Sensitive	25.00	25.00	national

2026/27 % rise	
Fixed rate by Fee Structure	
Fixed rate by Fee Structure	
Fixed rate by Fee Structure	
Fixed rate by Fee Structure	
Fixed rate by Fee Structure	
Fixed rate by Fee Structure	
Fixed rate by Fee Structure	
Fixed rate by Fee Structure	
Fixed rate by Fee Structure	
Fixed rate by Fee Structure	

Minor			
Traffic Sensitive	55.00	55.00	national
Non Traffic Sensitive	25.00	25.00	national
Intermediate			
Traffic Sensitive	55.00	55.00	national
Non Traffic Sensitive	25.00	25.00	national
Permit Variation			
Traffic Sensitive	45.00	45.00	national
Non Traffic Sensitive	35.00	35.00	national

Fixed rate by Fee Structure
Fixed rate by Fee Structure
Fixed rate by Fee Structure
Fixed rate by Fee Structure
Fixed rate by Fee Structure
Fixed rate by Fee Structure

Inspection fees for Agreements under Section 38 and Section 278 (Highways Act 1980)	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate OS			
Section 38 Agreement Fees			
Works Estimated by Highway Authority to be below £25,000 Value (fixed fee)	1,500.00	1,500.00	national
Works Estimated by Highway Authority to be between £25,000 to £50,000 Value (percentage of estimated works value)	1%	1%	national
Works Estimated by Highway Authority to be between £50,000 to £150,000 Value (percentage of estimated works value)	8%	8%	national
Works Estimated by Highway Authority to be between above £150,000 Value (percentage of estimated works value)	6%	6%	national
Section 278 Agreement Fees			
Works Estimated by Highway Authority to be below £25,000 Value (fixed fee)	1,500.00	1,500.00	national
Works Estimated by Highway Authority to be between £25,000 to £50,000 Value (percentage of estimated works value)	10%	10%	national
Works Estimated by Highway Authority to be between £50,000 to £150,000 Value (percentage of estimated works value)	8%	8%	national
Works Estimated by Highway Authority to be between above £150,000 Value (percentage of estimated works value)	6%	6%	national
Agreements which Include Public Realm or Town Centre Improvement Works			
Additional fee to be added to the Agreement Fees stated above (percentage of estimated works value)	1%	1%	national

2026/27 % rise
0.00%
0.00%
0.00%
0.00%
0.00%
0.00%
0.00%
0.00%
0.00%
0.00%

Household Waste and Recycling Centre

Chargeable Waste at the Household Waste and Recycling Centre (HWRC)	Unit	£ Current Minimum Charge 2025/26	£ Proposed Minimum Charge 2026/27	Category	2026/27 % rise
VAT Rate SR					
The following charges are applicable where the free allowance of DIY waste has been exceeded. For					
Soil and rubble: Includes bricks, blocks, slates, tiles, rubble, paving slabs, concrete,	Per bag/item	£2.80	£2.90	Cost recovery	3.50%
Tyres: Commercial and agricultural vehicle tyres will not be accepted. No charge for	per tyre	£4.74	£5.00	Cost recovery	5.49%
Clean plasterboard: Includes plaster and gypsum related products.	per sheet/bag	£5.60	£5.80	Cost recovery	3.50%
Plasterboard (with other materials attached): such as tiles, foil insulation or any other	per sheet/bag	£10.23	£10.60	Cost recovery	3.62%
Plastic window: With or without glass. Single pane window only (double charge for	each	£4.74	£4.90	Cost recovery	3.38%
Plastic door or door frame: With or without glass. Single door or door frame only (double	each	£4.74	£4.90	Cost recovery	3.38%
Bath or shower tray (plastic, fibreglass or composite): Single bath or shower tray only.	each	£4.74	£4.90	Cost recovery	3.38%
Shower screen: Plastic or glass shower screen/enclosure.	each	£4.74	£4.90	Cost recovery	3.38%
Insulation materials: 1 sheet or 1 bag.	per sheet/bag	£4.74	£4.90	Cost recovery	3.38%
Roofing felt	per bag/roll	£4.74	£4.90	Cost recovery	3.38%
All DIY plastic: Plastic pipes, guttering, fascia, soffit, skirting, cladding, loose plastics etc.	for up to 5 lengths/ pieces	£4.74	£4.90	Cost recovery	3.38%
Water tanks, panels, roofing sheets, plastic sanitary ware etc.	each	£4.74	£4.90	Cost recovery	3.38%
Asbestos: bonded asbestos only. Please note that asbestos must be double wrapped in	per sheet/bag	£12.59	£13.10	Cost recovery	4.05%
Sheet Glass	Per Pane	£2.66	£2.80	Cost recovery	5.26%
Carpet, Underlay and linoleum per bag	Per bag	£2.66	£2.80	Cost recovery	5.26%
Carpet, Underlay and linoleum per roll	Per roll	£10.76	£11.20	Cost recovery	4.09%

Chargeable waste collection	Unit	£ Current Charge 2024/25	£ Proposed Charge 2025/26	Category	2026/27 % rise
VAT Rate OS					
Household Garden Waste Collection	Per Bin	£51.75	£60.00	Traded	15.94%
Household Garden Waste Collection (CTSS discount)	Per Bin	£41.75	£43.20	Subsidised	3.48%
Bin delivery	Per Bin	£0.00	£0.00	Subsidised	0.00%
Initial sign up	Per Bin	£0.00	£0.00	Subsidised	0.00%

Local Land Charges Department Fees and Charges

<https://www.torbay.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/local-land-charges/land-charges-fees/>

N.B. Due to IT technical issues previously advised 2024/25 price increases were not implemented 2025/26 increase therefore covers a 2 year increase.	£ Current 2025/26 Torbay Council Charge	£ Proposed Charge 2026/27	Category	2026/27 % rise
Official search in the whole or any one part of the Local Land Charges (LLC) Register (including the issue of an Official Certificate of Search):				
VAT Rate OS				
In respect of one parcel of land (a)	31.46	33.00	Cost Recovery	4.90%
In respect of each additional parcel of land (subject to agreement) (c)	6.06	6.50	Cost Recovery	7.26%
Personal search in the whole or any one part of the LLC Register (regardless of the number of parcels of land)	FOC	FOC		
Replies to all Required Enquiries of Local Authorities (Form Con 29R):				
VAT Rate SR				
In respect of one parcel of land (b)	92.88	96.50	Cost Recovery	3.90%
In respect of each additional parcel of land (subject to agreement) (d)	17.45	18.50	Cost Recovery	6.02%
Total cost of providing 'Standard' (LLC1 and CON29) Search on one parcel of land. (a+b)	124.34	129.50	Cost Recovery	4.15%
Total cost of providing 'Standard' (LLC1 and CON29) Search on each additional parcel of Land. (c+d)	23.50	25.00	Cost Recovery	6.38%
Ask a question of your own	21.76	23.00	Cost Recovery	5.70%

Replies to individual enquiries on Form Con 29R:	£ Current 2025/26 Torbay Council Charge	£ Proposed Charge 2026/27	Category	2026/27 % rise
VAT Rate SR				
Administration fee	14.52	15.50	Cost Recovery	6.75%
Question 1.1 (a) to (i) - Planning decisions and pending applications	10.16	11.00	Cost Recovery	8.27%
Question 1.1 (j) to (l) - Building regulation decisions and pending applications	7.29	8.00	Cost Recovery	9.74%
Question 1.2 - Local development plans	FOC	FOC		
Question 2.1 (a) - Roads, footways and footpaths	5.80	6.00	Cost Recovery	3.50%
Question 2.1 (b) to (d) - Roads, footways and footpaths	4.36	5.00	Cost Recovery	14.68%
CON29 Question 2.2 to 2.5 Public rights of way	5.80	6.00	Cost Recovery	3.50%
Question 3.1 - Land required for public purposes	1.45	1.50	Cost Recovery	3.50%
Question 3.2 - Land to be acquired for road works	1.45	1.50	Cost Recovery	3.50%
Question 3.3 (a) to (c) - Sustainable drainage systems	FOC	FOC		
Question 3.4 (a) to (f) - Nearby road schemes	1.45	1.50	Cost Recovery	3.50%
Question 3.5 (a) to (b) - Nearby railway schemes	1.45	1.50	Cost Recovery	3.50%
Question 3.6 (a) to (l) - Traffic schemes	8.72	9.50	Cost Recovery	8.94%
Question 3.7 (a) to (g) - Outstanding notices	10.16	11.00	Cost Recovery	8.27%
Question 3.8 - Contravention of building regulations	2.90	3.00	Cost Recovery	3.50%
Question 3.9 - Notices, orders, directions & proceedings under Planning acts	5.80	6.00	Cost Recovery	3.50%
Question 3.10 (a) to (h) - Community Infrastructure Levy	7.29	8.00	Cost Recovery	9.74%
Question 3.11 - (a) to (b) - Conservation area	1.45	1.50	Cost Recovery	3.50%
Question 3.12 - Compulsory purchase	1.45	1.50	Cost Recovery	3.50%
CON29 Question 3.13 (a) to (c) - Contaminated land	1.45	1.50	Cost Recovery	3.50%
Question 3.14 - Radon gas	FOC	FOC		
Question 3.15 (a) to (b) - Assets of community value	FOC	FOC		
Replies to Optional Enquiries of Local Authority (Con 29O) – each enquiry	14.52	15.50	Cost Recovery	6.75%
Additional enquiry – each (subject to agreement)	21.76	23.50	Cost Recovery	8.00%

Legal Services Fees and Charges

Type of Document	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed Charge 2026/27	Category	2026/27 % rise
VAT Rate SR				
A3 colour plan hardcopy	10.50	10.87	Cost Recovery	3.50%
A3 black and white plan hardcopy	4.90	5.07	Cost Recovery	3.50%
Plans larger than A3 (hardcopy)	POA	POA	Cost Recovery	
A4 black and white sheet (hardcopy per sheet)	0.35	0.36	Cost Recovery	3.50%
Admin Fee (minimum)	16.90	17.49	Cost Recovery	3.50%

If there is a requirement for significant research the administration charge will increase. The requestor will be advised prior to processing the request

Libraries Fees and Charges

Link: <https://www.torbaylibraries.org.uk/>

Torbay Library Services are managed by Libraries Unlimited.

Planning Pre-Application Fees and Charges

<http://www.torbay.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning/pre-planning/>

Type	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed Charge 2026/27	Category	2026/27 % rise
VAT Rate SR				
Householder development enquiry	116.96	118.95	Traded	1.70%
Shaping Enquiry	233.91	237.89	Traded	1.70%
Minor Residential: Single Dwelling	264.42	268.92	Traded	1.70%
Minor Residential: 2 to 14 dwellings £217.00 for first dwelling then £93.00 per additional dwelling	264.42	268.92	Traded	1.70%
Major Residential: 15 dwellings or more per 5,000 m2 (0.5 hectares) up to a maximum of £10,000	1,881.45	1,913.43	Traded	1.70%
Commercial: No new floor space (per unit)	116.96	118.95	Traded	1.70%
Commercial: Creation of new floor space (including change of use) per 100m ² up to a maximum of £5,000.	116.96	118.95	Traded	1.70%
Waste, Minerals and Recycling Operations: Waste Management, mineral processing, extraction or storage	1,144.13	1,163.58	Traded	1.70%

Please note:

Pre-application fees are **normally** non-refundable

Householder pre-applications are covered by our development enquiry service.

Any pre-application enquiry which involves a Listed Building will be subject to an additional charge of £115 (incl. VAT).

For mixed use development; please add the residential and commercial fees together as a cumulative fee will be applicable.

All other proposals will be charged at the hourly rate of **£118.95** (incl. VAT) contact us for further information.

These charges cover the costs associated with an officer providing an initial response to a pre-application enquiry. One further written response will be charged at £115 per hour (or part thereof).

