

Torbay's Community Plan

“Working for a healthy, prosperous and happy Bay”

2011 +

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Foreword by Chair of Torbay Strategic Partnership

Welcome to Torbay's Community Plan

We are proud of the way partners have worked together to deliver on the Community Plan Priorities and the Local Area Agreement (LAA). We have seen many successes over the last 3 years.

This refreshed plan has been developed and prepared by the Torbay Strategic Partnership on behalf of all the residents of Torbay, building on the previous Community Plan 'Turning the Tide for Torbay'. It outlines the Partnership's ambition for Torbay over the next 20 years bringing together the views of residents as well as representatives from the business, community and voluntary sectors.

Four key challenges have emerged from the refreshment:

- Developing our economy , improving job prospects and responding to the recession
- Opportunities for older people and the challenges of providing services for an ageing population
- Climate Change – reducing our carbon footprint and the increased risk of flooding
- Improving quality of life for the least well off in our society

The plan aims to unlock Torbay's potential and drive forward its economic prosperity to deliver our vision of healthy, prosperous and happy communities with a higher quality of life and improved access to jobs. The need for sympathetic economic regeneration is supported by a host of statistics and national indicators that predict low paid work and little prospects for the future unless something is done about it. Improving our economic performance will reduce child poverty and encourage our young people to remain in the Bay.

The plan recognises that all public sector organisations face reductions in government funding. Working together effectively using limited resources to maximum effect will be essential. The ambition will be delivered through three delivery Boards, simplifying and streamlining delivery.

- Jobs Growth Board (Transport, Economy & Environment)
- Health & Wellbeing Board
- Communities Board

Agencies and organisations cannot deliver the plan alone and our aim is to inspire and involve the community to get everyone working together to make Torbay a better place to live. We must bring communities together celebrating the contribution all can make to deliver our priorities.

This is a long term plan and will be reviewed to take into account any changes or new opportunities. It represents an important milestone in achieving our goals for the future.

Cllr David Thomas (Chair)

On behalf of the Torbay Strategic Partnership

Moving forward from the last Community Plan

The Community Plan outlines the Partnership's ambition for Torbay over the next 20 years bringing together the views of residents as well as representatives from the business, community and voluntary sector.

The Community Plan was first launched in July 2007. The 2010 refreshment takes onboard issues that have emerged over the last 3 years.

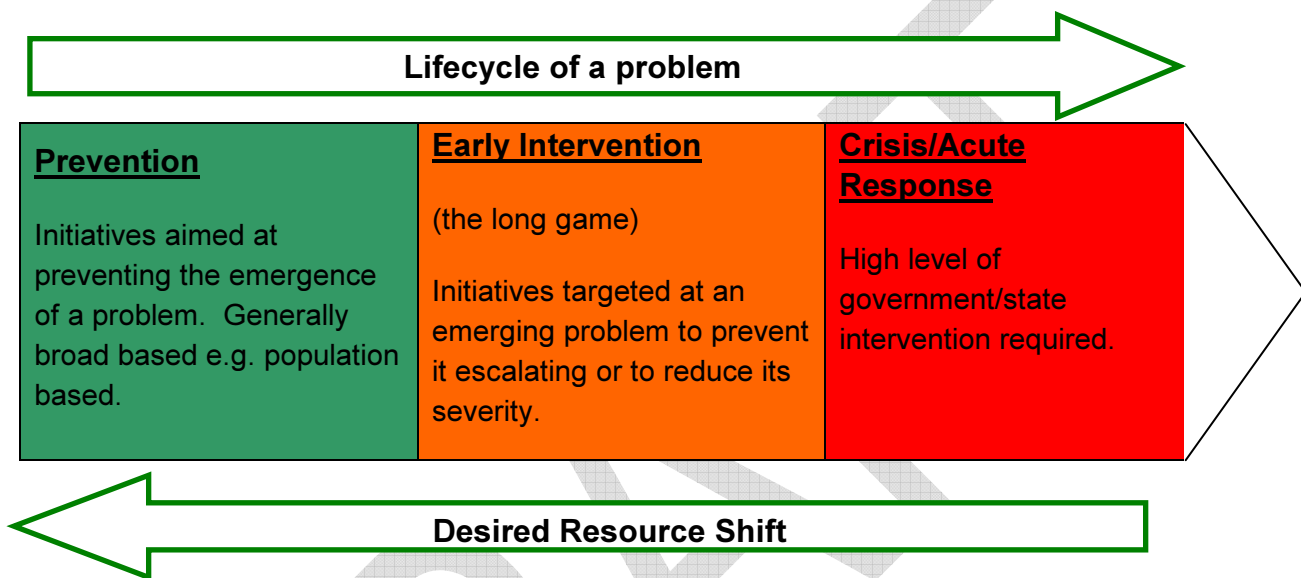
Four new key challenges have been identified;

