

## Supporting Information and Impact Assessment

Service / Policy:	Natural Environment Service (Parks)
Executive Lead:	Cllr Excell/Cllr Haddock
Director / Assistant Director:	Fran Hughes

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<b>Section 1: Background Information</b>	
<b>1.</b>	<p><b>What is the proposal / issue?</b></p> <p>The proposal is to reduce the Parks and open Spaces budget by £15,000 in 2016/17 by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reducing the winter maintenance programme by £10,000</li> <li>• Ceasing the Torbay Council sponsorship paid to Bay Blooms – this will save £5,000</li> </ul>
<b>2.</b>	<p><b>What is the current situation?</b></p> <p>The winter maintenance programme currently consists of spend to save projects to reduce high maintenance areas and area requiring improvement out of the summer season, for example overgrown shrub beds, bare patches of grass and overgrown hedges.</p> <p>Torbay Council currently funds the running of the Bay Blooms community based horticultural competition as part of the cyclical contract with TOR2.</p> <p>Bay Blooms is a Horticultural competition held annually that all Torbay Residents and Businesses are able to participate in.</p>
<b>3.</b>	<p><b>What options have been considered?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For the Bay Bloom competition to be run solely by the community with private sector sponsorship</li> </ul>
<b>4.</b>	<p><b>How does this proposal support the ambitions and principles of the Corporate Plan 2015-19?</b></p> <p>Ambitions: Prosperous and Healthy Torbay</p>

	<p>Principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use reducing resources to best effect</li> </ul>
5.	<p><b>Who will be affected by this proposal and who do you need to consult with?</b></p> <p>This proposal will impact upon residents and businesses within Torbay as it is proposed that the winter maintenance budget is reduced seeing a reduction in £10,000.</p> <p>It is also proposed that the sponsorship to Bay Blooms is ceased – this competition is open to all residents and businesses within Torbay.</p> <p>The Bay Bloom Competition is currently delivered by TOR2 as part of our Joint Venture Partnership.</p>
6.	<p><b>How will you propose to consult?</b></p> <p>Consultation has taken place as part of the Councils general budget consultation – online and paper questionnaires were made available so that members of the public will be able to have their say on this proposal.</p>

<b>Section 2: Implications and Impact Assessment</b>	
7.	<p><b>What are the financial and legal implications?</b></p> <p>The implementation of the proposals will require a formal change mechanism to be implemented with both TOR2 and Glendale.</p>
8.	<p><b>What are the risks?</b></p> <p>The risks associated with this proposal are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That there is an overall reduction to winter maintenance;</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>That the total cost of the budget saving cannot be met from the areas of Bay Blooms and Winter Maintenance ;</li> </ul>			
9.	<p><b>Public Services Value (Social Value) Act 2012</b></p> <p>Not applicable as this will be a contractual change to existing arrangements.</p>			
10.	<p><b>What evidence / data / research have you gathered in relation to this proposal?</b></p> <p>Please see section 2 and 11.</p>			
11.	<p><b>What are key findings from the consultation you have carried out?</b></p> <p>Public consultation on the budget proposals started on 6th November 2015 and closed on the 4th January 2016. The proposals were communicated to the Torbay community via local newspaper (Herald Express &amp; Western Morning News), local radio, Twitter and Facebook and were detailed on the Torbay Council website. Emails were sent to key stakeholders and a range of opportunities were provided for people to contribute to the consultation, including a Budget Event held in Paignton. People were also able to send representations via email and post to Torbay Council.</p> <p>Responses for this proposal were as follows:</p> <p><b>Q) Parks and Open Spaces:</b></p> <p><b>To reduce the Parks and Open Spaces budget by:</b></p> <p><b>a) Reducing the winter maintenance programme by £10,000</b>  <b>b) Ceasing the Torbay Council sponsorship paid to Bay Blooms - this will save £5,000</b></p> <p><b>In total this proposal is expected to save £15,000.</b></p> <p><i>The winter maintenance programme currently consists of spend to save projects to reduce high maintenance areas and areas requiring improvement out of the summer season, for example overgrown shrub beds, bare patches of grass and overgrown hedges.</i></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="913 1302 1532 1385"> <tr> <td>Do you support proposal a)?</td> <td>Number</td> <td>Percent</td> </tr> </table>	Do you support proposal a)?	Number	Percent
Do you support proposal a)?	Number	Percent		

Yes	329	46.2%
No	366	51.4%
No answer	16	2.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>711</b>	<b>100%</b>

Do you support proposal b)?	Number	Percent
Yes	439	61.7%
No	257	36.1%
No answer	15	2.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>711</b>	<b>100%</b>

A communication was sent to both Glendale and TOR2 about the proposals. To date there has been no formal response from either contractor.

**12.**

**Amendments to Proposal / Mitigating Actions**

There are no proposed amendments to the original proposal.

## Equality Impacts

13	<b>Identify the potential positive and negative impacts on specific groups</b>  There is the potential of an overall reduction in service delivery; however this will have no differential impact on the specific groups listed below.		
	<b>Positive Impact</b>	<b>Negative Impact &amp; Mitigating Actions</b>	<b>Neutral Impact</b>
Older or younger people	No differential impact		
People with caring Responsibilities	No differential impact		
People with a disability	No differential impact		
Women or men	No differential impact		
People who are black or from a minority ethnic background (BME) <i>(Please note Gypsies / Roma are within this community)</i>	No differential impact		
Religion or belief (including lack of belief)	No differential impact		
People who are lesbian, gay or bisexual	No differential impact		
People who are transgendered	No differential impact		
People who are in a marriage or civil partnership	No differential impact		
Women who are pregnant / on maternity leave	No differential impact		

	Socio-economic impacts (Including impact on child poverty issues and deprivation)	No differential impact
	Public Health impacts (How will your proposal impact on the general health of the population of Torbay)	No differential impact
<b>14</b>	<b>Cumulative Impacts – Council wide</b> (proposed changes elsewhere which might worsen the impacts identified above)	None known
<b>15</b>	<b>Cumulative Impacts – Other public services</b> (proposed changes elsewhere which might worsen the impacts identified above)	None known