In some instances the Council will wish to refer development proposals to the independent Torbay Design Review Panel. A separate fee will be required to cover the cost of using the Panel Site Visits and Meetings **£118.95** per officer per hour (please contact us for details)

Registration Service Discretionary Fees and Charges

Due to the nature of ceremonies often being booked years in advance, the fees & charges for this service are shown for multiple years

<http://www.torbay.gov.uk/registrar/>

Marriage or Civil Partnership Ceremonies	£ Current 2024/25	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	£ Proposed 2027/28	£ Proposed 2028/29	Category
VAT Rate OS						
Attending at Approved Premises in the Torbay District						
Monday to Thursday - up to 6pm	590.00	620.00	645.00	665.00	665.00	Traded
Monday to Thursday - 6pm to 8pm	610.00	640.00	665.00	670.00	670.00	Traded
Monday to Thursday - from 8pm	680.00	715.00	745.00	750.00	750.00	Traded
Friday & Saturday - up to 6pm	610.00	640.00	665.00	670.00	670.00	Traded
Friday & Saturday - after 6pm	640.00	680.00	680.00	710.00	710.00	Traded
Sunday or Bank Holiday	750.00	750.00	750.00	780.00	780.00	Traded
Cockington Court - Ceremony Room	New Fees From April 2026	From April 2026	Proposed 2026/27	Proposed 2027/28	Proposed 2028/29	
Monday - Friday			£ 400.00	£ 415.00	£ 430.00	Traded
Saturday			£ 450.00	£ 465.00	£ 480.00	Traded
Saunday & Bank Holiday			£ 600.00	£ 625.00	£ 655.00	Traded

2025/26 % rise	2026/27 % rise	2027/28 % rise	2028/29 % rise
5.08%	4.03%	3.10%	0.75%
4.92%	3.91%	0.75%	#REF!
5.15%	4.20%	0.67%	0.00%
4.92%	3.91%	0.75%	0.00%
6.25%	0.00%	4.41%	0.00%
0.00%	0.00%	4.00%	0.00%

	3.50%	3.50%	3.50%
	3.50%	3.50%	3.50%
	3.50%	3.50%	3.50%

Torbay Register Office, Paignton Library (Max 2 guests-statutory fee)	£ Current 2024/25	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	£ Proposed 2027/28	£ Proposed 2028/29	Category
Wednesday - up to 12.30 pm	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	National
At a registered building-statutory fee	104.00	104.00	104.00	104.00	104.00	National
Marriage at a Registred Bulding	104.00	104.00	104.00	104.00	104.00	National
Combination Ceremony (Register Office ceremony + Celebrant led ceremony at a separate venue of choice)						
Monday - Sunday up to 6pm	700.00	730.00	760.00	760.00	760.00	Traded
Giving Notice (statutory fees)						
Giving a notice of intent to marry or form a civil partnership (each partner)	42.00	42.00	42.00	42.00	42.00	National
Giving a notice of intent to marry or form a civil partnership with Home Office Referral (each partner)	57.00	57.00	57.00	57.00	57.00	National
Attendance of a Registrar to verify the declaration of a house-bound person	57.00	57.00	57.00	57.00	57.00	National
Attendance of a Registrar to verify the declaration of a detained person	82.00	82.00	82.00	82.00	82.00	National

Coverison of Civil Partnership into Marriage						
At the Register Office	£50.00	£50.00	£50.00	£50.00	£50.00	National
Two stage process at another approved premises						
Completing the declaration	£30.00	£30.00	£30.00	£30.00	£30.00	National
Signing the declartion at a registred bulding registred for marriage of same sex couples	£101.00	£101.00	£101.00	£101.00	£101.00	National

Premises License	Current 2024/25	Proposed 2025/26	Proposed 2026/27	Proposed 2028/29	Proposed 2028/29	Category
License for Approved Premises to hold ceremonies - NEW (valid 3 years)	1,820.00	1,900.00	1,975.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	Traded
License for Approved Premises to hold ceremonies - RENEW (valid 3years)	1,320.00	1,370.00	1,415.00	1,465.00	1,515.00	Traded

2025/26 % rise	2026/27 % rise	2027/28 % rise	2027/28 % rise
0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
2025/26 % rise	2026/27 % rise	2027/28 % rise	2027/28 % rise
4.29%	4.11%	0.00%	0.00%
2025/26 % rise	2026/27 % rise	2027/28 % rise	2027/28 % rise
0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

2025/26 % rise	2026/27 % rise	2027/28 % rise	2027/28 % rise
4.40%	3.95%	1.27%	0.00%
3.79%	3.28%	3.53%	3.41%

Additional room to be added to a current licence	160.00	165.00	170.00	175.00	180.00	Traded
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3.13%	3.03%	2.94%	2.86%

Renewal of vows/commitment/naming ceremonies at Cockington Ceremony Room Note: fees listed excl VAT	New Fees From April 2026	New Fees From April 2026	Proposed 2026/27	Proposed 2027/28	Proposed 2028/29	
VAT Rate SR						
Monday - Friday			£400	£415.00	£430.00	Traded
Saturday			£450	£465.00	£480.00	Traded
Saunday & Bank Holiday			£600	£625.00	£655.00	Traded

Ceremony run through discusion-face to face	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	Traded
Via E-mail	FOC	FOC	FOC	FOC	FOC	Traded
Ceremony Booking Fee	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	Traded
Citizenship						
VAT Rate OS						
Private Citizenship Ceremony	170.00	170.00	170.00	170.00	170.00	Traded

	3.50%	3.50%	3.50%
	3.50%	3.50%	3.50%
	3.50%	3.50%	3.50%
0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
2025/26 % rise	2026/27 % rise	2027/28 % rise	2027/28 % rise
0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

Copy certificates						
VAT Rate OS						
Copy certificates, birth, death, marriage & Civil Partnerships (issued & posted 2nd class 15 days)	12:50	12:50	12:50	12:50	12:50	National
Priority Certificates birth, death, marriage & Civil Partnerships (issued and posted the same day)	£38.50	£38.50	£38.50	£38.50	£38.50	National
1st class post	£1	£1	£2	£2	£2	Traded

Fees for changes to Initial Registration						
VAT Rate OS						
chnages to forename added within 12 months of the birth registration	£44.00	£44.00	£44.00	£44.00	£44.00	National
Consideration of a correction by Registrar or Superintendent Registrar	£83	£83	£83	£83	£83	National
Consideration by Registrar General of a correction	£99	£99	£99	£99	£99	National

Resort Services Fees and Charges Gross Charge

Chalets/Cabins	£		£	
	Charges 2025/26	Category	Proposed charge 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate SR				
Annual				
Meadfoot – Annual 1st Floor	2,241.00	Traded	2,319.00	Traded
Meadfoot – Annual 1st Floor : Sun Terrace	3,429.00	Traded	3,549.00	Traded
Meadfoot – Annual Ground	1,905.00	Traded	1,972.00	Traded
Broadsands - Annual Charge 1-25 Sea facing	2,187.00	Traded	2,264.00	Traded
Broadsands - Annual Charge 26 - 50 Green facing	2,143.00	Traded	2,218.00	Traded
Oddicombe - Annual Charge	2,211.00	Traded	2,288.00	Traded
Winter Season Off Peak				
Meadfoot 1st Floor - Winter season off peak October to March	New charge	Traded		
Meadfoot Ground Floor - Winter season off peak October to March	New charge	Traded		
Broadsands Sea Facing - Winter season off peak October to March	New charge	Traded		
Broadsands Green Facing - Winter season off peak October to March	New charge	Traded		
Per Week				
Meadfoot - Per week - April to June and September	143.00	Traded	148.00	Traded
Meadfoot- Per week - July and August	167.00	Traded	173.00	Traded
Meadfoot - per week - October - March	New charge			
Broadsands - Per week - April to June and September	143.00	Traded	148.00	Traded
Broadsands - Per week - July and August	167.00	Traded	173.00	Traded
Broadsands - per week - October - March	New charge			
Goodrington - Per week - April to June and September	109.00	Traded	113.00	Traded
Goodrington - Per week - July and August	126.00	Traded	130.00	Traded
Preston - Per week - April to June and September	109.00	Traded	No huts on site until 2027	Traded
Preston - Per week - July and August	126.00	Traded	No huts on site until 2028	Traded
Less than a week				
Goodrington - Per day - April to June and September	38.00	Traded	39.00	Traded
Goodrington - Per day - July and August	43.00	Traded	45.00	Traded
Corbyn Head on Stilts - Per day - April to June and September	New charge			
Corbyn Head on Stilts - Per day - July and August	New charge			
Broadsands Cabin - Per day - April to June and September	New charge			
Broadsands Cabin - Per day - July and August	New charge			
Broadsands Cabin - Per day - October - March	New charge			
Meadfoot - Per day- April to June and September	New charge	Traded		Traded
Meadfoot- Per day - July and August	New charge	Traded		Traded
Meadfoot - per day - October - March	New charge			

Below is input from Finance Team

2026/27
% uplift
3.48%
3.50%
3.52%
3.52%
3.52%
3.50%
3.48%
3.50%
3.59%
3.50%
3.59%
3.67%
3.17%
2.63%
4.65%
2.63%
5%

Below is input from Finance Team

£			2026/27
Beach Services Proposed charge 2026/27	Category		% uplift
2,319.00	Traded		3.48%
3,549.00	Traded		3.50%
1,972.00	Traded		3.52%
2,264.00	Traded		3.52%
2,218.00	Traded		3.50%
2,288.00	Traded		3.48%
870.00	Traded	Chalet	
740.00	Traded		
849.00	Traded	Cabin	
831.00	Traded		
150.00	Traded		4.90%
200.00	Traded	Chalet	19.76%
120.00			
150.00	Traded		4.90%
200.00	Traded	Cabin	19.76%
120.00			
120.00	Traded		10.09%
150.00	Traded	Beach hut	19.05%
No huts on site until 2027	Traded		
No huts on site until 2028	Traded		
40.00	Traded		5.26%
45.00	Traded		4.65%
45.00	Traded		
50.00	Traded		
45.00	Traded		
50.00	Traded		
36.00	Traded		
45.00	Traded	Chalet	
50.00	Traded		
36.00	Traded		

Beach Hut	£		£	
	Charges 2025/26	Category	Proposed charge 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate SR				
Annual				
Site Only - Broadsands	699.00	Traded	723.00	Traded
Site Only - Breakwater	645.00	Traded	668.00	Traded

Site Only – Summer Season	£		£	
	Charges 2025/26	Category	Proposed charge 2026/27	Category
			To nearest £	
VAT Rate SR				
Corbyn Head	521.00	Traded	539.00	Traded
Broadsands, Goodrington North, Youngs Park, Oddicombe and Roundham	388.00	Traded	402.00	Traded
Preston & Preston Marine Parade & Goodrington South	412.00	Traded	426.00	Traded
Corbyn self-maintained	50.00	Traded	52.00	Traded

Council Beach Huts Winter Season		£		£	
		Charges 2025/26	Category	Proposed charge 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate SR					
Beach Huts – Winter Charges					
Stored off site		261.00	Traded	270.00	Traded
Store Winter season on site		255.00	Traded	264.00	Traded

Other Service Charges				
Labour charge for repairs and maintenance excluding material costs	New charge			
Beach Hut transfer charge	124.00	Traded	128.00	Traded
Beach Hut scrappage charge	154.00	Traded	159.00	Traded
Beach Hut wait list charge	33.00	Traded	34.00	Traded
Beach Hut Exchange Charge	27.00		28.00	

Beach Furniture	£		£		
	Charges 2025/26	Category	Proposed charge 2026/27	Category	
VAT Rate SR					
Deckchair per week	18.00	Traded	19.00	Traded	
Deckchair per day	5.00	Traded	5.00	Traded	Market forces
Directors chair per week	24.00	Traded	25.00	Traded	
Directors chair per day	6.00	Traded	6.00	Traded	Market forces
Sun lounge per week	24.00	Traded	25.00	Traded	
Sun lounge per day	6.00	Traded	6.00	Traded	Market forces
Parasol per day	4.00	Traded	4.00	Traded	Market forces
Windbreak per day	4.00	Traded	4.00	Traded	Market forces
Event Deckchair Hire					
Deckchair per day	4.00	Traded	4.00	Traded	Market forces
Delivery/Collection – prices on application but minimum charge	84.00	Traded	87.00	Traded	

