

Monday, 7 November 2022

## **CABINET**

A meeting of **Cabinet** will be held on

**Tuesday, 15 November 2022**

commencing at **5.30 pm**

The meeting will be held in the Meadfoot Room, Town Hall, Castle Circus,  
Torquay, TQ1 3DR

### **Members of the Committee**

Councillor Steve Darling (Chairman)

Councillor Carter

Councillor Long

Councillor Cowell

Councillor Morey

Councillor Law

Councillor Stockman

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**Together Torbay will thrive**

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**Governance Support, Town Hall, Castle Circus, Torquay, TQ1 3DR**

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# CABINET AGENDA

1. **Apologies**  
To receive apologies for absence.
2. **Minutes** (Pages 4 - 23)  
To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the meetings of the Cabinet held on 13 and 18 October 2022.
3. **Disclosure of Interests**
  - (a) To receive declarations of non pecuniary interests in respect of items on this agenda.  
  
**For reference:** Having declared their non pecuniary interest members may remain in the meeting and speak and, vote on the matter in question. A completed disclosure of interests form should be returned to the Clerk before the conclusion of the meeting.
  - (b) To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of items on this agenda.  
  
**For reference:** Where a Member has a disclosable pecuniary interest he/she must leave the meeting during consideration of the item. However, the Member may remain in the meeting to make representations, answer questions or give evidence if the public have a right to do so, but having done so the Member must then immediately leave the meeting, may not vote and must not improperly seek to influence the outcome of the matter. A completed disclosure of interests form should be returned to the Clerk before the conclusion of the meeting.  
  
**(Please Note:** If Members and Officers wish to seek advice on any potential interests they may have, they should contact Governance Support or Legal Services prior to the meeting.)
4. **Communications**  
To receive any communications or announcements from the Leader of the Council including a presentation from representatives of What's Your Problem?.
5. **Urgent Items**  
To consider any other items the Chairman decides are urgent.
6. **Matters for Consideration**
7. **Torbay Economic Growth Strategy** (Pages 24 - 120)  
To consider a report that recommends to Council the approval of the Torbay Economic Growth Strategy.
8. **Torbay Playing Pitch Strategy** (Pages 121 - 231)  
To consider a report that seeks approval to launch consultation on the Torbay Playing Pitch Strategy.

9. **Healthy Behaviours Service Contract Award Proposal** (Pages 232 - 242)  
To consider a report that seeks approval to award to contract for the Health Behaviours Services.

10. **Urgent decisions taken by the Chief Executive** (Pages 243 - 246)  
To note a report on an urgent decision taken by the Chief Executive.

### **Meeting Attendance**

Please note that whilst the Council is no longer implementing Covid-19 secure arrangements attendees are encouraged to sit with space in between other people. Windows will be kept open to ensure good ventilation and therefore attendees are recommended to wear suitable clothing.

If you have symptoms, including runny nose, sore throat, fever, new continuous cough and loss of taste and smell please do not come to the meeting.

### **Live Streaming and Hybrid Arrangements**

To encourage more people to engage in our public meetings the Council is trialling live streaming our Cabinet meetings on our YouTube channel in addition to recording the meetings and publishing the recording on our website. To watch the meeting live please visit <https://www.youtube.com/user/torbaycouncil>.

We are trialling hybrid meeting arrangements to enable officers and Councillors who are not members of the Cabinet to either attend the meeting in person or to attend the meeting remotely via Zoom. Anyone attending the meeting remotely must use their raise hand function when they wish to speak and to declare any interests at the appropriate time. As this is a trial if anyone attending the meeting remotely loses connection the meeting will continue and they will have the option to follow the meeting via the YouTube live stream.

**Minutes of the Cabinet**

**13 October 2022**

**-: Present :-**

Councillor Steve Darling (Chairman)

Councillors Carter, Cowell, Law, Long, Morey and Stockman

(Also in attendance: Councillors Douglas-Dunbar, Barbara Lewis, Chris Lewis,  
David Thomas, Jacqueline Thomas, Foster and O'Dwyer)

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**394. Matters for Consideration**

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

**395. Governance Oversight of Capital Spend**

**396. Investment Zones in England - Expression of Interest**

Chairman

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## Record of Decisions

### Governance Oversight of Capital Spend

#### Decision Taker

Extra Cabinet meeting on 13 October 2022

#### Decision

1. That a Cabinet Working Party 'Capital Contingency Fund Working Party' be established in accordance with Political Balance comprising 7 councillors (2 Liberal Democrat Councillors, 3 Conservative Councillors, and 2 Independent Councillor, with membership to include the Leader of the Council and the Deputy Leader of the Council), with the following Terms of Reference:

To review the details and business cases of proposed allocations from the Capital Contingency Fund due to be allocated by the Chief Finance Officer.

