



Torquay Place Leadership Board

Summary of initial projects submitted for Plan for Neighbourhoods funding

August 2025

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1. Redevelopment of Union Square Shopping Centre

Proposer: Torbay Council

Summary:

This flagship regeneration project proposes the comprehensive redevelopment of Union Square, a key site in Torquay's town centre. The scheme involves partial demolition of the existing shopping centre, with the retention and repurposing of the multi-storey car park. The vision is to deliver a new 4/5 storey residential block fronting Union Street (85 affordable units with ground-floor commercial), a 2-storey internal apartment block (14 units), and a revitalised Pannier Market for retail and community use. The ground floor of the car park will be reconfigured for healthcare and commercial purposes, and new public green spaces will be created, including a pocket park and private gardens for residents. The project is strategically aligned with the Torquay Neighbourhood Plan and Town Investment Plan, aiming to function as a catalyst for wider town centre renewal, condense and focus the retail offer, and increase local footfall. The economic appraisal indicates a benefit-to-cost ratio of 1.9:1, with significant long-term economic and social benefits, including job creation, increased housing supply, and improved public realm. The scheme is phased, with £11m of Town Deal funding already secured for design and land assembly, and an additional £5.5m sought for enabling works and further land acquisition.

Indicative Cost: £84,000,000 (full scheme); £5,500,000 (next phase)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Town centre regeneration and placemaking
- New affordable housing
- Community infrastructure
- Public realm improvements
- Health and wellbeing (via healthcare facilities)
- Economic development and job creation

2. Support for Non-Domestic Energy Efficiency

Proposer: Torbay Council

Summary:

This proposal seeks to establish a grant scheme supporting local businesses, high streets, and community infrastructure to invest in energy efficiency and decarbonisation. The scheme will offer grants for infrastructure upgrades such as improved heating, ventilation, and renewable technologies, with a focus on deprived areas of Torquay. The intervention is designed to help businesses reduce energy, water,

and waste bills, create and safeguard jobs, and support the transition to net zero. The approach is holistic, aiming to address climate challenges, improve business resilience, and support the local economy. The scheme anticipates supporting around 50 businesses annually, with grants match-funded by recipients. The project will also provide technical advice and support, leveraging existing council expertise. The annual delivery cost is estimated at £170,000, with match funding required from businesses.

Indicative Cost: £170,000 per annum (match funding required)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Decarbonisation and energy efficiency
- Business support and economic development
- Climate resilience
- Supporting local high streets

3. Royal Lyceum Theatre Revitalisation

Proposer: Unleashed Theatre

Summary:

This ambitious project aims to restore and modernise the Royal Lyceum, a much-loved landmark and vital community hub in central Torquay. The Lyceum currently provides a safe, inclusive space for a wide range of groups, including those experiencing homelessness, mental health challenges, and social isolation, as well as schools, charities, and local theatre companies. Decades of underinvestment have left the building in urgent need of repair and modernisation. The proposal includes phased works: roof and façade repairs, installation of a stained glass canopy, auditorium roof repairs and heating, foyer and backstage renovations, full auditorium refurbishment, and development of new community spaces. The vision is to preserve the building's heritage while reimagining it as a sustainable, thriving centre for community-led arts, wellbeing, and social support. The project is expected to unlock underused areas, create new income opportunities, and function as a catalyst for wider regeneration in one of Torquay's most deprived areas. The Lyceum's revitalisation is anticipated to inspire neighbouring investment, foster community pride, and strengthen the social, cultural, and economic fabric of the town.

Indicative Cost: £225,000–£3,000,000 (phased)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Heritage asset restoration
- Community hubs and facilities
- Arts, culture, and creative industries

- Town centre regeneration
- Health and wellbeing (via social support and inclusion)

4. Business-Led Town Centre Improvements

Proposer: Town Centre Partnership/Tibo

Summary:

This proposal represents a commitment from the local business community to develop and submit a package of improvements for Torquay town centre, following a dedicated consultation. While details are pending, the focus is expected to be on enhancing the trading environment, supporting local enterprise, and improving the attractiveness and functionality of the town centre for businesses, residents, and visitors.

Indicative Cost: To be confirmed

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Town centre regeneration
- Business support and economic development
- Public realm improvements
- Community engagement and partnership working

5. Mentor in Violence Prevention (MVP) in Schools

Proposer: Torbay Council

Summary:

This targeted intervention aims to embed the Mentor in Violence Prevention (MVP) programme in Torquay's primary schools, focusing on pupils aged 6 to 10. The initiative trains Year 6 pupils to mentor younger peers, building bystander awareness and peer mentoring skills to address bullying and reduce violence in school and community settings. The programme is evidence-based, with proven outcomes including improved behaviour, reduced bullying, increased pupil confidence, and enhanced school culture. The approach is initiative-taking, empowering pupils to shape safer, more empathetic communities and addressing early indicators of future crime. The MVP model is adaptable to emerging issues such as hate crime and discrimination, and supports schools in creating inclusive, respectful environments. The project responds to rising exclusion rates, anti-social behaviour, and the emergence of harmful attitudes among children, aiming to deliver long-term community safety and wellbeing.