2026/27	
% uplift	
	3.43%
	3.57%

2026/27	
% uplift	
3.45%	
3.61%	
3.40%	*see note 1
4.00%	*See note 2

2026/27	
% uplift	
	3.45%
	3.53%

	3.23%
	3.25%
	3.03%
	3.70%

*See note 3

2026/27	% uplift
5.56%	0.00%
4.17%	0.00%
0.00%	4.17%
0.00%	0.00%
0.00%	0.00%
0.00%	0.00%
0.00%	0.00%
3.57%	0.00%

£ Beach Services Proposed charge 2026/27	Category
723.00	Traded
668.00	Traded

£ Beach Services Proposed charge 2026/27	Category
To nearest £	
521.00	Traded
418.00	Traded
437.00	Traded
50.00	Traded

£	Category
Beach Services Proposed charge 2026/27	
270.00	Traded
264.00	Traded

30.00	Traded	
128.00	Traded	
159.00	Traded	
34.00	Traded	
28.00	Traded	Use admin charge

£ Beach Services Proposed charge 2026/27	Category
19.00	Traded
5.00	Traded
25.00	Traded
6.00	Traded
25.00	Traded
6.00	Traded
4.00	Traded
4.00	Traded
4.00	Traded
87.00	Traded

2026/27	% uplift	
		3.43%
		3.57%
2026/27	% uplift	
		0.00%
		7.73%
		6.07%
		0.00%
2026/27	% uplift	
		3.45%
		3.53%
		3.23%
		3.25%
		3.03%
		3.70%
2026/27	% uplift	
		5.56%
		0.00%
		4.17%
		0.00%
		4.17%
		0.00%
		0.00%
		0.00%
		0.00%
		3.57%

Administration Charge - (To be applied following cancellation of facilities. It may also be applied in other instances at the discretion of the Harbour Master)	£59.00	61.00	
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3.39%	* see note 4	50.00	-15.25%
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1. In previous years, there was no formal specification for the self-maintained stanchions at Corbyn Head. It has now been agreed that the customer will repair or replace the stanchions according to an agreed specification at their cost and provide public liability insurance. In return, a two-year charge of £50.00 has been applied—this is the second year of that arrangement- officers record of agreement in place.
2. There is no seasonal income from the Preston site due to the construction of the flood defence wall. Beach huts are expected to return in Spring 2027. A price freeze has been agreed for returning customers at the Preston site in 2027.
3. Charges should be consistent with those applied to Harbour waitlists, as both services are listed on the same website, involve the same administrative team, and follow identical processes. Applying different charges for what is essentially the same service would be inappropriate and potentially confusing for users.
4. The administration charge is high compared to other administration charges.

Assembly Hall Fees and Charges

Room Hire		£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category
VAT Rate EX				
BASIC HIRE (Minimum session hire 5 hours)	Full Rate Per Hour	38.00	39.33	Traded
	Discounted Rate Per Hour	31.00	32.09	Traded
Late surcharge (after 11pm)	Full Rate Per Hour	78.00	80.73	Traded
Sunday surcharge	Full Rate Per Hour	19.00	19.67	Traded
Kitchen - used for supply/sale of refreshments	Full Rate Per Hour	22.00	22.77	Traded
Kitchen - access to water for cleaning only	Per Session	22.00	22.77	Traded
VAT Rate OS (where the Council sets up the badminton court in advance of the hire)				
Badminton charges	Per Court per hour	20.00	20.70	Traded

% uplift
3.50%
3.50%
3.50%
3.50%
3.50%
3.50%
3.50%
3.50%
3.50%
3.50%

Note: The above are basic charges for room hire and if additional services are required, the price is available on application.

Social Housing - general needs

Charges for social housing and associated services is covered in the annual report of Housing Rents and Charges presented to Cabinet in February.

All Social Housing rents are increased by CPI+1%, equalling 4.8% in total; and that rent reviews take place on all Service Occupancy

Spatial Planning Fees and Charges

Type of Document	£ Current 2025/2026	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category	% uplift
VAT Rate SR				
Torbay Local Plan				
Hardcopy incl. pen drive	FOC	FOC	Subsidised	
Hardcopy postage	FOC	FOC	Subsidised	
Pen drive only	FOC	FOC	Subsidised	
Online	FOC	FOC	Subsidised	
View in Person	FOC	FOC	Subsidised	
Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) and Conservation Area Appraisals plus a wide range of documents forming the evidence base for the existing and emerging Torbay Local Plan (Hardcopy)	Prices vary depending on document. Cost can be obtained from the Strategy and Project Delivery Team	Prices vary depending on document. Cost can be obtained from the Strategy and Project Delivery Team	Cost Recovery	
Type of Document				
Hardcopy Decision Notices	29.98	31.03	Cost Recovery	3.50%
Hardcopy Tree Preservation Orders	59.95	62.05	Cost Recovery	3.50%
Hardcopy Section 106 Agreements	59.95	62.05	Cost Recovery	3.50%
Hardcopy Committee Reports	17.99	18.62	Cost Recovery	3.50%
Online	FOC	FOC	Subsidised	
Type of Document				
Other A4/A3 size documents up to 10 sheets	11.99	12.41	Cost Recovery	3.50%
Other A4/A3 size documents over 10 sheets (each sheet)	1.20	1.24	Cost Recovery	3.50%
A2 Plans per sheet	11.99	12.41	Cost Recovery	3.50%
A1 Plans per sheet	17.99	18.62	Cost Recovery	3.50%
A0 Plans per sheet	29.98	31.03	Cost Recovery	3.50%
Planning History Searches E-mail or Hardcopy (per site per hour)	89.93	93.08	Cost Recovery	3.50%

**Large quantities of documents may take a longer turnaround period.*

Enforcement Charges	£ Current 2025/2026	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category	% uplift
VAT Rate OS				
Withdrawal of an Enforcement Notice (EN)	94.30	100.00	Levy	6.04%
Confirmation of no enforcement action	94.30	100.00	Levy	6.04%
NEW Compliance with ENs		100.00		
NEW Confirmation of a closed case		100.00		

Section 106 / CIL	£ Current 2025/2026	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category	% uplift
VAT Rate OS				
Confirmation of compliance with an obligation	89.93	100.00	Cost recovery	11.20%

Town Diary Fees and Charges

	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category	% uplift
VAT Rate SR				
Admin Fee for charity, fundraising and information stands - price is per day	53.85	55.75	Cost Recovery	3.5%
Small Displays with a table and chairs/leaflets/information/gazebo/display stands - price is per day	88.00	91.10	Traded	3.5%
Commercial companies with a discount for block bookings - price is per day 3 months bookings - 5% discount 6 months bookings - 10% discount 9 months bookings - 12.5% discount 12 months (year) bookings - 15% discount	258.75	267.80	Traded	3.5%
VAT Rate SR	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category	% uplift
Banner sites Victoria Park, Paignton (fences along Torquay Road) Kings Gardens Torquay only Banners advertising specific companies Fee is payable on the approval of the application for each site Organisations will be charged the same price for the removal of banners for non-compliance of terms and conditions Banners can be displayed for a minimum of two weeks at a time. Extension may be available subject to vacant space. They should be removed immediately after this agreed period by the advertising organisation.	60.00	62.10	Traded	3.5%
Banner sites Victoria Park, Paignton (fences along Torquay Road) Kings Gardens Torquay only Banner removal fee	60.00	62.10	Traded	3.5%
VAT Rate SR	£ Current 2025/26	£ Proposed 2026/27	Category	% uplift
Event Notices - Removal fee if not taken down from site.	53.85	55.75	Levy	3.5%
Events Booking System Admin Fees Community /Charity Events	20.00	20.70	Cost Recovery	3.5%
Commercial/Major Events - booking system	20.00	20.70	Traded	3.5%
Commercial event fees over 1000 attendance - ticketed - £1 per person attending	£1p/p	£1p/p	Traded	
Poster sites 187 single poster sites around Torbay Fee is charged per poster per week.	3.85	4.00	Traded	3.9%

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Equality Impact Assessment – Budget Proposals 2026/27

Page 199	Overview This Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) assesses the proposed council budget for 2026/27 which is being considered by Council. It specifically assesses the potential impact of the proposal to increase Council Tax. The EIA considers the potential impacts arising from budget management on those with protected characteristics. Given the close links between vulnerability and socioeconomic inequality, the EIA also considers the impact of proposals from this perspective. Torbay ranks as the 39th most deprived upper tier local authority in England out of a according to the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD 2025). No budget reductions or service reductions are built into the budget for 2026/27, but several Financial Sustainability Plans exist, which summarise how key areas of budget risks are going to be managed to mitigate spending pressures. This year, equality implications are most likely to come from the ongoing management of the Council's budget throughout 2026/27. Although the 2026/27 settlement for Torbay Council is reasonable, of real concern is its allocation of funding in years two and three of the multi-year settlement. Our Core Spending Power allocation would only increase by 1% in both 2027/28 and 2028/29 with cash increases of just £2m, compared with the increase of £10m (5%) in 2026/27. This EIA does not fully assess the Financial Sustainability Plans as these will be further assessed as the proposals develop and go through the decision-making cycle independently. Where proposals form part of business-as-usual service delivery, departments will ensure that they continue to ensure equitable service delivery. Additionally, any service changes required in future years due to reduced settlements will require their own EIAs. Council Tax The Local Government Finance settlement for 2026/27 assumes that all Councils will increase Council Tax by 2.99% plus a further 2% for the Adult Social Care Precept. It is proposed that the Council will increase Council Tax in line with these expectations with a total increase of 4.99%. This will allow us to provide the support to support the communities who need it the most and to continue to invest in services while minimising as much as possible the financial impacts for our residents.
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Protected characteristics under the Equality Act and groups with increased vulnerability	Whilst it is not possible to fully mitigate the impact of Council Tax increases, Torbay Council operates a Council Tax Support Scheme which limits the amount of Council Tax that eligible recipients are required to pay to up to 75%. The current Council Tax Support Scheme caseload has been analysed to help identify if there may be an indirect impact on one or more groups with protected characteristics because of the proposed increases to Council Tax. In addition, the Council has various support mechanisms in place for people experiencing financial hardships. This includes the discounts which are available across the Bay for residents who have signed up to the MyBay discount card. Where available, this information has been included in the evidence for each group of people with protected characteristics below. Other data included within the EIA has been sourced from the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. Fees and charges It is proposed that service fees and charges that are set by the Council will increase by an average of 3.5% for 2026/27 to help offset increased pay cost and price inflation and ensure full cost recovery. There will be some exceptions, particularly where the rates are set nationally. Budget consultation Cabinet published its draft budget proposals for consultation. During the consultation period, feedback was gathered through an online questionnaire. To ensure that those who participate in our engagement activities are representative of the local community, respondents were asked for demographic information to help us identify any patterns in our engagement activities. A summary of the consultation findings will be published alongside the final budget papers.			
	Data and insight	Equality considerations (including any adverse impacts)	Mitigation activities	Responsible department and timeframe for implementing mitigation activities
Age	18% of Torbay residents are aged under 18 years old.	Adult Social Care Due to their overrepresentation as service users, older people could be disproportionately impacted by budget	Financial Sustainability Plans Services will continue to take a case-by-case approach and person/	Directors to continually assess the impact of financial

