Monday, 12 September 2022

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

A meeting of Overview and Scrutiny Board will be held on

Tuesday, 20 September 2022

commencing at 5.30 pm

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

Members of the Board

Councillor Douglas-Dunbar (Chairwoman)

Councillor Atiya-Alla Councillor Barnby Councillor Barrand Councillor Brown Councillor Bye (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Johns
Councillor Kennedy
Councillor Loxton

Together Torbay will thrive

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Governance Support, Town Hall, Castle Circus, Torquay, TQ1 3DR

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

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD AGENDA

1. Apologies

To receive apologies for absence, including notifications of any changes to the membership of the Board.

2. Minutes (Pages 4 - 6)

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 6 July 2022.

3. Declarations of Interest

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.)

4. Urgent Items

To consider any other items that the Chairman decides are urgent.

5. Draft Economic Strategy

To consider the consultation draft of the revised Economic Strategy (Policy Framework Document) having regard to the attached questions and to make recommendations to the Cabinet.

Note: the following people have been invited to the meeting for this item:

- Alan Denby, Divisional Director for Economy, Environment and Infrastructure
- Carl Wyard, Economy and Enterprise Manager TDA
- Councillor Long, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration, Tourism and Housing
- Matt Crabtree, Brixham Chamber of Trade and Commerce

(Pages 7 - 53)

- Susie Colley, Torquay Chamber of Trade and Commerce
- Sally Cope, Paignton Chamber of Trade and Commerce
- Steve Reynolds, Torbay Business Forum

6. Grant Funded Programmes

(Pages 54 - 57)

To review grant funded programmes as set out in the submitted document.

Note: the following people have been invited to the meeting for this item:

- Alan Denby, Divisional Director for Economy, Environment and Infrastructure
- Carl Wyard, Economy and Enterprise Manager TDA
- Councillor Long, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration, Tourism and Housing

7. Budget Monitoring Quarter 1

(Pages 58 - 82)

To consider the submitted budget monitoring report for Quarter 1 2022/2023 and make recommendations to the Cabinet.

8. Highways Review

(To Follow)

To consider and approve the report of the Highways Review Panel.

Meeting Attendance

Please note that whilst the Council is no longer implementing Covid-19 secure arrangements attendees are encouraged to sit with space in between other people. Windows will be kept open to ensure good ventilation and therefore attendees are recommended to wear suitable clothing.

If you have symptoms, including runny nose, sore throat, fever, new continuous cough and loss of taste and smell please do not come to the meeting.

Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Board

6 July 2022

-: Present :-

Councillor Douglas-Dunbar (Chairwoman)

Councillors Barnby, Barrand, Brown, Bye (Vice-Chair), Johns, Kennedy and Loxton

(Also in attendance: Councillors Cowell and Morey)

4. Apologies

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Atiya-Alla.

5. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 8 June 2022 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairwoman.

6. Climate Change Emergency Update

Members considered the submitted report which provided an update on the Cabinet's response to the Board's recommendations following the review of Climate Change Emergency. It was noted that the guidance document for developers on climate change had been drafted and training on climate change had also been given to members of the Planning Committee. 21 homes had benefited from the Heat Devon Scheme and approximately 50 homes would benefit from the Sustainable Heat Programme. The Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture, Councillor Morey, and the Service Manager – Strategy and Project Management Team, Adam Luscombe, responded to questions in respect of the following:

- A lot of work was being carried out with the wider Devon area, what does our community want to do in Torbay and what ideas have arisen from the climate conversations.
- Brixham have been protecting their sea grass, what was being done in other areas of Tor Bay to protect and improve our sea beds.
- What was the ITrees concept.
- What engagement was being carried out in the communities to speak to the people who do not come to the climate conversations or formal meetings.
- Has consideration been given to replacing some of the grass areas which have not been cut with wildflowers to reduce the number of areas requiring cutting.

- A new recycling fleet was ordered a while ago, have they all been received and what was the timescale for moving to electric vehicles.
- A number of people in Torbay do not have access to the internet and schemes such as Cosy Devon need to be applied for online, what action and support was there for people who were not computer literate to ensure that eligible people have access to relevant grants.
- How were we communicating grants and opportunities.
- What progress has been made on the LCWIP (Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans).
- What support was available to help people on low incomes to insulate their homes.
- Were libraries and GP surgeries being provided with leaflets raising awareness of climate change and available support.

The Board requested that officers share the ideas arising from the climate conversations with the board and that a briefing note be circulated to all Councillors on the ITrees initiative.

Resolved (unanimously):

That the Climate Emergency Officer and Divisional Director for Community and Customer Services be recommended to work with Cosy Devon to explore what support they provide to eligible people who do not have access to the internet to apply for grants through the Cosy Devon scheme to enable them access to these grants.

7. Budget Monitoring Outturn 2021/2022

The Board considered and noted the budget monitoring outturn report for 2021/2022 which provided a high-level budget summary of the Council's revenue and capital position, based on figures on 31 March 2022. The report would be considered at the Cabinet meeting on 12 July 2022 and then be presented to the Council meeting on 21 July 2022 for final sign off. The Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance, Councillor Cowell, and the Deputy Head of Finance, Sean Cremer, responded to the following questions:

- What assurance can be given that SWISCo costs would not increase further in 2022/23.
- What action was being taken to recruit and retain additional staff as there
 was still problems in some areas with waste collection and grass cutting.
- How had the figures for Children's Services changed since the budget was set.
- What was the reason for the overspend in post and printing.
- Had the Empty Homes Officer been appointed.
- Was the Council meeting its legal requirements with Grant Thornton not yet signing off the Statement of Accounts.
- Legal Services had a large overspend due to agency staff, do officers work together to share experiences and ideas on recruitment and retention.
- Where did the money come from to cover the TORVISTA loss.

- Could future reports include an addition column so that they show the base budget plus any grants received during the year.
- How the capital monitoring outturn report worked compared to the quarterly reports.
- Were we paying an agency to undertake recruitment.
- What was needed to ensure we could provide more affordable homes and ensure the success of TORVISTA.
- How could officers predict future budgets with the uncertainty around increases in cost of living.
- What action was being taken to address the huge deficit for the Higher Needs Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant.

Members requested a Councillor briefing be held prior to the next budget monitoring report being presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Board to raise awareness of the capital programme.

Chairwoman



Torbay Economic Growth Strategy

July 2022



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Executive Summary

Torbay faces an uncertain economic future.

We have key issues which must be addressed if the prosperity of our people, our businesses and our places is to be secured. The most important of these relates to our people.

Education, training and skills sit at the heart of a basket of challenges which we face, and together they represent the biggest single set of issues we must address.

Our workforce is ageing and as people retire, they will leave gaps which must be filled, but this can only happen if younger people are able to and want to grab their jobs.

This will only be possible if younger generations have the right skills and are in the right place. That means that we must offer them education and training which equips them. It also means that they live locally. It won't be possible unless they are skilled, want to be here and can afford to live here.

If we fail to address these challenges, our businesses will not have access to the employees they need. Which means our businesses won't thrive and our residents will not be able to access jobs. It is as simple as that, and it represents a ticking time bomb.

We must work together to diffuse the situation. If we do not, our economy, our businesses, our places and our people will suffer.

The Council, business or educators can't do this alone but by working together we can make a difference and we must work together even better to make a difference urgently.

It is time for leaders from our businesses, business groups, schools, colleges and local government to redouble our efforts. We need to collaborate and cooperate to diffuse the time bomb. That means leaving self-interest outside and coming inside to take a seat at the partnership table. It means trusting each other, sharing resource and goodwill, working to a common vision and ambition and taking action now.

1. Introduction

Torbay offers an inspiring coastal, maritime and landscape setting. This unique setting provides one of the best places to live, work and play in the South West. The towns of Brixham, Paignton and Torquay are key engines of our economy, offering a range of facilities with a rich history. High quality tourism is one of the leading sectors with an international reputation. The English Riviera is also home to a globally significant UNESCO Global Geopark designation.

The Torbay economy is home to globally significant technology businesses operating in Photonics and Micro-electronics, nanotechnology, and medi-tech companies.

However, as a coastal economy Torbay faces some entrenched challenges that need addressing. Torbay has a narrow business base with employment reliant on three sectors, which include health and social care, tourism and hospitality and retail. The local economy is dependent on the face-to-face service sector, accounting for 30,125 of the 48,500 jobs or 68.4% of all jobs.

This reliance also means that Torbay currently lags behind the UK on many economic measures, it has experienced significantly lower levels of business growth of 13% compared to 30.6% nationally, employment growth of 9% compared to 10.4% nationally, and GVA growth of 7.5% compared to 28.8% nationally, since 2010.

The Economic Growth Strategy sets out how the Council working with its partners can improve economic conditions and in doing so help businesses to improve performance, create new opportunities for residents, tackle poverty and improve health outcomes. This long-term strategy sets out the challenges we face, and the initiatives we are taking forward to address them. Many are long term initiatives which will require long term commitment if we are to achieve a sustainable change that will enhance our economy.

The Council will not be able to deliver the strategy alone. It is an Economic Growth Strategy for Torbay. We now have a clear, forward looking and vitally shared story for Torbay and each of the towns that will provide focus for their development and promotion. The Torbay Story sets out a compelling narrative. There is a need to activate more collaboration within places and across Torbay and we are looking to energise that through the Torbay Together Champions Programme.

At the time of writing, Torbay's long-standing ambition to raise its profile within the national and international economy and its contribution to UK plc aligns with the government's Levelling Up agenda, and our interventions and funding bids are targeted to this theme.

Over the lifespan of this strategy, maximising Torbay's economic potential by improving productivity and leveraging investment in local specialisms will remain constant and aligned to the priorities of contemporary regional funding structures

This strategy will cover:

How is the Torbay economy performing? with a summary of the evidence available

How we want the Torbay economy to develop, with a vision, objectives, priorities and a theory of change

How we achieve improved performance; priorities, resource implication and a measurement framework including Key Performance Indicators, and most importantly a practical and prioritised Action Plan.

2 Vision for 2030

We will continue to build our reputation as the UK's 'hi-tech bay' by supporting Torbay's existing businesses and new investors. We will work with the sector to attract, retain and grow these specialisms. Torbay will be inclusive; our communities will be able to secure good employment and learning opportunities that will enhance their potential. We will address our current challenges by developing a year-round economy, providing greater levels of full-time employment with higher salaries. We ensure that investment in our three towns - Brixham, Paignton and Torquay enable them to develop their own very distinct identities and roles: a unified and complementary offer as the country's premier marine and natural experience.

Delivering the vision

We will build on our local strengths, reflecting the role our key towns and wider area play in supporting the economy and our rich natural environment.

Our town centres will undergo significant change. We will work closely with both public sector partners and the private sector to achieve the changes that both our communities and businesses are seeking.

Our schools, college and businesses will work closely together to develop people with the skills and the access to opportunities to enable them to succeed and be resilient in a fast-changing economy. People who are out of work or in low paid jobs will find it easier to obtain support to upskill into new career opportunities and access opportunities they need to get into the workforce and progress into better jobs. Our skills system will directly address the future needs of our economy and the current needs of our business community, ensuring that residents have access to high quality employment.

We have learnt through the Coronavirus Pandemic that more needs to be done to be prepared for major economic shocks. Working with our partners we will develop plans that enable Torbay to be well placed to respond and be resilient to economic challenges and opportunities.

The key characteristics of Torbay's success will include.

- Creating more full-time job opportunities for Torbay residents and provide good work for all
- Reducing our impact on, and increasing resilience to Climate Change
- Increased Gross Value Added (GVA) per worker, average worker income and productivity –
 addressing our current position of one of the areas with the lowest GVA per capita in England
- Improvement in educational attainment and workforce skills—increasing the number of residents qualified to deliver the jobs needed by local business
- High levels of business start-up, with increased survival rates beyond 3 years

With sustained increases in each of these measures during the life of the Economic Growth Strategy, Torbay will improve its resilience and improve its economic diversity. This will assist in weathering future global economic trends and market cycles, aiding recovery from economic downturns. Improvements will assist Torbay in being agile enough to adapt to changing technologies and importantly, provide benefit to all residents. The Economic Growth Strategy Action Plan sets out the basepoint and future targets which the delivery of the strategy will be measured against.

3 The Council's Approach to Economic Growth

Enabling inclusive and sustainable economic growth is integral to Torbay Council, its partners and the community. Sustaining a productive economy will contribute to making Torbay a prosperous, healthy, safe and clean place.

The Torbay Economic Growth Strategy is a key strategy for the Council, its partners and the community that will shape the future of Torbay's economy bringing business and place together, enable the safeguarding and creation of local jobs, stimulate wealth creation for residents, tackling poverty and improving health outcomes.

While achieving economic growth is a priority, we also recognise the responsibility we have for the Environment. To accelerate a response to the challenge the Council declared a Climate Emergency on 24 June 2019. The Council has agreed a target that by 2030 Torbay will have become a zero carbon, zero waste and climate resilient place, playing its part in limiting the impacts of climate change. Business and community support will be vital in helping to meet the zero-carbon target. This strategy supports this important objective and will encourage carbon neutral growth.

Over the lifespan of this strategy, maximising Torbay's economic potential by improving productivity and leveraging investment in local specialisms will remain constant and aligned to the priorities of contemporary regional funding structures.

The Council has responsibility to support the response to economic shocks. The Coronavirus Pandemic has demonstrated the impact such shocks can have upon local, national and international economies. We want to ensure that we have a clear strategy in place that enables a quick and full recovery from the impact of Coronavirus and puts in place plans for future potential shocks.

The Council has responsibility to support the response to economic shocks. The Coronavirus Pandemic has demonstrated the impact such shocks can have upon local, national and international economies. We want to ensure that we have a clear strategy in place that enables a quick and full recovery from Coronavirus and puts in place plans for future potential shocks.

Torbay's long-standing ambition is to raise its profile within the national and international economy and its contribution to UK plc aligns with the government's Levelling Up Agenda. Our interventions and funding bids are targeted to this theme.

The Economic Growth Strategy is a key part of a suite of strategies that will improve Torbay as a place to live, work and play. Key linkages are made within the Strategy to

- Torbay Council's Community and Corporate Plan
- The Torbay Story
- Torbay Local Plan 2012-2030
- English Riviera Destination Management Plan 2022-2027

To inform the recommendations within this strategy, two specific actions have been undertaken: -

- An economic baseline analysing trends and progress impacting the Torbay economy has been developed.
- Consultation with, and input from, a wide range of stakeholders has been received and recorded and played a key role in shaping the strategy.

This method has ensured that Economic Growth Strategy has been co-produced by the Council and its partners.

The Council is able to celebrate the success of its previous Economic Strategy, which guided the delivery of a number of important initiatives including.

