

Budget Proposals 2013/14: Minor Decision: Business Unit: Community Safety - Street Wardens

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: Fran Hughes

Position: Executive Head Community Safety

Business Unit: Community Safety

Department: Community Safety

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
Reduce the number of Street Wardens by 2 FTE, with the results that Street Wardens will be spread across a wider geographical area		45	None	01/04/2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reductions in the visible presence provided by the Street Wardens as less officers will have to cover the same geographical areas covered by the Street Warden programme. Reductions in the support for the Junior Street Wardens (JSW Crew). Support will continue to be provided to those most vulnerable in the community. Reduced resource across the wider service area including Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) investigation, victim support and environmental crime investigation. Will increase workload in other areas. A reduced ability to support community development at the same level as currently. 		x	

Section 1: Purpose of the proposal/strategy/decision

No	Question	Details
1.	<p>Clearly set out the purpose of the proposal</p>	<p>Reduce the number of Street Wardens employed by the Council from 7 to 5 – there are currently two vacant posts (There is an additional Street Warden employed by the Torquay BID rather than the council that operates in Torquay Town Centre).</p> <p>Torbay Council currently employs 6 Street Wardens and 1 Senior Street Warden to cover the areas of Watcombe, Hele, Torre, Queen Elizabeth Drive, Paignton. The Wardens role is multi-faceted and includes:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A visible presence in communities; • Supporting community activities and events; • Undertaking various regulatory interventions (e.g. deterring dog fouling, litter and ASB); • Coordinating the Junior Street Warden Programme (JSW Crew); • Providing support to the most vulnerable in our communities; • Facilitating community events; • Supporting partners to deliver high community confidence; <p>More details can be found at: www.torbay.gov.uk/index/yourservices/communityprotection/policingandsafety/streetwardens/htm</p> <p>The Street wardens will still expected to cover the same geographical areas but will have less time to spend there. There will still be a Street Warden in all the existing areas, but the resilience of the scheme and the ability fo the wardens to participate in all of the activities that they currently support will be reduced.</p>
2.	<p>Who is intended to benefit / who will be affected?</p>	<p>The areas of Torre, Hele, Watcombe and Blatchcome will be affected.</p> <p>There will be less of a visible Street Warden presence in each area, as the Wardens will have to cover wider areas to accommodate the staff losses.</p> <p>However, 2 Street Warden posts are currently vacant.</p>

No	Question	Details
		<p>PCSOs still operate in Torbay and will continue to operate in the affected areas.</p> <p>We will have to reduce the amount of support for JSW Crew, community development including initiatives such as the Preventative Community Team in Watcombe and Hele.</p> <p>Police, Community Partnerships, JSW Crew, other community representatives are key stakeholders</p>
3.	What is the intended outcome?	<p>Not to fill the two vacant posts. The reduction will result in less Street Warden cover being provided in all of the areas street wardens currently staff. Although there will still be one Street Warden allocated to each area, at times of officer holiday/sickness, etc, the cover will be lost.</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?	<p>Street Wardens are deployed in the most deprived areas of Torbay. 15% (21,000) of the population live in areas in the top 10% most deprived in England (2010).</p> <p>They provide a visible presence in terms of patrolling on foot; they support community events; check on vulnerable members of the community; support community environmental projects and environmental clean ups; support health improvements through lifestyle changes and reduce the inequalities gap; investigate cases of antisocial behaviour and support victims; provide a conduit between the community and the council and other statutory partners; reduce costs to all agencies through early interventions and sound intelligence from communities.</p>
5.	How have you consulted on the proposal?	<p>This proposal forms part of the public budget consultation online/paper survey which has been undertaken.</p> <p>This proposal also forms part of the Overview and Scrutiny - priorities and resources meetings that took place throughout January where members of the public and stakeholders have been invited to attend and have their say.</p>
6.	Outline the key findings	<p><u>Priorities & Resources:</u></p> <p>Representations made at the Priorities & Resources (Overview & Scrutiny) meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Street wardens are saving the Council money i.e. There has been a reduction in anti-social behaviour” • “Street warden service needs to retain seven street wardens” • “There should be a partnership approach with police and housing associations”

No	Question	Details												
		<p>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”</p> <p><u>Torbay Budget Consultation:</u></p> <p>Please Note: This question includes both Community Protection & Street Wardens</p> <p>Q5) Do you support this proposal?</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1126 552 1565 724"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Number</th> <th>Percent</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>228</td> <td>78.4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>63</td> <td>21.6%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>291</td> <td>100.0%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Most respondents (78.4%) support the proposal to reduce the community protection budget by reducing the amount of work carried out on pollution, prioritising services to vulnerable people and reducing the number of street wardens.</p> <p>Respondents who said no, they did not support the proposal were asked to say why they didn't support it. Key issues from these responses with examples of comments regarding the proposal are outlined in the Torbay Budget Consultation report.</p> <p>Please see Torbay Budget Consultation Report 2013 – 14 for more information</p>		Number	Percent	Yes	228	78.4%	No	63	21.6%	Total	291	100.0%
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Yes	228	78.4%												
No	63	21.6%												
Total	291	100.0%												
7.	<p>What amendments may be required as a result of the consultation?</p>	<p>To be considered following ratification at Full Council</p>												

