

**Please Note: this is a draft impact assessment on a budget proposal. Final impact assessments will be published with final budget papers for the full council meetings taking place in February 2013**

## **Budget Proposals 2013/14: Minor Decision: Business Unit: Community Safety - Community Partnerships**

### **Combined Impact Assessment: Full assessment (Part 2)**

The council and its partners are facing a significant challenge in the savings it needs to make over the next couple of years. This Full Impact Assessment has been developed as a tool to enable business units to fully consider the impact of proposed major decisions on the community. As a council we need to ensure that we are able to deliver the savings that we need to make from the 1<sup>st</sup> April and be able to justify our decisions through any legal challenge.

This full assessment, combined with the initial review, will evidence that you have fully considered the impact of your proposed changes and carried out appropriate consultation on those changes with the key stakeholders. The Combined Impact Assessment will allow Councillors to make informed decisions as part of the decision-making process regarding the council's budget.

**Name:** Frances Hughes **Position:** Executive Head Community Safety

**Business Unit:** Community Safety **Department:** Community Safety – Community Partnerships

**Date Commenced:** November 2012-12-21 **Date:** January 2013 v5

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Summary from Overall Proposal (Updated as required)

Proposal – Outline	Savings 2013/14		Implementation Cost Include brief outline + year incurred	Delivery In place 01/04/13 If earlier or later state date	Risks / impact of proposals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential risks</li> <li>• Impact on community</li> <li>• Knock on impact to other agencies</li> </ul>	Type of decision*		
	Income £ 000's	Budget reduction £ 000's				Internal	Minor	Major
To reduce the amount of grant funding given to Community Partnerships by £30,000		£30,000	N/A	01/04/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Partnerships will have a 50% reduction in the grant funding available to them;</li> <li>• A reduction in grant funding will mean that the Community Partnerships will have to review the way in which they operate and look for alternative funding streams;</li> <li>• The council will become an enabler, rather than a direct service provider;</li> <li>• The Community Partnership Management Group will determine how the funding is allocated, in accordance with the identified needs in the Community Plan;</li> <li>• Reputational damage to the Authority, but this can be</li> </ul>		x	

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	Income £ 000's	Budget reduction £ 000's				Internal	Minor	Major
					offset with the plans to develop a Community Development Trust;			

### Section 1: Purpose of the proposal/strategy/decision

No	Question	Details
1.	Clearly set out the purpose of the proposal	<p><i>Outline exactly what the proposal is / whether there is any change including reasons for the change. List the key objectives of the proposal/strategy.</i></p> <p>The proposal is to reduce the amount of grant funding to Community Partnerships by £30,000 in 2013/14. This reduction is part of an ongoing dialogue with the community and voluntary sector around changing their relationship with the Council and each other. After 10 years of Council-supported development the Community Partnerships have registered themselves as a formal legal entity (Company Limited by Guarantee), and the Council need to change their relationship with them to that of an enabler, rather than a provider.</p> <p>The reduction in funding would still give the Community Partnerships a grant allocation of £33,000. This would be given to the Board of the new Torbay Community Partnership entity for them to allocate across Community Partnerships in accordance with needs identified in the Community Plan. It would be for the Board to prioritise the funding allocation.</p>
2.	Who is intended to benefit / who will be affected?	<i>Who are the key stakeholders / which individuals / specific groups may benefit from the proposal or who will be most affected?</i>

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No	Question	Details
		<p>The Community Partnerships exist in all Wards across Torbay, and the reduction in funding will affect all of them. However, how the remaining funding would be for the Torbay Community Partnership Board to allocate in accordance with the Community Plan priorities.</p> <p>Hele's Angels (which acts as the Community Partnership for Hele and Lower Barton in Torquay) is funded separately and 2013/14 is the second year of a two year, time limited arrangement to support this deprived ward. This funding is not included in this proposal.</p>
3.	<p><b>What is the intended outcome?</b></p>	<p>It is important to identify the specific outcomes that this proposal intends to deliver.</p> <p>That the Council changes its relationship with the community from a provider of services to an enabler. Rather than support the community with a full grant allocation, it will provide a smaller amount of finance and a one year staffing commitment to help the Community Partnership identify a sustainability plan.</p> <p>The Community Partnerships will also be active in this period in the establishment of a Community Development Trust for Torbay, aimed at increasing the resilience and sustainability of the community and voluntary sector as a whole.</p> <p>The aim of a Torbay Community Development Trust would be to recognise the assets of our communities – whether that be people, buildings, or land to support the future of a robust Voluntary and Community Sector. The trust would be jointly owned – and would not take away any of the independence of its membership. But it would be the guardian and custodian of an overarching prioritised Community Development Strategy for Torbay, develop and implement a fundraising strategy to increase the external funding secured for the Bay, and bring together the numerous strengths of the sector. The Trust will seek permission to represent the sector (in as far as anyone can represent such a wide and diverse group of people), but it will also be a self-sustaining entity (through social enterprises) that will create a revenue stream in its own right to support the sector and through this reduce the dependence on grant income.</p> <p>Development trusts are community organisations created to enable sustainable development in their area. They use self-help, trading for social purpose, and ownership of buildings and land, to bring about long-term social,</p>

