

FORWARD PLAN

Compiled on behalf of the Cabinet

Forward Plan published 21 September 2026

1 October 2026 to 31 December 2026

**For information relating to the Forward Plan or to request a copy in another
format or language please contact:
Governance Support (01803) 207087
Email: governance.support@torbay.gov.uk**

Torbay Council

Forward Plan of Key Decisions

Explanatory Note

Torbay Council is required to publish a Forward Plan of all key decisions to be taken in the following four months. The first Plan became effective on 1 March 2002. It is updated when required.

The Regulations define a key decision as a decision that is likely to:

- (i) result in incurring expenditure or making of savings which are significant; or
- (ii) be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in the area.

The Council has produced comprehensive criteria to define "significant" and these are set out on the following page.

The Forward Plan consists of a brief description of the decisions that are to be made, consultation information, key risks and key opportunities.

Copies of the documents referred to in the Forward Plan may be obtained by contacting the Governance Support Team by telephone (01803 207087), email (governance.support@torbay.gov.uk) or post (Town Hall, Castle Circus, Torquay, TQ1 3DR).

The Forward Plan is available free of charge on request from the Governance Support Team of Torbay Council. It is also available on the Council's website (<http://www.torbay.gov.uk/forward-plan>).

The Leader of the Council and Cabinet

To request a copy in another format or language phone 01803 207087

Definitions of "significant"

Expenditure and savings

A proposed decision shall be regarded as a Key Decision by way of **“incurring expenditure or making of savings which are significant”** if any one or more of the following apply:

- (1) In the opinion of the Chief Finance Officer, there is likely to be a budget variation (other than one within a Business Unit) of more than £250,000;
- (2) In the opinion of the Chief Finance Officer, it is likely to result in capital expenditure above that provided for in the capital programme and it is likely to involve an additional call on the Council's internal resources of more than £250,000;
- (3) In the opinion of the relevant Director, the decision is likely to have a material effect on Council services, including where:
 - (i) an existing service will be reduced by more than 10 per cent or will cease altogether;
 - (ii) a service which is currently provided in house will be outsourced (or vice versa); or
 - (iii) a partnership will be entered with a third party which is likely to involve a material element of risk transfer to the Council;
- (4) The proposal involves the acquisition or disposal of land having a value estimated by the Chief Finance Officer to be likely to exceed £250,000;
- (5) The proposal involves the disposal of a capital asset (other than land) having a value estimated by the Chief Finance Officer to be likely to exceed £250,000;
- (6) Where in the opinion of the Director of Corporate Services the proposal is likely to result in compulsory redundancies or major changes to the terms and conditions of employment of 100 or more employees across the Council's functions;

Effect of communities

A proposed decision shall be regarded as a Key Decision by way of being **“significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in the area”** if the relevant Director or Assistant Director, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member, considers that it ought to be included in the Forward Plan having regard to all the circumstances including the following principles:

- (1) A decision may affect a great number of people, or a number of wards, but not significantly and these decisions shall **not** normally be regarded as key;
- (2) A decision that has a significant impact on communities living or working in only one ward will normally be treated as a Key Decision e.g. a school closure or the introduction or amendment of traffic calming measures;
- (3) Where a decision is only likely to have a significant impact on a very small number of people in one ward it will **not** normally be key. But the people affected should be informed of the forthcoming decision in sufficient time for them to exercise their rights to see the relevant papers and make an input into the decision making process;

- (4) Consideration should be given to the level of public interest in the decision. The higher the level of interest the more appropriate it is that the decision should be considered to be key.

We want Torbay and its residents to thrive.

We want Torbay to be a place where we have turned the tide on poverty and tackled inequalities; where our children and older people will have high aspirations and where there are quality jobs, good pay and affordable housing for our residents.

We want Torbay to be the premier resort in the UK, with a vibrant arts and cultural offer for our residents and visitors to enjoy; where our built and natural environment is celebrated and where we play our part in addressing the climate change emergency.

The proposals in this Forward Plan help us to deliver this ambition by supporting the delivery of some or all of the following themes:

- community and people;
- pride in place; and
- economic growth.

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Torbay Destination Management Plan (DMP) Review

The new DMP sets out a clear vision and delivery approach for Torbay to continue to grow and remain competitive within a changing visitor economy. It focuses on maximising tourism opportunities through a collaborative, place-based and business-led approach, bringing together businesses, communities and partners to enhance the overall visitor offer in a sustainable and inclusive way.