	• 55% of Torbay residents are aged between 18 to 64 years old. • 27% of Torbay residents are aged 65 and older. Council Tax Support recipients • In Torbay pensioners represent 26.7% of the population (ONS, 2021 census). • 5,082 pension age households receive Council Tax Support, which is 48.37% of the total Council Tax Support caseload. • 5,424 working age households receive Council Tax Support, which is 51.63% of the total Council Tax Support caseload. • Around 54% of all working age households receiving Council Tax Support are single people, 30% single parents, 8% couples with children and just over 8% are couples with no children.	management decisions in Adult Social Care. Children's Services Sustainability Plans Due to their overrepresentation as service user children and young people could be disproportionately impacted by Financial Sustainability Plans in Children's Services especially around the Locality Model and home to school transport budget decisions and Children's Social Care Placements. Housing Needs The current level of the cost of living and the increasing cost of accommodation costs is especially challenging for families, younger people, and older people. Council Tax and fees and charges Older people may be disproportionately impacted by increases to Council Tax and fees and charges due to the increased likelihood of them experiencing poverty during retirement. Young people may be disproportionately impacted by increases to Council Tax due to the increased likelihood of them experiencing low earnings.	child centred approach in their delivery of services to ensure that individuals receive support tailored to their individual needs and circumstances. To ensure that equality is fully considered, individual decisions will be further assessed as proposals develop and go through the decision-making cycle independently where appropriate. In addition, where relevant existing council policies will continue to be followed to ensure that service delivery is equitable. Council Tax and fees and charges A Council Tax Support Scheme is in place which limited the amount that eligible applicants are required to pay to 75%. The Exceptional Hardship fund is also available to provide financial support to eligible applicants facing exceptional financial hardship.	sustainability plans within their departments.
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Carers	- At the time of the 2021 census there were 14,900 unpaid carers in Torbay. 5,185 of these carers provided 50 hours or more of care. Council Tax Support Scheme Specific Council Tax Support Scheme data is not available for this demographic. However data is available which tells us; - There are 1,644 single parents receiving Council Tax Support, which represents 30.31% of all working age households. 1,518 or 92.21% of single parent households are women. - There are 418 couples with children receiving Council Tax Support, which represents 8% of all working age households.	Adult Social Care Due to their overrepresentation as service users, carers could be disproportionately impacted by budget management decisions in Adult Social Care. Children's Services Sustainability Plans Due to their overrepresentation as service users, children and young people who are carers could be disproportionately impacted by Financial Sustainability Plans in Children's Services especially around the Locality. Housing Needs The current cost of living and the increasing cost of accommodation costs is especially challenging for carers who are more likely to experience financial difficulty and thus homelessness. Council Tax and fees and charges Carers may be disproportionately impacted by increases to Council Tax and fees and charges due to the increased likelihood of them experiencing poverty.	Financial Sustainability Plans Services will continue to take a case-by-case approach and person/child centred approach in their delivery of services to ensure that individuals receive support tailored to their individual needs and circumstances. To ensure that equality is fully considered, individual decisions will be further assessed as proposals develop and go through the decision-making cycle independently where appropriate. In addition, where relevant existing council policies will continue to be followed to ensure that service delivery is equitable. Housing Needs All individuals, and families, will continue to be assessed based on their identified needs.	Directors to continually assess the impact of financial sustainability plans within their departments.

			We will continue to monitor data to identify trends in those experiencing housing challenges. Council Tax and fees and charges A Council Tax Support Scheme is in place which limited the amount that eligible applicants are required to pay to 75%. The Exceptional Hardship fund is also available to provide financial support to eligible applicants facing exceptional financial hardship.	
Care experienced	As of January 2026, there were 277 former care experienced young people aged 18-24 in Torbay.	Children's Services Sustainability Plans Due to their overrepresentation as service users, care experienced individuals could be disproportionately impacted by Financial Sustainability Plans in Children's Services. Council Tax and fees and charges Care experienced individuals may be disproportionately impacted by increases to Council Tax and fees and charges due	Financial Sustainability Plans Services will continue to take a case-by-case approach and person/child centred approach in their delivery of services to ensure that individuals receive support tailored to their individual needs and circumstances. To ensure that equality is fully considered, individual decisions will	Directors to continually assess the impact of financial sustainability plans within their departments.

to the increased likelihood of them experiencing poverty.

Housing Needs

The cost of living and the increasing cost of accommodation costs is especially challenging for care experienced individuals who are more likely to experience financial difficulty and thus homelessness.

be further assessed as proposals develop and go through the decision-making cycle independently where appropriate. In addition, where relevant existing council policies will continue to be followed to ensure that service delivery is equitable.

Housing Needs

All individuals, and families, will continue to be assessed based on their identified needs. We will continue to monitor data to identify trends in those experiencing housing challenges.

Council Tax and fees and charges

A Council Tax Support Scheme is in place which limited the amount that eligible applicants are required to pay to 75%. The Exceptional Hardship fund is also available to provide financial support to eligible applicants

			facing exceptional financial hardship.	
Disability	In the 2021 Census, 23.9% of Torbay residents answered that their day-to-day activities were limited a little or a lot by a physical or mental health condition or illness. Specific Council Tax Support Schemes data is not available for this demographic.	Adult Social Care Due to their overrepresentation as service users, people with disabilities could be disproportionately impacted by financial sustainability plans in Adult Social Care. Children's Services Sustainability Plans Due to their overrepresentation as service users, children and young people with disabilities could be disproportionately impacted by Financial Sustainability Plans in Children's Services especially around the Locality Model. Housing Needs The current level of the cost of living and the increasing cost of accommodation costs is especially challenging for people with disabilities who more likely to experience financial difficulty and thus homelessness. Any service changes could impact this group. Council Tax and fees and charges People with disabilities may be disproportionately impacted by increases to Council Tax and fees and charges due to the increased likelihood of them experiencing poverty.	Financial Sustainability Plans Services will continue to take a case-by-case approach and person/child centred approach in their delivery of services to ensure that individuals receive support tailored to their individual needs and circumstances. To ensure that equality is fully considered, individual decisions will be further assessed as proposals develop and go through the decision-making cycle independently where appropriate. In addition, where relevant existing council policies will continue to be followed to ensure that service delivery is equitable. Housing Needs All individuals, and families, will continue to be assessed based on	Directors to continually assess the impact of financial sustainability plans within their departments.

			their identified needs. We will continue to monitor data to identify trends in those experiencing housing challenges. Council Tax and fees and charges A Council Tax Support Scheme is in place which limited the amount that eligible applicants are required to pay to 75%. The Exceptional Hardship fund is also available to provide financial support to eligible applicants facing exceptional financial hardship.	
Gender reassignment	In the 2021 Census, 0.4% of Torbay's community answered that their gender identity was not the same as their sex registered at birth.	Financial Sustainability Plans People with the protected characteristic of gender reassignment may disproportionately impacted by reductions in Adult Social Care and Children's Services provisions if the ability to put in place appropriate and considered care and support is limited. Due to the limited data collected locally, it is not possible to fully understand the possible impacts on this group of service users.	Financial Sustainability Plans Services will continue to take a case-by-case approach and person/child centred approach in their delivery of services to ensure that individuals receive support tailored to their individual needs and circumstances. To ensure that equality is fully considered,	Directors to continually assess the impact of financial sustainability plans within their departments..

			individual decisions will be further assessed as proposals develop and go through the decision-making cycle independently where appropriate. In addition, where relevant existing council policies will continue to be followed to ensure that service delivery is equitable.	
Marriage and civil partnership	Of those Torbay residents aged 16 and over at the time of 2021 Census, 44.2% of people were married or in a registered civil partnership.	No adverse impacts are anticipated.	Not applicable	Not applicable
Pregnancy and maternity	- Between 2013 and 2024, the rate of live births (as a proportion of females aged 15 to 44) has been slightly but significantly higher in Torbay (average of 56.0 per 1,000) than the Southwest (53.4) and broadly in line with England (56.3). - For the period 2022 to 2024, rates in Torbay (44.6) have been significantly below England (50.0).	Children's Services Sustainability Plans Due to their overrepresentation as service users, those pregnant could be disproportionately impacted by Financial Sustainability Plans in Children's Services especially around the Locality.	Financial Sustainability Plans Services will continue to take a case-by-case approach and person/child centred approach in their delivery of services to ensure that individuals receive support tailored to their individual needs and circumstances. To ensure that equality is fully considered, individual decisions will	Directors to continually assess the impact of financial sustainability plans within their departments.

be further assessed as proposals develop and go through the decision-making cycle independently where appropriate. In addition, where relevant existing council policies will continue to be followed to ensure that service delivery is equitable.

Housing Needs

All individuals, and families, will continue to be assessed based on their identified needs. We will continue to monitor data to identify trends in those experiencing housing challenges.

Council Tax and fees and charges

A Council Tax Support Scheme is in place which limited the amount that eligible applicants are required to pay to 75%. The Exceptional Hardship fund is also available to provide financial support to eligible applicants

			facing exceptional financial hardship.	
Race	In the 2021 Census, 96.1% of Torbay residents described their ethnicity as the following: • 1.6% as Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh • 0.3% as Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African • 1.5% as being of Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups • 96.1% as White • 0.4% described their ethnicity another way. • Black, Asian and minoritised ethnic communities are more likely to live in areas of Torbay classified as being amongst the 20% most deprived areas in England.	Adult Social Care Due to their overrepresentation as service users, people with disabilities could be disproportionately impacted by financial sustainability plans in Adult Social Care. Children's Services Sustainability Plans Due to their overrepresentation as service users, children and young people with disabilities could be disproportionately impacted by Financial Sustainability Plans in Children's Services especially around the Locality Model. Housing Needs The current level of the cost of living and the increasing cost of accommodation costs is especially challenging for people from minoritised backgrounds who are more likely to experience financial difficulty and thus homelessness. Any service changes could impact this group. Council Tax and fees and charges People with disabilities may be disproportionately impacted by increases to Council Tax and fees and charges due to the increased likelihood of them experiencing poverty.	Financial Sustainability Plans Services will continue to take a case-by-case approach and person/child centred approach in their delivery of services to ensure that individuals receive support tailored to their individual needs and circumstances. To ensure that equality is fully considered, individual decisions will be further assessed as proposals develop and go through the decision-making cycle independently where appropriate. In addition, where relevant existing council policies will continue to be followed to ensure that service delivery is equitable. Housing Needs All individuals, and families, will continue to be assessed based on their identified needs. We will continue to	Directors to continually assess the impact of financial sustainability plans within their departments.

Page 210			monitor data to identify trends in those experiencing housing challenges. Council Tax and fees and charges A Council Tax Support Scheme is in place which limited the amount that eligible applicants are required to pay to 75%. The Exceptional Hardship fund is also available to provide financial support to eligible applicants facing exceptional financial hardship.	
Religion and belief	The 2021 Census showed that the residents in Torbay identify their religion and/or belief as the following; • 48.5% are Christian • 0.4% are Buddhist • 0.2% are Hindu • 0.6% are Muslim • Less than 0.1% are Sikh • 0.1% are Jewish • 0.7% have another religion • 43.2% have no religion • 6.3% did not answer	Financial Sustainability Plans The joint transformation plan for adult social care and Financial Sustainability Plans in Children's Services may disproportionately impact people from different cultural backgrounds if the ability to put in place culturally appropriate and considered care and support is limited.	Financial Sustainability Plans Services will continue to take a case-by-case approach and person/child centred approach in their delivery of services to ensure that individuals receive support tailored to their individual needs and circumstances. To ensure that equality is fully considered, individual decisions will be further assessed as	Directors to continually assess the impact of financial sustainability plans within their departments.

			proposals develop and go through the decision-making cycle independently. In addition, where relevant existing council policies will continue to be followed to ensure that service delivery is equitable.	
Sex Page 211	• 51.3% of Torbay's population are female. • 48.7% of Torbay's population are male. Council Tax Support recipients • There are 2,939 single people receiving Council Tax Support, which represents 54.18% of all working age households;. • Women: 1,349 • Men: 1,590 • There are 1,644 single parents receiving Council Tax Support, which represents 30.31% of all working age households. • 1,518 or 92.21% of single parent households are women.	Financial Sustainability Plans Females may disproportionately impacted by reductions Children's Services provisions if the ability to put in place appropriate and considered care and support is limited as they are more likely to live in lone parent households. They may also be disproportionately impacted by the Children's Social Care placements, Locality Model, and home to school transport budget decisions.	Financial Sustainability Plans Services will continue to take a case-by-case approach and person/child centred approach in their delivery of services to ensure that individuals receive support tailored to their individual needs and circumstances. To ensure that equality is fully considered, individual decisions will be further assessed as proposals develop and go through the decision-making cycle independently where appropriate. In addition, where relevant existing council policies will continue to be followed	Directors to continually assess the impact of financial sustainability plans within their departments.