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No	Question	Details
		<p>economic and environmental benefits in their community. Development trusts create wealth in communities, and keep it there. A development trust is an organisation that is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• engaged in the economic, environmental and social regeneration of a defined area</li> <li>• independent, aiming for self-sufficiency and not for private profit</li> <li>• community based, owned and managed</li> <li>• actively involved in partnerships and alliances between the community, voluntary, private and public sectors</li> </ul> <p>Various umbrella groups for Torbay’s voluntary and community sector have been set up in the past – but none have been formalised nor established with the specific aim of safeguarding the sector, with Trustees acting on the sector’s behalf. The current funding environment makes working more effectively together even more important to ensure that future cuts in funding to do destabilise the sector.</p>

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## **Section 2: Equalities, Consultation and Engagement**

Torbay Council has a moral obligation as well as a duty under the Equality Act 2010 to eliminate discrimination, promote good relations and advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not.

The **Equalities, Consultation and Engagement** section ensures that, as a council, we take into account the Public Sector Equality Duty at an early stage and provide evidence to ensure that we fully consider the impact of our decisions/proposals on the Torbay community.

### **Evidence, Consultation and Engagement**

<b>No</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Have you considered the available evidence?</b>	<p><i>Consider data and research already available locally and nationally. Your assessment should be under-pinned by up-to-date and reliable information about the different groups the proposal is likely to affect. For instance, population profile, satisfaction data, deprivation statistics and how this helps to build a picture around your proposal.</i></p> <p>The Community Plan is the over arching strategic document. The Community Partnerships cover all groups in the population. Over the past 3 years the staff support has been directed at the areas of greatest need in terms of deprivation and social capital – this will continue in 2013/14. The funds will need to be prioritised by the new Torbay Community Partnership entity.</p>
<b>5.</b>	<b>How have you consulted on the proposal?</b>	<p><i>Have you carried out any consultation on your proposal and if so how? Focus groups / survey / events? Remember that it may be important to also consult on any alternative options. Also include who you have consulted with and if applicable which specific groups you have consulted with (i.e. groups who may be specifically affected by your proposal, specific equality or hard to reach groups).</i></p> <p>This proposed budget cut was discussed with the Community Partnership Management Group some months ago – and the possibility of funding cuts was discussed at the Community Partnerships Annual Meeting in September 2012.</p>
<b>6.</b>	<b>Outline the key findings</b>	<p><i>Include feedback on your proposal including where you have consulted on any alternative options. Also include response rates, number of attendees to events / focus groups, outline of specific interest groups consulted. Use bullet points to summarise the key conclusions.</i></p>

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No	Question	Details
		<p>There were 18 Community Partnership representatives at the Annual meeting in September. While the specific budget had not been determined at this point the general principle was discussed and the group present recognised the need to seek alternative sources of funding. This is one of the reasons the decision was taken at the annual meeting to legally register the Community Partnership network – to enable it to access more funding sources.</p>
7.	<p><b>What amendments may be required as a result of the consultation?</b></p>	<p><i>Has feedback from the consultation and engagement process identified any changes required to the proposal? Have you had to alter your decision and look at alternative options?</i></p> <p>No amendments are required yet. The Torbay Community Partnership network has ongoing financial commitments, namely £5k to part fund the Community Fundraising Advisor post in the CVA and £5k to fund a panel partner which is a requirement to assist in the community accessing the government’s Community First grant funding programme. But the current proposed budget covers this.</p>

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### Positive and Negative Equality Impacts

No	Question	Details		
8.	<b>Identify the potential positive and negative impacts on specific groups</b>	<i>It is not enough to state that a proposal will affect everyone equally. There should be more in-depth consideration of available evidence to see if particular groups are more likely to be affected than others – use the table below. You should also consider workforce issues. If you consider there to be no positive or negative impacts use the ‘neutral’ column to explain why.</i>		
		Positive Impact	Negative Impact	Neutral Impact
	All groups in society generally		There will be less funding available for community activities at the neighbourhood level to support local residents.	
	Older or younger people		Initiatives supporting these groups have to date received the largest share of the Community Partnership grants so they are likely to be more affected.	
	People with caring responsibilities			Not specifically targeted by the Community Partnerships
	People with a disability			Not specifically targeted by the Community Partnerships
	Women or men		Impact will be the same for both sexes – see above.	
	People who are black or from a minority ethnic background (BME)			Not specifically targeted by the Community Partnerships
	Religion and Belief			Not specifically targeted by the