Indicative Cost: £54,000 per annum

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Early intervention and prevention
- Youth mentoring and leadership
- Crime and anti-social behaviour reduction
- Community safety and cohesion
- Education and opportunity

6. Torquay Town Centre CCTV Upgrade

Proposer: Torbay Council

Summary:

This project seeks to relocate and upgrade Torquay's town centre CCTV infrastructure, creating a centralised, multi-agency hub with advanced AI search capabilities. The new facility will support an expanded CCTV network, enable rapid identification and tracking of individuals or vehicles, and provide dedicated space for police collaboration. The investment will enhance surveillance coverage, accelerate incident detection and resolution, and support targeted policing and safeguarding of vulnerable individuals. The upgraded system is designed to future-proof Torbay's community safety infrastructure, ensuring responsiveness to evolving threats and technological advancements. The project is a direct response to persistent crime hotspots, high demand for CCTV support, and the need for improved operational efficiency. The new hub will also support a robust communications plan to build public trust and confidence in community safety.

Indicative Cost: £80,000 (capital, one-off)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Crime prevention and public safety
- Digital and physical infrastructure
- Multi-agency collaboration
- Town centre management
- Community reassurance

7. Complex Needs Navigator (Homeless Hostel)

Proposer: Torbay Council

Summary:

This proposal would fund a dedicated Complex Needs Navigator post based at the Homeless Hostel on Factory Row. The role provides intensive outreach and in-reach

support to individuals experiencing homelessness and multiple disadvantage, including mental health issues, substance misuse, and trauma. The Navigator collaborates closely with residents and rough sleepers, building trust and facilitating access to vital services. The post strengthens multi-agency collaboration, acting as a bridge between individuals and statutory and voluntary sector partners. The intervention is trauma-informed, aiming to reduce repeat homelessness, ease pressure on crisis services, and contribute to wider system change. The project responds to Torbay's acute challenges: high rates of rough sleeping, complex support needs, and strong links between homelessness, crime, and disorder. The Navigator is expected to assist up to 100 individuals annually, improving engagement, supporting transitions to stable accommodation, and identifying service gaps for system-wide improvement.

Indicative Cost: £52,000 per annum

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Homelessness prevention and support
- Multi-agency working
- Health and wellbeing
- Crime and anti-social behaviour reduction
- Community safety and inclusion

8. Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

Proposer: Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC)

Summary:

A suite of environmental and policing interventions to design out crime and anti-social behaviour, including improved lighting, CCTV, street furniture, signage, community art, and the creation of safe zones. Projects aim to deter anti-social behaviour, encourage positive use of public spaces, and foster community pride. Additional interventions may include hotspot policing, mentoring, diversionary activities for young offenders, and the establishment of multi-agency crime reduction hubs. The approach is holistic, combining environmental, social, and policing strategies to create safer, more welcoming neighbourhoods. A range of measures were submitted by the OPCC aligned to preapproved PfN projects. A tailored proposal will be developed following engagement feedback.

Indicative Cost: To be confirmed

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Crime prevention through environmental design and public realm improvements
- Community safety and crime reduction

- Youth diversion and mentoring
- Multi-agency hubs
- Community engagement

9. Torquay Station Step-Free Access

Proposer: Safe, Sustainable Travel Torbay

Summary:

This project would deliver a fully accessible, step-free path linking the main entrance of Torquay train station to Rathmore Road, replacing an informal, muddy desire line. The new path would be built to modern accessibility standards, with a gentle gradient, durable all-weather surfacing, and sufficient width for safe passing. Additional features include drainage, edging, and low-energy lighting, ensuring year-round usability and safety. The scheme addresses a critical gap in station connectivity, particularly for wheelchair users, parents with prams, and visitors with luggage. The project supports Torquay's regeneration goals by encouraging sustainable travel, reducing short car trips, and creating a better first impression for visitors. With over half of Torquay's neighbourhoods ranked among England's most deprived, and a high proportion of older residents, step-free infrastructure is essential for equitable access to public transport. The project is shovel-ready, with strong community support and clear alignment to pre-approved interventions.

Indicative Cost: £65,000–£85,000 (capital); £5,000 (revenue)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Active travel and accessibility
- Transport infrastructure
- Public realm improvements
- Health and wellbeing
- Community connectivity

10. Ellacombe Community Multi-Use Facility

Proposer: Together Church

Summary:

This proposal seeks to redevelop Ellacombe Church into a thriving multi-use community hub, addressing high levels of poverty, unemployment, and social isolation in one of Torbay's most deprived neighbourhoods. The renewed facility will include a

restored worship space, community café, flexible rooms for service delivery, and fully accessible amenities. The hub will provide a central, inclusive space for residents to gather, access support, and build community. The project is a partnership with Torbay United and aims to reduce isolation, improve access to services, support young people, and create pathways out of poverty. The building will require significant investment for refurbishment, compliance upgrades, and operational costs. The phased approach leverages secured funding for initial planning and seeks multi-year investment for long-term sustainability.

Indicative Cost: £500,000–£2,000,000 (capital); £100,000–£200,000 p.a. (revenue)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Community hubs and facilities
- Health and wellbeing
- Social inclusion and cohesion
- Skills and employment support
- Stronger communities

11. Barton Downs & Acorn Centre Reinvention

Proposer: Acorn Youth, Community and Sports Centre

Summary:

A vision to transform Barton Downs and the Acorn Centre into a vibrant community and sports hub, offering new PE and sports facilities, event spaces, indoor play areas, and improved parking and lighting. The project is designed to address multiple deprivation indicators, including poor health, low educational attainment, and social isolation. The Acorn Centre will be upgraded to provide year-round activities, supporting local schools, families, and sports clubs. The proposal includes outdoor and indoor event spaces, improved lighting for safety, and partnerships with local organisations. The project is intended to be a game-changer for the Barton, Hele, and Watcombe area, improving health, wellbeing, and community pride.