			to ensure that service delivery is equitable. Housing Needs All individuals, and families, will continue to be assessed based on their identified needs. We will continue to monitor data to identify trends in those experiencing housing challenges. Council Tax and fees and charges A Council Tax Support Scheme is in place which limited the amount that eligible applicants are required to pay to 75%. The Exceptional Hardship fund is also available to provide financial support to eligible applicants facing exceptional financial hardship.	
Sexual orientation	In the 2021 Census, residents described their sexuality as follows; • 89% as Straight or Heterosexual • 1.7% as Gay or Lesbian • 1.1% as Bisexual	Financial Sustainability Plans The joint transformation plan for adult social care and Financial Sustainability Plans in Children's Services may impact people from LGBT+ communities if the ability to put in place appropriate and considered care and support is limited.	Financial Sustainability Plans Services will continue to take a case-by-case approach and person/child centred approach in their delivery of	Directors to continually assess the impact of financial sustainability plans within

	• 0.1% as Pansexual • 0.1% described their sexuality another way • 7.4% of people didn't answer the question	Due to the limited data collected locally, it is not possible to fully understand the possible impacts on this group of service users.	services to ensure that individuals receive support tailored to their individual needs and circumstances. To ensure that equality is fully considered, individual decisions will be further assessed as proposals develop and go through the decision-making cycle independently. In addition, where relevant existing council policies will continue to be followed to ensure that service delivery is equitable.	their departments.
Armed Forces Community	• In 2021, 3.8% of residents in England reported that they had previously served in the UK armed forces. • In Torbay, 5.9% of the population have previously served in the UK armed forces.	Financial Sustainability Plans The joint transformation plan for adult social care and Financial Sustainability Plans in Children's Services may impact members of the armed force communities if the ability to put in place appropriate and considered care and support is limited.	Financial Sustainability Plans Services will continue to take a case-by-case approach and person/child centred approach in their delivery of services to ensure that individuals receive support tailored to their individual needs and circumstances. To ensure that equality is fully considered, individual decisions will be further assessed as	Directors to continually assess the impact of financial sustainability plans within their departments.

proposals develop and go through the decision-making cycle independently. In addition, where relevant existing council policies will continue to be followed to ensure that service delivery is equitable.

Housing Needs

All individuals, and families, will continue to be assessed based on their identified needs. We will continue to monitor data to identify trends in those experiencing housing challenges.

Council Tax and fees and charges

A Council Tax Support Scheme is in place which limited the amount that eligible applicants are required to pay to 75%. The Exceptional Hardship fund is also available to provide financial support to eligible applicants facing exceptional financial hardship.

Additional considerations				
Socio-economic impacts (Including impacts on child poverty and deprivation)	Torbay is ranked as the 39th most deprived upper tier local authority in England in the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2025.	While inflation has reduced significantly from the highs of 2022. Residents are continuing to struggle with the cost of living. This continues to impact the high level of need in the Bay and subsequent demand for council support services.	Not applicable	Not applicable
Public Health impacts (Including impacts on the general health of the population of Torbay)	For the five-year period 2020 to 2024, data shows there is a 6-year life expectancy gap between males who live in Torbay's least and most deprived areas and, a 3-year gap for females.	No adverse impacts are anticipated.	Not applicable	Not applicable
Human Rights impacts		The Council remains committed to ensuring that human rights are protected. As some of the budget proposals are still high level it is not possible to fully understand the impacts on human rights that they may have. Departments are responsible for the adherence to the Human Rights Act in their delivery of services.	Not applicable	Not applicable
Child Friendly		Torbay has a higher proportion of young people with care experience when compared to the rest of the Southwest and England. The budget proposals aim to support care experienced individuals to meet their potential.	Not applicable	Not applicable

TORBAY COUNCIL

Meeting: Council

Date: 26th February 2026

Wards Affected: All Wards in Torbay

Report Title: Council Tax 2026/27

Cabinet Member Contact Details: Councillor Alan Tyerman, Cabinet Member for Housing and Finance, Alan.Tyerman@torbay.gov.uk

Director Contact Details: Malcolm Coe, Director of Finance, Malcolm.coe@torbay.gov.uk

1. Purpose of Report

The Council has a statutory obligation to set a 2026/27 Council Tax Requirement and a Council Tax for the Torbay area, including the demands of the precepting bodies before the 11 March in the preceding financial year.

2. Reason for Proposal and its benefits

The purpose of this technical report is to enable the Council to fulfil its statutory duty to calculate and set the Council Tax Requirement and Council Tax for 2026/27.

3. Recommendation(s) / Proposed Decision

3.1 That the Council is recommended to note:

3.2 On the 11th December 2025 Council approved the following Council Tax Bases for 2026/27: -

a) For the whole Council area as 49,488.48 [Item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")]; and

b) For dwellings in the Brixham Town Council area as 6,622.66 to which a Parish precept relates.

3.3 That the Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall, and the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority have issued precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as indicated in the table in paragraph 3.6 below.

That the Council is recommended to approve:

- 3.4 The Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2026/27 (excluding Brixham Town Council) of £101,159,897;
- 3.5 That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2026/27 in accordance with Chapter Three of the Act:
- a) £458,149,581 being the estimated aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account the precept issued to it by Brixham Town Council;
 - b) £356,333,561 being the estimated aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act;
 - c) £101,816,020 being the amount by which the aggregate at 3.5(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3.5(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax Requirement for the year (item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act);
 - d) £2,057.37 being the amount at 3.5(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (3.2(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts);
 - e) £656,123 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Brixham Town Council) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act; and
 - f) £2,044.11 being the amount at 3.5(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3.5(e) above by Item T (3.2(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept relates.

- 3.6 That the Council, in accordance with Chapter Three of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the tables below as the amounts of Council Tax for 2026/27 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.

	Valuation Band							
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Ratio of each band-to-Band D	6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Torbay Council	1,362.74	1,589.87	1,816.99	2,044.11	2,498.35	2,952.60	3,406.85	4,088.22
Police and Crime Commissioner	202.13	235.82	269.51	303.20	370.58	437.96	505.33	606.40
Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority	73.12	85.31	97.49	109.68	134.05	158.43	182.80	219.36
Aggregate of Council Tax Requirements ex. Town Council	1,637.99	1,911.00	2,183.99	2,456.99	3,002.98	3,548.99	4,094.98	4,913.98
Brixham Town Council	66.05	77.05	88.06	99.07	121.09	143.10	165.12	198.14
Aggregate of Council Tax Requirements including Brixham Town Council	1,704.04	1,988.04	2,272.05	2,556.06	3,124.08	3,692.09	4,260.10	5,112.12

Note: Torbay Council's precept includes the Adult Social Care "precept" set in 2016/17 to 2018/19 and 2020/21 to 2026/27.

- 3.7 That it is noted that the Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2026/27 is not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992. (Refer to paragraph 5.7)

4. Precepts on Torbay Council as a Billing Authority

- 4.1 Members should note that due to the complexity of setting the council tax level in accordance with statute it is not possible to simplify this report.
- 4.2 The Council approved the statutory Tax Base for Torbay at its meeting on the 11th December 2025 as 49,488.48 for the year 2026/27 and approved the 2026/27 Tax Base for Brixham Town Council as 6,622.66. When the "Council Tax Requirements" of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall, the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority and Torbay Council (including Brixham Town Council) are determined, it remains only to make the statutory "basic tax" calculations in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended by the Localism Act 2011, and "set" the tax for the eight Valuation Bands A to H ranging from 6/9ths to 18/9ths of the basic amount – "Band D".

4.3 The precept levels of other precepting bodies have been received. These are detailed below:

4.4 **Brixham Town Council**

Brixham Town Council met on 7th January 2026 and set a precept of £656,123. This results in a Band D Council Tax for 2026/27 of £99.07, (£79.75 2025/26), which is an increase of 24.23%. This precept is only payable by residents living in the Brixham Town Council area.

4.5 **Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Devon & Cornwall**

The Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall met on 30th January 2026 and set a precept (for Torbay) of £15,151,937.14 This results in a Band D Council Tax for 2026/27 of £303.20 (£288.20 2025/26), an increase of 5.20%.

4.6 **Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority**

Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority met on 16th February 2026 and set a precept of £5,481,300 This results in a Band D Council Tax for 2026/27 of £109.68, (£104.68 2025/26), an increase of 4.78%.

4.7 If the formal Council Tax Resolutions within 3.6 above are approved, the total basic amount “Band D” of Council Tax will be as follows:

	2025/26 £	2026/27 £	2026/27 Change
Torbay Council	1,946.96	2,044.11	4.99%
Police and Crime Commissioner	288.20	303.20	5.20%
Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority	104.68	109.68	4.78%
Sub-Total	2,339.84	2,456.99	5.01%
Brixham Town Council	79.75	99.07	24.23%
Total	2,419.59	2,556.06	5.64%

Background Documents

[The Referendums Relating to Council Tax Increases \(Principles\) \(England\) Report 2026-27](#)

Supporting Information

[Agenda for Council on Thursday,11 December 2025, 5.30 pm](#)

5. Summary

- 5.1 The 2026/27 revenue budget will be presented to Council on 26th February 2026. The net revenue budget proposed for approval is £205.3m.
- 5.2 This is net expenditure before the Council's general income and funding, NNDR Income, NNDR top up grant, other general grant and any collection fund surplus.
- 5.3 This results in a Council Tax requirement for the Torbay Council element of £101,159,897. Including the Brixham Town Council precept the Council Tax requirement is £101,816,820.
- 5.4 Expenditure at that level for Torbay Council will result in a Band D Council Tax for 2026/27 of £2,044.11, a 4.99% increase in the Torbay Council element of the Council tax.
- 5.5 Under section 52ZB(1) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 ("the 1992 Act") as inserted by Schedule 5 to the Localism Act 2011, each billing authority and precepting authority must determine whether its relevant basic amount of council tax for a financial year ("the year under consideration") is excessive. If an authority's relevant basic amount of council tax is excessive a referendum must be held in relation to that amount.
- 5.6 The question whether an authority's relevant basic amount of council tax for a financial year ("the year under consideration") is excessive must be decided in accordance with a set of principles determined by the Secretary of State for the year under "The Referendums Relating to Council Tax Increases (Principles) (England) Report".
- 5.7 "For 2026/27, the relevant basic amount of council tax of an authority which belongs to the category mentioned in paragraph 2(a) is excessive if the authority's relevant basic amount of council tax for 2026/27 is 5% (comprising 2% for expenditure on adult social care, and 3% for other expenditure), or more than 5%, greater than its relevant basic amount of council tax for 2025/26"
- 5.8 For 2026/27 the Council will set an adult social care precept of 2% and a precept of 2.99% for other expenditure. If the formal Council Tax Resolutions within 3.5 above are approved the change in the "relevant basic amount" (i.e. the Band D Council tax) for 2026/27 is 4.99%, which is not "excessive" per the regulations.
- 5.10 The gross expenditure and income figures included at 3.5 (a) and 3.5 (b) are linked to the budget digest information presented to Council in March, which are prior to any adjustments to comply with CIPFA and central government reporting requirements.

6. Legal Implications

- 6.1 The Council is required, in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended by the Localism Act 2011, to set an amount of Council Tax for each of the eight Valuation Bands for the coming financial year before 11th March. This is a matter of calculation only but in accordance with Section 67 of the Act must be set by the Council.

7. Consultation

- 7.1 There has been consultation on the 2026/27 budget proposals with all Members and through the Priority and Resources board meetings and consultation with stakeholders and residents through consultation documents and the use of social media.