- Developing our economy, improving job prospects and responding to the recession
- Opportunities for older people and the challenges of providing services for an ageing population
- Climate Change – reducing our carbon footprint and the increased risk of flooding
- Improving quality of life for the least well off in our society

In addition, the reduction in public sector funding from central government presents a challenge for all those involved in the delivery of public services. Delivering value for money through effective partnership working is essential if we are to achieve our vision in this challenging environment.

Early Intervention

We know that early intervention improves overall outcomes and ultimately reduces cost; and that if we move our limited resources towards preventative work and early intervention, then we can make a real, tangible difference to our communities. Existing work with partners has been focused around closing the inequality gap for those areas that are the most deprived in Torbay, but we recognise that we need to do more, and take a more consistent, sustainable approach. To that end we need a set of principles that we can all use when making decisions about how resources are allocated.



We will adopt the following principles to achieve the maximum benefit from early intervention;

- Create a tangible/measurable outcome which saves costs by reducing the need for intensive and expensive interventions in the long term
- Focus our efforts on individuals or families in Torbay's most deprived areas or high risk individuals/families across Torbay
- Improve inter-agency working by encouraging partners to work and think together, plus deliver services in a seamless way
- Develop new ways of working to ensure that the right response can be given to individuals/families at the first point of need by building on the strength of families and local communities
- Focus on the causes of the problems, not the symptoms, and where possible target the intervention in a 'whole family' context
- Facilitate a sustainable behavioural change which recognises the links between employment, health and wellbeing
- Demonstrate a measurable transfer of resources year on year from treatment of problems to prevention and early intervention.

Our Ambition for the Bay

Vision:

“Working for a healthy, prosperous and happy Bay”

An area that;