Indicative Cost: TBC

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Community sports and activity facilities
- Health and wellbeing
- Public realm and green space improvements
- Stronger communities
- Skills and youth engagement

12. Wellswood Village Improvements

Proposer: Wellswood Community Partnership

Summary:

This proposal addresses traffic and parking issues in Wellswood village, aiming to make the centre safer, more prosperous, and attractive for residents and businesses. The scheme includes making the main road one-way, widening pavements, creating additional parking, and extending paved areas for planting and outdoor seating. The project aligns with Torbay Council's plans for a 20mph zone and sustainable travel infrastructure. The benefits include reduced road safety hazards, better traffic flow, easier parking, and enhanced public realm for community events. The proposal is based on extensive consultation and is designed to support local businesses, improve safety for schoolchildren, and foster community pride.

Indicative Cost: £250,000 (capital); £10,000 (events); £25,000–£50,000 (design/consultation)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Public realm and street improvements
- Active travel and accessibility
- Community events and engagement
- Town centre and neighbourhood regeneration
- Safer neighbourhoods

13. Future Food Forest

Proposer: It's About Time CIC

Summary:

A school-led project to create a living food forest, engaging pupils in mapping, planting, and caring for edible and biodiverse trees. The initiative builds climate resilience, biodiversity, and intergenerational community engagement. Pupils co-design planting plans, share them with residents and the council, and take responsibility for long-term care. The project addresses climate change, biodiversity loss, and food insecurity, while fostering intergenerational pride and resilience. The benefits include increased biodiversity, improved access to green spaces, and strengthened community engagement. The model is cost-effective, scalable, and designed for long-term impact.

Indicative Cost: £66,000 over 6 years (£12,000 capital, £54,000 revenue)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Green infrastructure and biodiversity
- Community-led environmental projects
- Education and skills
- Health and wellbeing
- Climate resilience

14. Torre Repair, Reuse and Recycle Centre

Proposer: Christopher Barry Price

Summary:

This project aims to establish a community hub for repair, restoration, and upcycling, providing opportunities for local citizens to stay active, share skills, and promote sustainability. The centre will offer workshops and facilities for repairing electrical goods, furniture, and textiles, engaging both older and younger residents. The project is inspired by successful models in other towns and seeks to reduce waste, build community connections, and support mental and physical wellbeing. The centre will be located near public transport for accessibility and will require significant capital investment for equipment and facilities.

Indicative Cost: £300,000 (startup, capital); running costs TBC

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Circular economy and sustainability
- Community skills and volunteering
- Social inclusion and wellbeing
- Community hubs and facilities
- Environmental education

15. Green Streets

Proposer: Safe, Sustainable Travel Torbay

Summary:

The Green Streets project will transform selected narrow residential roads in Torquay's most deprived neighbourhoods into safer, healthier places. Streets will be converted to one-way for motor traffic, with safe contraflow cycling, parklets, and secure cycle hangars. The project addresses high levels of child poverty, poor health, and road danger, aiming to rebalance neighbourhoods in favour of pedestrians and cyclists. Community engagement is central, with residents involved in co-designing

improvements. The scheme supports Torbay Council's 20mph school zones and advances climate and health objectives. The benefits include improved safety, accessibility, and community pride, with flexible, scalable delivery.

Indicative Cost: £50,000–£150,000 for initial detailed work (depending on scale)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Active travel and cycling infrastructure
- Public realm and street improvements
- Health and wellbeing
- Community engagement
- Climate resilience

16. St Martin's Car Park Resurfacing

Proposer: St Martin's Church

Summary:

Professional resurfacing of the car park at St Martin's Church and Community Hall to support continued use by parents, children, and community groups, improving safety and accessibility. The project is essential for maintaining access and fostering community connections in a deprived area.

Indicative Cost: £19,070 (capital)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Community infrastructure
- Public realm improvements
- Health and safety
- Supporting access to education and community activities

17. Melville Community Hub

Proposer: Melville Community Group

Summary:

The Melville Community Group proposes developing a community hub using a converted shipping container and accessibility improvements at The Point. The area faces multiple socioeconomic challenges, including low income, mental health issues, and crime. The hub will provide a sheltered indoor space for gatherings, advice, and events, as well as an outdoor seating area. The project aims to reduce isolation, promote health and wellbeing, and foster community pride. The hub will be run by

volunteers and is designed to be accessible to all residents, including those with mobility issues.

Indicative Cost: £50,000 (capital)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Community hubs and facilities
- Health and wellbeing
- Social inclusion and cohesion
- Public realm improvements
- Stronger communities

18. St Luke's Bus Shelter

Proposer: St Luke's Residents Association

Summary:

This proposal seeks funding for the installation of a bus shelter at St Luke's Road South, serving a large population of elderly residents with mobility challenges. The area is exposed to extreme weather, and the lack of shelter discourages public transport use and increases social isolation. The shelter will provide protection and comfort, supporting independence and wellbeing. The project addresses urgent community needs, particularly as demand for public transport is expected to rise with new housing developments.