8. Associated Risks

- 8.1 The Council must set the Council Tax before 11th March each year. The Collection of Council Tax income is essential to ensure the services provided by the Council and the other precepting bodies are adequately funded.
- 8.2 If the Council fails to set a Council Tax before 11th March, it will be in breach of its statutory obligation and subject to legal challenge.

Meeting: Cabinet/Council **Date:** 17 February/26 February 2026

Wards affected: All wards in Torbay

Report Title: Torbay Council Annual Pay Policy Statement and Review of Pensions Discretions

When does the decision need to be implemented? February 2026

Cabinet Member Contact Details: Cllr Jackie Thomas, Cabinet Member for Tourism, Culture and Events and Corporate Services. Jackie.Thomas@torbay.gov.uk.

Director/Divisional Director Contact Details: Matthew Fairclough-Kay, Director of Corporate Services, (01803) 207449, matthew.fairclough-kay@torbay.gov.uk

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 Section 38 (1) of the Localism Act 2011 requires English and Welsh Authorities to produce a pay policy statement for each financial year. This is a statutory requirement, and the pay policy statement must be approved formally by Council. The pay policy statement draws together the Council's overarching policies on pay and conditions and will be published on the Council's Website.
- 1.2 Under the current Pensions Regulations, Torbay Council is able to exercise a range of discretions in regard to how the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) is applied to its employees who are members of the Scheme.

2. Reason for Proposal and its benefits

- 2.1 The Annual Pay Policy Statement 2026/27 must be approved by the Council in order for the Council to be compliant with Section 38 (1) of the Localism Act 2011.
- 2.2 The Employers Pensions Discretions must be reviewed and approved by Council annually in line with the LGPS regulations.

3. Recommendation(s) / Proposed Decision

That Council be recommended to approve:

1. the Torbay Council Annual Pay Policy Statement 2026/27 as set out in Appendix 1 to the submitted report be approved for publication; and
2. the Employers Pensions Discretions set out in Appendix 2 to the submitted report be approved for publication.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Torbay Council Annual Pay Policy Statement 2026/27

Appendix 2: Torbay Council Pension Discretions

Background Documents

Copies of Torbay Councils associated Pay Policies will be made available upon request. All current policies are held on the Council's MyView system:-

<https://myview.torbay.gov.uk/dashboard/dashboard-ui/index.html#/landing>

The following documents/files were used to compile this report:-

Localism Act Pay Policy Guidance from the Local Government Association

<https://www.local.gov.uk/introduction-localism-act>

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The publication of the Annual Salary Statement is a statutory requirement under Section 38 (1) of the Localism Act 2011. If Council does not approve the Salary Statement, then the Council will be in breach of the legislation.

See Annual Pay Policy Statement, Appendix 1 for full details.

- 1.2 Under the current Pensions Regulations, Torbay Council is able to exercise a range of discretions in regard to how the LGPS is applied to its employees who are members of the Scheme. The Employers Pensions Discretions must be reviewed and approved by Council annually in line with the LGPS regulations.

See Pensions Discretions, Appendix 2, for full details of the existing and recommended discretions.

2. Options under consideration

- 2.1 There are no options to be considered in regard to the publication of the Pay Policy Statement as it is a statutory requirement of Section 38 (1) of the Localism Act 2011.
- 2.2 The Employers Pensions Discretions were last approved in July 2025. They are usually approved annually in February; however, a change was made to one of the policies to allow the introduction of shared cost AVC's from September. Although there are no further changes proposed, Council are required to approve these discretions on an annual basis.

3. Financial Opportunities and Implications

- 3.1 There are no financial opportunities. The implications are in relation to financial penalties that the Council could face for non-compliance, for example, under equal pay legislation.

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 The Council would be in breach of its statutory obligation if it does not publish its Annual Pay Policy Statement in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.
- 4.2 The Pay Policy Statement and associated pay policies set out the processes and procedures by which the Council pays its staff. These practices are in accordance with the Equality Act 2010 and associated employment law and so must be complied with.

5. Engagement and Consultation

- 5.1 Trade Unions representing staff within Torbay Council will be consulted at Joint Consultative meetings.

6. Purchasing or Hiring of Goods and/or Services

- 6.1 There are no associated services or goods that need to be purchased or hired under these proposals.

7. Tackling Climate Change

- 7.1 There are no climate change implications associated with these proposals.

8. Associated Risks

- 8.1 Non-Compliance with Section 38 (1) of Localism Act 2011, please see above. It is currently not determined as to whether there would be a financial penalty for non-compliance with the Localism Act however, under employment law non-compliance could result in heavy penalties for the Council (e.g. Equal pay and discrimination claims).
- 8.2 In addition to the risk of enforcement action by the Equality and Human Rights Commission, the Council should also consider the potential damage to their reputation of non-compliance with equal pay legislation if pay and grading processes are not followed.

Equality Impact Assessment

Protected characteristics under the Equality Act and groups with increased vulnerability	Data and insight	Equality considerations (including any adverse impacts)	Mitigation activities	Responsible department and timeframe for implementing mitigation activities
Age	18% of Torbay residents are aged under 18 years old. 55% of Torbay residents are aged between 18 to 64 years old. 27% of Torbay residents are aged 65 and older.	There is no differential impact as the policies reflected in the Councils' Pay Policy Statement apply equally to all employees regardless of protected characteristic.	N/A	N/A
Carers	- At the time of the 2021 census there were 14,900 unpaid carers in Torbay. 5,185 of these carers provided 50 hours or more of care.	There is no differential impact as the policies reflected in the Councils' Pay Policy Statement apply equally to all employees regardless of protected characteristic.	N/A	N/A
Care experienced	As of January 2026, there were 277 former care experienced young people aged 18-24 in Torbay.	No differential impact	N/A	N/A
Disability	In the 2021 Census, 23.9% of Torbay residents answered that their day-to-day activities were limited a little or a lot by a physical	There is no differential impact as the policies reflected in the Councils' Pay Policy Statement apply equally to all employees regardless of protected characteristic.	N/A	N/A

	or mental health condition or illness.			
Gender reassignment	In the 2021 Census, 0.4% of Torbay's community answered that their gender identity was not the same as their sex registered at birth.	There is no differential impact as the policies reflected in the Councils' Pay Policy Statement apply equally to all employees regardless of protected characteristic.	N/A	N/A
Marriage and civil partnership	Of those Torbay residents aged 16 and over at the time of 2021 Census, 44.2% of people were married or in a registered civil partnership.	There is no differential impact as the policies reflected in the Councils' Pay Policy Statement apply equally to all employees regardless of protected characteristic.	N/A	N/A
Pregnancy and maternity	- Between 2013 and 2024, the rate of live births (as a proportion of females aged 15 to 44) has been slightly but significantly higher in Torbay (average of 56.0 per 1,000) than the Southwest (53.4) and broadly in line with England (56.3). - For the period 2022 to 2024, rates in Torbay (44.6) have been significantly below England (50.0).	There is no differential impact as the policies reflected in the Councils' Pay Policy Statement apply equally to all employees regardless of protected characteristic.	N/A	N/A
Race	In the 2021 Census, 96.1% of Torbay residents described their ethnicity as the following:	There is no differential impact as the policies reflected in the Councils' Pay Policy Statement apply equally to all employees regardless of protected characteristic.	N/A	N/A

	• 1.6% as Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh • 0.3% as Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African • 1.5% as being of Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups • 96.1% as White • 0.4% described their ethnicity another way. • Black, Asian and minoritised ethnic communities are more likely to live in areas of Torbay classified as being amongst the 20% most deprived areas in England.			
Religion and belief	The 2021 Census showed that the residents in Torbay identify their religion and/or belief as the following; • 48.5% are Christian • 0.4% are Buddhist • 0.2% are Hindu • 0.6% are Muslim • Less than 0.1% are Sikh • 0.1% are Jewish • 0.7% have another religion • 43.2% have no religion • 6.3% did not answer	There is no differential impact as the policies reflected in the Councils' Pay Policy Statement apply equally to all employees regardless of protected characteristic.	N/A	N/A
Sex	• 51.3% of Torbay's population are female.	There is no differential impact as the policies reflected in the Councils' Pay Policy	N/A	N/A

	48.7% of Torbay's population are male. Torbay Council is legally required to calculate and publish the pay gap between male and female employees every year.	Statement apply equally to all employees regardless of protected characteristic.		
Sexual orientation	In the 2021 Census, residents described their sexuality as follows; 89% as Straight or Heterosexual 1.7% as Gay or Lesbian 1.1% as Bisexual 0.1% as Pansexual 0.1% described their sexuality another way 7.4% of people didn't answer the question	There is no differential impact as the policies reflected in the Councils' Pay Policy Statement apply equally to all employees regardless of protected characteristic.	N/A	N/A
Armed Forces Community	- In 2021, 3.8% of residents in England reported that they had previously served in the UK armed forces. - In Torbay, 5.9% of the population have previously served in the UK armed forces.	No differential impact	N/A	N/A
Additional considerations				
Socio-economic impacts (Including	Torbay is ranked as the 39th most deprived upper	No differential impact	N/A	N/A

impacts on child poverty and deprivation)	tier local authority in England in the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2025.			
Public Health impacts (Including impacts on the general health of the population of Torbay)	For the five-year period 2020 to 2024, data shows there is a 6-year life expectancy gap between males who live in Torbay's least and most deprived areas and, a 3-year gap for females.	No differential impact	N/A	N/A
Human Rights impacts		No differential impact	N/A	N/A
Child Friendly		No differential impact	N/A	N/A

10. Cumulative Council Impact

10.1 None.

11. Cumulative Community Impacts

11.1 None.

Annual Pay Policy Statement 2026 - 2027

Date November 2025

This document can be made available in other languages and formats.
For more information, please contact hrpolicy@torbay.gov.uk

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1 Purpose and Scope

1. Section 38 (1) of the Localism Act 2011 requires the Council to prepare an Annual Pay Policy Statement.
- 1.2 Supplementary guidance was published in February 2013 and May 2022 – “Openness and Accountability in Local Pay: Supplementary Guidance” and “Statutory Guidance on the making and disclosure of special severance payments by local authorities in England”. Due regard has been given to that guidance in preparation of this policy.
- 1.3 In dealing with staff pay it is the Council’s strategy to ensure that our Pay Policy facilitates the recruitment and retention of staff with the skills and capabilities the Council needs.
- 1.4 Arrangements for staff pay must comply with Equal Pay legislation.
- 1.5 Senior Officers – these are posts with specific responsibility such as Section 151 Officer and/or where the salary is above £50,000
- 1.6 This Pay Policy Statement is a supplement to Torbay Council’s overarching Pay and associated policies which form part of the terms and conditions of employees. These include but are not limited to:-
 - Torbay Council Pay Policy (includes details of market supplements, market forces, acting up and additional duties payments and also guidance on job evaluation processes)
 - Job Evaluation Scheme Policies (Greater London Provincial Councils Job Evaluation Scheme).
 - NJC Terms and Conditions of Employment (Green Book)
 - JNC Terms and Conditions for Chief Executives
 - JNC Terms and Conditions for Chief Officers (Directors within Torbay Council are appointed to these Terms and Conditions).
 - NHS Terms and Conditions
 - Torbay Council Local Government Pension Scheme Policy Discretions
 - Employment of Apprentices Policy
 - Expenses Policy
 - Staff Travel Plan
 - Key Skills Retention Policy
 - Key Skills Golden Hello Scheme
 - Key Skills Student Loans Allowance Scheme
 - Key Skills Referral Scheme
 - Key Skills Accommodation Allowance
 - Flexible Retirement
 - Retirement and Long Service Award
 - Re-organisation and Redundancy Policy
 - Torbay Council Pay Rates 2025/26
- 1.7 Guidance from the Secretary of State makes reference to the Hutton Review of Fair Pay. This indicated that the most appropriate metric for pay dispersion is the multiple of Chief Executive pay to median salary. Tracking this multiple will allow the Council to ensure that public services are accountable for the relationship between top pay and that paid to the wider

workforce. This annual pay policy statement will publish this multiple along with the following information:

The level of salary for each of the Officers as defined in 1.5 above.