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No	Question	Details	
			Community Partnerships
	People who are lesbian, gay or bisexual		Not specifically targeted by the Community Partnerships
	People who are transgendered		Not specifically targeted by the Community Partnerships
	People who are in a marriage or civil partnership		Not specifically targeted by the Community Partnerships
	Women who are pregnant / on maternity leave		Not specifically targeted by the Community Partnerships
9.	<p><b>Is there scope for your proposal to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity and/or foster good relations?</b></p>	<p><i>The council is committed to ensuring that we meet the diverse needs of our community. As part of the Equality Act there is a <u>general duty as well as our moral obligation</u> where we are required to have 'due regard' to eliminating unlawful discrimination, advancing equality of opportunity and foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not. Outline how your proposal meets the general duty.</i></p> <p>The proposals meets the general duty as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• funding of community partnership is a discretionary activity of the council</li> <li>• the council is still funding the Community Partnerships albeit at a lower level</li> <li>• the council will still support the community and voluntary sector with staff resources to assist the development of a Community Development Trust</li> <li>• the Community Partnerships role is to engage a wide cross section of the community and this will remain the case.</li> </ul>	

### Section 3: Steps required to manage the potential impacts identified

No	Action	Details
10.	<b>Summarise any positive impacts and how they will be realised most effectively?</b>	<p><i>Outline any positive impacts that you have identified relating to equalities and how these impacts will be realised most effectively. What ways can the positive impacts be maximised? Use the action plan on page 6 to outline actions, responsible officers and timescales</i></p> <p>In the development of this proposal, we have tried to balance the reality of a significant cut in Central Government funding to protect the most vulnerable members of our community as far as possible.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Partnership will have to operate more cohesively across boundaries to support each other to achieve their objectives;</li> <li>• As a new legal entity, Community Partnerships will have access to funding sources outside of Torbay council</li> <li>• The creation of a Community Development Trust for Torbay is a more sustainable model for community and voluntary sector development which the community and voluntary sector is leading in order to consolidate the sector and Torbay council will support this will staff resources</li> </ul>
11.	<b>Summarise any negative impacts and how these will be managed?</b>	<p><i>Outline any negative impacts that you have identified relating to equalities and how these impacts will be managed / monitored so that they are reduced / eliminated or mitigated. What ways can the negative impact be minimised? Use the action plan on page 6 to outline actions, responsible officers and timescales.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Community Partnerships do not exist just because of the funding. They are an established forum within the communities they serve;</li> <li>• Any reduction in funding will require the Community Partnership to reassess their delivery and funding model going forward</li> <li>• The Council will work with the Torbay Community Partnership Board to help them affect the necessary changes</li> <li>• The potential decline in funding to activities targeted at youth and older people will be compensated by better links with the Torbay Older Citizen's Forum and the Youth Neighbourhood Grants, plus more external fundraising with the support of the CVA based Community Fundraising Advisor.</li> </ul>

#### Section 4: Course of Action

No	Action	Details
12.	<p><b>State a course of action</b></p> <p><b>[please refer to action plan on page 9]</b></p>	<p><i>Clearly identify an option and justify reasons for this decision. The following four outcomes are possible from an assessment (and more than one may apply to a single proposal). Please select from the 4 outcomes below and justify reasons for your decision - If '3' please provide full justification :</i></p> <p><b>Where: -</b></p> <p><b>Outcome 1: No major change required</b> - EIA has not identified any potential for adverse impact in relation to equalities and all opportunities to promote equality have been taken.</p> <p>The impact is likely to be shared by all members of society.</p> <p><b>Outcome 2: Adjustments to remove barriers</b> – Action to remove the barriers identified in relation to equalities have been taken or actions identified to better promote equality.</p> <p>The decline in grant funding available for activities supporting youth and older people will be compensated by signposted the Community Partnerships to other sources.</p>

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## Section 5: Monitoring and Action Plan

No	Action	Details
13.	<b>Outline plans to monitor the actual impact of your proposals</b>	<p><i>The full impact of decisions will only be known once it is introduced. Identify arrangements for reviewing the actual impact of proposals once they have been implemented. Please also use the action plan below.</i></p> <p>The new Community Partnership Board will be asked to monitor the impact of this budget cut and report to the Council on a quarterly basis.</p>

***Please use the action plan below to summarise all of the key actions, responsible officers and timescales as a result of this impact assessment***

### Action plan

Please detail below any actions you need to take: -

No.	Action	Reason for action / contingency	Resources	Responsibility	Deadline date
1	To consult with the Community Partnership group on the proposals to reduce the funding to Community Partnerships	3 month consultation on changes in funding is required as part of the council's budget process	Officer time	Community Safety Business unit	January 2013
2	Torbay Council will work with the new Torbay Community Partnership Board	Ongoing dialogue and partnership working will ensure that the community partnership are continued to be supported in their work	Officer time	Community Safety Business unit	By 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2013
3	Torbay Council will make staff	The development of a	Officer Time	Community	April 2013 to

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	resources available to support the development of a Community Development Trust for Torbay in support of the whole of the community and voluntary sector	Community Development Trust will be a new venture to consolidate the community and voluntary sector and make it more sustainable. The council staff resources will be required to support this change.		Safety Business Unit	March 2014.
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