The DMP provides a single strategic framework for managing Torbay as both a destination and a place, recognising the visitor economy as an important driver of employment, investment, culture and community wellbeing, and supporting its ambition as the UK's premier coastal destination.

Wards affected:	All Wards
Consultees:	Destination Management Group partners, businesses, key stakeholders, council officers, etc.
Means of Consultation:	The refreshed DMP has been codesigned through various engagement opportunities including interviews, workshops and a survey to gather feedback from businesses and key stakeholders. The refreshed DMP will also be going to formal public consultation.
Documents to be considered:	There are currently no documents published. All documents will normally be published at least five clear working days before the meeting. Where documents are not available five clear working days before the meeting, the documents will be published at the same time as they are made available to the decision maker.
Responsible Cabinet Member and Officer:	Cabinet Member for Tourism, Culture & Events and Corporate Services (Councillor Jacqueline Thomas) Director of Pride in Place (Alan Denby)
Link to targeted actions:	Community and People
Reason for inclusion in the Forward Plan:	Policy Framework
Decision Maker:	Cabinet Cabinet Council

Intended Decision Date:	21 Jul 2026 24 Nov 2026 10 Dec 2026
If you want to make representations contact:	Economy, Investment and Enterprise Team, Torbay Council, Town Hall, Castle Circus, Torquay; email: economyteam@torbay.gov.uk

Torbay Heritage Strategy 2026-2031

The Torbay Heritage Strategy has been revised and updated to reflect the progress made since 2021. The document seeks to build on this foundation and set out our ambitions for the next five years.

Wards affected:	All Wards
Consultees:	Historic England Historic Environment team, Devon County Council South Devon National Landscape South West Coast Path Association Torquay Museum Paignton Heritage Society Brixham Heritage Museum Brixham Town Council Devon Gardens Trust Friends of the Vigilance Kents Cavern Lupton Trust National Lottery Heritage Fund National Trust South West Heritage Trust Torbay Civic Society Torbay Community Development Trust
Means of Consultation:	Stakeholders who had contributed to the Torbay Heritage Strategy 2021-2026 were contacted again in March 2026, along with a few extra organisations who were not able to take part in 2020, for some informal, early-stage consultation. They were asked to revisit the existing version, reflect on progress and tell us about anything that had changed. Nine organisations responded and made positive suggestions. A revised final draft was circulated to the same group in June 2026 for formal consultation. A small number of minor amendments were received and incorporated.
Documents to be considered:	There are currently no documents published. All documents will normally be published at least five clear working days before the meeting. Where documents are not available five clear working days before the meeting, the documents will be published at the same time as they are made available to the decision maker.

Responsible Cabinet Member and Officer:	Cabinet Member for Place Development and Economic Growth and Deputy Leader of the Council (Councillor Chris Lewis), Cabinet Member for Tourism, Culture & Events and Corporate Services (Councillor Jacqueline Thomas) Director of Pride in Place (Alan Denby)
Link to targeted actions:	Pride in Place
Reason for inclusion in the Forward Plan:	High level of public interest
Decision Maker:	Cabinet
Intended Decision Date:	20 Oct 2026
If you want to make representations contact:	Rob Palmer, Heritage and Design Team, Torbay Council, Tor Hill House, Union Street, Torquay TQ2 5QW, robert.palmer@torbay.gov.uk

Hackney Carriage Tariff Increase

To review the Taxi Table of Fares (Taxi Tariff) following a request from the Taxi trade to increase the fare tariff.

Wards affected:	All Wards
Consultees:	Members, Taxi Trade, Members of the public.
Means of Consultation:	If Members agree the proposed changes to the Tariff, then the Council must undertake a public consultation for at least 14 days and publish a notice in a local newspaper.
Documents to be considered:	There are currently no documents published. All documents will normally be published at least five clear working days before the meeting. Where documents are not available five clear working days before the meeting, the documents will be published at the same time as they are made available to the decision maker.
Responsible Cabinet Member and Officer:	Cabinet Member for Adult and Community Services, Public Health and Inequalities (Councillor Hayley Tranter) Director of Adult and Community Services (Anna Coles)
Link to targeted actions:	Community and People; Economic Growth
Reason for inclusion in the Forward Plan:	High level of public interest
Decision Maker:	Cabinet Cabinet
Intended Decision Date:	21 Jul 2026 20 Oct 2026
If you want to make representations contact:	Racheal Hind, Regulatory Services Manager and Commercial Environmental Health, Torbay Council, Town Hall, Castle Circus, Torquay, email: racheal.hind@torbay.gov.uk