Indicative Cost: £12,000 (capital)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Transport infrastructure
- Accessibility and inclusion
- Health and wellbeing
- Community infrastructure

19. Steps Cross Redevelopment

Proposer: Cllr Mike Fox

Summary:

This project proposes the comprehensive redevelopment of Steps Cross in Watcombe, transforming a sloping, underused playing field into a multi-functional community asset. The scheme includes the creation of an all-weather sports pitch (with lighting for year-round use), drop-off parking for three local schools, retention of the air ambulance

patch, a forest school managed by Coombe Pafford, picnic sites, and refurbishment of the existing play park. The project is a response to strong community demand for improved sports and recreation facilities, particularly in a deprived area with high levels of child poverty and limited access to quality green space. The redevelopment will support school activities, community health, and social cohesion, while preserving open space and resisting pressure for housing development.

Indicative Cost: £500,000 (capital)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Community sports and activity facilities
- Green space and public realm improvements
- Health and wellbeing
- Youth engagement
- Safer neighbourhoods

20. Higher Union Street Regeneration

Proposer: Torre and Upton Community Partnership

Summary:

This proposal seeks to regenerate Higher Union Street, a historic Victorian high street with significant heritage value. The project aims to bring vacant and underused buildings back into use, support small businesses, and create a community hub. The approach is inspired by the High Streets Heritage Action Zones scheme, with a focus on heritage-led renewal, skills development (including construction training for students), and increased housing above commercial units. The project will involve local traders, residents, and support organisations in developing a masterplan, shopfront improvements, and community engagement activities. The regeneration is expected to boost employment, reduce vacancy rates, and celebrate the area's unique history, including its links to Agatha Christie.

Indicative Cost: TBC

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Heritage asset restoration
- Town centre and high street regeneration
- Skills and employment support
- Community engagement
- Economic development

21. Changing Places Facility (Harbour/Strand)

Proposer: Steve Marks

Summary:

This project seeks to install a Changing Places accessible toilet in the Strand/Harbour area, addressing a critical gap for people with profound disabilities and their carers. Currently, Torquay is the only major town in Torbay without such a facility, creating significant barriers to inclusion and wellbeing. The new facility will complete the network of Changing Places toilets across Torbay, enabling disabled individuals and their families to access central, scenic, and highly visited locations with dignity and safety. The project is designed to promote accessibility, inclusion, and carer support, and is expected to benefit hundreds of residents and visitors. The proposal includes capital costs for installation and revenue for ongoing maintenance and awareness.

Indicative Cost: £120,000–£200,000 (capital); £15,000–£30,000 (revenue)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Accessibility and inclusion
- Health and wellbeing
- Community infrastructure
- Public realm improvements
- Tourism and visitor economy

22. Low-Cost Fitness and Wellbeing Centre

Proposer: Turning Heads

Summary:

This proposal aims to create a high end fitness and wellbeing centre that is accessible to all, especially those who cannot afford private gyms. The centre will offer a range of therapies, fitness equipment, holistic health workshops, and support services, bringing together providers from the public and private sectors. The project responds to Torquay's high levels of deprivation, poor health outcomes, and mental health challenges. The centre will be in a prominent building (potentially a former department store or courthouse) and will be designed to be disability-friendly. The goal is to tackle health inequalities, support people on low incomes, and provide a transformative resource for the community.

Indicative Cost: £300,000–£550,000 (capital, depending on site)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Community health and wellbeing facilities
- Physical activity and sport
- Social inclusion
- Regeneration of vacant buildings
- Reducing health inequalities

23. Astro Turf / 3G Pitch & Ice Rink

Proposer: Stephen Mitchell

Summary:

This dual proposal addresses the lack of quality sports facilities in Torquay, particularly for youth football and community recreation. The project includes the construction of a full-size astro turf/3G football pitch and the development of an ice rink, which would be unique in the South West. The facilities are intended to increase footfall in the town centre, support local sports teams, create jobs, and provide new opportunities for physical activity. The astro pitch is expected to be self-sustaining through rental income, while the ice rink would attract visitors from across the region. The project aims to boost local business revenues, support youth development, and enhance Torquay's reputation as a destination for sport and leisure.

Indicative Cost: £100,000–£150,000 (astro pitch); £1,000,000–£2,000,000 (ice rink)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Community sports and activity facilities
- Town centre regeneration
- Youth engagement
- Economic development
- Health and wellbeing

24. Wellbeing Workshops

Proposer: Wellbeing Workshops

Summary:

This project delivers three 10-week psychoeducational wellbeing workshop series per year, targeting adults in deprived coastal communities. The workshops are co-produced with residents and cover topics such as managing anxiety, emotional regulation, resilience, healthy eating, and self-compassion. The programme specifically targets those at high risk of suicide, providing early intervention and protective support. In

addition to structured workshops, the team attends monthly mental health drop-ins and community group sessions, reaching over 600 people annually. The approach is person-centred, strengths-based, and evidence-driven, with proven outcomes including improved wellbeing, reduced distress, and increased resilience. The project aims to reduce mental health inequalities, strengthen community capacity, and deliver lasting, measurable benefits.