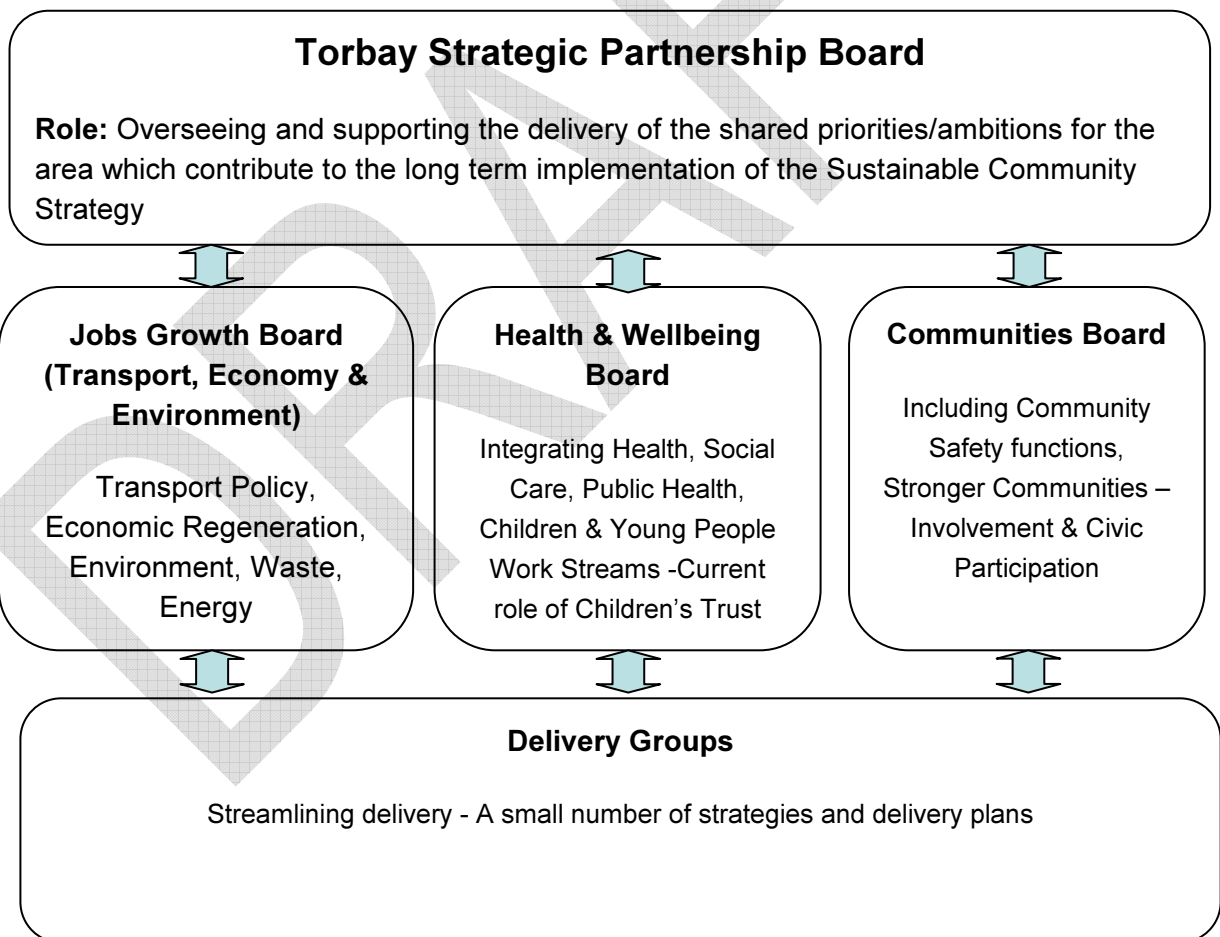
- Is prosperous and known to be a great place to live and learn and grow up in
- Is able to compete on a world stage in our traditional industries of tourism and fishing
- Communities know and support each other and enjoy some of the best quality of life in England
- Widens opportunities and provides high quality employment and retains our young people in the Bay
- Celebrates the differences in the three towns, builds on the strengths of these towns and brings back the feel-good factor

Delivering our ambition

In considering delivery of our aims, the Partnership has considered the forthcoming health reforms with a requirement to have a Health and Wellbeing Board. In the light of this change and a desire to simplify and streamline delivery, three boards will be charged with delivery of this plan.

- Transport, Economy & Environment
- Health & Wellbeing Board
- Communities Board

This will enable the number of delivery groups and strategies to be streamlined. These boards will develop delivery plans consistent with the actions agreed in the Community Plan. The Torbay Strategic Partnership will oversee and support delivery.



Transport Economy and Environment

What is Torbay like now?

- Torbay's Gross Value Added (GVA) is the fifth lowest in Devon, Cornwall and the Isle of Scilly and 63% of the national average. GVA is the difference between the value of goods and services produced and the cost of raw materials and other inputs that are used up in production. It is a key indicator of economic prosperity
- Unemployment is high by comparison with the South West and England and many jobs are poorly paid and this leads to high benefit dependency
- The Bay is a popular destination for early retirement. This means the number of people of working age who are not working is high
- It costs eight times the average salary to buy an average priced house in the Bay
- Inward and outward migration continues to influence the Bay's demographic profile (further detail page 15)
- The council works together with South Devon College, Connexions, the Young People's Learning Agency, and the National Apprenticeship Service. to enable young people to improve their job and career prospects
- Torbay has an outstanding coastal environment with unspoilt coastline offering some breathtaking views. Along a 22 mile stretch, over 20 safe beaches and secluded coves make up the English Riviera. This is important for tourism, the local economy and quality of life. We have over 100 parks and green spaces alongside key attractions.
- The Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust manages 1800 acres of land including Berry Head National Nature Reserve, Cockington Country Park and Craft Studios, Goodrington Seashore Centre, six SSSIs (Sites of special scientific interest) and the South West Coast Path through Torbay. It is estimated that around 750,000 people use these places each year.
- Torbay's urban environment is mixed. We have some high quality residential neighbourhoods and outstanding buildings. Parts of our town centres need regeneration people want to see further improvements in reducing litter.
- The condition of housing stock in Torbay is worse than in surrounding areas and does not meet the Decent Homes Standard.
- Culture is one of the fastest growing business sectors in Torbay. However, cultural participation is varied. 23.6% of Torbay's adult population participate in sport and active recreation.