- The Electronics and Photonics and Micro-electronics Innovation Centre (EPIC) is already proving to be an invaluable asset to the local Electronics and Photonics and Micro-electronics business community. Open in 2019 the Centre now houses over a dozen businesses, many of which are involved in cutting edge technologies and innovation.
- Secured £22m Town Deal to drive Town Centre improvements in Torquay and £13.36m
 Future High Streets Fund programme for Paignton that will further catalyse investment into our town centres
- Secured inward investment from high tech companies such as BOWA Medical and Nanusens creating high value jobs
- Supporting the growth of Castings Support Systems (CSS) through developing a new purpose-built 5,550m² manufacturing facility at Claylands in Paignton enabling CSS Group to take on the building to support their growing business.
- Secured funding to support the development of a new 2,100 sqm production, research and design facility at Edginswell Business Park and business units totalling 1056 sqm at Lymington Road

4 The Torbay Economy overview

The Torbay Economic Growth Strategy Evidence Base (2022) sets out a comprehensive picture of the Torbay economy. The key issues facing the economy can be summarised as.

- The Torbay economy contributed £1.98bn to the UK economy in 2019 (by Gross
- Value Added at current prices). Our Productivity performance in Torbay has continued to fall behind the UK average.
- Business survival rates in Torbay are below the South West average over the five-year period, and broadly in line with the UK average for the first four years of trading, however, then fall marginally behind the national average in 2019.
- The number of jobs in Torbay has decreased by 3% from 49,500 in 2015 to 48,000 in 2020. In the past five years, the rankings of the top employment sectors have remained unchanged with; health (24%), accommodation & food services (14.6%), retail (12.5%), education (9.4%), and business administration & services (6.8%)
- The level of qualifications by Torbay's residents reveals a current economic weakness that needs addressing with 9.0% of the working population in Torbay have no qualifications, a figure which has increased since 2017, leaping from 6.2% to 9.0%. the largest increase came from 2019 to 2020 (6.6% to 9.0%). At present, Torbay falls behind the national and regional percentages across NVQ1+ right through to NVQ4+.
- Latest population estimates show Torbay is home to 134,300 people, with 52% aged 50 and over. This is significantly above the national (42%) and regional (46%) averages and has an inevitable impact on income levels and healthcare provision. At the other end of the age spectrum 27% of Torbay's population are aged between 20-44, 7% below the national average. This highlights the challenge Torbay faces in retaining graduates and supports the view that many students who leave the Bay to enter higher education do not return until later in life, impacting on productivity levels.
- Torbay has pockets of severe deprivation, and areas of relative affluence. Torbay is amongst
 the most deprived in England. Within Torbay around one-in-three of the population live in
 areas in the top 20% most deprived in England
- From 2016 to 2020, Torbay's employment rate dropped year-on-year. The lowest being between 2019 and 2020 where the figure was 72.5% (lower than the comparative areas below). While the Coronavirus Pandemic has had an impact, encouragingly between 2020-2021 the figures have increased from 72.5% to 77%. While Torbay's unemployment rate is the lowest it has been for five years (2.3%).
- Despite the level of unemployment and drop-in employment rate, vacancies are currently at the highest level they have been over the last five years. We find ourselves in unprecedent times where there are currently more vacancies than people actively looking for work. Sectors such as retail, tourism and health and social care have significant levels of job vacancies with many businesses struggling to recruit to meet their operational requirements.
- Disproportionately high housing costs contribute to in-work poverty exacerbating the labour shortage in the lower paid sectors
- A significant challenge is that part time employment is more common than full time. At present 58.1% of employees are full-time whereas 41.9% are part-time. Across Torbay the statistics demonstrate that there remains a stronger prevalence of part-time work as the 41.9% figure is higher than all its comparators. This prevalence is indicative of Torbay's economic make-up with its dominance in tourism and hospitality, social care, and retail.

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 Despite a 30% increase in wages for people working in Torbay since 2015, income remain below the national and regional averages.

Key Sector Profiles

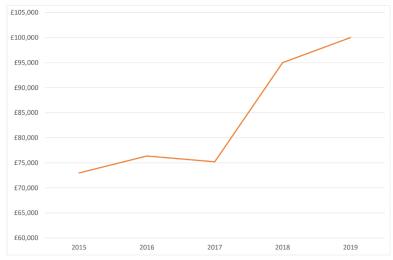
Torbay's key sectors have been heavily impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic, with the fishing sector demonstrating greater resilience with the volume of fish caught remaining relatively stable but witnessing a decrease in value compared to the previous year, partly due to Brexit and the increased export administration, and partly due to the lack of demand from overseas markets as their hospitality sectors locked down due to the pandemic. Equally in the UK, both the staying visitor and day visitor numbers substantially declined in 2020 as these parts of the economy were locked down for significantly longer periods of time compared to others, however anecdotally tourism businesses have suggested a strong bounce back in the 'staycation' market over 2020 and 2021. The Photonics and Micro-electronics sector can demonstrate continued growth and offers hi-tech growth for Torbay in the future.

The Evidence base sets out the performance of our key sectors, they are summarised below.

Photonics and Micro-electronics

Employment within the Photonics and Micro-electronics sector has increased by 24.3% over the period, albeit from a relatively low base, however economic output within the sector has increased at a faster rate by 37% which shows an increase in productivity levels within the sector and the sectors contribution to the local economy. The sector has potential for further growth and is an example of the potential for Torbay to support High Tech economic growth. However future growth may be restricted by the limited availability of employment space in Torbay.

Figure X GVA per employee in Torbay Photonics and Micro-electronics sector (2015-2019)



Source: NOMIS, BRES, 2021 and ONS Regional GVA, 2021

Fishing

In 2020, the port of Brixham landed the highest value of catch and the second highest volume across England. The volume of fish caught in Brixham has remained relatively unchanged over the

past three years, however the value has declined in the last year along with employment in the sector mainly due to the pandemic.

600 35.0 500 30.0 400 Value (£)/ Volume (tonnes) Employment 20.0 300 15.0 200 10.0 100 5.0 0.0 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 ■Value -Employment

Figure X: Volume, Value and Employment in Torbay's Fishing sector

Source: UK Sea Fisheries Statistics, Gov.uk

Tourism

The English Riviera has a strong history of being a premier coastal resort, with a tourism sector that supports local and regional businesses, creates local jobs, and contributes to the sense of place and quality of life. But in recent times the English Riviera has struggled to keep pace with changing market needs, and the impact of Covid-19 and the climate crisis are creating unprecedented challenges, with a reduction of 55% of tourism earnings from staying visitors and a 50% reduction from day visitors in 2020 compared to 2019.

The Economic Growth Strategy aligns with the Destination Management Plan which has set out interventions that can help propel the destination forward. The plan seeks to build on the inherent strengths and reflect market trends and opportunities and help to achieve a more sustainable and resilient destination.

The objectives for Destination Management Plan are:

- Recover return to 2019 spend and visitor levels by 2024
- Grow achieve an additional £75m of tourism spend and 1,500 new FTE jobs by 2027
- Re-balance more sustainable visits, with 40% of visits from October March (currently 35%)
- These objectives will be achieved by:
- Attracting new and existing visitor markets and an improved reputation and profile for the destination
- New product investment and development of the existing offer
- Better destination management and visitor welcome (and resident satisfaction)
- Clear delivery arrangement

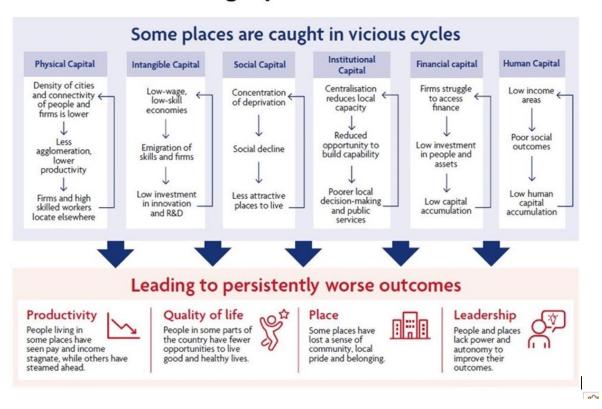
5. Working with our partners

The Economic Growth Strategy is an important partnership document. The Council can help provide the conditions through which the private sector can grow and thrive, however it can deliver alone and will work with partners to develop deeper relationships, cultivate strong leadership recognising that effective partnership is essential to develop these conditions.

Similarly, there are a range of social outcomes which are intangible which impact upon Torbay's economic potential. The table below demonstrates the range of inputs needed to drive economic growth; where there are challenges and under-performance, the local economy will suffer. In Torbay evidence shows that current levels of deprivation and low-wage low skill levels negatively impact our economic potential. Each factor set out in the pillars below are an important element of the local economy. Where there is weakness, it will lead to poorer outcomes and a continued weaking of the local economy, for example, fewer people to take employment opportunities or limited high skilled candidates in the local area to take high skilled job opportunities.

The Council and its partners must work together to address each of the pillars set out below. Partnership is key to addressing the vicious cycles that currently exists in the Torbay economy.

Levelling Up Golden Thread



Source: IED Golden thread for local economies

Torbay has received support from the Government through the Towns Deal and Future High Streets Funding. Government funding initiatives will provide opportunities to deliver projects and initiatives that will help address Torbay's challenges. We will work with our partners to shape these projects and initiatives.

The Government has also signalled that a Devon County Deal can be progressed across Devon, Plymouth and Torbay. The County Deal will provide a collaborative approach to help lever more investment into the area for the benefit of Torbay's businesses and residents. A County Deal will provide opportunities for deeper collaboration with stakeholders such as universities, colleges, business, the voluntary, community and social enterprise sectors, National Parks, town and parish councils. The

The Council also supports a Community Wealth Building (CWB) approach which focuses on increasing local spend by supporting local businesses to bid for local public sector contracts. Torbay Council has committed to using its financial powers more effectively to help benefit the local economy and create new employment and training opportunities for people through its regeneration projects.

The CWB approach brings together public sector partners from across Torbay and has secured their commitment to collaborate and adopt the principles of CWB. Torbay Council, Torbay and South Devon Foundation Trust, South Devon College, and TDA have pledged to spend more with local companies where possible.

The Economic Growth Strategy provides the platform for stakeholders to work together. Through consultation stakeholders have had a key role in shaping the strategy. The strategy is focused and includes objectives and actions that will make a step change to our prosperity. We now need our business community to work with the Council to play a leadership role in addressing the challenges we face and seizing the opportunities we have. We want our key partners such as the Chamber of Commerce, FSB and members of the Torbay Business Forum to step up and proactively work with the Council to deliver this Economic Growth Strategy and raise Torbay's profile nationally.

6 Torbay's economic priorities

The factors that influence Torbay's economy are numerous. The following represents some of the key characteristics, assets and 'influencing factors' which impact our economy.

We have identified 4 priority areas that through partnership working and taking a long term view we can make necessary interventions to support the local economy and its businesses. These priorities are underpinned by an action plan which sets out the initiatives which will take forward to enable growth across Torbay.

Our priorities are:

- Supporting innovators, entrepreneurs and business owners
- Building on our economic specialisms
- Helping our community and residents to reach their economic potential and build an inclusive economy
- Maximising economic value of natural capital

In addition, the Council recognises that addressing the Climate Emergency is a cross-cutting theme. The challenge is significant and will offer economic opportunities over the lifetime of the strategy. It will also impact all four of our priorities are impacted by new policy or approaches. impacted by new policy or approaches.

i) Supporting Innovators, Entrepreneurs and Business Owners

The Council will continue to encourage enterprise. We will work with local business networks and key businesses to ensure that the Torbay economy is successful. We will welcome entrepreneurs, innovators and social enterprises and will develop programmes and projects that will ensure that the economy offers the conditions for businesses to thrive.

Why is this important to Torbay?

- To raise GVA per worker
- To attract new jobs
- To encourage more full time and high-quality jobs
- Improve living standards

What challenges does Torbay face?

- Limited amount of commercial workspace and employment land available
- Limited skills available from residents
- A fragmented business voice

Our approach	Our focus
Supporting start-ups and	Whilst Torbay is home to innovative firms, we
scale-ups	need more companies investing in R&D. We are aware that we need more commercial space and land to meet demand from our growing businesses and potential new investors.
Boosting innovation	Innovation does not just occur in high tech sectors
throughout the economy,	and top universities. Simple improvements to
including commercialising	processes, finding new markets or adapting to new
knowledge from	technology can increase productivity. We will
universities and	continue to support the creation of new
government, and	businesses and the growth of small businesses,
supporting firms of all	including independents, which are an important
sizes in all sectors to	part of the Torbay economy.
improve their products,	
processes and capabilities	We will support companies engaged in the Hi- Tech Cluster to ensure that they can thrive within Torbay. In 2020, around 415 businesses ceased trading, this compares with data from 2010 when around 440 companies ceased operation. This churn is expected in any economy; however, we will facilitate and support all businesses seeking support
Using the findings of the DBI research that will help our under-represented business communities to	The Torbay Racism Review Panel has identified that our under-represented communities would benefit from
engage with local business networks	The establishment of a network group to bring together business owners and leaders from these communities for peer support Encourage more people from these communities to participate in the Torbay Business Forum and the Torbay Champions Programme.
We will target inward investment opportunities proactively to ensure that	We will work with our partners to attract inward investment that we can accommodate within our limited employment space. We will research new business targets recognising that we can attract
	Pana 22

we can accommodate new
business investment

smaller agile companies associated with our key sectors

ii) Building on our Economic Specialisms

The Council will continue to encourage growth in our key sectors. Our sectors play a key role in delivering growth and providing employment opportunities for Torbay residents.

This strategy is seeking to build on the foundations which are already in place around our electronics, Photonics and Micro-electronics, tourism and fishing industries. The outstanding marine and natural experience are as important for attracting, retaining and growing leading edge tech businesses. These businesses will provide important employment and growth that will underpin improvements in the Torbay economy.

Why is this important to Torbay?

- To secure new opportunities for Torbay's residents
- To attract new jobs and investment to strengthen the Torbay economy
- To raise GVA per worker
- To attract new jobs
- To encourage more full time and high-quality jobs

What challenges does Torbay face?

- Limited amount of commercial workspace and employment land available
- Limited skills available from residents
- The seasonal nature and low value of the tourism sector.

Our approach	Our focus
Growth in our main sectors	This will be achieved by building on and
will create wealth and jobs.	enhancing our existing support programmes that
We are creating the base	are already enabling individuals and businesses to
for business to grow. All	address barriers to growth, raise productivity and
sectors are important to the	compete on an international scale.
Torbay economy	
To maximise benefits for	Through providing expert advice and support to
local people, we need to	access national grant investment, we will continue
provide first class support	to help businesses to expand and innovate,
that will enable Torbay	creating new jobs and products and boosting the
businesses to start, grow	local economy. New businesses are particularly
	Page 23

and prosper. As part of this, we will contribute to quality workplaces with a healthy, skilled, and motivated workforce important, and we will continue to target start-ups and entrepreneurs in our key growth sectors.

Innovation is a key driver of growth, and we will continue to support the development of an inventive and pioneering economy

TDA will continue to support our key networks and play a facilitative role in connecting businesses with new opportunities. We will support businesses seeking new and grow on space.

Businesses are finding it difficult to recruit to a range of roles. This is demonstrated by there being more vacancies available in Torbay than at any other point

Encourage the growth of the Photonics and Microelectronics sector by better linking it into available support. We will deliver support via our MOU with Set Squared which will provide advice and guidance to innovative companies.

We will work closely with our key sectors and large employers, such as the Photonics and Microelectronics, Health and Tourism sector to understand the skills that are required and whether current provision meets those

We will work with the business community, schools – both secondary and primary, colleges, universities and training providers to shape a skills system that meets the needs of our economy.

requirements.