Indicative Cost: £35,000 per annum; £350,000 over 10 years

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Mental health and wellbeing support
- Community capacity building
- Early intervention and prevention
- Reducing health inequalities
- Social inclusion

25. Community Health & Harm-Reduction Hub

Proposer: Patients Cann

Summary:

This flexible, community-led hub would convert underused town-centre space into an accessible centre for harm reduction, health advice, and support for people who use cannabis and other substances. The hub would offer information, peer networks, links to drug and alcohol services, and tailored guidance for those self-medicating or seeking lawful medical cannabis prescriptions. Additional services include housing, employment, and wellbeing support, as well as community activities to reduce stigma and foster inclusion. The project is designed to divert spend away from criminal supply, strengthen neighbourhood cohesion, and improve access to care. The hub will be delivered in partnership with the NHS, council, police, and voluntary sector, with robust monitoring and evaluation.

Indicative Cost: £100,000–£500,000 (medium hub); up to £1m+ (major scheme)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Community health and harm reduction
- Multi-agency working
- Social inclusion
- Community hubs and facilities
- Reducing health inequalities

26. New Watersports Slipway

Proposer: Torquay Rowing Club

Summary:

This ambitious proposal seeks to increase access to Torquay's waterfront by building a new slipway in a sheltered, non-motorised sports harbour. The project will centralise water sports activities, provide improved facilities for clubs, and create a safe environment for novices and experienced users alike. The slipway will support a wide range of activities, from regattas and afterschool clubs to age-well programmes and special events. The project aims to reduce congestion at the existing slip, attract new members to local clubs, and boost the local economy through increased tourism and event hosting. The long-term vision is to create a thriving hub for water sports, leisure, and community engagement.

Indicative Cost: Up to £20,000,000 (capital, full build-out)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Community sports and activity facilities
- Waterfront and harbour regeneration
- Tourism and visitor economy
- Health and wellbeing
- Youth and community engagement

27. St Mary Magdelane Church Community Provision

Proposer: St Mary Magdelane Church

Summary:

St Mags Church is a cornerstone of community support in the Castle Circus area, providing food, shelter, and social activities for some of Torquay's most vulnerable residents. The church runs a community café, food bank, playroom for children, youth group, recovery programme, and monthly community meals. The project seeks funding to sustain and grow these services, which are vital for people struggling with mental health, addiction, loneliness, and poverty. The church also supports people who have fallen through the net of statutory services, offering a safe, welcoming space and opportunities for volunteering and skill development. The project is focused on building financial resilience and exploring new possibilities for community engagement.

Indicative Cost: £175,000 (revenue, phased)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Community hubs and facilities
- Health and wellbeing
- Social inclusion
- Food security and poverty reduction
- Volunteering and skills development

28. Watersports Hub at Torquay Harbour

Proposer: Royal Torbay Yacht Club

Summary:

Led by the Royal Torbay Yacht Club, this project proposes the refurbishment and expansion of water sports facilities at Torquay Harbour. The scheme includes accessible changing rooms, a multipurpose training space, a harbourside event office, and a new community watersports hub. The project aims to unlock the potential of the harbour for residents and visitors, providing opportunities for sport, training, volunteering, and employment. The hub will work with local charities, schools, and clubs to increase participation, particularly among disabled people and those facing barriers to access. The project is aligned with Torbay's Destination Management Plan and is expected to generate significant economic and social benefits.

Indicative Cost: £30,000–£1,500,000 (phased, capital)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Community sports and activity facilities
- Waterfront and harbour regeneration
- Skills and employment support
- Health and wellbeing
- Inclusive access

29. Children's Society Wellbeing Hub

Proposer: Kerry Clancy-Horner (Children's Society)

Summary:

The Children's Society proposes to expand its open-access wellbeing hub for children and young people in Torquay. The hub provides drop-in sessions, targeted groups, and workshops focused on arts, healthy relationships, education, and employment. The project aims to tackle rising mental health issues, reduce waiting times for support, and provide a safe, welcoming space for young people, including those with SEND. The

expansion will include remodelling the physical space, creating a sensory room, and increasing the number of sessions and staff. The hub also supports parents and carers through coffee mornings and peer support. The project is designed to improve emotional health, reduce isolation, and build resilience in the community.

Indicative Cost: £285,633 (capital, 1 year); £91,124 (revenue, 1 year)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Mental health and wellbeing support
- Youth engagement
- Community hubs and facilities
- Social inclusion
- Early intervention and prevention

30. Community Info Bus

Proposer: Torre and Upton Community Partnership

Summary:

This project proposes a mobile outreach service to deliver advice, support, and activities directly to deprived neighbourhoods in Torquay. The Community Info Bus will visit different areas weekly, bringing representatives from various help services on board. The bus will offer support with budgeting, literacy, health, healthy eating, upskilling, and signposting to other services. The aim is to reach hard-to-reach communities, improve access to support, and address multiple aspects of deprivation, including health, education, and work prospects. The project is designed to have a subtle but long-lasting impact, improving wellbeing and social connection for individuals and families.

Indicative Cost: TBC

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Community outreach and engagement
 - Health and wellbeing
 - Skills and employment support
 - Social inclusion
 - Reducing inequalities
- wells

31. Affordable Housing via Bequests

Proposer: Alan Griffey

Summary:

This proposal suggests a scheme where homes left by residents without direct descendants could be sold at below-market rates to people on the council's housing waiting list. The aim is to increase the supply of affordable homes, help first-time buyers, and reduce homelessness. The scheme aims to be self-financing, with the sale proceeds covering the costs of a dedicated housing officer and providing a legacy for the original owner's estate. The project addresses the national shortage of affordable housing and leverages the assets of elderly residents to benefit the wider community.

