

**Meeting:** Torbay Health & Wellbeing Board     **Date:** 19 June 2025

**Wards affected:** All

**Report Title:** Torbay Turning the Tide programme report

**When does the decision need to be implemented?** No decision required; report for information

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## 1. Purpose of Report

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- 1.1 This paper provides a high level summary of the Torbay Council Turning the Tide programme, for members' information and engagement. Members previously received a written report in September 2024 and have received quarterly oral updates on progress.

## 2. Reason for Proposal and its benefits

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- 2.1 The programme oversees and supports initiatives to help people experiencing difficulties associated with the challenges of poverty in Torbay.

## 3. Recommendation(s) / Proposed Decision

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- 3.1 Members are asked to note the report and consider how they may wish to be engaged in the future work programme.

## Supporting Information

### 1. Introduction

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- 1.1 The report covers the following:
- A short summary of the programme to date

- Workshop and outputs February 2025
- Action planning 2025/26
- Synergies and opportunities
- Opportunities for involvement.

## 2. Torbay Turning the Tide programme to date

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- 2.1 Torbay Council's Turning the Tide programme was modelled on the Marmot principles first set out in *Fair Society, Healthy Lives* in 2008 [Fair Society Healthy Lives \(The Marmot Review\) - IHE \(instituteofhealthequity.org\)](#). The programme is chaired by Torbay Council's Director of Public Health and has input from cross-Council departments as well as partners across the health, care and voluntary sectors in Torbay. In 2022/23 the programme evolved to respond to the cost of living challenges facing local families and communities, placing a stronger focus on the drivers of poverty and ill-health including food, fuel, employment, skills and economic stability.

## 3. Workshop and outputs February 2025

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- 3.1 Additional members were coopted into the programme during 2024 and contributed to a workshop for the Council Senior Leadership Team on 3 February 2025. This involved a deep dive into the data around inequalities and social mobility, sharing of case studies describing the experiences of local individuals and families, and a scenario exercise designed to highlight the drivers for poverty and the levers for change. Members then undertook a review of our collective strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats in relation tackling poverty, and prioritised areas for action for 2025/26.

## 4. Action planning 2025/26

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- 4.1 The aim of the programme was reconfirmed as 'breaking the cycle of poverty and promoting social mobility in Torbay'.
- 4.2 A priority group for especial focus during 2025/26 was identified as young people and families, where interventions are both critical and timely in terms of influencing future life chances and having a positive impact on successive generations.

4.3 The table below is the resulting action planning framework. This covers the target populations, settings, activities, levers and measures, from which actions are built up.

Vision	Breaking the cycle - promoting social mobility in Torbay									
We want to...	Promote aspiration		Support young people out of benefits		Support people out of ill health into work			Build resilience		
We will work with...	Education		Businesses		Anchors			Communities & places		
Areas of activity	Training – indivs & employers	Coaching & mentoring	Role models & peer support	Explore non-traditional jobs & roles	Disability confident employer	Transport (home/ work/ educ/ health/ social)	Apprenticeships	Health support & coaching	Housing support pathways	
Target groups for extra help	Care experienced	Carers	Homeless single males	Health conditions & disabilities	Neurodiverse; PWLD; SMI		Neighbourhoods	People in Youth Justice pathways	NEETs	
Settings	Schools & Colleges	Family Hubs		Business forums & networks		Community groups & venues	NHS, GP practices			
Mechanisms, Enablers, Levers	Connect to Work	Shared Prosperity Fund		DfE 16-19 funding	Workwell		Make it an LCP priority		Combined Authority (Adult Skills & Educ Fund; Transport; Housing)	
Measures	Short term	Work & skills (NEETs, DWP stats re work & health)		Longer term	Deprivation, economic, health & disability		People & community	Wellbeing; resilience; connections		

4.4 Action areas identified so far cover:

- Supporting people (back) into work, including from long term ill-health
- Reducing the risk of care experienced young people experiencing poverty, with budgeting advice and practical support
- Promoting disability confident employers
- Improving housing conditions for people with long term health conditions (eg respiratory) or on discharge from hospital

These actions are being refined and other action areas identified. It is important that the Turning the Tide programme focuses on those areas where action is not already happening elsewhere, and our combined efforts can have most impact.

4.5 A Turning the Tide dashboard is being developed to inform the work. This will include measures that give an indication of worsening or improving conditions for our target populations in the Bay, for example referrals for housing support, and use of food banks or social supermarkets. Individual indicators

may be capable of more than one meaning but taken together they will give us a sense of progress or otherwise.

## 5. Synergies and opportunities

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5.1 There are a number of policies and programmes which have a strong synergy with the Turning the Tide programme, or which offer a potential lever to promote the work. Additional members representing these areas have been invited to join the group to ensure a consistent approach and to help us to maximise impact where we have common priorities.

5.2 These include:

- The Workwell and Connect to work programmes bringing together employment and health
- The community wealthbuilding programme
- The work of the anchor institutions network
- Torbay Economic Strategy (joint workshop scheduled for 24 June)
- Torbay Place Board priority programme areas, in particular economic development
- The NHS 10 year plan and the shift from 'treatment to prevention'
- The South Local Care Partnership agenda including the new inequalities strategy and the proposed priority around health and work
- The South West as a Marmot Region (tackling inequalities)
- The Coastal navigator network proposal June 2025
- Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2025 presenting the latest picture of population need and inequalities
- The opportunity to influence the priorities of the Torbay Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy 2026

## 6. Opportunities for involvement

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6.1 Members are invited to highlight any areas of their work that would usefully be aligned with the Turning the Tide programme and to identify how they may wish to be involved.

## 7. Financial Opportunities and Implications

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- 7.1 None specific to this report although the programme takes account of the economic challenges faced by communities in Torbay and will look to lever existing investment, or to prepare future national funding bids, in support of the poverty reduction agenda.

## 8. Engagement and Consultation

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- 8.1 None.

## 9. Tackling Climate Change

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- 9.1 Improving energy efficiency is one of the objectives of the programme.

## 10. Associated Risks

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- 10.1 Risks relating to this programme are held on individual programme risk registers where relevant.

## 11. Equality Impacts - Identify the potential positive and negative impacts on specific groups

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	Positive Impact	Negative Impact & Mitigating Actions	Neutral Impact
Older or younger people	Y		
People with caring Responsibilities	Y		
People with a disability	Y		
Women or men	Y		
People who are black or from a minority ethnic background (BME) (Please note Gypsies / Roma are within this community)	Y		
Religion or belief (including lack of belief)	Y		
People who are lesbian, gay or bisexual	Y		

People who are transgendered			Y
People who are in a marriage or civil partnership			Y
Women who are pregnant / on maternity leave	Y		
Socio-economic impacts (Including impact on child poverty issues and deprivation)	Y		
Public Health impacts (How will your proposal impact on the general health of the population of Torbay)	Y		

## 10. Cumulative Council Impact

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10.1 None.

## 11. Cumulative Community Impacts

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11.1 Impact is expected to be positive if programmes are delivered.