- Our waste recycling rate is above the national average. All our rubbish is disposed of outside Torbay's boundaries. However, our bio-degradable landfill figures will soon exceed the Government's targets, leading to financial penalties. The landfill Torbay currently utilises will be at capacity in 2016.
- The growth in our bus services and increased cycling rates are a big success story, as are the major environmental improvements and pedestrian priority schemes in some of our shopping streets. However, we also have some localised congestion in parts of our town centres and on and off street parking problems.
- Being a coastal area we are aware of the potential impact of rising sea levels over the next 20-30 years and we are in the process of preparing a climate change strategy.
- A new company, TOR2, has recently taken over operational delivery of the following local services in Torbay, waste and recycling collections, management of the Household Waste and Recycling Centre, maintenance of Torbay's highways, grounds, parks, car parks, public toilets, other buildings and the Council's vehicle fleet, street and beach cleansing and a out of hours call centre support. TOR2 is an innovative Joint Venture Company owned by May Gurney (80%) and Torbay Council (20%) that will deliver service improvements and value for money. Torbay Council has chosen to partner May Gurney because they offer an innovative and integrated service with significant benefits to Torbay and its residents. These include savings of £10 million over 10 years, new employment opportunities and a sustainable business approach which will lead to a 30,000 tonne annual reduction in carbon, the equivalent of taking 10,000 cars off the road. These improvements will help Torbay increase recycling and cut down on the amount of waste ending up in landfill sites. This will enable residents to recycle up to 85% of their waste, with all residents able to recycle the same materials.

What are we going to do?

- Increase value and improve economic performance of key sectors
- Encourage appropriate and sympathetic diversification of the economic base
- Provide business and infrastructure support for economic growth and job creation
- Develop skills and learning opportunities
- Create and maintain quality environments that are clean, safe and pleasant
- Improve the quality and quantity of culture on offer in Torbay
- Make it easier to get around Torbay
- Be proud to provide high quality services to visitors and residents

We will achieve this by.....

- **Creating the right environment to attract inward investment to Torbay by ensuring that the infrastructure e.g. premises, transport, road links, cycleways and communications is in place to support economic growth**
- **Delivering sympathetic major regeneration to build on partnership working with the private sector**
- **Encouraging sustainable business growth and jobs creation**
- **Making the economy more inclusive linked to the Bay's need for housing**
- **Committing to social enterprise**
- **Committing to employment of older people (50 plus)**
- **Developing skills, including employment of apprentices and working with through voluntary sector to raise skills through work experience and community development**
- **Having cleaner and greener well kept public spaces**
- **Raising awareness of cultural activities in the Bay for all to increase participation**
- **Building on the quality of customer services in Torbay**
- **Reducing waste and increase recycling and composting**
- **Reducing carbon emissions and responding to the impact of climate change**

Health and Well Being

What is Torbay like now?

- The gap in life expectancy in Torbay between the least and most disadvantaged communities is 7.3 years for males, and 8.1 years for females. This gap is slowly reducing for males, but widening for females
- Alcohol misuse creates a burden on the health care system through alcohol related hospital admissions
- There are a growing number of children and young people with health issues
- Our schools have performed well on the whole in inspections and none is in an Ofsted category of concern; our further education provision is outstanding
- Attainment levels have improved for Key stage 2 and 4
- The percentage of primary and secondary school pupils with a Statement of Special Education Needs is above the national average
- We work together with the Skills Funding Agency and South Devon College to raise skill levels and qualifications in adults
- School attendance is improving
- As older people become an ever more significant proportion of our society, we need to continue to support them to acquire new skills and contribute to society

What are we going to do?