Indicative Cost: £30,000 (housing officer salary)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Affordable housing supply
- Homelessness prevention
- Community wealth building
- Social inclusion
- Housing innovation

32. Torbay Road Corridor Improvements

Proposer: Safe, Sustainable Travel Torbay

Summary:

This major transport project will upgrade the Torbay Road corridor, a key link between the station, seafront, and town centre. The scheme includes reconfigured junctions, safe crossings, step-free access, and a fully segregated, LTN 1/20-compliant cycle route. The improvements will remove pinch points, reduce traffic conflict, and enable walking, wheeling, and cycling as realistic choices for everyday journeys. The project supports Torbay's Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan and climate strategy, aiming to improve safety, accessibility, and economic vitality. The benefits include better access for vulnerable road users, reduced congestion and emissions, and stronger links between transport hubs and visitor destinations.

Indicative Cost: £1,400,000–£1,900,000 (capital); £200,000–£300,000 (revenue)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Active travel and cycling infrastructure
- Transport accessibility
- Public realm improvements

- Health and wellbeing
- Economic development

33. Torquay Future Futures: Eco-Hub & Workshops

Proposer: It's About Time CIC

Summary:

This project proposes the creation of a community Eco-Hub offering sustainability education, scenario planning, and permaculture skills. The hub will provide workshops, tool and seed libraries, and mentoring to foster sustainable living and social enterprise. The programme includes Four-Scenario Futuring workshops, permaculture courses for young people, and experiential learning activities. The aim is to build resilience, ecological awareness, and social cohesion, equipping residents to co-create a greener, more connected Torquay. The project is designed to engage hundreds of participants annually and deliver long-term positive impact for people and the environment.

Indicative Cost: £80,000 (revenue, year 1); £7,000 (capital, year 1)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Environmental education and skills
- Community hubs and facilities
- Climate resilience
- Social inclusion
- Stronger communities

34. Creative & Cultural Space for Young People

Proposer: Sound Communities CIC

Summary:

Sound Communities proposes to establish a creative and cultural base in central Torquay, addressing economic inactivity among under-25s and high commercial vacancy rates. The centre will house alternative education provision, open-access creative sessions, employability programmes, and youth-led production arms (music, events, digital content). The project targets marginalised young people, supporting entrepreneurship, skills development, wellbeing, and community cohesion. The centre will also serve as a hub for outreach and engagement, reducing anti-social behaviour and supporting positive progression. The project is designed to be self-sustaining within five years and to create a vibrant, inclusive space for young people and the wider community.

Indicative Cost: £150,000–£200,000 (capital); £80,000–£100,000 (revenue, annual)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Youth engagement and skills
- Arts, culture, and creative industries
- Community hubs and facilities
- Social inclusion
- Economic development

35. Heritage Gardens

Proposer: Civic Society of Torbay

Summary:

This project, led by the Civic Society of Torbay, seeks to invest in public gardens and horticulture across the Bay. The aim is to enhance heritage assets, promote civic pride, and improve the natural and built environment for residents and visitors. The project will fund trees, plants, and flower beds, support volunteer engagement, and deliver educational activities in schools. The benefits include improved mental and physical health, increased tourism, and stronger community connections. The project is inspired by successful models in Cornwall and aims to create a renaissance for Torbay's gardens.

Indicative Cost: £250,000 (capital)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Heritage asset restoration
- Green infrastructure and biodiversity
- Community engagement
- Health and wellbeing
- Tourism and visitor economy

36. Hidden High Street Creative Space

Proposer: Artizan Gallery

Summary:

This proposal brings a long-dormant high street unit back into use as a multifunctional creative space for community arts and skills. The centre will offer accessible studios, workshops, and event spaces, prioritising free, targeted activities for marginalised and

deprived communities. The project includes a “train-to-teach” pathway, enabling participants to progress to paid teaching roles. The space will support skills development, social enterprise, and community engagement, while activating a priority high street location and supporting neighbouring businesses. The project is designed to be sustainable, with a tapering funding model and opportunities for earned income.

Indicative Cost: £100,000–£150,000 (year 1); £50,000–£80,000 (subsequent years)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Arts, culture, and creative industries
- Skills and employment support
- Town centre regeneration
- Community engagement
- Social inclusion

37. Connecting Places – Public Realm Activation

Proposer: Torbay Council

Summary:

This project proposes arts-led interventions to activate public spaces and link new developments with existing communities. The focus is on creating street corners and linkages that foster pride in place, connect communities to green spaces and heritage assets, and support coordinated growth. The project will collaborate with creative practitioners and the community to deliver public art, events, and engagement activities. The aim is to create a more vibrant, inclusive, and connected town centre, supporting both residents and visitors.

Indicative Cost: £30,000 (initial funding)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Public realm improvements
- Arts and culture
- Community engagement
- Heritage and green space activation
- Town centre regeneration

38. Agatha Christie Heritage Trail

Proposer: International Agatha Christie Festival

Summary:

This proposal seeks to modernise and expand the Agatha Christie Mile, creating a modern immersive experience for community and visitors. The project includes new way-markers, a digital app, sculpted benches, and a dedicated green space, celebrating Torquay's most famous literary figure. The trail will encourage walking, support the visitor economy, and promote local heritage. The project is a partnership with the English Riviera BID Company and Agatha Christie Limited, and is expected to generate significant economic and cultural benefits. The proposal includes both capital and revenue elements, with funding sought for installation, digital development, and ongoing maintenance.