The salary of the lowest paid employee - this information can be found in Appendix 1 of this policy.

2. Arrangements for officer pay

2.1 The general terms and conditions of employment are governed by the following national agreements:

- Chief Executive/Head of Paid Service - JNC for Chief Executives of Local Authorities
- Directors - JNC for Chief Officers of Local Authorities
- Divisional Directors/Senior Officers - NJC for Local Government Services
- Educational Advisors and Inspectors/ Educational Psychologists – Soulbury Pay and Conditions
- All other Employee Groups – NJC for Local Government Services
- Public Health – NHS Terms and Conditions of Service (for employees who have transferred under TUPE)

2.2 The Council uses two forms of Job Evaluation to identify officer pay. This is either through the Council's GLPC Job Evaluation Scheme or the Hay Evaluation Scheme. The Hay Evaluation scheme produces both a Know How Score and a total points score for each post evaluated. Torbay Council pays salary (with a pay band of 4 spinal points) on the basis of the Know How Score only (not the final points score). Know-How is the sum of every kind of knowledge, skill and experience required for standard acceptable job performance.

2.3 The Hay Job Evaluation scheme is used to evaluate the following roles within the Council:-

- Chief Executive/Head of Paid Service
- Directors and Divisional Directors
- Senior Officers

All Grade N and O roles are evaluated under GLPC and Hay (this is due to the cross over point of the two schemes).

Public Health posts are evaluated on the Council's GLPC Job Evaluation Scheme. Public Health posts can also be evaluated using the "Agenda for Change" evaluation scheme in order to ensure pay parity for similar clinical roles in the NHS.

All other posts within the Council are evaluated under the Torbay Council GLPC evaluation scheme in accordance with the agreed policies.

2.4 A review of Hay salary data was purchased in 2018, and salaries were reviewed in line with this and with South-West public and private sector data. Since 2018 there has been annual benchmarking of salary rates. This salary information, together with corresponding job descriptions, is available from the Council's internet page, link as follows: -
<http://www.torbay.gov.uk/council/finance/salary-levels/>

- 2.5 In determining the salary for the Chief Executive/Head of Paid Service within the Council, and in the absence of appropriate data from Hay, the Council will take advice from the Head of Human Resources. In such a scenario independent advice may be taken from South West Councils (HR and Employment Services) and other professional organisations to advise the Council as to the appropriate level of remuneration to be awarded.
- 2.6 The Chief Executive under the general scheme of delegation within the Council will determine the terms and conditions of employment of all officers. Advice will be sought from the Head of Human Resources as required.
- 2.7 Following significant changes in duties, any post can be re-evaluated. The evaluation will be based on a Job Evaluation Questionnaire which will be assessed by an independent panel of Job Evaluation trained assessors. External advice and benchmarking will also be undertaken if necessary to ensure that market conditions are considered for pay and grading.
- 2.8 Salary increases in relation to cost of living will be applied to all posts according to the awards made by the appropriate National Joint Council as described in paragraph 2.1.

The Council's pay and grading structure is available from the Council's website:-

www.torbay.gov.uk/council/jobs/what-we-offer/salary-and-grades/

- 2.9 No additional payments are made to in respect of:
- Bonus payments or Performance payments to the Senior Officers defined in 1.5, unless where given as a result of protections under TUPE, i.e. a transfer from another employer.
 - Additional enhancements are paid to NJC Employees who are employed on SCP 23 or below of the Torbay Council Salary Scale. These enhancements were varied in accordance with a Collective Agreement with our Trades Unions, dated 13th December 2016.
- 2.10 Additional payments are made to any Council Officers who act as Returning Officers, Deputy Returning Officers and those who carry out specific duties at elections. These payments are calculated according to the approved scale or set by a government department depending on the nature of the election. This is treated as a separate employment as and when required.
- 2.11 In comparing the Chief Executive/Head of Paid Service pay (TBC – this may change depending upon who the highest paid role is.) with the wider workforce the

Council will use the following definitions:

- The lowest-paid employee: the employee or group of employees with the lowest salary (full-time equivalent) employed by the Council at the date of assessment.
- The median: the mid-point salary when full-time equivalent salaries are arranged in order of size (highest to lowest). Based on salary levels of staff on the date of assessment.

This excludes those employed on casual contracts of employment but includes part time employees where their salaries are normalised to the full-time equivalent. It also excludes Apprentices who are employed on the Torbay Council apprentice pay grade.

3. Pensions contributions and other terms and conditions

- 3.1 All staff who are members of the Local Government Pension Scheme make employee contributions to the scheme in accordance with the following LGPS contributions table. These figures represent the 2025/26 contribution rates and bandings which could be subject to change and have not yet been confirmed for 2026/2027.

Table 1: Employee contribution bands England and Wales 2025/26

Band	Actual pensionable pay for an employment	Main section contribution rate for that employment	50/50 section contribution rate for that employment
1	Up to £17,800	5.50%	2.75%
2	£17,801 to £28,000	5.80%	2.90%
3	£28,001 to £45,600	6.50%	3.25%
4	£45,601 to £57,700	6.80%	3.40%
5	£57,701 to £81,000	8.50%	4.25%
6	£81,001 to £114,800	9.90%	4.95%
7	£114,801 to £135,300	10.50%	5.25%
8	£135,301 to £203,000	11.40%	5.70%
9	£203,001 or more	12.50%	6.25%

- 3.2 The Torbay Council employer pension contribution rate will be 16% from 1 April 2026.
- 3.3 All employees are currently able to apply for a Car Parking permit, which enables employees to park on Council property for a reduced daily rate.

4. Termination payments - Chief Officers

- 4.1 The Council's approach to statutory and discretionary payments on termination of employment of Chief Officers, at retirement age or prior to this, is set out within its Redundancy policy and is in accordance with Regulation 5 of the Local Government (Early termination of Employment) (Discretionary Compensation) Regulations 2006 and Regulations 8 and 10 of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Benefits, Membership and Contribution) Regulations 2007. Final payment details are submitted to Full Council for approval.

5. Salary packages upon appointment

- 5.1 Any salary package offered in respect of a new appointment for a Chief Executive /Head of Paid Service will be approved by Full Council. This will include any new salary package equating to £100,000 or more.
- 5.2 In the case of salary packages for Directors and Divisional Directors, this will need to be approved by the Council's Employment Committee, acting on behalf of Full Council. This will include any salary package equating to £100,000 or more

6. Settlement agreements

- 6.1 Settlement agreements fall under the Special severance payments arrangements as a payment exceeding an employee's statutory and contractual entitlements on termination of employment.
- 6.2 Torbay Council will only enter into Settlement Agreements in exceptional circumstances where it is in the Council's overall commercial and financial interests to do so and in line with the Statutory Guidance on the making and disclosure of special severance payments by local authorities in England.
- 6.3 These agreements and associated pay are determined on a case-by-case basis.
- 6.4 Payments of £100,000 and above are subject to a formal decision made by Full Council, unless there is a good reason for departing from the Statutory Guidance.
- 6.5 Payments below £100,000 are subject to a formal decision of either:
- relevant elected members with delegated authority to approve such payments; or
 - a suitable authorised senior officer with authority to approve such payments.

7. Gender pay gap reporting

- 7.1 The Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties and Public Authorities) Regulations 2017 requires Torbay Council to calculate and publish the pay gap between male and female employees every year. Pay data must be based on a 'snap-shot' of the pay situation as at 31st March the preceding year and must be published by 30th March annually to the Government and also on Torbay Council's website.
- 7.2 The Council's Gender Pay Gap Report will be reported separately on 30th March 2026 for the snapshot date of 31st March 2025: <https://www.torbay.gov.uk/council/information-and-data/transparency-and-data/annual-pay-policy-statement/#c7>
- 7.3 The Government publishes the results on their Gender Pay Gap Viewing Service: - [Find and compare gender pay gap data - GOV.UK](#)

8. Publication

- 8.1 Once approved by Full Council, this Policy and any subsequent amendment will be published on the Council's website. Human Resources Policy will be responsible for the annual review to ensure an accurate pay policy is published ahead of each financial year.
- 8.2 In accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting, the annual Statement of Accounts includes pay details of Senior Officers reporting directly to the Chief Executive/Head of Paid Service and statutory posts where the salary is above £50,000 per annum.
- 8.3 Full Council decisions in relation to staff pay matters are available from the Council's internet page, link as follows: www.torbay.gov.uk/DemocraticServices/ieDocHome.aspx

9. Current Salary Levels for Chief Executive/Head of Paid Service, Directors, and other Senior Officers

Torbay Council publishes a Salary Levels list with post details, salary bands and full-time equivalent salaries, available from Torbay Council's website:-

www.torbay.gov.uk/council/finance/salary-levels/

10. Equality Statement

This policy applies equally to all Council employees regardless of their age, disability, sex, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership. Care will be taken to ensure that no traditionally excluded groups are adversely impacted in implementing this policy. Monitoring will take place to ensure compliance and fairness.

Appendix 1 - Multipliers

The idea of publishing the ratio of the pay of an organisation's top salary to that of its median salary has been recommended in order to support the principles of Fair Pay and transparency. These multipliers will be monitored each year within the Pay Policy Statement.

In comparing the highest paid salary with the wider workforce, the Council will use the following definitions: -

- The lowest-paid employee: the employee or group of employees with the lowest rate of pay (full-time equivalent) employed by the Council at the date of assessment. This includes all types of employment within the Council.
- The median: the mid-point salary when full-time equivalent salaries of all core council staff are arranged in order of size (highest to lowest). Based on the salary levels of staff on the date of assessment. This includes all types of employment within the Council.

The Council's current ratio in this respect is 5.6:1 i.e. the highest salary earns times more than the Council's median salary. The lowest full-time salary is £24,413 which is Grade A, scale point 2. When measured against the lowest salary the ratio between highest and lowest is 6.68:1.

Date of assessment: December 2025

	Annual Salary	Ratio to Highest
Highest Salary	Within the banding £160,000 - £164,999	
Median (Mid-point) value	£29,064	5.6:1
Lowest full-time salary	£24,413	6.68:1

The difference in ratio between the median and lowest points in this year's pay policy statement is higher than the 2025/26 Annual Pay Policy Statement. In 2025/26 it was 4.25:1 for the median point and 6.66:1 between the highest and lowest point values. This shows a bigger difference in the ratio between the highest and lowest salaries. This difference can be attributed to a review and change in the methodology used to make the calculation, in accordance with statutory guidance.

Sources of Information:-

GOV.UK – Openness and accountability in local pay: guidance

www.gov.uk/government/publications/openness-and-accountability-in-local-pay-guidance

LGA – Pay Policy and Practice in Local Authorities

www.local.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/guide-pay-and-rewards-mem-4b6.pdf

Policy Feedback

Should you have any comments regarding this policy, please address them to the HR Policy mailbox –

HRpolicy@torbay.gov.uk

History of Policy Changes

This policy was first agreed by members of the Torbay Joint Consultative Committee in March 2012

Date	Page	Details of Change	Agreed by:
January 2020	Various	Update to Appendix 1 – multiplier information. Update of Appendix 2 – Gender Pay Gap Report. ONS Annual Earnings Survey Results included for private and public sectors.	Full Council Approval 27th February 2020.
January 2021	Various	Update to Appendix 1 – multiplier information. Update of Appendix 2 – Gender Pay Gap Report ONS Annual Earnings Survey Results figures updated for private and public sectors. Inclusion of Restriction of Public Sector Exit Payment Regulations 2020.	Full Council Approval 24th February 2021.
December 2021	Various	Update to Appendix 1 – multiplier information. Update of Appendix 2 – Gender Pay Gap Report ONS Annual Earnings Survey Results figures updated for the public sector and all employers. Addition of Key Skills Accommodation Scheme and Key Skills Employee Referral Scheme. Removal of Restriction of Public Sector Exit Payment Regulations 2020. Update to LGPS contribution rates and bandings.	Full Council Approval 3rd March 2022.
December 2022	Various	Update to Appendix 1 – multiplier information. Update to LGPS contribution rates and bandings. Removal of Gender Pay Gap Report, to be reported separately.	Full Council Approval 23rd February 2023.
December 2023	Various	Update to Appendix 1 – multiplier information. Update to LGPS contribution information.	Full Council Approval 22nd February 2024.
February 2025	various	Update to Appendix 1 – multiplier information. Update to LGPS contribution information. Updated policy history. Updated list of associated policies page 2	Full Council Approval February 2025.
February 2026	Various	Update to Appendix 1 – multiplier information. Update to LGPS contribution information.	Pending - Full Council Approval February 2026

Policy to be reviewed December 2026.

