

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 1st 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

Date: January 2013

Summary from Overall Proposal

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"> • Potential risks • Impact on community • Knock on impact to other agencies 	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	N/A	01/04/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Partnerships will have a 50% reduction in the grant funding available to them; • 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; • The council will become an enabler, rather than a direct service provider; • The Community Partnership Management Group will determine how the funding is allocated, in accordance with the identified needs in the Community Plan; • Reputational damage to the Authority, but this can be offset with the plans to develop a Community Development Trust; 		X	

Section 1: Purpose of the proposal/strategy/decision

No	Question	Details
1.	Clearly set out the purpose of the proposal	<p>The proposal is to reduce the amount of grant funding to Community Partnerships (16 partnerships in total) 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?	<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.	What is the intended outcome?	<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 supporting 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, developing and implementing 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</p>

No	Question	Details
		<p>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, economic and environmental benefits in their community. Development trusts create wealth in communities, and keep it there.</p> <p>A development trust is an organisation that is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • engaged in the economic, environmental and social regeneration of a defined area • independent, aiming for self-sufficiency and not for private profit • community based, owned and managed • actively involved in partnerships and alliances between the community, voluntary, private and public sectors <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 do not destabilise the sector.</p>

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

No	Question	Details
4.	Have you considered the available evidence?	The Community Plan is the over arching strategic document. The Community Partnerships (16 partnerships in total) 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.
5.	How have you consulted on the proposal?	This proposed budget cut was discussed with the Community Partnership Management Group – and the possibility of funding cuts was discussed at the Community Partnerships Annual Meeting in September 2012. Formal notice was given on the 6 th December 2012 at the Community Partnership Management Group
6.	Outline the key findings	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. This proposal also forms part of the Overview and Scrutiny - Priorities & Resources meeting that took place on the 11 th January 2013. Members of the public and stakeholders were invited to attend this meeting to have their say. Please Note: The comments of the Overview and Scrutiny Board are set out in paragraphs 4.10-4.15 of its report “Review of Priorities and Resources 2013/2014”

No	Question	Details
7.	What amendments may be required as a result of the consultation?	No amendments are required. 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.

Positive and Negative Equality Impacts

No	Question	Details		
8.	Identify the potential positive and negative impacts on specific groups			
		Positive Impact	Negative Impact	Neutral Impact
	All groups in society generally		There will be less council funding available for community activities at the neighbourhood level to support local residents. The funds will need to be prioritised by the new Torbay Community Partnership entity.	
	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. The funds will need to be prioritised by the new Torbay Community Partnership entity.	
	People with caring responsibilities		There will be less council funding available for community activities at the neighbourhood level to support local residents. The funds will need to be prioritised by the new Torbay Community Partnership entity.	
	People with a disability		There will be less council funding available for community activities at the neighbourhood level to support local residents. The funds will need to be prioritised by the new Torbay Community Partnership entity.	

No	Question	Details	
	Women or men		There will be less council funding available for community activities at the neighbourhood level to support local residents. The funds will need to be prioritised by the new Torbay Community Partnership entity.
	People who are black or from a minority ethnic background (BME)		There will be less council funding available for community activities at the neighbourhood level to support local residents. The funds will need to be prioritised by the new Torbay Community Partnership entity.
	Religion and Belief		There will be less council funding available for community activities at the neighbourhood level to support local residents. The funds will need to be prioritised by the new Torbay Community Partnership entity.
	People who are lesbian, gay or bisexual		There will be less council funding available for community activities at the neighbourhood level to support local residents. The funds will need to be prioritised by the new Torbay Community Partnership entity.
	People who are transgendered		There will be less council funding available for community activities at the neighbourhood level to support local residents. The funds will need to be prioritised by the new Torbay Community Partnership entity.

No	Question	Details	
	People who are in a marriage or civil partnership		There will be less council funding available for community activities at the neighbourhood level to support local residents. The funds will need to be prioritised by the new Torbay Community Partnership entity.
	Women who are pregnant / on maternity leave		There will be less council funding available for community activities at the neighbourhood level to support local residents. The funds will need to be prioritised by the new Torbay Community Partnership entity.
	Socio-economic (including child poverty)		There will be less council funding available for community activities at the neighbourhood level to support local residents. The funds will need to be prioritised by the new Torbay Community Partnership entity.
9.	Is there scope for your proposal to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity and/or foster good relations?	<p>The proposals meets the general duty as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the council is still funding the Community Partnerships albeit at a lower level • the council will still support the community and voluntary sector with staff resources to assist the development of a Community Development Trust • the Community Partnerships role is to engage a wide cross section of the community and this will remain the case. 	

Section 3: Steps required to manage the potential impacts identified

No	Action	Details
10.	Summarise any positive impacts and how they will be realised most effectively?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Partnership will have to operate more cohesively across boundaries to support each other to achieve their objectives As a new legal entity, Community Partnerships will have access to funding sources outside of Torbay Council, 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.
11.	Summarise any negative impacts and how these will be managed?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Community Partnerships do not exist just because of the funding. They are an established forum within the communities they serve. Any reduction in funding will require the Community Partnership to reassess their delivery and funding model going forward. The Council will work with the Torbay Community Partnership Board to help them affect the necessary changes. 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 plus more external fundraising with the support of the CVA based Community Fundraising Advisor.

Section 4: Recommended course of Action

No	Action	Details
12.	State a recommended course of action [please refer to action plan]	<p>Outcome 2: Adjustments to remove barriers – 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 of funding.</p>

	It is recommended that this proposal is implemented.
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Section 5: Monitoring and Action Plan

No	Action	Details
13.	Outline plans to monitor the actual impact of your proposals	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.

Action plan

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 st April 2013
3	Torbay Council will make staff resources available to support the development of a Community Development Trust for Torbay in support of the whole of the community and voluntary sector	The development of a 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.	Officer Time	Community Safety Business Unit	April 2013 to March 2014.