Indicative Cost: £375,000 (capital); £32,500 (revenue, additional)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Heritage asset restoration
- Tourism and visitor economy
- Arts and culture
- Public realm improvements
- Community engagement

39. Festival of Torquay 2027

Proposer: Jamie Lewis-Hadley

Summary:

This ambitious proposal is for a major public arts festival to be held in summer 2027, marking 75 years since the Festival of Britain. The Festival of Torquay will explore themes such as botany, industry, craft, leisure, design, architecture, and geology, all within the context of Torquay's unique history and landscape. The event will use the seafront, harbour, town centre, and surrounding areas, presenting a mix of large-scale sculptures, smaller interventions, and exhibitions across cultural venues. The festival will highlight both local and nationally renowned artists, support local makers, and employ local producers and technicians. The aim is to create a bold new cultural narrative for Torquay, boost civic pride, and attract hundreds of thousands of residents and tourists. The project will also support local employment and provide free access to most events, ensuring inclusivity.

Indicative Cost: £150,000–£200,000 (early-stage estimate)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Arts, culture, and heritage festivals
- Town centre and public realm activation
- Tourism and visitor economy
- Community engagement
- Skills and employment in creative industries

40. Capacity Building Using Heritage Assets

Proposer: Prospect Brixham CIC

Summary:

This project uses Torquay's heritage buildings as a focus for community capacity-building, inviting residents to engage with their neighbourhood's physical environment through storytelling, participatory activities, and practical workshops. The approach is based on successful work in Brixham and aims to reinforce local ownership, build social capital, and support decision-making about future regeneration. Activities include collaborative learning, creative engagement, and partnerships with local organisations and universities. The project will generate an evidence base for further funding bids and ensure that capital projects are designed for long-term sustainability and community benefit.

Indicative Cost: TBC

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Heritage asset engagement and restoration
- Community capacity-building
- Education and skills
- Social inclusion
- Community-led regeneration

41. Sponsor a Path

Proposer: Daryl Geary

Summary:

Sponsor a Path is a community project to restore and protect Torquay's historic network of Victorian paths and service lanes. The scheme invites residents, businesses, and visitors to sponsor restoration work, which includes clearing, planting, installing solar lighting, and creating new signage and maps. The project aims to make these routes safer, more accessible, and enjoyable, encouraging walking, healthier lifestyles, and

stronger neighbourhood connections. Funding will employ a supervisor and provide jobs for local unemployed people. The project will deliver both immediate and long-term benefits for residents, visitors, and the local economy, while preserving a unique aspect of Torquay's heritage.

Indicative Cost: £100,000–£115,000 (pilot phase, year 1)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Public realm and green infrastructure
- Community engagement
- Health and wellbeing
- Heritage and environmental conservation
- Employment and skills

42. Support for Adoptive, Fostering, and SGO Families

Proposer: Rachel Steer

Summary:

This project expands a monthly support group for adoptive, fostering, and special guardianship order (SGO) families, offering larger events such as family fun days and secondary-age activities. The aim is to provide peer support, reduce isolation, and help children and carers build networks and resilience. The group currently supports over 30 families and is seeking to extend its reach and impact, especially as charity support is ending. Funding will cover hall hire, activities, and experienced staff for events. The project addresses a gap in provision for these families and supports children's wellbeing and social development.

Indicative Cost: £1,000 (annual, revenue)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Family support and social inclusion
- Community events and engagement
- Health and wellbeing
- Stronger communities
- Early intervention

43. Mobility Hub at Torre Station

Proposer: Safe, Sustainable Travel Torbay

Summary:

The Mobility Hub proposal aims to create a central facility for sustainable, affordable, and inclusive transport in Torquay. The hub will provide cycle hire, repair, and maintenance, information on sustainable travel, and space for community engagement. Additional features include a fleet of e-cargo bikes, an active travel map, and a healthy ageing travel scheme. The hub will integrate with Green Streets pilots and improve access to Torre Station, supporting active commuting and reducing car dependency. The project is designed to improve health, equity, and community life, and is scalable for future growth.

Indicative Cost: £275,000–£375,000 (capital); £100,000–£120,000 p.a. (revenue, 2 years)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Active travel and cycling infrastructure
- Community transport hubs
- Health and wellbeing
- Social inclusion
- Climate resilience

44. Hele Village Community Clean-Up

Proposer: SWISCo

Summary:

Building on the success of previous clean air and clean-up projects, this proposal aims to coordinate a community-driven clean-up initiative in Hele. The project will focus on environmental improvement, recycling, and community development, with a coordinator bringing together residents, housing providers, and local services. The goal is to uplift and reinvigorate the area, improve the local environment, and foster community pride and engagement.

Indicative Cost: TBC

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Environmental improvement and green infrastructure
- Community engagement
- Social inclusion

- Stronger communities
- Health and wellbeing

45. St Matthew's Community Hub (Chelston)

Proposer: Parish of Cockington

Summary:

This project seeks to refurbish the Undercroft at St Matthew's Church, transforming it into a small community hub for Chelston and wider Torquay. The space will host events, clubs, lunch groups, and drop-in sessions, addressing a shortage of community venues in the area. The hub will be accessible, with ground-floor entry and disabled-friendly facilities. The project is based on strong community demand and is expected to attract over 5,000 visitors annually. Funding will cover rewiring, plumbing, heating, toilet upgrades, flooring, and redecoration.