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Looking forward to your retirement

Employer Pensions Discretions Policy

The LGPS Regulations 2013

and

The LGPS Regulations 2014

(Transitional Provisions and Savings)

and

The LGPS Regulations 2008

(Benefits, Membership and Contributions)

(as at 14th May 2018)

Employer name: TORBAY COUNCIL

Policy effective from: 01/04/2026

These policies may be subject to review from time to time. Affected employees will be notified of any subsequent change to this Policy Statement.

Print name of authorised officer: Anne-Marie Bond

Job title: Chief Executive

Date:

Signature of authorised officer:

Mandatory LGPS 2013 & 2014 discretions

Power of employing authority to grant additional pension

Regulation R31

An employer can choose to grant extra annual pension* (at full cost to themselves) to:

- a) an active member; or
- b) to a member, within 6 months of leaving, whose employment was terminated on the grounds of redundancy or business efficiency

**(Current maximum additional pension allowed is £8,903 (figure at 1 April 2025))*

Please state your decision below:

Torbay Council will not normally exercise the discretion to grant additional pension except in exceptional circumstances.

Shared Cost Additional Pension Scheme

Regulation R16 (2) (e) and R16 (4) (d)

Where an active member wishes to purchase extra annual pension by making additional pension contributions (APCs)*, an employer can choose to voluntarily contribute towards the cost of purchasing that extra pension via a shared cost additional pension contribution (SCAPC)

**(Current maximum additional pension allowed is £8,903 (figure at 1 April 2025))*

NOTE: this discretion does not relate to cases where a member has a period of authorised unpaid leave of absence and elects within 30 days of return to work (or such a longer period as the Scheme employer may allow) to pay a SCAPC to cover the amount of pension

Please state your decision below:

Torbay Council will not normally enter into a Shared Cost Additional Pension Contribution contract to count towards a member's APC purchase except in exceptional circumstances.

'lost' during that period of absence. That is because, in those cases, the Scheme employer must contribute 2/3rds of the cost to a SCAPC; there is no discretion [regulation 15(5) of the LGPS Regulations 2013].

Flexible Retirement

Regulation R30 (6) and TP11 (2)

Under the regulations, once an employee reaches age 55, they may remain in employment and draw their retirement benefits.

However, there are certain conditions that must be met:

- a) The employer must agree to the release of the pension.
- b) The employee must reduce either their hours, and/or their grade. *(The specific reduction required is not set out in the regulations, but instead must be determined by the employer, whom must specify the requirements within their flexible retirement policy).*

In such cases, pension benefits will be reduced in accordance with actuarial tables unless the employer waives reduction on compassionate grounds or a member has protected rights).

If flexible retirement is permitted, employers will need to publish a Flexible Retirement Policy and send Peninsula Pensions a copy. This can be done on the final section of this template.

Please state your decision below:

Torbay Council will take all reasonable steps to accommodate an employee's request for Flexible Retirement.

The Council will consider waiving a reduction to pension benefits where flexibility will enable the Council to retain key skills within critical service areas.

The Council will also consider requests where an employee is aged between 55 and 60, satisfies the 85 year rule and in which case the decision incurs a pension strain cost.

Such requests will be considered by the Head of Paid Service and/or the Council, dependent on the seniority of the role and the associated cost, in line with the Local Government Transparency Code 2015.

Waiving of actuarial reduction

Regulation R30 (8) , TP3 (1), TPSch2, Para 2(1), B30 (5) and B30 (A) (5)

Employers have the power to waive, on compassionate grounds, the actuarial reduction (in whole or part) applied to members' benefits paid on the grounds of flexible retirement.

Employers may also waive, on compassionate grounds, the actuarial reduction (in whole or part) applied to members' benefits for deferred members and suspended tier 3 ill health pensioners who elect to draw benefits on or after age 60 and before normal pension age.

Employers also have the power to waive, in whole or in part, the actuarial reduction applied to active members' benefits when a member chooses to voluntarily draw benefits on or after age 55 before age 60 and on or after age 60 and before Normal Pension Age (NPA).

Please state your decision below:

Torbay Council will consider waiving a reduction to pension benefits in the event of Flexible Retirement where flexibility will enable the Council to retain key skills within critical service areas.

The Council will not waive the actuarial reduction applied to deferred member's benefit requests, suspended tier 3 ill health pensioners or active members who retire voluntarily and draw benefits from age 55 to Normal Pension Age.

Power of employing authority to 'switch on' the 85 year rule

(excludes flexible retirement) upon the voluntary early payment of benefits.

TP1(1)(c) Sch2

The 85-year rule does not (other than on flexible retirement) automatically fully apply to members who would otherwise be subject to it and who choose to

Please state your decision below:

Torbay Council will not 'switch on' the 85 year rule for current or former members who voluntarily draw their

voluntarily draw their benefits on or after age 55 and before age 60.

An employer can therefore choose whether to switch on the 85-year rule for members:

- 1) who voluntarily draw their benefits on or after age 55 and before age 60 and,
- 2) former members who ceased active membership between 1st April 2008 and 31st March 2014 and choose to voluntarily draw their suspended tier 3 ill health pension (on or after 14 May 2018) on or after age 55 and before age 60.
- 3) former members who ceased active membership between 1st April 1998 and 31st March 2014) and elect for voluntary early payment of any deferred benefits

pension benefits early, except in exceptional circumstances.

Non-Mandatory/Recommended LGPS 2013 & 2014 discretions

Regulation R17 (1) and TP15 (1) (d) and A25 (3) and definition of SCAVC in RSch 1

Shared Cost Additional Voluntary Contribution Arrangement

An employer can choose to pay for or contribute towards a member's Additional Voluntary Contribution via a shared cost arrangement (SCAVC). An employer will also need to decide how much, and in what circumstances to contribute to a SCAVC arrangement.

Please state your decision below:

Torbay Council will pay shared cost AVCs where an employee has elected to pay AVCs by salary sacrifice. The amount of these employer shared cost AVCs will not exceed the amount of salary sacrificed by the employee. This is a discretion of the Council which is subject to the employee meeting the conditions for acceptance into the salary sacrifice shared cost AVC scheme and may be withdrawn or changed at any time.

Non-mandatory policies but recommended by Peninsula Pensions:

Reg 16(16) - An employer can extend the 30-day deadline for a member to elect for a SCAPC upon return from a period of absence from work with permission with no pensionable pay (otherwise than because of illness or injury, relevant child-related leave or reserve forces service leave).

Reg 22(7) and (8) - Whether to extend the 12-month time limit for a member to elect not to aggregate post 31st March 2014 (or combinations of pre-April 2014 and post March 2014) deferred benefits.

Please state your decision below:

Reg 16(16) – Torbay Council will not extend the 30-day deadline upon return from a period of absence allowing for a member to elect for a SCAPC unless the Council have not provided sufficient time to enable the member to make the election.

Reg 22(7) and (8) – Torbay Council will not extend the 12-month time limit except in exceptional circumstances.



Reg 27 of the LGPS (Amendment) Regs 2018 -

Whether to extend the 12-month option period for a member to elect to aggregate pre-1st April 2014 deferred benefits.

R100 (6) - Extend normal time limit for acceptance of a transfer value beyond 12 months from joining the LGPS

R9(1) & R9(3) - Determine rate of employees' contributions and when the contribution rate will be assessed

Reg 27 of the LGPS (Amendment) Regs 2018 - Torbay Council will not extend the 12-month option period except in exceptional circumstances.

R100 (6) – Torbay Council will consider member requests for the acceptance of transfer values on an individual basis.
R9(1) & R9(3) – Torbay Council will assess and determine an employee's contribution rate on a monthly basis.

Pre LGPS 2014 discretions

To cover scheme members who ceased active membership on or after 1 April 2008 and before 1 April 2014 (no need to complete if not applicable).

Reg 30(5) , TP2(1) Sch2, Reg 30A(5) TP2(1) Sch 2**Early payment of benefits**

Whether, on compassionate grounds, to waive any actuarial reduction that would normally be applied to deferred benefits which are paid before age 65

Whether, on compassionate grounds, to waive any actuarial reduction that would normally be applied to any suspended tier 3 ill health pension benefits which are brought back into payment before age 65

Policy decision

Torbay Council will not waive the actuarial reduction to the early payment of a deferred benefit except in exceptional circumstances.

Torbay Council will not waive the actuarial reduction to any suspended tier 3 ill health pension benefits which are brought back into payment before age 65.

To cover scheme members who ceased active membership between 1 April 1998 and 31 March 2008 (no need to complete if not applicable).

Regulation 31(2), 31(5), 31(7A) of the LGPS Regulations 1997 and paragraph 2(1) of Schedule 2 to the LGPS (TP) Regs2014

Early payment of benefits

Employers can allow the early payment of deferred benefits to former members of the LGPS between the ages of 50 and 55.

Employers can also choose, on compassionate grounds, to waive any actuarial reduction that would normally be applied to benefits which are paid before age 65

Regulation D11(2)(c) of the LGPS Regulations 1995

In relation to members who ceased active membership before 1 April 1998:

Whether to grant applications for the early payment of deferred pension benefits on or after age 50 and before NRD on compassionate grounds.

Policy decision

Torbay Council will consider requests for the early payment of deferred benefits to former members between age 50 and 55 where there is no cost to the Authority.

Torbay Council will not waive any actuarial reduction that would apply to benefits paid before age 65 where there is a cost to the Council.

Reg D11(2)(c) of the LGPS Regs 1995 – Torbay Council will only grant applications for early release of deferred pension benefits on compassionate grounds to former members between age 50 and NRD where there is no cost to the Council.

Flexible Retirement Additional Policy

Flexible Retirement (Regulation R30 (6) and TP11 (2))

This must be completed if you allow flexible retirement

You will need to consider; -

1. The minimum reduction in hours or grade required.
2. Whether the employee should commit to a reduction in hours or grade for a minimum period.
3. Whether the employee should commit to remaining in employment with the employer for a minimum period

You should also state; -

1. Whether, in addition to the benefits the member has accrued prior to 1st April 2008 (which the member must draw) to permit the member to choose to draw;
 - All, part, or none of the benefits they accrued after 31st March 2008 and before 1st April 2014 and/or,
 - All, part, or none of the benefits accrued after 31st March 2014, and,
 - Whether to waive, in whole, or in part, any actuarial reduction which would normally be applied to the benefits for Flexible retirement taken before normal retirement age.

Please state your decision below:

1. The minimum recommended reduction in hours is 40%, however, reductions of 20% will also be considered. The minimum reduction in grade is one full grade.
2. The employee must commit to a permanent reduction in hours or grade.
3. The employee must commit to remaining in employment for a minimum period of 1 year, however, the Council can terminate that employment prior to the 1 year deadline.
 - Torbay Council will permit Flexible Retiree's to draw all of their benefits accrued after 31st March 2008 and before 1st April 2014.
 - The Council will permit members to draw all of their benefits accrued after 31st March 2014.
 - The Council will not waive, in whole, or in part, any actuarial

reduction which would normally be applied to benefits taken before NRA except in exceptional circumstances.