We will support the delivery of construction skills through the Build Torbay programme to ensure the sector has enough skilled labour to deliver the growing number of construction projects

The Health Sector offers opportunities for economic growth. With an ageing population there is potential to explore different opportunities during the life of the strategy

We will work with our Health partners to explore new opportunities that will contribute to economic growth. We will work with the tourism and visitor economy sector to explore how Torbay can develop as a year-round destination

We will support the delivery of the English Riviera Destination Management Plan.

Explore how the maintenance of the South West's fishing fleet can be serviced within Torbay

Brixham is the UK's leading port for the Fishing sector. We will continue to support its ambitious growth plans in the fishing sector. We will explore whether there is demand for a regional hub in Torbay as the sector currently uses maintenance centres in the Netherlands.

The Council will address the challenge we face regarding the limited amount of employment land we have available to support economic growth The Council will review the employment land it has available and work with stakeholders to identify both short- and long-term opportunities to bring more employment land forward. We will review the potential for land acquisition or repurposing existing land and property on an ongoing basis.

The Council will work to ensure that existing employment land sites are protected and not lost to housing development. Furthermore, the employment land allocated in mixed sites developments will also be protected and developed.

We will work with stakeholders to establish whether vacant high street units can be used to provide more employment space through formal change of planning use.

iii) Helping our community and residents to reach their economic potential and build an inclusive economy

At the heart of the Council's Corporate Strategy and Community Plan and this Economic Growth Strategy are the people of Torbay. We will work with residents and businesses to create the social prosperity that allows everyone to live and contribute well. We will:

- Continue to work to tackle poverty and reduce economic disadvantage, by transforming
 prospects for low-income families and creating better futures for our young people particularly
 care experienced young people.
- Work with local businesses to create good quality jobs and pathways for people to access opportunities.
- Help the most vulnerable by removing or managing barriers to work and connecting our poorest communities to economic growth.
- Focus on activity which helps raise the employment rate of the most disadvantaged residents.
- Encourage the maximum social benefit from the Council's commissioning and procurement activity through our Community Wealth Building approach.

Increasingly employers are reporting that they are unable to recruit, or when they do skills levels are not at a level they require. There is a move nationally to engage with businesses more significantly to ensure that their demands are understood and acted upon within the education system. This is a fundamental challenge the UK is facing, which Torbay needs to address.

The HotSW Local Skills Report (2022) states that Torbay has 'Lower supply and lower demand for skills' (i.e., "Low skills equilibrium"). The Strategy identifies that work in Torbay will focus on 'maximising the development of existing and new opportunities within Torbay. This will include new employment and upskilling within HotSW wide growth sectors such as Photonics and Microelectronics, marine engineering, tourism and wider coastal industries. Recognising long standing challenges within the area around inclusion and employment, a specific focus will be placed upon aspiration and talent retention, seeking to support young people and adults to grow and develop within Torbay, as well as supporting companies to upskill, renew and refocus as the economy evolves.

Torbay has an ageing population with over 50% of the working population aged 50 and over. This presents issues in terms of Torbay's productivity rates and impacts on economic opportunities for younger people. We will explore how we can support the 50+ age group to enhance their work opportunities and contribution to the local economy.

Why is this important to Torbay?

- To secure new opportunities for Torbay's residents
- To increase the economic performance and productivity of Torbay
- To ensure that our residents reach their potential and reduce pressures on other public services

What challenges does Torbay face?

- Torbay has high levels of workless households
- Torbay has high levels of deprivation based on National indices
- Only 20% of residents possess a NVQ level 4 qualification, the South West 40.4%
- 9% of our residents do not have a qualification (+6.2% since 2017)
- Only 29% of the workforce are graduates
- Claimant count reached its highest point in 2021
- Our key sectors such as tourism and health and social care are not seen as attractive careers
- There are now more vacancies in Torbay than unemployed people

Our approach **Our focus** We will facilitate activity We will facilitate closer working between across key skills employers and education providers, with business stakeholders in Torbay to involvement directly in the classroom to mentor transform local skills and inspire young people. Greater collaboration support will help to develop and commission education and training that is tailored to the needs of employers and our economic priorities. We want our employers to commit to invest more in skills training, engage more with schools, and deepen their involvement in education. We will promote apprenticeships as a key route for our communities to access employment. We will encourage our private sector stakeholders to explore Degree level apprenticeships as a mechanism for attracting highly skilled employees. Good work has been done in this area over the last five years to put employers at the heart of the apprenticeship system, they now write the standards required and commission training providers, this not only benefits trainees but also business as the apprenticeship levy can offset funding costs to train staff. The Photonics and Micro-electronics sector has demonstrated best practice around skills development through the establishment of a training suite and course development, securing associate lecturers from across the sector. This has led to an undergraduate Photonics and Micro-

electronics degree and how industry has shaped this work is a model that could be followed by other sectors within Torbay.

We will work with our stakeholders to ensure that roles in key sectors such as tourism and health and social care are viewed as positive opportunities. We will look at how we can work with employers and providers to improve the skills of the existing workforce, to enhance people's productivity, progression and resilience. This will include looking at how greater support can be provided to people who lose their jobs or whose skills need to be kept up to date.

We will support the over 50s to enhance their economic opportunities

We will explore how in-work poverty can be addressed through closer working with employers, DWP and with education providers to ensure that those residents in work are aware of opportunities to gain better employment, new skills or retrain. We will also work with partners to ensure that the long-term unemployed have the opportunity to build their skills, become more work-ready and have the opportunity to access employment. Torbay has a major construction programme underway throughout the lifetime of the Economic Growth Strategy. We will work with education providers and businesses via the Build Torbay project to ensure that young people are informed and inspired by working in the construction sector. Torbay has developed a Community Wealth Building programme. Adopting this approach provides value for our communities wherever possible, through the goods we buy, people we employ, assets we own and the powers we have that can bring about change to maximise Torbay's local economic opportunities.

Working with training providers, stakeholders and DWP we will explore options that will support the economic potential of our over 50s population.

iv) Maximising the economic value of natural capital

Torbay offers a premier and natural experience and was designated a Geopark in 2007 by UNESCO because of our unique and spectacular geology and natural environment. Torbay is home to varied natural assets, its outstanding marine and natural experience is as important for attracting, re-training and growing leading edge tech businesses as it is for bringing visitors to the area and being a place where people want to live. The geography of Torbay shapes our economy to a large extent.

Tourism related sectors account for around a third of employment and the draw of the South Devon lifestyle attracts people of all ages to relocate here permanently, often setting up small businesses within the sector. The Torbay economy is focused on the service industry, with more than 80% of the workforce employed in service sectors, higher than the regional and national averages. This high proportion of service sector employees is due to local concentrations in distribution, hotels and restaurants, and in the public sector. Around one third of Torbay's workforce is employed in public administration, education and health, and all three sub-sectors are of significant importance to the local economy.

Why is this important to Torbay?

- Torbay's natural capital offers new opportunity for economic growth, both onshore and offshore
- The fishing port of Brixham currently lands the highest value of catch in England
- To ensure that new opportunities drive productivity, provide new opportunities for residents and ensure that the Torbay economy performs better

What challenges does Torbay face?

- Torbay's economy relies on a limited number of sectors
- The economy currently relies on a greater proportion of part time, low skilled workers
- Investment will be required to maximise opportunities for Torbay

Our approach	Our focus
We want to positively and	We will explore how we can support our key sectors
sustainable use our natural	of Tourism and Fishing to ensure they can increase
environment to help secure	their profitability
economic growth	
	Explore potential for Torbay to be an investment
	spoke to Plymouth's lead in Marine Autonomy

We want to ensure that our High Streets and Town Centres are high performing, providing the services businesses, residents and visitors need We will deliver the £21.9m Torquay Towns Fund focusing on the following key priorities

increasing density in town centres strengthening local economic assets including local cultural assets

site acquisition, remediation, preparation,

regeneration

and making full use of planning tools to bring strategic

direction and change.

We will deliver the £13.36m Paignton Future High Streets Fund which will kick start the exciting transformation of Paignton town centre. The funding

will allow us to deliver:

Infrastructure improvements
New homes in the town centre
An improved cultural offer

We will identify and deliver suitable regeneration in Brixham Town Centre.

7 Cross Cutting Themes

The Economic Growth Strategy has identified tackling the Climate Emergency as a cross cutting theme. The Council has recognised the urgency of addressing the Climate emergency. The Economic Growth Strategy has identified contributions that can be made to support this objective. We recognise that these will evolve over the lifetime of the strategy and will report on new approaches as they come forward.

i)Tackling the Climate Emergency

Climate change and its repercussions is an acknowledged global problem. Torbay Council is committed to addressing the Climate Emergency as a key priority. In a special report of the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the United Nations highlights the need to take immediate action to limit the increase in average global temperatures to a 1.5°C threshold. Even an increase of half a degree beyond this will drastically worsen the risk of drought, floods, extreme heat and poverty.

The challenge of climate change is a global issue, but everyone needs to play their part. This is why Torbay Council has declared a Climate Emergency. During 2018, Torbay emitted 503Kt of carbon emissions (BEIS Carbon Emission data 2005-2017. These figures show reductions from the 2010 data where Torbay emitted 6008kt. Across the Torbay area, transport is the major contributor to carbon emissions. The indicators reveal a positive start to reducing emissions, however, more needs to be achieved. Our approach to addressing the climate emergency is as follows:

Why is this important to Torbay?

 Climate Change is a global issue, and therefore at a local level Torbay needs to tackle issues which contribute to the global production of emissions, rise in Sea Level and incidence of flooding and waste

What challenges does Torbay face?

 Torbay has been reducing carbon emissions year on year. Further work is needed to implement a carbon neutral future. The Carbon Neutral Torbay – initial action plan sets the course for addressing the issue

Our approach	Our focus
Establish a net zero emission economy	We will focus our work on developing approaches to address: Transport Buildings Waste Energy Procurement Green infrastructure
Support our businesses to adopt climate neutral policies and practices	We will ensure that cutting carbon presents economic opportunities for Torbay's companies through the development of local programmes of activity. Work with existing businesses to improve their environmental performance: Develop resident's low carbon awareness and skills to be able to secure local jobs Encourage innovative and inclusive local growth
Develop a resilient economy	 We will explore with our partners the potential to Use land to capture and store carbon Improve building standards to target net zero Implement Retrofit on public buildings and increased development of Green Skills We will seek to secure funding for specialist business support advice through ESW to help businesses reduce their carbon footprint and establish net zero targets.
We will ensure that any intervention supports improvements to air quality and health across Torbay	We will support development of a local energy action plan and identify energy efficiency programmes such as insulating homes and further renewables will play a vital role in reducing energy demand.

8. Measuring economic outcomes

To ensure effective delivery of our priorities, project teams and strategic leads will be assigned to each. It is important to recognise that the actions prioritised by this review are not static, nor do they reflect all activities undertaken by partners in delivering economic development. Therefore, while the overarching strategic framework should remain stable, the actions themselves will be more fluid, subject to periodic review and tweaked to incorporate new opportunities/interventions as they emerge. The Torbay Economic Logic Model set out below highlights the high-level and long-term nature of economic improvement which will be needed through this Economic Growth Strategy up to 2030, but also beyond.

Torbay Economic Logic Model

Baseline conditions

- Low wage/ Low skill
- Dominance of Part–Time employment
- Limited number of sectors
 Tourism impacted by seasonal changes
- Job numbers in Torbay are decreasing
- Torbay is behind national indicators for skills levels at all levels
- Productivity lags behind UK figures on all levels
- Limited employment land available to secure new investment
- High Vacancy rates
- The Coronavirus Pandemic significantly hit Torbay's sectors
- Companies negotiating the exit from the EU

Inputs

- Council Funding
- Planning process
- Levelling Up Funds
- UK Shared Prosperity
 UK Agency funds e.g.
- UK Agency funds e.g. Research England
- Private investment
- Potential County Deal funds

Outputs

- Delivery of initiatives identified in the English Riviera Destination Management Plan
 Growth in the High tech sector,
- Growth in the High tech sector particularly in relation to the sector driving innovation in Health, Energy and Autonomous Vehicle
- Improved High Streets attracting more uses and visitors
- Identification of new commercial property to acquire/bring forward
- Closer relationship between education and business to support young people to become interested/skilled in areas which business requires
- Explore potential for Torbay to be an investment spoke to Plymouth's lead in Marine Autonomy
- Programmes in place with DWP and employers

Outcomes

- Improved productivity through greater spend in Torbay and private sector activity closing the gap on national data
 Great number of jobs in Torbay
- Great number of jobs in Torbay
 Better balance of Full- time to
- Part-Time opportunities

 Established pathways for young people and unemployed to find employment opportunities with Skills levels moving toward
- national averages
 Extended Tourism season
- Targeted approach to inward investment attracts new high tech companies
- Enhanced High Streets attracting long-term tenants and increased number of visitors
- Vacancy rates falling year on year with business reporting it can find talent

In order to measure progress, the Council will produce an Annual Economic Monitor which will draw together a suite of 'real time' economic intelligence indicators. The Economic Growth Action Plan sets out the measures and outcomes that Torbay is seeking to deliver against each of the Priority areas. The Action Plan also establishes core outcomes by 2030, which sets the overall target by the conclusion of the lifespan of this Economic Growth Strategy. These plans will be 'living' documents, monitored and refreshed by project teams. This will ensure all partners are working together towards a coherent set of economic objectives, prioritising resources and delivery where appropriate. The Council will also host an Annual Economic Forum to highlight progress being made on the strategy, and to provide an update on economic performance.

Our Priority	Key performance indicators	Core outcomes	Source
Supporting innovators, entrepreneurs and Business Owners	Business start-up rate Business density Business survival rates	Increased Gross Value Added (GVA) per worker, average worker income and productivity	ONS Business Births, Deaths, and Survival Rates 2021 Business Density & Business Population Estimates 2021
Building on our economic specialisms	New investment from companies in Photonics and Micro-electronics, Fishing or Tourism sectors Number of inward investment successes in key sectors Improved recruitment position reported by key companies	High levels of business start-up, with increased survival rates beyond 3 years Number of inward investment successes Increase in the number of jobs in our core sectors	UK Business Investment Data ONS Inward investment successes Primary research to find recruitment position with companies in Torbay ft/pt employment outcome (BRES data)
Helping our community and residents to reach their economic potential	Businesses reporting skills shortages Number of schools engaged Youth-unemployment rate Number of apprenticeships	Creating more full-time job opportunities for Torbay residents and provide good work for all Improvement in educational attainment — increasing the number of residents qualified to deliver the jobs needed by local business	Primary research with local schools/businesses Unemployment rate and Claimant count Youth unemployment rate national statistics (UK Gov) Youth unemployment by region (ONS) House of Commons Apprenticeships Statistics
Supporting our key sectors	Employment Land Acquired/Developed GVA levels for the Torbay Increase in employment levels	High levels of business start-up, with increased survival rates beyond 3 years	Torbay Gov Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment ONS CVA Nomis Labour Market Profile

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9. Implementing the Economic Growth Strategy

Torbay has several economic strengths; we are however facing deep-rooted challenges. The Economic Growth Strategy outlines the necessary steps needed to begin to address the issues. Many will be generational challenges where we need to make a start and address for the long term – such as Skills issues. Other have shorter term solutions upon, including regenerating and refocusing our Town Centres and supporting our entrepreneurs and innovators, these are set out in our priorities and apply across all sectors. Delivering inclusive growth is a key theme within this strategy. This is about ensuring that people and places contribute to and benefit from growth to their full potential. Our priority activities are set out in the Economic Growth Strategy Action Plan. The Action Plan identifies the projects and approach that Torbay will be taking to support the local economy.

