

## **Minutes of the Cabinet**

**17 March 2026**

**-: Present :-**

Councillor David Thomas (Chair)

Councillors Billings, Bye, Chris Lewis, Jacqueline Thomas and Tyerman

(Also in attendance: Councillors Johns (virtually), Law, Barbara Lewis (virtually), Long, Spacagna (virtually), Stevens (virtually) and Twelves (virtually))

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### **91. Apologies**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Tranter.

### **92. Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 17 February 2026 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

### **93. Disclosure of Interests**

No declarations of interest were made.

### **94. Matters for Consideration**

The Cabinet considered the following matters, full details of which (including the Cabinet's decisions) are set out in the Record of Decisions appended to these Minutes.

### **95. Brixham Town, Old Paignton and Torquay Harbour Conservation Area Appraisal and Boundary Review Adoption**

### **96. Council Business Plan 2023-2027 - Refresh 2026**

### **97. Best Start in Life - Torbay's Local Plan**

### **98. Spotlight Review on Education - Report of Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board**

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Chair

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## Record of Decisions

### **Brixham Town, Old Paignton and Torquay Harbour Conservation Area Appraisal and Boundary Review Adoption**

#### **Decision Taker**

Cabinet on 17 March 2026.

#### **Decision**

1. that the Brixham Town, Old Paignton and Torquay Harbour Conservation Area Appraisals (CAAs) and associated boundary changes as set out at Appendices 1, 3 and 5 to the submitted report be adopted; and
2. that delegated authority be given to the Director of Pride in Place, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Place Development and Economic Growth and the Cabinet Member for Pride in Place, Transport and Parking, to make minor changes, typographical corrections or non-material amendments to the Brixham Town, Old Paignton and Torquay Harbour Conservation Area Appraisals prior to formal publication.

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

To ensure the Council meets its statutory duty under Sections 69 and 71 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 to designate and periodically review conservation areas and their boundaries.

#### **Implementation**

The decision will come into force and may be implemented on 30 March 2026 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in the Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

#### **Information**

The Council's designation as a National Lottery Heritage Fund "Heritage Place" provides a significant opportunity to support Torbay's wider regeneration by enhancing and protecting its built heritage. Adoption of the updated Conservation Area Appraisals (CAAs) and the proposed boundary changes for Brixham Town, Old Paignton and Torquay Harbour will help safeguard the architectural and historic character of these areas, strengthen planning decision-making, and attract investment. The updated appraisals will be a material consideration in planning decisions and will support the regeneration of town centres while protecting Torbay's built and natural environment in line with the Community and Corporate Plan.

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

Alternative options were not taken forward because they would not meet the Council's statutory duties under Sections 69 and 71 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, and they did not reflect the professional findings of the appointed consultants (Purcell), the assessment of Council officers, or the outcomes of the public consultation.

**Is this a Key Decision?**

No

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

No

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

None.

**Published**

20 March 2026

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

## Record of Decisions

### Council Business Plan 2023 - 2027 - Refresh 2026

#### **Decision Taker**

Cabinet on 17 March 2026

#### **Decision**

That the Council Business Plan 2023 – 2027 Refresh 2026 be approved.

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

To ensure that direction is provided to the organisation on the priorities for the remainder of the administrative period.

#### **Implementation**

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 30 March 2026 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in the Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

#### **Information**

Following the Local Elections in May 2023, the Community and Corporate Plan was agreed by the Council. This set out the priorities of the Council for the next twenty years and the approach the Council was taking in delivering against the vision.

In order to provide focus for delivery over the administration period, the Cabinet developed a Council Business Plan. This provided details of the specific actions being taken to deliver the priorities within the Community and Corporate Plan together with milestones and/or targets. The Council Business Plan was a living document, as such was reviewed and refreshed annually to take into account progress on delivery against the plan and make any changes required from factors arising since the last review.

At the meeting Councillor David Thomas proposed and Councillor Chris Lewis 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**

There had been wide ranging discussions between members of the Cabinet and Directors about the priority actions that could be reasonably taken over the coming years to meet the ambitions of the Community and Corporate Plan. Those discussions included the milestones that needed to be set and the performance indicators that would be used to measure progress.

It was felt that the proposed Council Business Plan was achievable whilst seeking to secure continuous improvement as an organisation.

#### **Is this a Key Decision?**

No

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

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 30 March 2026 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in the Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

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

None.

**Published**

20 March 2026

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

## Record of Decisions

### Best Start in Life – Torbay’s Local Plan

#### Decision Taker

Cabinet on 17 March 2026

#### Decision

1. that the draft Best Start in Life (BSiL) Plan as set out at appendix 1 to the submitted report be approved; and
2. that delegated authority be provided to the Director of Children’s Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children’s Services to make any necessary amendments to the Plan to enable publication by 31 March 2026.

#### Reason for the Decision

To ensure the Council is compliant with the Department for Education requirement to publish the Best Start in Life (BSiL) Plan by 31 March 2026, and to provide members with appropriate transparency and oversight of the proposed vision, targets, and delivery approach for improving the proportion of children in Torbay achieving a Good Level of Development by age five.

#### Implementation

The decision will come into force and may be implemented on 30 March 2026 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in the Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

#### Information

The BSiL Plan sets out how Torbay would achieve its locally set targets for the proportion of children reaching a Good Level of Development (GLD) by age five (end of the Early Years Foundation Stage). It outlined the vision, strategic approach, and delivery mechanisms that would be used to meet these targets. The plan uses Torbay’s local data to illustrate where children are performing well and where the most significant developmental gaps remain. The Plan provided the approach to improving early childhood outcomes from pregnancy to age five, ensuring that more children achieve a Good Level of Development by 2028.

At the meeting of the Children and Young People’s Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board held on 16 March 2026, the BSiL Plan was considered and the Sub-Board agreed to monitor the implementation of the Plan every six months

At the Cabinet meeting, Councillor Bye proposed and Councillor Tyerman seconded a motion that was agreed unanimously, as set out above.

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

No alternative options were considered due to the plan being a DfE requirement.

#### 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)

None

**Published**

20 March 2026

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Leader of Torbay Council on behalf of the Cabinet

## Record of Decisions

### Spotlight Review on Education – Report of the Children and Young People’s Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board

#### Decision Taker

Cabinet on 17 March 2026.

#### Decision

That the Cabinet’s response to the Spotlight Review on Education – Report of the Children and Young People’s Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board be approved as published.

#### Reason for the Decision

The Cabinet was required to respond to the findings of the Children and Young People’s Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board.

#### Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 30 March 2026 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in the Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

#### Information

The Cabinet received the report of the Children and Young People’s Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board on the Spotlight Review on Education. In accordance with section D7 of Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny as set out in the Constitution, the Cabinet was required to respond to the recommendations of the Children and Young People’s Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board within two months. Subsequently the Cabinet prepared a response to the recommendations of the Children and Young People’s Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board which was proposed by Councillor Bye and seconded by Councillor Jackie Thomas and agreed unanimously by the Cabinet, as set out above.

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

None.

#### 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)

None.

#### Published

20 March 2026

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