

## **Record of Decisions**

### **Local Government Association (LGA) and Local Partnerships (LP) : Review of Wholly Owned Companies 2021 - Report and Action Plan**

#### **Decision Taker**

Cabinet on 14 December 2021.

#### **Decision**

1. That the Local Government Association and Local Partnership be thanked for undertaking their review of the Council's Wholly Owned Companies with primary focus on the TDA and their resulting Report (as set out at Appendix 1) be accepted.
2. That the LGA and LP Wholly Owned Companies Review 2021 Action Plan (as set out at Appendix 2) be approved.
3. That the Audit Committee be requested to monitor the implementation of the action plan.

#### **Reason for the Decision**

The reasons for the decision are to ensure an action plan is in place to embrace the recommendations of the LGA and LP.

#### **Implementation**

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 29 December 2021 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in the Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

#### **Information**

During the summer 2021, the LGA and LP undertook a review of the Council's Wholly Owned Companies at the request of the Chief Executive with a primary focus on the TDA. The review focused on whether the work and structure of the Council's companies provided the Council with maximum value in light of lessons learnt from recent public interest reports into corporate failings of other councils and their wholly owned companies.

As a result of the work undertaken, they identified a set of recommendations in order for the Council to improve the control, effectiveness and accountability of its wholly owned companies. There were some strategically significant recommendations for the future relationship between the Council and its wholly owned companies, with the remaining addressing operational effectiveness and accountability.

An action plan had also been prepared to respond to the LGA's and LP's recommendations, to ensure the Council embraces the learning and feedback from the review.

At the meeting Councillor Steve Darling proposed and Councillor Cowell seconded a motion that was agreed unanimously by the Cabinet, as set out above.

**Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision**

An alternative option would be to not accept the LGA and LP Report and resulting action plan – this was not recommended as implementation of the action plan would enable the Council and its wholly owned companies to continue to improve.

**Is this a Key Decision?**

No

**Does the call-in procedure apply?**

Yes

**Declarations of interest** (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the Standards Committee)

Councillors Law and Long, and Kevin Mowat, Director of Place declared a non-pecuniary interest as the Council’s appointed representatives on the Torbay Economic Development Ltd Group, also known as TDA Group.

**Published**

17 December 2021

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Leader of Torbay Council on behalf of the Cabinet