This document can be made available in other languages and formats. For more information, please contact Carl Wyard at carl.wyard@tda.uk.net

ACTION PLAN

The Action Plan sets out a high-level programme for the Council's economic development activities.

Torbay Council will produce an annual update on the programme, provide greater detail on planned activity and the progress on outcomes for each of the workstreams.

This Action Plan captures potential costs to Torbay Council on a scale of '£' indicators:

- A single '£'represents under £25k
- Two '££' represents up to £100K
- Three '£££' represents up to £500k
- And ££££ represents over £501k.

The timeline is set out as 'Short, Medium or Long term.'

- Short terms relate to projects that will be completed within 12 months.
- A medium timescale equates to delivery in 1-3 years.
- A long term is over 4 years to completion.

i) Supporting innovators, entrepreneurs and business owners

High Level Actions	Our role	Our partners	Costs, resources and funding	Challenges and risks	Timeline Short/Medium/Long	Monitoring and measurement
We will help to boost innovation throughout the economy by providing advice and signposting to our business community, including commercialising knowledge from universities and government, and supporting firms of all sizes in all sectors.	The Council has a key role in supporting and enabling business growth. We will continue to support the Hi-Tech Cluster.	South Devon College. HotSW LEP. Business community.	£.	Challenge is to secure public funds to support businesses and the time required to signpost enquiries and attendance at partner meetings. Key risk is meeting potential demand from Torbay's businesses.	Long.	Number of companies assisted. Financial value of innovation grants won by companies supported. Jobs created.
We will provide business support services to Torbay's start-ups and scale-up businesses.	The Council supports companies of all sizes through signposting or providing advice.	HotSW LEP. South Devon College.	£.	Reaching smaller companies and providing a valuable programme is the major challenge.	Long.	Number of companies assisted. No. of new businesses started. No. Individuals supported in business start-ups. Financial value to companies supported. Jobs created.
We will provide workspace, to encourage	The Council will lead & support the	Co-working space providers.	£££.	Torbay needs to be able to attract and house	Medium.	Progress will be measured on a project-by-project basis.

potential investors.

innovative companies to grow, base & develop in Torbay. We will use the findings of the DBI research to identify services which will help our under- represented business communities to engage with local business support networks.	delivery of new workspace. The Council supports the development of an inclusive economy.	Serviced office providers. Developers. Torbay Business Forum. Torbay Champions.	£.	entrepreneurs in high quality facilities. Our key challenge is ensuring that all under-represented communities can access local business support networks.	Short.	Jobs and businesses created/attracted to Torbay. Number of companies assisted. Research projects / Data collection through short surveys etc.
We will target prospective businesses inward investment opportunities which we can accommodate in the employment space we have available.	We have responsibility for inward investment. With the current lack of employment land, we will research companies using intelligence from our existing business base to identify	Torbay Hi- Tech Cluster. Department for International Trade.	£.	Our biggest risk is the lack of employment land available in Torbay.	Medium.	Number of companies attracted to Torbay. New Jobs created.

ii) Building on our Economic Specialisms

High Level Actions	Our role	Our partners	Costs, resources and funding	Challenges and risks	Timeline Short/Medium/Long	Monitoring and measurement
We will provide business support to companies to enable them to start, grow and prosper. As part of this, we will contribute to quality workplaces with a healthy, skilled, and motivated workforce.	The Council supports companies of all sizes through signposting or providing advice.	Torbay Business Community and business networks. HotSW LEP.	£.	Macro-economic factors such as Covid-19, leaving the EU and its resulting change in regulations provide risks we need to account for when supporting businesses. Reaching smaller companies and	Medium.	Number of companies assisted. Jobs created.
				providing a valuable programme is the major challenge.		
We will work with local businesses to identify barriers which restrict recruitment. We will work with the	The Council has a role in enabling companies to work	South Devon College. Job Centre+. Torbay	£.	Finding skills to meet business demand is a growing challenge across the country.	Short.	Number of people employed. Unemployment levels. Vacancy rates.
business community to identify initiatives that will address this.	productively and profitably.	Business Community.				

sector.

We will work with Health ££. The project will Number of people With an Long. Health partners to need broad buy in employed. ageing partners. assess the from the local population economic Vacancy rates. community if we there is opportunities are to secure new potential to associated with opportunities. explore the role of medical different innovation in delivering service opportunities transformation. during the life There is an of the opportunity to strategy. develop Torbay as a test bed for new products and services that can be assessed in a clinical test environment to determine the impact and benefits. ££. We will work with Tourism Medium. Number of visitors. We will work The project will Torbay's tourism need support from businesses. with the sector to identify the sector and Tourism and deliver media to ensure sector to that new initiatives initiatives and deliver the events which can receive public support the move Destination support. to a year-round Management economy. This will Plan. improve economic outcomes for the

We will seek to address the challenge regarding the limited amount of employment land we have available to support economic growth, We will seek to expand the amount of land available for employment, and to safeguard it from other uses.

The Council will identify opportunities to increase employment space and meet the demands of the business community.

Developers £££. and Landowners.

The Council needs to acquire and/or redevelop employment land and protect that which is already designated in order to help facilitate economic growth.

Amount of employment land available.

Development Plan wording of "reasonable prospects" test for changing the use of employment land (Strengthened wording to Local Plan Policy SS5).

iii) Helping our community to reach their economic potential and build an inclusive economy

		-		-		
High Level Actions	Our role	Our partners	Costs, resources and funding	Challenges and risks	Timeline	Monitoring and measurement
We will work with key skills stakeholders in	The Council has a key role	South Devon College.	£.	Enhancing the skills agenda will need support from a range of agencies.	Long.	Improved NVQ attainment.
Torbay to ensure that business needs are understood, and that	in enabling the skills agenda Joso that	Job Centre+.				Reduced vacancy rates.
provision is focused on ensuring that our	business needs are met, and			Coordinating this is a risk.		Businesses reporting that they can recruit to
young peoples are equipped with the skills Torbay	our community can achieve their potential.	Business community.				vacant posts.
businesses need.	their potential.	Anchor Institutions.				
We will update evidence of employment land need to support the Local Plan and Development Management in bringing forward sufficient employment space and safeguarding existing and allocated land/space.						
We will bring employers and education providers	The Council has a partnering role.	South Devon College.	£.	The main challenge is to ensure that Torbay	Medium.	Key indicators will include number of primary and secondary
together to ensure education and	The Council	Schools.		businesses are engaged and		schools/college and businesses engaged in
training meets employers' needs.	has local knowledge &	Training providers.		participating in activities,		delivery.
	understanding local business needs.	Business Community.		particularly in key growth sectors.		For the Construction sector the number of Employment and Skills Plans established on all Torbay Council contracts

We will work with businesses and the public sector to identify how a package of support could be developed so that we can attract or retain highly skilled work.	The Council has a planning role in ensuring high quality housing and employment space is available.	Employers and Developers (to attract jobs, housing and quality environment).	££.	Attracting new highly skilled workers and retaining talented is currently a challenge to Torbay.	Long.	Key metrics will be agreed within the strategy and will focus on attracting and securing new high skilled workers.
We will promote the delivery of apprenticeships to the Torbay business community.	The Council has a partnering role encouraging businesses to establish apprenticeship roles and supporting lead agencies to offer apprenticeship training qualifications.	Chamber of commerce. HotSW LEP. South Devon College and private training providers.	£.	The key risk is change to Apprenticeship policy. At present this is not foreseen.	Short.	Key metrics will include the number of apprenticeships secured and the number of companies actively supporting apprenticeships locally.
We will deliver Build Torbay to support the Construction sector in Torbay. The Council was awarded Towns Fund in 2020 – which is investing £21.9m in regeneration projects to create spaces to thrive by improving Torquay's built environment and public realm.	The Council has responsibility for maintaining the fabric of our environment. We want to ensure our community has the skills to support this.	Build Torbay works in partnership with Tier 1 contractors, sub- contractors, engineers and consultants.	£££.	Without skills being available we run the risk of Towns Fund projects facing delivery problems.	Medium – Long.	Town Deal project delivered on time and budget. Increase in the number of Apprenticeships. Number of schools and individual pupils being engaged with construction careers advice and guidance, and employer contact.

We will promote the **Community Wealth Building** Memorandum ensuring that our business and institutions consider where we buy goods, the people that are employed, the assets they own, and the powers that they have, to bring about positive change and maximise the local economic opportunities.

The aim of community wealth building is to use local economic assets to develop the economy in ways that have tangible benefits for its citizens, communities. organisations and businesses. This will have considerable benefit for Torbay

All Key stakeholders and Anchor Institutions. ££.

The community wealth building approach will need broad support from the Torbay community and institutions.

Short.

Level of Progressive procurement undertaken proactively engaging and enabling businesses and social organisations based in these neighbourhoods to compete to supply goods and services.

Level of Progressive procurement: working with existing suppliers based in these neighbourhoods to encourage, support and, ultimately, require them to work with the Big Local /resident-led partnership to recruit residents into secure jobs paid at or above the Living Wage Foundation living wage.

We will review opportunities through the Levelling Up Fund, UK Shared Prosperity Fund and other Government initiatives.

The Council has a key role working with partners to secure national funding to support economic growth.

residents.

All key £. stakeholders and anchor institutions.

Our challenge is to Short. prepare a compelling package to attract government funding.

Amount of funding secured.

We will work with stakeholders to develop bespoke support for the over 50s which enhance their economic opportunities. The Council has a role in helping our communities to secure new economic opportunities potential of our over 50s population.

South Devon College.

Job Centre +.

Community and Voluntary groups.

Business Community.

Working with key stakeholders such as the South Devon College, Job Centre + and DWP we will explore options that will support the economic opportunities.

Medium.

Number of people employed.

iv) Maximising the economic value of nature capital

We will explore how Torbay's natural capital can offer new opportunity for economic growth. We want to positively and sustainable use our natural environment to help secure economic growth. This will include reviewing marine opportunities and potential growth in sectors such as Viticulture.	Our role Torbay has outstanding natural capital we want to ensure that we can establish sustainable economic outcomes that drive our economy.	Our partners Key stakeholders. Local businesses.	Costs, resources and funding £.	Challenges and risks We will explore opportunities that will enhance the local environment and increase economic growth.	Timeline Long.	Monitoring and measurement Increase in GVA. Job Creation.
We will deliver improvements to our High Streets using Towns Fund and Future High Street Funding secured from Government.	We have secured £21.9m for Torquay town centre from the Towns Fund and £13.36m from the Future High Streets Fund for Paignton.	English Riviera BID. Businesses.	£££.	Improvements will kick start the exciting transformation of Paignton and Torquay town centres. Both schemes have detailed risk registers.	Short.	Retail Vacancy rates. Footfall data from platforms such as Town and Place and Al.

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We will explore the potential to establish a maintenance centre for the South West's fishing fleet.

We will explore Marine and the economic hub for the sector.

Maritime partners.

Torbay Harbour Authority.

Fishing sector.

£££.

Risk surrounds industry enthusiasm and ability to see the potential economic benefits of a regional hub in Torbay. The availability of suitable land and

Medium.

space.

Support for the Hub results in formal project development.

Cross Cutting Theme – Tackling the Climate Emergency

High Level Actions The Council is committed to becoming Carbon Neutral by 2030. We will proactively deliver initiatives which reduce our carbon emissions.	Our role Torbay Council is committed to addressing the Climate Emergency as a key priority.	Our partners All stakeholders. Business Community. Torbay's Communities.	Costs, resources and funding £££.	Challenges and risks Key risk is not taking action early enough to mitigate the impact of Climate change.	Timeline Long.	Monitoring and measurement Torbay's average annual average Carbon emissions.
We will encourage our businesses and stakeholders to reduce their carbon footprint through updated and more effectively implemented planning policy/influencing.	The Council has a partnering role in encouraging stakeholders to take measures to reduce their carbon footprint.	Businesses. English Riviera BID. Devon Chamber. Health partners.	£.	Improvements are dependent on stakeholders seeking to reduce their carbon footprint.	Short.	Key metrics will include the number of businesses engaged and the extent of reductions they make to their carbon footprint.

Your Say Torbay



Torbay Economic Growth Strategy 2022 - 2030 Consultation

Below is the vision for the next Torbay Economic Strategy, which will cover the next eight years from 2022 – 2030. Please read it and then let us know if you agree or disagree with it:

VISION: We will continue to build our reputation as the UK's 'hi-tech bay' by supporting Torbay's existing businesses and new investors. We will accelerate our economic growth and create the conditions for private sector investment. Torbay will be inclusive; our communities will be able to secure good employment and learning opportunities that will enhance their potential. We will offer a high-quality environment which attracts new investment, visitors and ensures that our talented people stay within our growing economy. Our economy will operate all year round, providing greater full-time employment and higher salaries. Torbay will be a sustainable place tackling the Climate emergency and securing new economic opportunities as we move to a carbon neutral future.

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(Choose any 1 options) (Required) Agree Don't know Disagree - please let us know why
Are the priorities we have in this strategy right? They are to:
- Build on our economic specialisms – which are Photonics and Micro-electronics, tourism and fishing industries. The outstanding marine and natural experience of our Bay (see economic specialisms in section 6 of strategy) - Help our community to reach their potential
- Support innovators, entrepreneurs and business owners to stay in and grow in Torbay
- Make the most of our natural landscape to grow our economy
- Work together to tackle the climate emergency
(Choose any 1 options) (Required) Yes Don't know No - please let us know what needs to be changed, deleted or added
We have identified five key sectors that we will be focussing on in this strategy, do you agree with these?
The sectors are:
- Photonics & Microelectronics - Construction - Tourism - Health - Fishing
(Choose any 1 options) (Required) Yes Don't Know No - please let us know what needs to be changed, deleted or added
Let us know if you agree with these actions that the strategy will deliver:

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- Secure new opportunities for Torbay's residents by attracting new jobs
- Encourage more full time and high-quality jobs
- Attract new investment into the Bay to strengthen our economy
- Raise the income and productivity (or Gross Value Added (GVA)) of every worker
- Support start-ups
- Support businesses of all sizes in all sectors to grow and improve their products and processes.
- Boost innovation throughout all areas of the Bay, using knowledge from Universities and Government.
- Use the findings of the Doing Business Index (DBI) research to help our under-represented business communities to engage with local business networks

We will do this by:

(Choose any 1 options) (Required)

- Growing our main sectors (which are Photonics & Microelectronics, Construction, Tourism, Health and Fishing), which will create more money and jobs (economic prosperity) for the Bay.
- Providing the best support we can that lets our local businesses start, grow and prosper.
- Ensuring innovation is key by connecting businesses with new opportunities
- Working with our main sectors to find out what skills are needed for their workforce and along with our colleges and schools ensure these skills are available for our young people to gain qualifications in.
- Working with our Health Sector who can offer opportunities for economic growth, for example things like clinical and medical trials, development of new healthcare products and technologies, remote care and better digital provision. With an ageing population there is potential to explore different opportunities between now and 2030
- Looking at how Torbay can become a year-round destination for our visitors.
- Exploring how the South West's fishing fleet can be serviced and maintained here in Torbay instead of having to travel
 to the Netherlands
- Reviewing land which is currently classed for employment purposes only, and seeing if we can find more by changing
 the use of other pieces of land.

res
☐ Don't know
No - please let us know what needs to be changed, deleted or added
For our communities and residents, through this strategy we want to:
 Secure new opportunities for our residents Do more with what we already have, increase our economic performance and productivity Help you reach your potential and become more resilient
We will do this by:
 Working with employers and education providers to improve the skills of those already in work We will support the over 50s to learn new skills, retrain and be aware of all the opportunities available to them
Do you agree with these actions?
(Choose any 1 options) (Required)
Yes
☐ Don't know
No - please let us know what needs to be changed, deleted or added

Your Say Torbay

Torbay is a beautiful place to live, with its outstanding marine and natural experience. This is important for attracting, re-training and growing successful and innovative tech businesses as much as it is for bringing visitors to the area and being a place where people want to live.