- Work to develop healthier communities and where people live happy, independent and healthy lives
- Ensure every child and young person in Torbay is supported and helped to achieve the best outcomes they can
- Ensure every child and young person in Torbay lives in safety and good health, is well educated, enjoys their childhood and contributes positively to community life
- Support families to care for their children
- Make a positive difference to children and families in Torbay

We will achieve this by.....

- **Demonstrate a transfer of public resources away from treatment towards prevention and early intervention**
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- Supporting vulnerable people to live independently having choice and control over the support they receive
- Reducing Risk Taking Behaviours Which Are Harmful To People's Health And Well Being
- Improve The Quality Of Life And Disability Free Years For People With Long Term Conditions
- Increasing The Range Of Integrated Services In Community Settings Away From Acute Hospital Environment.
- **Reducing inequalities in Torbay with people living in our more disadvantaged communities have a better quality of life, prioritise "first and most"**
- Increasing participation in positive activities
- **Raising attainment at all stages of education**
- **Improving attendance and behaviour at education settings**
- **Ensuring all children and young people are protected from abuse, neglect and feel safe and supported in their families and communities**
- **Reducing the number of teenagers becoming pregnant**
- **Reducing the number of children and young people living in poverty**
- **Raising skills at all stages of learning level and education**

Communities

What is Torbay like now?

- Torbay is a relatively low crime area, crime rates are falling but the fear of crime remains
- Alcohol contributes significantly towards Torbay's night time economy. Alcohol also contributes towards localised violent assaults
- There is a wealth of older and younger people who volunteer on a regular basis to help shape their local community
- Torbay has a higher percentage of older people (43% compared to the national average of 33.5% in 2006) compared to some areas and this brings the opportunity to make sure older people's wisdom is fully part of our community
- Torbay is becoming more diverse as a community with growth in population from Europe and elsewhere, this brings opportunities as well as challenges to ensure we stay a cohesive community

What are we going to do?

- Create a safe place to live, work and visit
- Have access to good quality housing and support education, training and employment
- Develop our own communities and treat each other with respect and consideration
- Support our Communities to achieve a Higher Quality of Life
- Value the contribution that older people can make to the economy and life in Torbay.

We will achieve this by.....

- **Ensuring people feel safe and confident in our ability to deal with crime and Anti Social Behaviour**
- **People working together to improve Torbay, inspiring and empowering the community to find new and exciting solutions to the things that matter to them creating opportunities for all**
- **Ensuring people have access to good quality homes and a supportive neighbourhood**
- **Ensuring diversity is a positive part of life in the Bay and an economic as well as a cultural and social asset**
- **Recognising and valuing the contribution older people can make**

- Involve communities in developing and delivering local action plans that focus on priorities relevant to their areas

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Population and Migration

Torbay's population expected to increase from 134,300 in 2010¹ to 157,000 in 2033². In 2033, a third of the population will be aged 65 and over, while children and young people (0 to 19) will make up one quarter of the population.

Official figures indicate that inward-migration has fallen over the last 10 years, with 5,800 people coming into the Bay and 5,400 moving out of the Bay³. Migration however, is still an important factor in Torbay's continued population growth.

Latest figures would indicate that while there are still high numbers of people aged between 15 and 30 leaving the Bay, a similar number of people in this age group are coming into the bay (1,800 outflow, compared to 1,900 in-flow)⁴.

However local research suggests that Torbay's population is currently underestimated, especially in the 25 to 44 year old age banding where we believe figures have been underestimated by approx 17% in 2008. We are currently awaiting confirmation of the results from the 2011 census to see if these local estimates are sound.

1 in 5 of Torbay's 20 to 29 population live in areas in the top 10% most deprived in England.

¹ 2010 Mid Year Estimates. ONS

² 2008 Based, Sub National Population Projections. ONS

³ 2010 Internal Migration Statistics. ONS. IN 2010 ONS changed their collection of this statistic to NHS GP lists. This means that people who are not registered with a Doctor are not necessarily counted.

⁴ 2010 Internal Migration statistics. ONS