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		<p>There will be a reduced Street Warden capacity in all affected areas, which are in the top 10 most deprived areas in the country.</p> <p>However the remaining service will be targeted towards the most vulnerable in each area.</p>	<p>The Street Warden Scheme will remain focused on Torbay's most deprived communities and all of the current areas served by the Street Warden Scheme will continue to get a service. This service will be targeted towards the most vulnerable in each area.</p>
	Older or younger people		<p>There will be less opportunities for younger people as the JSW Crew Scheme is reduced. We will not be able to provide the range and frequency of JSW Crew activities in each area</p> <p>Less support for elderly clients as wardens often identify and work with those most vulnerable in the community – Where vulnerability issues are not being addressed through statutory services, the wardens often provide informal but vital support in terms of ensuring vulnerable individuals do not become isolated and have access to key services. With less wardens the ability to ensure this continues will be reduced.</p>	<p>The Council will ensure the equality of the remaining scheme to avoid discrimination.</p>
	People with caring			No differential impact – see above

No	Question	Details	
	responsibilities		
	People with a disability		No differential impact – see above
	Women or men		No differential impact – see above
	People who are black or from a minority ethnic background (BME)		No differential impact – see above
	Religion and Belief		No differential impact – see above
	People who are lesbian, gay or bisexual		No differential impact – see above
	People who are transgendered		No differential impact – see above
	People who are in a marriage or civil partnership		No differential impact – see above
	Women who are pregnant / on maternity leave		No differential impact – see above
	Socio-economic (including child poverty)		No differential impact – see above
9.	Is there scope for your proposal to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity and/or foster good relations?	The Street Warden Scheme will remain focused on Torbay's most deprived communities and all of the current areas served by the Street Warden Scheme will continue to get a service. This service will be targeted towards the most vulnerable in each area.	

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?	The proposal recognises the need for support in the current Street Warden areas, and will retain a Street Warden service in all these areas. However, there will be times when continuity of service cannot be maintained due to less staff resources. We will however work closely with the Police, who provide PCSOs in the same areas to ensure that we effectively coordinate our activities to ensure that we do not duplicate activity, but compliment each other's role and effectively work together to support and safeguard our communities.
11.	Summarise any negative impacts and how these will be managed?	The budget proposal maintains a Street Warden in all the geographical areas currently covered by the Street Wardens. We will be working with the communities affected, through the Community Partnerships and other community representatives to work up a business plan for each of the areas for the coming year. The business plan will detail our commitment to each area, through negotiation and based on each communities requirements.

Section 4: Recommended Course of Action

No	Action	Details
12.	State a recommended course of action [please refer to action plan on page 9]	<p>Outcome 1: No major change required - EIA has not identified any potential for adverse impact in relation to equalities and all opportunities to promote equality have been taken.</p> <p>To formally implement the proposal to permanently reduce the number of Street Wardens from 7 – 5, although this has in effect already occurred as there are 2 vacant posts.</p> <p>It is recommended that this proposal is implemented.</p>

Section 5: Monitoring and Action Plan

No	Action	Details
13.	Outline plans to monitor the actual impact of your proposals	The Street Wardens will still be working in the specified geographic locations. They will report any significant changes, community tensions or increased vulnerability in their areas. The Partnership Tasking process will also monitor trends in crime, hate crime and community tension and prioritise these for action, if thresholds are met. The newly established Vulnerability Group will also deal with individual cases of vulnerability where this is identified, through a multiagency approach – This group will ensure that issues of vulnerability are escalated across partner agencies so that those of concern receive an appropriate level of support and/or signposting.

Action plan

No.	Action	Reason for action / contingency	Resources	Responsibility	Deadline date
2	Maintain the Partnership Tasking process to ensure that trends are identified quickly.	Partnership working will ensure that risks and vulnerability are identified quickly and a multi agency approach displayed where necessary.	Officer time	Community Safety Business Unit	Ongoing
3	Work with Police PCSOs to effectively coordinate activities, avoid duplication and work together to support and safeguard vulnerable communities.	Partnership working will ensure that the most vulnerable receive an appropriate level of resources.	Officer time	Community Safety Business Unit	Ongoing
4	Work with community partnerships and other community representatives in each area to determine the business plan for the street wardens for the coming year.	To ensure resources are targeted at the areas of highest need and importance to the community	Officer time	Community Safety Business Unit	End March 2013