This is important to us because:

- Torbay's landscape offers new opportunity for economic growth, both onshore and offshore
- The fishing port of Brixham currently lands the highest value of catch in England
- It ensures that new opportunities increase productivity, provide new opportunities for residents and ensures that our economy performs better.

Through the strategy we want to:

Do you agree with these actions?

- Explore how we can support our key sectors of tourism and fishing, helping them to grow, using the most of our natural environment.
- Ensure that our High Streets and Town Centres are working for us by providing the services businesses, residents and visitors need

(Choose any 1 options) (Required)

Yes

Don't know

No - please let us know what needs to be changed, deleted or added

One of the Council's current priorities is for Torbay to be carbon neutral by 2030. Through this strategy we can support this by:

- Establishing a net zero emission economy by looking at how we can improve areas like transport, buildings, waste, energy and using local suppliers
- · Supporting our businesses to adopt climate neutral policies and practices
- Exploring how our land can capture and store carbon
- The development of a local energy action plan and programmes such as insulating homes, solar panels etc.

Do you agree with these actions?
(Choose any 1 options) (Required) Yes Don't know No - please let us know what needs to be changed, deleted or added
Are there are any actions missing from the strategy that you feel should be included?
Do you have any other comments about our plans and actions that are in the Torbay Economic Strategy 2022 – 2030?

Your Say Torbay

Demographics

We are collecting information about age and race so we ensure we understand views from a range of people. Personal details will not be published, but we need the information for our analysis. Under the Local Government Access to Information Act 1985, your consultation response will be available for inspection if required; however, your personal details will remain confidential.

Are you a:
(Choose any 1 options) (Required)
Resident of Torbay
□ Visitor
Business in the Tech sector
Business in the Medical & Healthcare sector
Business in the Construction sector
Business in the Tourism sector
Business in the Professional sector
Business in the Public sector
Business in the Fishing sector
Business in the Education sector
☐ Other Business
Voluntary or Community Organisation
Business in the Retail sector
Other (please specify)
End (please spesify)
If you are business, how many people do you employ?
(Choose any 1 options)
□ 1 - 9
□ 10 - 49
□ 50 - 249
250+
Which of the following age groups applies to you?
(Choose any 1 options) (Required)
0-15
☐ 16-24
<u></u>
□ 35-44
□ 45-54
□ 55-64
☐ 65-74
☐ 75+
How would you describe your ethnicity?
(Choose any 1 options) (Required)
Asian or Asian British
Asian or Asian British Black, Black British, Caribbean or African
Black, Black British, Caribbean or African
Black, Black British, Caribbean or African Mixed or multiple ethnic groups



Torquay Town Deal and Paignton Future High Street Briefing for Overview & Scrutiny Board

Subject: Update on Torquay Town Deal & Paignton Future High Street Fund programmes

Introduction

As previously reported to Overview & Scrutiny the award of funding for Torquay through the Town Deal and Paignton through Future High Streets Fund means that the Council is working closely with a range of partners to take forward the development and subsequent delivery of these transformational investment programmes and the individual projects contained within.

Progress of the projects and programmes are reported through to the Capital & Growth Board and the Town Deal & Future High Streets Fund steering group internally and to the Town Board for Torquay and currently to a meeting of community partners for Paignton. There is a proposal to move to a Town Board for Paignton as well.

This report provides a summary update for Overview & Scrutiny of progress made in recent months.

The previous report to Overview & Scrutiny flagged early indications of supply chain pressures which are expected to bring cost and time pressures to bear on the Town Deal & Future High Street projects. The cost of materials, supply chain, the extent of other available work across the South West and labour market issues are all making project delivery more difficult. The environment is becoming much more difficult with every passing week while the need for delivery locally becomes more acute. Officers are focused on how we can accelerate procurement to get schemes on site while also exploring other options to ensure that the outcomes the community wants to see can be delivered. These issues are being experienced across the country and are not Torbay specific.

Town Deal

As previously reported Torquay will receive investment of £21.9 million from the Government's Towns Fund.

A Town Board was created to oversee the production of the Investment Plan. The Investment Plan was submitted to Government in July 2020 and is the basis for a Town Deal which will support projects that will allow for transformational investment to be delivered in Torquay.

The Investment Plan has evolved from the vision for Torquay, shared by the Town Board and representatives across Torbay's community, including the Neighbourhood Plan Forum, the Community Development Trust, and Torbay Town Partnership.

The Town Investment Plan focuses on these key areas:

- Delivering a more vibrant town centre through the redevelopment of key town centre sites for mixed uses and public realm schemes
- Improving connectivity to and in Torquay through the delivery of a new rail station at
 Edginswell and improving connections between the main station and town centre These
 areas have been chosen for their impact in the short and medium term and ability to be
 brought forward at pace.
- The Plan also identifies complementary proposals for investment in tourism and cultural projects to improve the quality of Torquay's offer; investment in delivering employment sites; and improvements to connectivity.

Town Investment Plan projects

Funding business cases have now been submitted in respect of all of the town deal projects with Cabinet at its meeting of 16th November agreed to the submission.

Strand Land Assembly (Debenhams)

Progressing with planning application now submitted. 92% of responses to consultation earlier in the year was in favour of the regeneration of the site and 77% supported the scheme. The scheme has been submitted for planning with a committee date expected to be confirmed by 16th September. There are risks relating to the contractor costs and procurement delays.

Harbour Public Realm

The Harbour Public Realm scheme has been predicated on community views garnered through work over several years and creative engagement in 2018 which was complemented by the neighbourhood plan processes and which told us the space needs to be improved;

- Minimise traffic impact, whilst improving connectivity and wayfinding
- Create space for people and animate the space
- Better use of the space, connecting with its natural and historic environment
- Integrate design and material to respond to the heritage context

Scheme is designed and has been put to market earlier in the summer however no responses were received from contractors on the initial procurements. This has stalled progress as we hoped to be on site in autumn and a revised procurement strategy is in place with expressions of interest being week ending 9th September. Assuming this results in EoIs being received a mini competition will be held to allow for a contractor to be appointed in November.

Pavilion

Progress on the cost plan and repair programme is on schedule with scaffold expected to be erected later in the autumn which will allow for external intrusive surveys to begin. Ahead of that internal surveys will be underway to streamline project activities.

Edginswell Station

Network Rail are due to appoint the contractor who they will work alongside during the design on 3rd Sept 2022. Ecological site surveys have commenced on site and there is good engagement from Network Rail and Great Western Railway which has been positively received from the DfT

Wider town centre regeneration

There has been a workshop, in July, facilitated by the Towns Fund Delivery Partners (TFDP). The TFDP was a partnership of consultants paid for by Government to help Town Deal places progress through their investment plans and learn from good practice. Given the need, set out in the Town Investment Plan and Torquay Town Centre Masterplan (2015) and Torquay Neighbourhood Plan, to introduce different uses to the town centre the workshop resulted in a report to shape options for the shorter- and longer-term transformation of the upper end of Torquay town centre. The interim report will be presented to Town Board on 23rd September and presented to Cabinet following that.

Future High Streets Fund

In July 2020 Torbay Council submitted, on behalf of the community, its bid to the Future High Street Fund (FHSF) programme. The bid value was £19.2 million for the transformation of Paignton town centre through seven projects.

The 'Preferred Option' of projects covered 3 infrastructure projects (Paignton Flood Defence scheme, Paignton Station Square and Torbay Road), an enhanced culture offer by bringing Paignton Picture House into use, comprehensive re-development of Crossways and Victoria Centre together with two major properties on Paignton Station Square.

On 26th December 2020 Government announced the list of successful places and allocated £13,363,248 for Paignton's regeneration.

While Future High Streets Funds areas are not required to have a comparable group to the Town Board the Council has established more frequent meetings with a representative group including members along with community partnership, neighbourhood forum and business representatives. This group has helped in particular highlight issues in respect of the Coastal Defence and Torbay Road/Station Square projects which have resulted in revised designs for the Coastal Defence and the inclusion of a pedestrian trial for Torbay Road.

Station Square and Torbay Road

The temporary scheme for Torbay Road trialling the pedestrianisation will be live from October with works delivered later this month, expected to be on site week commencing 19th September. To raise awareness of the scheme and wider Paignton projects a newsletter has been created to ensure that the flow of information out to the community is improving. Sign up for the newsletter is via the Council website.

As noted above representations from the community partners have led to the introduction of pedestrianisation within the scheme, following two separate consultation events one organised by the Council and one by the community partners and both of which were supportive of the principle which will be tested through the trial period. The trial period will last over the winter with feedback sought from community partners, businesses and residents. The full cost of the Torbay Road scheme exceeds the currently available budgetage that phasing of the work may be required

if an alternative funding proposal cannot be made.

Station Square has experienced some programme slippage following consultation and is now at stage 4 technical design and that should be complete by the end of September.

Victoria Centre

A memorandum of understanding has been drafted between the Council and the Torbay & South Devon NHS Trust in respect of key worker accommodation needs, the project team will be working with the NHS Trust's advisers to develop design options and commercial structures that allow for this to progress.

The Paignton parking study has been received in final draft and provides clarity over the challenges that the transformation of the town may present for car parking. It is clear from the study that at periods of high demand there is a requirement for the parking capacity to remain at a similar level to its current capacity and this means that parking capacity displaced from the Victoria Centre site will need to be met in different ways. Now that the Council has the parking study it will use that over the autumn to develop a future parking strategy to allow for the needs to be met while also delivering the Future High Street programme objectives. Although there are concerns from the community partners over the loss of car parking, for instance through the planned demolition of Garfield Road car park, officers advice is that pausing work on the site to allow for the strategy to be developed will exacerbate the challenges around cost referred to earlier so this work will run concurrently to the development of options.

Over the summer there has been further discussion with Lidl in respect of their ongoing occupation of the Victoria Centre and their intentions, the FHSF bid assumed that the Council would get this space back to support delivery of the scheme.

Paignton Picture House

Paignton Picture House Trust leading on project; programme is on track.

Crossways

Demolition is planned for Oct / Nov 22 (dependant on demolition contractor procurement). Since the last meeting Brownfield Land Release Fund grant of £1.4M has been applied for to cover the demolition costs.

Final requirements review is being carried out to enable us to freeze the designs and allow for detailed costings to be generated.

Coastal Defence Scheme

Third phase of public consultation commenced 19th August and will run until 11th September. Following this consultation process the final preferred option will be identified and a date for the submission of the detailed planning application will be agreed. The key risks for the project will be project budget and programme.



Meeting: Overview & Scrutiny Board Date: 14 September 2022

Wards Affected: All Wards

Report Title: Budget Monitoring 2022/23 – April – July 2022 Revenue Outturn Forecast

& April to June 2022 Capital Outturn Forecast

Is the decision a key decision? No

When does the decision need to be implemented? N/A

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1. Purpose and Introduction

1.1. This report provides a high-level budget summary of the Council's revenue and capital position for the financial year 2022/23 which commenced on 1st April 2022. This report is based on the budget and forecasts.

- 1.2. The Council is facing significant external pressure due to the wide-reaching UK implications of the current economic situation. The levels of cost inflation impacting the Council are affecting almost every single service & are expected to be a 'recurring theme' when looking to set the budget for 2023/24 and draft the Medium-Term Resource Plan.
- 1.3. The Council's draft overspend for 2022/23 was forecast to be £3.564m. Since this position was presented to the Senior Leadership Team, mitigation has been identified by officers which reduces this overspend to £1.21m.
- 1.4. This mitigation required to achieve this position will require robust oversight and scrutiny from the Council's Section 151 Officer, all of the Directors and their teams. This level of overspend is <u>above</u> the tolerance that the Section 151 Officer believes to be manageable. The Section 151 Officer will take action without delay to identify further mitigation which will be presented as part of the Quarter 2 2022/23 report.
- 1.5. The Capital Plan budget totals £256m for the 4-year programme, with £52m forecast to be spent in 2022/23, including £27m on regeneration and £8m on various education projects. Of the £256m, £114m relates to borrowing approvals for Growth Fund and Housing awaiting proposals.

2. Recommendation (s) / Proposed Decision

Recommendations for Overview & Scrutiny Board

- 2.1. That the Overview & Scrutiny Board notes the latest position for the Council's revenue outturn position and mitigating action identified and make any comments and/or recommendations to the Cabinet.
- 2.2. That the Overview & Scrutiny Board notes the latest position for the Council's Capital outturn position and make any comments and/or recommendations to the Cabinet.

3. 2022/23 Budget Summary Position

- 3.1. In order to deliver a mitigated overspend of £1.21m the Councils Section 151 Officer and Chief Executive will introduce increased scrutiny on all recruitment and expenditure commitments.
- 3.2. Mitigation also includes the cessation of spending any Council funded 'one-off' monies, projects or carry forward monies which do not result in direct, tangible cost mitigation or cost reduction for the 2022/23 position.
- 3.3. More direct oversight on spend decisions will be undertaken by Directors and other key Statutory officers within the Council.
- 3.4. Consideration will also be given to opportunities to generate increased income by factoring in the increased cost of delivery into fees & charges.

3.5. Further mitigation will be required to deliver a balanced budget.

- 3.5.1. There are a number of areas upon which officers remain focussed and are closely monitoring given their potential impact, namely:
- 3.5.2. The legacy costs of Covid-19 and the transition to the more regular Public Health protection and response work.
- 3.5.3. For another year variations to income are a risk. This includes collection fund income (Council Tax £78.1m and Business Rates £35.6m) and within services notably parking income where the changes to household income will impact key funding streams for local service delivery.
- 3.5.4. The continuous improvement journey within Children's Services which remains crucial to the Council's medium term financial stability and will be required to mitigate national issues which are starting to impact on the local delivery of Children's services.
- 3.5.5. The Dedicated Schools Grant and in particular the Higher Needs Block which is forecast a £2.7m deficit in year, with a cumulative deficit of £11.7m.
- 3.5.6. The areas above are expected to remain a prominent feature of the 2022/23 budget monitoring, as well as new emerging issues around the cost-of-living crisis. It is expected this crisis will affect demand for services across the Council as households come under extreme financial pressure, which may be mitigated, in part by further central government support.