Indicative Cost: £55,000–£65,000 (capital); £25,000 (secured)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Community hubs and facilities
- Social inclusion
- Health and wellbeing
- Stronger communities
- Reducing isolation

46. Barton Recreation Ground Community Hub

Proposer: Barton Cricket Club/Torquay Academy

Summary:

This major regeneration project will transform Barton Recreation Ground into a Community, Health, Wellbeing, and Sports Hub, serving as the central site for the Torbay Promise cradle-to-career initiative. The scheme includes redeveloping the pavilion, restoring a derelict cottage, levelling and draining playing fields, and tarmacking the car park. The hub will provide a café, soft play, lending library, food bank, uniform swap, and breakout rooms for health and wellbeing support. The project targets deprivation in Hele and Barton, aiming to improve life chances, reduce the number of children entering care, and strengthen community cohesion.

Indicative Cost: £842,000 (capital); £50,000 (initial revenue)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Community hubs and facilities
- Health and wellbeing
- Sports and activity infrastructure
- Family support
- Early intervention and prevention

47. Town Centre Drop-In for Disabled and Vulnerable People

Proposer: Space – Launching Futures CIC

Summary:

This proposal is for a town-centre-based drop-in service for people with disabilities and vulnerable adults. The centre will provide a safe space for engagement, skills-based learning, and support with benefits and housing. The aim is to empower people to participate actively in the community, support transitions into paid work, and reduce reliance on adult social care. The service will work alongside statutory and voluntary partners, identifying gaps and celebrating success. The project addresses a significant need for accessible, person-centred support in Torquay.

Indicative Cost: £125,000 (annual, revenue)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Disability and inclusion support
- Community hubs and facilities
- Skills and employment
- Health and wellbeing
- Social inclusion

48. Youth Work Experience (Town Centre Cleaning)

Proposer: Alan Griffey

Summary:

This project offers work experience and basic skills training for young people through cleaning and repairing neglected areas of the town centre. The scheme aims to improve the appearance of Torquay, teach practical skills, and give young people hope and a sense of purpose. The project may be delivered in partnership with an education provider and will require paid instructors, equipment, and coordination with the council.

Indicative Cost: £20,000 (startup)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Youth employment and skills
- Town centre regeneration
- Community engagement
- Social inclusion
- Environmental improvement

49. Torbay Creative Exchange

Proposer: Torbay Creative Industries Steering Group

Summary:

The Torbay Creative Exchange is a flagship initiative to create a physical and digital hub for arts, culture, media, and creative industries in Torquay town centre. The Exchange will provide co-working and creative studios, a podcasting and media suite, gallery and event space, and training facilities. The project aims to cluster creative businesses, deliver year-round programming, and support skills development in partnership with South Devon College. The Exchange will also have a digital platform to highlight local talent and enable hybrid participation. The project is designed to position Torquay as a regional creative destination and support economic, community, and social impact.

Indicative Cost: £80,000 (annual revenue); capital TBC

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Creative industries and digital skills
- Town centre regeneration
- Community hubs and facilities
- Skills and employment
- Arts and culture

50. Start-Up Business and Inclusive Entrepreneurship Hub

Proposer: Torbay Council

Summary:

This proposal is for a business support centre in Torquay, providing tailored support for start-ups and entrepreneurs of all ages. The hub will offer workshops, mentoring, networking events, and pop-up retail opportunities, with a focus on supporting young

people, NEETs, and older entrepreneurs. The project aims to diversify the local economy, retain talent, and build a thriving entrepreneurial culture. The hub will also serve as a venue for community events and support business growth in tech, creative, and service sectors.

Indicative Cost: £116,000–£155,000 (annual, revenue)

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Business support and entrepreneurship
- Skills and employment
- Community hubs and facilities
- Economic development
- Social inclusion

51. Heritage Construction Skills

Proposer: Natasha Nicholson & Pamela (Prospect Brixham CIC)

Summary:

This project addresses a critical skills gap in heritage building techniques, which are essential for the repair, maintenance, and sustainable upgrade of Torquay’s many listed and historic buildings. The proposal includes conducting a sector-wide survey and data audit to establish a baseline of current skills, followed by an awareness-raising campaign and close liaison with South Devon College to enhance training provision—especially in retrofitting heritage buildings for net-zero targets and cost-of-living mitigation. The project suggests using a listed building in poor repair as a live demonstration and training site, providing hands-on experience for local tradespeople, students, and building owners. Public engagement will be fostered through demonstrations, events, and exhibitions, aiming to establish Torbay as a centre of excellence for heritage construction skills in Devon. The project will also empower owners and stewards of heritage buildings with knowledge-sharing about repair, maintenance, and the process of gaining listed building consent. By building local capacity, the project will help keep investment and jobs within the area, support the local economy, and provide an evidence base for future funding bids.

Indicative Cost: TBC

Links to pre-approved intervention themes:

- Heritage skills and training
- Heritage asset restoration
- Skills and employment
- Community engagement

- Economic development
- Education and opportunity