4. Emerging issues

Adults Social Care

- 4.1. The Council's Chief Executive has received a joint letter from the Chief Executive of Torbay & South Devon NHS FT and Chief Executive of NHS Devon dated 9th August 2022.
- 4.2. This letter outlines the financial position for the delivery of Adult Social Care and makes a request for £6m in-year funding to support meeting the financial pressures.
- 4.3. The Council is considering allocations of one-off monies which could be invested into intervention activity to reduce ongoing gap between the fixed price financial arrangement and the current reported total cost of delivering an integrated Adult Social Care service.
- 4.4. Any funding offer will come with increased scrutiny and oversight from the Councils Leadership team and statutory officers.
- 4.5. Progressing this work will be critical to the longevity of the relationship with Integrated Care Organisation (ICO) and the sustainable delivery of Adult Social Care.

Collection Fund

- 4.6. The establishment of the Collection Fund reserve formed part of the Budget 2022/23. This reserve will, for a second year, meet the future impact of carrying forward the shortfall from 2020/21. This reserve funds the 2020/21 impact of the shortfall for the period 2021/22 2023/24.
- 4.7. Performance in 2021/22 was in line with forecast collection levels, namely a 2% reduction on pre Covid-19 collection rates.
- 4.8. At this point 2022/23 collection is in line with forecast levels, however this could worsen as we move into Autumn/Winter given the pressures facing households across the UK.
- 4.9. During 2022/23 Households in Bands A-D will benefit from a £150 of support for energy bills administered as a rebate for Council Taxpayers. This totals £8.398m for Torbay. Final payments under this scheme must be made by 30th September 2022.
- 4.10. There is a further £0.376m to be distributed as part of a discretionary fund which will launch in September 2022, with final payments required to be made by 30th November 2022.
- 4.11. Revised NNDR bills incorporating the 2021/22 Covid-19 Additional Relief Fund (CARF) will be sent to eligible businesses. Given the Government prescribed restrictions on eligibility this fund can only support businesses which missed out on the Retail Hospitality & Leisure (RHL) focussed support during the Covid-19 pandemic. This scheme will provide 100% relief on the 2021/22 bills. The total fund is £1.895m.

Capital

- 4.12. The Council is seeing extreme cost inflation in respect of Capital projects. As a result of this pressure several schemes that are in progress, are facing rising costs. The viability of schemes supported by prudential borrowing are further impacted from the recent rises in borrowing rates.
- 4.13. As part of the 2022/23 budget a capital contingency of £4m was established, however based on latest scheme cost forecasts officers are seeking proposals as to how a total contingency of up to £12m would be allocated to support projects. This would have an ongoing annual revenue cost of £0.8m (£0.6m increase on 22/23 budget) which would need to be added to the 2023/24 budget.

5. Grant Support

- 5.1. During 2022/23 the Council has received grant funding for a number of schemes including:
- 5.1.1. Household Support Fund (HSF) which we are now administering "round 2" of the HSF, totalling £1.2m. This funding was ringfenced to be a minimum 33% to be spent on pension age households and a minimum of 33% to be spent on households with children.
- 5.1.2. A third round was announced to cover the period October 2022 to March 2023. The application of this third round is current being developed.
 Link to guidance: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/household-support-fund-guidance-for-local-councils
- 5.1.3. Homes of Ukraine. Funding for this scheme is based on the number of people supported. As part of the latest quarterly return (May 2022) there were 102 "newly arrived guests" resulting in a grant of £1m. Further financial support is paid to "hosts" totalling £350 per month.
 - Link to guidance:https://www.gov.uk/guidance/homes-for-ukraine-guidance-for-councils

6. Wholly owned companies

- 6.1. This section contains an overview of the financial position for the Council's wholly owned companies.
- 6.2. SWISCo. remains under financial pressure in terms of operational delivery due to rising costs of fuel, challenges to recruitment and retention. The latest pay award offer which is a fixed £1,925 per full time employee, has a disproportionate percentage impact on SWISCo given the average salary. As a result, the Council has been asked for an additional £0.6m of funding to meet the shortfall in the assumed pay award.
- 6.3. SWISCo is planning to launch a Garden Waste collection service in late 2022.
- 6.4. To the end of May 2022 TDA group draft consolidated year to date (YTD) surplus for was £0.03m.

- 6.5. Within the TDA Group, TorVista continues to operate with a higher level of deficit compared to their business plan. The accumulated deficit in the company to March 2022 was £0.8m with a further deficit of £0.35m forecast for the current year. Based on the current and forecast trading performance a request has been received to extend TorVista Home's working capital loan facility from £1.0m to £1.5m. The approval of this loan would be by full Council. The expectation is that a revised TorVista business plan will be prepared to present for Council in December.
- 6.6. More detailed financial reporting about the Council's wholly owned Companies will be presented to Audit Committee on a regular basis and will form part of the final statement of accounts when presented to Audit Committee.

7. Statement of Accounts – 2020/21 and 2021/22

- 7.1. The Council's auditors, Grant Thornton, presented their Audit Findings for 2020/21 at the Audit Committee on 6th December 2021. Grant Thornton advised that by the Government's Statutory deadline of September only 30% of audits were signed off increasing to 40% in November 2021. This was partly due to lack of capacity in the market. At the time of writing this report the 2020/21 accounts remain unsigned by Grant Thornton.
- 7.2. In order to provide reassurance to members, all outstanding work from Council officers has been completed and therefore the audit is fundamentally complete.
- 7.3. There are two outstanding items which Grant Thornton are considering. The first relates to the Council's existing TDA pension "pass through" arrangement and the second is a national issue related to the reporting of infrastructure assets. This matter is currently subject to a national consultation. As a result, it's unlikely the accounts will be signed off until this consultation has concluded. The 2021/22 accounts will be issued in early September 2022 with the audit due to start afterwards.
- 7.4. The protracted statement of accounts process continues to put significant pressure on the finance team, for whom the majority of the last year have been working concurrently on 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23 financial years and now are also working on the 2023/24 financial year.

8. Service Budgets

8.1. The table below contains the forecast spend for the financial year 2022/23. The reporting hierarchy reflects the current Senior Leadership Team (SLT) Structure.

Service	Current Budget £'000	Projected Outturn £'000	Outturn Variance £'000
Adult Services	46,551	46,644	93
Executive	3,576	3,967	391
Children's Services	45,722	47,213	1,491
Corporate Services	6,473	6,810	337
Finance	(8,367)	(8,365)	2
Investment Portfolio	(4,637)	(4,469)	168
Place	21,400	22,482	1,082
Public Health	10,100	10,100	-
	120,818	124,382	3,564

Mitigated Position	Change compared to Outturn Variance
93	-
324	(67)
1,591	100
522	185
(1,441)	(1,443)
0	(168)
415	(667)
(294)	(294)
1,210	(2,354)

8.2. After mitigation the overall Council position shows an overspend of £1.2m. More information on the service variances is contained below.

Adult Services

8.3. The Director for Adults Services covers the three service areas shown below.

Service	Previous Year Actuals £'000
Adult Services	44,218
Adult Social Care	41,264
Community Services	2,632
Customer Services	322

Current Budget £'000	Projected Outturn £'000	Outturn Variance £'000
46,551	46,644	93
43,723	43,723	0
2,067	2,160	93
761	761	0

- 8.4. Overall Adults Services directorate shows a slight overspend.
- 8.5. Within Adult Social Care the majority of spend is against a fixed price financial arrangement (contract) for the delivery of services provided by the Integrated Care Organisation (ICO).
- 8.6. As mentioned earlier in the report the Council has received a request for additional financial support totalling £6m for 2022/23 and the Council is considering allocations of one-off monies which could be invested into intervention activity to address fundamentally the cost pressures.

- 8.7. The new agreement for the delivery of Adult Social Care was signed in March 2022 and will commence in April 2023. This agreement will see an uplift of £5m for 2023/24, with a further £1.1m the following year. A new arrangement will need to be negotiated for 2025/26 onwards.
- 8.8. Community Services has a shortfall on income. This represents the continued shortfall on income generating activity within the service which includes Licensing.
- 8.9. Temporary Accommodation is currently forecast to be on budget, after utilising service specific reserves to meet the extra demand the service is facing. As at the end of July 2022 there were 137 households living in Temporary Accommodation.
- 8.10. Work is underway to directly procure and lease property to increase the stability of accommodation options available to the Housing Options team. This stability will allow more work to be done to prevent homelessness and support households to find more permanent housing.
- 8.11. There remains considerable demand in the local housing market which is affecting this service significantly. The low availability of temporary options for individuals and family groups in need of temporary accommodation is resulting in significant cost increases. The "cost of living" crisis is likely to increase demand for this service.
- 8.12. Customer services continues to see increased demand as staff are involved in the administration of a number of key grant schemes in addition to all the usual support a and advice provided by the service. Upon implementation of the Councils "CRM" system in future years more self-service options will be available for customers which will help to streamline straight-forward contact.

Corporate Services & Executive

Service	Current Budget £'000	Projected Outturn £'000	Outturn Variance £'000
Executive	3,576	3,967	391
Corporate Services	6,473	6,810	337

Mitigated Position	Movement
324	(67)
522	185

8.13. Within the Executive unit shows a mitigated overspend of £0.32m or 9.1% of the budget due to continued income shortfalls in traded services and overspends on salaries.

- 8.14. Within Corporate Services, the mitigated position has worsened and is reporting an overspend of £0.52m or 8.1% of the budget. This is caused by significant, continued pressures within Legal Services:
- 8.14.1. Challenges to recruit and retain suitably qualified staff result is forecast to result in £0.3m agency costs, which is partly offset by the vacant posts being covered.
- 8.14.2. Reduced fee-earning work provides a further cost pressure of £0.2m on income.
- 8.15. The Divisional Director for Corporate Services has been working on mitigation to this position over the last year.
- 8.16. During this financial year the new provider of the print & post service begins the first phase of their service delivery.

Children's Services

Service
Children's Services
Schools Services
Children's Safeguarding

Current Budget £'000	Projected Outturn £'000	Outturn Variance £'000	
45,722	47,213	1,491	
3,998	3,979	(19)	
41,724	43,234	1,510	

Mitigated Position	Movement
1,591	100
181	200
1,410	(100)

- 8.17. Overall Children's Services is experiencing significant financial pressure. In previous years this type of pressure was perceived as somewhat within the Local Authorities control. The recent improvements to the Ofsted rating to 'Good' and underspending for two years in a row demonstrates the Council has been influencing and improving outcomes through effective care planning coupled with equal parts scrutiny and support from the Council as a whole.
- 8.18. However, this year the pressures are largely due to extreme external forces outside of the control of Council officers. These factors are affecting the provision and accessibility of placements for children and young people due to significantly increased demand for placements. This is exacerbated by the demand arising from the increasing volume of cases allocated to Torbay through to the National and Regional allocation of Unaccompanied Asylum seeking children (UASC) as well as other International support schemes. A proportion of which are cared for by the Local Authority, but living elsewhere in the UK.
- 8.19. Within **Schools Services** Local Authority funded activities are reporting an overspend of £0.18m which represents 4.52% of the budget.
- 8.20. The overspend is contributed to through continued pressure with the provision of Home to School transport. This is because of rising fuel costs for transport providers as well as children and young people needing more bespoke arrangements to get to and from school.

- 8.21. Outside of Local Authority funded activities, the schools' higher needs block in the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) remains under financial pressure because of an increasing level of referrals from schools for higher needs support for children. The pace of demand is far outstripping increases in dedicated funding as has been the case for several years.
- 8.22. For 2022/23 the DSG is forecasting an overspend of £2.7m. As a result, the DSG cumulative deficit is forecast to be in excess of £11.7m by the end of the financial year.
- 8.23. The Council does not receive any funding for schools therefore the overspend will remain in the DSG to be funded from DSG in future years. The School and Early Year Finance (England) Regulations 2020 confirm that this is not a cost that the Council must fund. However, for how long this position is sustainable is not certain. At some point the deficit will need to be funded therefore it is essential that officers and members continue to focus on this key issue.
- 8.24. In 2020/21 and the following two financial years additional legislation has been passed that, for accounting purposes, reclassifies the deficit on the Council's balance sheet. There is currently uncertainty as to what will happen after the end of the three-year period.
- 8.25. The Council is part of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) and Department for Education (DfE) Safety Valve programme. Discussions are at an early stage but agreement with other councils suggest that if the council can deliver a balanced higher needs budget within a defined time period, all or some of the historic deficit may be funded by ESFA. However, this is dependent on the council being able to deliver a recovery plan that results in a balanced budget.
- 8.26. Early pre-negotiation dialogue with ESFA representatives indicated they were impressed with the work carried out so far and the Council were in a good position going into the formal process in Autumn 2022.
- 8.27. Within **Children's Safeguarding** there is a forecast overspend of £1.41m (3.38%).
- 8.28. Driving this forecast are exceptionally high emergency placement costs at £25 30k per week. This serves as a reminder of the significance of the need for continued and rigorous whole Council support for this service given the financial impact if the number and cost of care rises.
- 8.29. The current picture is however now one of national level issues having a local impact. There are significant shortages of placements meaning both that existing placements are costing more and that children & young people are unable to step down from residential to family-based settings such as fostering placements.
- 8.30. The cost of living will be putting increased stress on households across the bay which may threaten the stability of current living arrangements and mean more families require supported intervention from the Council.

- 8.31. Such is the scale of the national challenge it is understood that other Councils are also reporting placing children as young as 3 years old in residential placements as a result of the inability to find suitable family-based alternatives.
- 8.32. Across the south west Councils are seeing increased numbers of Cared for Children, reliance on agency staff and number of children and young people placed out of area. This increased competition also drives the overall costs within the market higher.
- 8.33. All of this means that despite the continued oversight, challenge and support from colleagues, external factors are now significantly influencing spend.
- 8.34. The table below shows a snapshot of the key placement figures as at the end of June, compared to previous years. The highest point for the year (max) also shown.

Placement types	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Residential Placement	March: 34 Max: 34	March: 31 Max: 44	March: 20 Max: 28	March: 23 Max: 24	Jul: 21
Independent Fostering Agency (IFA) Placement	March: 95 Max: 95	March: 101 Max: 101	March: 80 Max: 101	March: 78 Max: 83	Jul: 87
Total Cared for Children	March: 361 Max: 361	March: 356 Max: 368	March: 321 Max: 374	March: 299 Max: 315	Jul: 302

- 8.35. As at July 2022/23 the above table includes 12 placements due to Torbay's allocation of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) which increases the figures in 2022/23. As the numbers of UASC supported increases there are wider resource impacts such as additional Social Workers, travel and accommodation costs for visits which puts further pressure on an already stretched staff and care provider market.
- 8.36. Overall the table demonstrates that overtime not only have the overall figures decreased steadily, the volatility within the placement type also appears to have stabilised.
- 8.37. Following successful recruitment and retention within the service, the total number of Agency staff employed has reduced from 49.3FTE in April 2021 to 25.0 FTE in July 2022. Again, the reduction seen has been steady over the last few financial years and helps provide stability within the workforce and therefore consistency when working with children and young people and their families.
- 8.38. As a result of the continued improvement total Agency costs are forecast to be £2.4m. This is compared with a total spend in 2021/22 of £4.9m. This demonstrates that Torbay Council has achieved significant improvements to influence spend where it can, but is now seeing significantly increased salary expectations within the agency market and stiff competition from other Councils that are offering higher hourly rates to stabilise their own workforce.
- 8.39. The continued stability within placements and continued success of the Learning Academy in recruiting and retaining staff remains integral to delivering a balanced budget in 2022/23 and beyond.

8.40. Finance

Service	Previous Year Actuals £'000
Finance	(10,668)

Current	Projected	Outturn
Budget	Outturn	Variance
£'000	£'000	£'000
(8,367)	(8,365)	2

Mitigated Position	Movement
(1,441)	(1,443)

- 8.41. As part of setting the 2022/23 budget a few centrally held contingencies linked to inflation risks were held under finance and will be released to contribute toward the known cost pressures.
- 8.42. £1.15m has been released to partially offset rising utility costs and for an up to 3% pay award. The latest National offer on pay has an average impact to the Council of 5% meaning there is a shortfall over and above current funding of £0.7m.
- 8.43. The pay award offer of a "flat cash" £1,925 for all staff has a higher percentage impact on lower graded staff, whereby this value represents a much higher percentage of their salary. This is a large contributor to the SWISCo request for finances given the mix of salaries.
- 8.44. A further £0.7m saving has been declared which is primarily caused by the impact of increased interest rates. This means the Council earns higher rates of interest on its current cash balances. Given the current low levels of spend on Capital projects, there is also a saving on interest payable by the Council as lower levels of spend activity means lower amounts borrowed, therefore reduced interest paid by the Council.
- 8.45. There is a further £0.2m gainshare declared from the gainshare arrangements from the Devon-wide Business Rates Pool £0.2m

8.46. Investment Portfolio

Service	Current	Projected	Outturn
	Budget	Outturn	Variance
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Investment Portfolio	(4,637)	(4,469)	168

Mitigated Position	Change compared to Outturn Variance
0	(168)

- 8.47. The Council's Investment Portfolio's mitigated position is balanced after the use of the investment property reserve to cover lost rent and holding costs of the empty unit at Wren Park.
- 8.48. This means the Council's investment portfolio will contribute £4.4m towards Council activity.
- 8.49. Any tenants with arrears are all actively engaging with colleagues in TDA and repayment plans arising from the covid lockdowns continue to be adhered to.

Place

Service	Current Budget £'000	Projected Outturn £'000	Outturn Variance £'000
Place	21,400	22,482	1,082
Place Operations	12,996	14,033	1,038
Place Commissioned	3,261	3,988	727
Planning, Housing and Climate			
Emergency	5,143	4,460	(683)

Mitigated Position	Movement
415	(667)
366	(672)
732	5
(683)	0

- 8.50. Within the Place directorate there is a mitigated overspend of £0.8m which represents 1.94% of the budget.
- 8.51. Place Operations has a cost pressure of £0.37m.
- 8.52. Highways, which is the service responsible for Torbay's street lighting is forecast to overspend by £0.34m. This figure is based on the latest utility price forecasts provided by our supplier. This is offset in part by the release of contingencies held under the Finance directorate. As there is no 'cap' on non-domestic tariffs the Council is exposed to significant market fluctuations.
- 8.53. Waste & Recycling is forecasting an overspend of £0.6m because of SWISCo's request for additional financial support.
- 8.54. Within Torre Abbey income, there is a £0.05m shortfall because of reduced visitor numbers. This reflects the continued hesitancy to return to indoor visitor attractions even as the Covid restrictions have changed and possibly further contributed to by the re-opening of international holiday destinations.
- 8.55. Currently Parking Services is forecast to break even. Whilst summer income has been higher than last year, there remains significant uncertainty as to how the cost-of-living crisis will impact on residents and visitor behaviour over the coming months.
- 8.56. The pressures within Place Operations are partially offset by the following mitigation:
- 8.56.1. Review and delay or cessation of Highways projects equating to £0.25m
- 8.56.2. Review and delay or cessation of "one-off" funded projects equating to £0.42m
- 8.57. There decisions are unfortunate, but necessary to prevent cessation of core service delivery elsewhere in the Council.

Place Commissioned

- 8.58. As part of the Place Commissioned service there are several operational assets managed by TDA which the Council pays the utility bills for. The increased utility costs within this service are forecast to result in an overspend of £0.34m.
- 8.59. There are increased security and health & safety related works carried out at Oldway which are forecast to cost £0.1m.
- 8.60. There are also continued pressures because of delays to the implementation of the solar farms costing £0.1m which were expected to generate a surplus for the Council.

8.61. Planning, Housing and Climate Emergency

8.62. Within Strategy & Project Management a forecast underspend of £0.5m is because of reduced costs for Concessionary Fares. The reduced costs are in part contributed to by fewer journeys being taken by concessionary fare passengers after the pandemic.

8.63. Public Health

Service	Current	Projected	Outturn
	Budget	Outturn	Variance
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Public Health	10,100	10,100	-

Mitigated Position	Movement
(294)	(294)

- 8.64. Public Health colleagues continue to lead on the Council's response to Covid-19 and co-ordinate and deliver a number of key and continuing strands of the response and recovery work.
- 8.65. As part of identifying mitigation for the Council's overall position, a contribution of £0.15m will be made towards supporting the provision of high-quality housing in order to improve public health outcomes.
- 8.66. There is a further £0.15m of funding contributed towards funding Drug & Alcohol Rehabilitation work.

9. Capital Plan Overview

- 9.1 The impact on inflation on the council's revenue budget is concerning, however the impact of cost increases, supply chain issues and limited contractor options are having a major impact on the council's' capital plan.
- 9.2 The Council's budget for 22/23 recognised the rising risk of inflation and in the budget established a capital contingency of £4m. Since then, the economic position has significantly worsened, in part from the impact of war in Ukraine, resulting in inflation rates and projected higher inflation rates not experienced for 40 years. The council is experiencing up to 100% increases between its original forecast costs and the latest contractor quotes. As the contractors themselves are also subject to rapid changes in prices for materials and their sub-contractor costs, more quotes are now caveated which then result in more cost increases happening within a short period.
- 9.3 In addition, the economic position has resulted in higher bank base rate and increases in gilt yields which has pushed up the PWLB rates of borrowing to 4.5%.
- 9.4 The combination of increased costs of borrowing and significantly increased construction costs will result in the business cases for several council projects now being potentially financially unviable. Any council project that has not started could now inevitably be at risk.
- 9.5 The capital contingency of £4m now needs to be £12m to enable the council to continue several projects where the council is committed to continue. These include Edginswell enabling works, the retail unit at Edginswell and Harbour View hotel. In addition, the council will continue with the project at Lymington Road coach station to mitigate abortive costs, loss of grant and the loss of the economic and public realm benefit that scheme will provide.
- 9.6 As the cost pressure is impacting on most projects in the capital plan the risks will be mitigated in several ways.
 - a) The officer Capital and Growth Board has taken the lead in prioritising projects prior to discussion with the Partnership and Directors.
 - b) Where a scheme or a range of schemes such as those in Town Deal and Future High Street, these will need to be revised to enable the schemes to be financially viable with the level of grant funding.
 - c) Where a scheme or a range of schemes such as those funded from the Highways and Schools grant funding, these will need to be revised to enable the schemes to remain within the level of grant funding.
 - d) The capital contingency to be increased to £12m (with an ongoing revenue impact of the borrowing) to enable some schemes where the council has a commitment to continue or a significant loss of grant and/or benefits.
 - e) Funding bodies will be approached where possible to increase the level of grant funding awarded to individual projects to enable them to continue.
 - f) Some projects will inevitably be paused until the project can become financially viable again.
- 9.7 This uncertainty has reduced the pace of progress and therefore the level of spend on the capital plan. To the end of August £5m has been spent on the Plan and this rate of

- spend is likely to continue for the rest of this financial year with significant amount of spend on major projects unlikely to be incurred in 2022/23.
- 9.8 The capital appendix shows the capital budget approved by council in March 2022 then increased by the slippage brought forward from 2021/22 (as per 2021/22 outturn report to Council in July) with spend and commitments to date. The Chief Finance Officer has then moved to 2023/24 the budgets for several schemes that could be impacted by cost and therefore funding pressures. This reduces the forecast capital spend in 2022/23 to £52m. The profile and viability of all schemes will be reviewed in more detail for the quarter two budget monitoring which will inevitably result in more revisions of projected spend to future years. The quarter two report will also include any new capital grants and any cabinet and council decisions on capital expenditure since April 2022.

10 Capital Plan Summary Position

- 10.1 The Capital Plan budgets to spend a total of £256m on capital projects over the 4 year programme, with £52m currently scheduled to be spent in 2022/23, including £27m on various Regeneration projects and £8m on various Education projects. The Capital Plan is funded from capital receipts, capital grants and contributions, reserves and revenue budget contributions, and long-term borrowing to ensure a balanced budget over the life of the Plan.
- 10.2 The spend and funding profile for the Capital Plan is included in Appendix 1.
- 10.3 Of the £7.6m capital receipts budgeted for in the Capital Plan, £1.2m has been received by the end of July 2022 albeit nothing significant received in the 2022/23 financial year. This leaves a balance of £6.4m still to be realised from both capital receipts and capital contributions. It is only after this £6.4m has been achieved that any capital receipts can be applied to new schemes, this will ensure the Capital Plan remains fully funded.
- 10.4 The movements in the estimate of expenditure in 2022/23 on the Capital Plan of £111.5m and the current approved budget for 2022/23 of £52.1m are shown below.
- 10.5 Please note the format of this table shows schemes ordered by Council's Targeted Actions, as is Appendix 2.

11 Updates to Capital Plan

Scheme	Variation in 2022/23	Change £m	Reason	
2022/23 profiled spend as at Q3 2021/22		111.5	Capital Plan Update – 2021/22 Quarter 3 (Cabinet 22nd Mar 2022)	
Scheme budgets brought forward from 2021/22	Re profiled to 2022/23	17.0	For details see 2021/22 Capital Outturn report (Cabinet 12th July 2022)	
	Total	128.5		
Thriving People and Communities				
Extra Care Housing (Torre Marine)	Rephased budget	(2.7)	Budget moved to 23/24	

Tor Vista Homes re	Pophagod hudgot	(7.7)	Budget moved to 23/24
Preston Down Road	Rephased budget	` '	Budget moved to 23/24
	Total Thriving F	(10.4)	
Edginswell Business Park Site 3	Thriving E Rephased budget	(2.2)	Budget moved to 23/24
Edginswell Station	Rephased budget	(4.5)	Budget moved to 23/24
TEDC Capital Loans	Rephased budget	(0.6)	Budget moved to 23/24
Torquay Town Deal - Union Square Ph.1	Rephased budget	(3.2)	Budget moved to 23/24
Torquay Town Deal - Union Square Ph.2	Rephased budget	(0.7)	Budget moved to 23/24
Paignton Future High Streets Fund - Flood Defence	Rephased budget	(0.6)	Budget moved to 23/24
Paignton Future High Streets Fund - Victoria Centre Ph.2	Rephased budget	(3.8)	Budget moved to 23/24
Corbyn Head - development of former WC's	Rephased budget	(1.2)	Budget moved to 23/24
Preston (North) - development of former WC's	Rephased budget	(0.7)	Budget moved to 23/24
	Total	(17.5)	
	Tackling Clim		
Solar Farm, Brokenbury	Rephased budget	(1.6)	Budget moved to 23/24
Solar Farm, Nightingale Park	Rephased budget	(2.9)	Budget moved to 23/24
	Total	(4.5)	
	Council Fit fo		re
	Total	0	Division
Tarra Abbass	Council Approval		
Torre Abbey Renovation - Phase 3	Rephased budget	(1.7)	Budget moved to 23/24
Regeneration Programme and Economic Growth Fund	Rephased budget	(40.4)	Budget moved to 23/24

Housing Rental Company - Loan	Rephased budget	(1.9)	Budget moved to 23/24
	Total	(44.0)	
Estimate – Quarter 1 2022/23		52.1	

11.1 In addition to the above changes, new scheme budgets are detailed below and will be added in quarter 2.

Thriving Economy

- 11.2 Car Park Investment total budget of £1m agreed as part of Capital Plan 2022-23 budget setting process. £0.5m profiled in 22/23. To be funded from borrowing.
- 11.3 Torre Abbey Gatehouse/SW Wing new grant funding of £468,993 has been awarded from Museum Estate Development Fund (MEND) to help fund the restoration works of the Gatehouse and South West Wing of Torre Abbey. The project has a total budget of £964,157, with matchfunding of £471,715 from Torbay Council (part of previously agreed borrowing of £1.7m) and £23,449 contribution from Friends of Torre Abbey.
- 11.4 Torre Abbey SE Wing/Courtyard/Tower new grant funding of £363,748 has been awarded from National Heritage Memorial Fund (NHMF) to help fund the restoration works of the South East range of Torre Abbey. The project has a total budget of £404,165, with match funding of £20,209 from Torbay Council (part of previously agreed borrowing of £1.7m) and £20,208 contribution from Friends of Torre Abbey.
- 11.5 Torquay Flood Alleviation (River Fleet) new grant funding of £50,000 from Environment Agency towards cost of study.
- 11.6 Paignton Flood Alleviation new grant funding of £60,000 from Environment Agency towards cost of study.
- 11.7 Brixham Flood Alleviation new grant funding of £45,000 from Environment Agency towards cost of study.
- 11.8 Haldon and Princess Piers new grant funding of £95,000 from Environment Agency towards cost of study.
- 11.9 Paignton Picture House new grant funding of £2,322,670 has been awarded by Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) towards the restoration and development of Paignton Picture House.
- 11.10 Changing Places Toilets new grant funding of £180,000 has been awarded by Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (Changing Places Fund) for the implementation of Changing Places Toilet facilities.
- 11.11 12-14 The Strand (former Debenhams site) £9,600,000 has been allocated from the Economic Growth Fund for the regeneration of the site.
- 11.12 TCCT Seashore Centre (Drake House) £110,000 borrowing in respect of lease surrender, Seashore Centre (Drake House), Goodrington.

Climate fit for the Future

11.13 Climate Change Initiatives – total budget of £1m agreed as part of Capital Plan 2022-23 budget setting process. £0.25m profiled in 22/23. To be funded from borrowing.

A Council Fit for the Future

11.14 Capital Contingency - total budget of £4m agreed as part of Capital Plan 2022-23 budget setting process. £1m profiled in 22/23. To be funded from borrowing.

12 Receipts & Funding

12.1 The funding identified for the latest Capital Plan budget is shown in Appendix 1. This is based on the latest prediction of capital resources available to fund the budgeted expenditure over the next 4 years. A summary of the funding of the Capital Plan is shown in the Table below:

Funding	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	Totals @ Q1
	£m	£m	£m		22/23 (£m)
				£m	
Unsupported Borrowing	18	141	19	0	178
Grants	30	38	1	0	69
Contributions	1	0	0	0	1
Revenue	0	0	0	0	0
Reserves	1	0	0	0	1
Capital Receipts	2	1	4	0	7
Total	52	180	24	0	256

13 Capital Receipts

13.1 The approved Plan relies on the generation of a total of £7.6m capital receipts from asset sales by the end of 2025/26. At 1 April 2022 the Council held a balance of £1.2m with nothing significant added by the end of July 2022, leaving a target of £6.4m still to be achieved.

14 Capital Grants

- **14.1** New capital grant allocations have been announced and will be added in quarter 2.
- 14.2 Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government Disabled Facilities grants 2022/23 of £2,128,689. This grant allocation is used to support our DFG expenditure but also includes the former Adult Social Care capital grant. £1m will be allocated to DFGs with the balance to Adult Social Care.
- 14.3 Department for Education School Condition Allocation 2022/23 £376,564. Provided to authorities for major repairs and maintenance of school estates.
- 14.4 Department for Education—Devolved Formula Capital Grant 2022/23 £84,115. This is a ring-fenced grant and will be paid to appropriate schools as required.
- 14.5 Department for Education Basic Need allocation 2022/23 revised from £1,829,365 as previously reported, to £1,952,924.
- 14.6 Department for Education High Needs Provision Capital 2022/23 £1,269,329 and 2022/23 £1,401,225. Provided to support the creation of new High Needs places or the improvement of existing provision.

- 14.7 Department for Transport Highways Structural Maintenance Grant £809,000 together with Potholes Action Fund £809,000. Both allocations for 2022/23. Indicative allocations for 23/24 and 24/25 also at £809,000 for both Structural Maintenance and Potholes.
- 14.8 Department for Transport Incentive Element 2022/23 £202,000. This is an indicative amount and the maximum amount but is subject to DfT review and adjudication before being confirmed. This element of grant is paid to authorities following effective asset management and adopting efficiency and best practice principles for local highway maintenance. Indicative allocations for 23/24 and 24/25 also at £202,000.
- 14.9 Department for Transport Integrated Transport Block 2022/23 £1,071,000. Indicative allocations for 23/24 and 24/25 also at £1,071,000.

15 Capital Contributions – S106 & Community Infrastructure Levy

The Council's Capital Strategy states that capital contributions are applied to support schemes already approved as part of Capital Plan and are not allocated to new schemes unless the agreement with the developer is specific to a particular scheme outside the Capital plan. No Section106 capital contributions have been received in 2022/23 to date. The Council's Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) scheme came into effect from 1 June 2017. The main capital project identified for funding from CIL receipts is the South Devon Highway.

16.Risks & Sensitivity
16.1. There are a number of financial risks facing the Council as shown below:

Risk	Impact	Mitigation
Adult Social Care funding request	High	The Director of Adult Social Care is developing a range of interventions.
Future funding of DSG Deficit	High	Recovery meetings have been convened by the Chief Finance Officer to review any and all opportunities to locally influence this area of spend. The Council is also engaged in the Department for Educations Safety Valve program.
CPI at a 40 year high at 9% is having a major impact on both revenue and capital costs. The exact impact is still uncertain, e.g. pay award for 22/23 not yet agreed. Some council capital projects will no longer be affordable.	High	Inflation contingencies in both the 22/23 revenue and capital budgets. However, these may be inadequate. 23/24 budget "build" includes a higher than usual allowance for inflationary pressures.
Rise in borrowing rates	High	The council current portfolio is at fixed rates so the recent rises do not impact, however all new borrowing is likely to be higher than forecast in the original scheme business cases.
The "cost of living" economic impact on the Council's residents from higher fuel and utility costs is likely to impact on both demand for council services and may result in reduced income from council tax.	High	The Council has established a cross council "cost of living" group to mitigate where possible the impact on council services and support/sign post residents to support. The council will continue to administer payments under both the Household Support Fund and Council tax Rebates.
Continued loss of income	High	Recovery meetings have been convened by the Chief Finance Officer for all the Council's main areas of income. Each group is tasked with developing an action plan to influence income where possible
Collection Fund shortfall	High	Additional resources allocated to support the Revenues & Benefits team and a review of debt recovery will be undertaken.

Fair Funding Formula	Medium	Development of a robust MTRP to address the expected impact on Torbay's funding. Timing of this funding change is now expected to be 2025/26 at the earliest.
Identification, and delivery, of savings as per Medium Term Resource Plan	High	Work on the Budget for 2023/24 started in May 2022 with service plan reviews taking place in June 2022 with Star Chambers in July 2023. Options will be reviewed by Senior Leadership Team in collaboration with Cabinet to consider options for future years.
Delivery of Children's Services cost reduction plan	Medium	Meetings continue to monitor the current rate of delivery against the identified actions from the Sufficiency Strategy.
Unable to recruit staff and need to use agency staff.	High	Recruitment & retention of Social Work staff, particularly in safeguarding is still one of the core priorities for the Senior management team within Children's Services. This pressure is also being seen across a number of front-line services which are integral to the Council's "Summer Response Team" Work continues to identify solutions to these challenges which seem to be on a national scale.
Additional demand and cost pressures for services, particularly in children's social care	Low	2022/23 Budget monitoring, use of service performance data and recovery plan.
Delivery of approved savings for 2022/23	Low	Further to regular budget monitoring for all budget holders, the Council's Senior Leadership Team receive monthly updates on the 2022/23 position.
Investment Property Income changes	High	The investment board will continue to review future leases and mange any potential break clause implications.

17 Appendices:

17.1 Appendix 1 - Capital Plan summary – Quarter 1 2022/23

						Revised 4-year Plan						
	Latest Est Scheme Cost	Original 2022/23 (@ Q3 21/22)	2021/22 Adjs and Slippage b/f	2022/23 Qtr 1 Adjustments	New Schemes 2022/23	Total 2022/23 Revised	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	Total for Plan Period		
PB = Approved Prudential Borrowing schemes	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
Thriving People and Communities												
Barton Academy - Nursery provision	528		0			0						
Brunel Academy Ph 2 Vocational Classrooms	1,134		192			192				192		
Capital Repairs & Maintenance 2019/20	273		6			6						
Capital Repairs & Maintenance 2020/21 & 2021/22	1,010	400	164			564				56		
Schools capital from revenue						0						
Devolved Formula Capital			162			162				16		
Education Review Projects		3,329	270			3,599				3,59		
High Needs Capital Provision	530		503			503				503		
Mayfield Expansion	1,575	500	470			970				97		
Medical Tuition Service - relocation	601		32			32				32		
New Paignton Primary school sites (St Michaels & Windmill)	1,208		585			585				58		
Pgn CS Academy Expansion	1,925		190			190				19		
Roselands Primary - additional classroom	600	80	31			111				11		
Sixth Day Provision	251		106			106				10		
Special Provision Fund (SEND)	599		49			49				49		
St Cuthbert Mayne Expansion	3,795	500	147			647				64'		
Torbay School Relocation (Expansion Burton Acad Hillside site)	1,262		0			0						
Polsham Centre Development	250	200	49			249				249		
Foster Homes Adaptations	300	100				195	100			29		
·		100				0	100			20		
IT replacement - Childrens Case Management System	999		101			101				10		
11 Teplacement - Childrens Case Management System	333		101			101				10		
Adult Social Care	500		500			500				F-0		
	520	= = 00	520			520	40.000	- 40 -		52		
Crossways, Paignton - Regen and Extra Care Hsg	25,378					9,733		5,167		24,90		
Extra Care Housing (Torre Marine)	4,115	2,800				0	2,700			2,70		
Brixham Town Centre Car Park - Housing	675		675			675				67		
Disabled Facilities Grants	995	980	15			995				99		
			0			0						
Affordable Housing	657		656			656				65		
Housing Rental Company - Aff Hsg Developments	2,277		0			0						
Tor Vista Homes re Preston Down Road	23,000	7,500	175	-7675		0	15,175	7,825		23,00		
Next Steps Accommodation Programme	0		0			0						
	74,457	23,889	7,326	(10,375)	0	20,840	27,975	12,992	0	61,807		
		•		,			-					

riving Economy							
Claylands Redevelopment	44.450	250	400		450		450
DfT Better Bus Areas	11,150	350	103		453		453
Edginswell Business Park	1,225		O O		0		0
Edginswell Business Park Site 3	2,983	2 000	477	24.77	0	6 477	6 477
Edginswell Business Park Unit 1	6,500	2,000	177	-2177	4 400	6,477	6,477
Edginswell Station	5,930	4,000	108	4407	4,108	1,619	5,727
Innovation Centre Ph 3 (EPIC)	13,017	4,000	467	-4467	0	12,466	12,466
South Devon Highway - Council contribution	7,657		470		470		470
TEDC Capital Loans/Grant	20,228		170	575	170	575	170
Transport Highways Structural Maintenance	4,040	450	575	-575	(500)	575	575
Transport Integrated Transport Schemes	(530)	150	(680)		(530)		(530)
Transport - Torquay Gateway Road Improvements	(32)	0	(32)		(32)	O	(32)
Transport - Western Corridor	2,969	80	(516)		(436)	005	(436)
rransport - western Comuoi	12,292	257	142		399	225	624
Babbacombe Beach Road	529		90		90		90
Brixham Harbour - CCTV upgrade	86		7		7		7
Brixham Harbour - Infrastructure Repairs	214		50		50		50
CCTV equipment	518		50		30		50
Torre Valley North Enhancements	36		o o		0		0
Clennon Valley Sport Improvements	69		37		37		37
Flood Alleviation - Cockington		50					
Flood Alleviation - Monksbridge	328	50	80		130		130
Paignton Coastal Defence Scheme	412	346	(5)		351	4 227	351
Paignton Harbour Light Redevelopment	3,142	1,705	(5)		1,700	1,227	2,927
Princess Pier - Structural repair (with Env Agency)	799	700	55		047		55
Torquay Town Dock - Infrastructure Improvements	3,892	796	51		847		847
Public Toilets Modernisation Programme	1,201		937		937		937
Recreation Ground Drainage Network	1,883		0		0		0
	33	400	0		0		0
RICC Improvements - Backlog Repairs RICC Improvements - Landlord Repairs (Parkwood)	1,250	493	356		849	O	849
	1,449		0		0		0
	1,700		0		0		0
Pgn Velopark Cyclocross & Pump Tracks Terro Valloy Sports Pavilion	60		57		57		57
Torre Valley Sports Pavilion	57		29		29		29
Regeneration Programme-Harbour View Hotel Developmt	14,016	765	5,572		6,337		6,337
Nanusens Limited Loan (Econ Growth Fund)	150		0		0		0
Old Toll House (Econ Growth Fund)	1,200	350	0		350	664	1,014
TCCT Occombe Farm Development (EGF)	1,285		0		0		0
Torquay Towns Fund - Accelerated Funds	767		0		0		0
Torquoy Towns Fund (Constal)			0		0		0
Torquay Town Peal Union Square Ph 1	157	52	(34)	_	18	52	70
Torquay Town Deal - Union Square Ph.1	5,050	3,100	100	-3200	0	5,050	5,050
Torquay Town Deal - Strand Land Assembly & Demo	231	231	(18)		213		213
Torquay Town Deal - Harbour Public Realm	2,500	2,500	(92)		2,408		2,408
Torquay Town Deal - Pavilion	2,000	1,900	100		2,000		2,000
Torquay Town Deal - Stronger Future Revenue	0		0		0		0
Torquay Town Deal - Union Square Ph.2	5,993	750	0	-750	0	5,993	5,993
Torquay Town Deal - Core Area Public Realm	600	575	23		598		598
Torquay Town Deal - Torquay Coastal Corridor Pinch Point	0	0	0		0		0
			0		0		0
Paignton Future High Streets Fund (General)	0	0	0		0	0	0
Paignton Future High Streets Fund - Torbay Road	668	0	(20)		(20)	659	639

	158,267	38,470	8,688	(17,570)	0	29,588	43,588	0	0	73,176
Preston (North) - Development of former WCs	718	718	0	-718		0	718			718
		1,250		-1250		0	1,250			1,250
Corbyn Head - Development of former WCs	1,250	1 250	0	1250		0	1 250			1 250
EPIC and SD College (LEP GBF)	1,181		182			182				182
Edginswell Enabing Works (LEP GBF)	1,957	1,757	(7)			1,750				1,750
Lymington Rd Business Centre (LEP GBF/EGF)	3,528	3,330	25			3,355				3,355
			0			0				0
Paignton Future High Streets Fund - Victoria Centre Phase 2	3,862	3,844	18	-3862		0	3,862			3,862
Paignton Future High Streets Fund - Flood Defence	571	114	457	-571		0	571			571
Paignton Future High Streets Fund - Crosssways	0	0	0			0				0
Paignton Future High Streets Fund - Diversification	1,300		0			0	1,300			1,300
Paignton Future High Streets Fund - Picture House	1,285	1,101	0			1,101	0			1,101
Paignton Future High Streets Fund - Victoria Centre Phase 1	652	652	0			652				652
Paignton Future High Streets Fund - Station Square	2,259	1,254	119			1,373	880			2,253

Tackling Climate Change										
Council Fleet Vehicles Solar Farm, Brokenbury (EGF)	4,771	4.005	198	4000		198	4 000			198
Solar Farm, Nightingale Park (EGF)	1,763	1,605	15	-1620		0	1,620			1,620
Torbay Leisure Centre - Decarbonisation Scheme	3,048		(5)	-2915		70	2,915			2,915
Torbay Leisure Gentre - Decarbonisation Geneme	1,850		76			76				76
	11,432	4,525	284	(4,535)	0	274	4,535	0	0	4,809
A Council fit for the future										
Corporate IT Developments	1,896		0			0				0
IT Equipment - TOR2 PB Essential Capital repair works	150 876		47 675			47 675				47 675
Enhancement of Development sites	329	65	2			67	65	60		192
Capital Expedniture from Revenue	3,510		0			0	03	00		0
General Capital Contingency	632		632			632				632
	002		002			002				002
	7,393	65	1,356	0	0	1,421	65	60	0	1,546
Council Borrowing Approvals awaiting prop	osals									
Torre Abbey Renovation - Phase 3 (TC contrib)	1,700	1,700	0	-1700		0	1,700			1,700
Regeneration Programme and Economic Growth Fund	90,391	40,391	0	-40391		(1)	90,391			90,391
Housing Rental Company - Loan	24,815	2,500	(616)	-1884		0	11,884	10,664		22,548
	116,906	44,591	(616)	(43,975)	0	(1)	103,975	10,664	0	114,639
TOTALS	368,454	111,539	17,038	(76,455)	0	52,123	180,138	23,716	0	255,976
CAPITAL PLAN - QUARTER 1 2022/23 -	FUNDING									
Unsupported Borrowing		71,380	8,362	-60904.5		18,838	141,433	18,489		178,759
Grants		37,254	7,293	-14750		29,797	37,475			68,017
Contributions		705	7,293 60	-14/50		765	221	740		986
Revenue		119	(359)			(240)	100			(140)
Reserves		206	568			774	22			796
Capital Receipts		1,876	1,114	-800		2,190	887			7,559
		1,070	1,114	-600	I	2,190	007	4,402		7,559
Total		111,539	17,038	(76,455)	0	52,123	180,138	23,716	0	255,976