2. That the Cabinet's recommendation made on 27 September 2022 to Council be rescinded and Cabinet recommends to Council:
  1. To defer consideration of the Officer revised recommendations 1, 2 and 3 (published on 11 October 2022) in light of the Overview and Scrutiny Board's recommendation for the Council to receive further information and the Directors of Place and Finance be requested to report the further information and recommendations to an additional Overview and Scrutiny Board and Extraordinary Council, both meetings to be held by the end of October 2022; and
  2. The TorVista Homes working capital facility be increased from £1.0m to £1.5m with the rate of interest on the loan to be determined by the Chief Finance Officer linked to prevailing council investment returns on the date of drawdown.

#### Reason for the Decision

To provide robust governance arrangements which allows transparency for Capital contingency spend whilst enabling the Capital Programme to be delivered expediently and to respond to the Overview and Scrutiny Board's recommendations (arising from its meeting on 12 October 2022).

#### Implementation

The decision in respect of 1. above will come into force immediately as the decision maker has decided that any delay likely to be caused by the call-in process would prejudice the Council's interest. The Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinator was consulted on 10 October 2022. The decisions in respect of 2.1 and 2.2. above will be considered by the Council on 13 October 2022.

#### Information

The Budget Monitoring Report 2022/23 for the Revenue and Capital Outturn (April to July 2022) highlighted that the Council is facing significant external pressure due to the wide-reaching

implications of the current economic situation. The Council has seen extreme cost inflation in respect of Capital Projects and several schemes in progress are facing rising costs. As such the Council (at its meeting on 13 October 2022) was being recommended to increase the Capital Contingency, by £8m, to a total value of £12m to support the delivery of a number of capital projects.

The 2022/2023 Budget Pressures Review Panel recommended to the Overview and Scrutiny Board the establishment of a Capital Contingency Review Panel to examine a wide breadth of matters, including all capital projects, investments and housing schemes. To assist with the Panel's recommendation, the Chief Executive set out her advice and proposals to provide greater governance oversight and transparency for members whilst managing efficiently the officer resources needed to deliver at pace.

The Cabinet held an extra meeting on 13 October 2022 to consider the Chief Executive's report and to review the Overview and Scrutiny Board's recommendations to Council.

The Cabinet received the Overview and Scrutiny Board's report (arising from the Board's meeting on 12 October 2022) to Council which recommended deferral in respect of Harbour View project for further information. In reviewing the Overview and Scrutiny Board's recommendations, the Cabinet made further recommendations to the Council to defer the Officer recommendations 1 to 3 to enable the wider elements of the Capital Contingency Fund to be considered.

At the meeting Councillor Cowell proposed and Councillor Steve Darling 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**

The following alternative options were considered and discounted:

- to implement the recommendations of the 2022/23 Budget Pressures Review Panel but this was not expedient for the allocation of the Capital Contingency Fund;
- to recommend to Council at its meeting on 13 October 2022, the Officers Revised Recommendations 1 to 3 (published on 12 October 2022), but this would not allow members to receive further information as recommended by the Overview and Scrutiny Board; and
- take no action, but this would not provide members with the assurance and transparency in respect of capital contingency spend.

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

No – Reference Number: I094329

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

No

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

None.

**Published**

18 October 2022

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 18 October 2022  
Leader of Torbay Council on behalf of the Cabinet

## Record of Decisions

### Investment Zones in England - Expression of Interest

#### Decision Taker

Cabinet at extra meeting on 13 October 2022

#### Decision

That the Chief Executive be instructed to submit an Expression of Interest for Investment Zone designation.

#### Reason for the Decision

To unleash Torbay's full potential by driving economic growth and ensuring the benefits of this are felt by the residents and businesses across Torbay and to meet the Government's deadline of 14 October 2022 for expressions of interest.

#### Implementation

The decision in respect of the Investment Zones in England – Expression of Interest will come into force immediately as the decision maker has decided that any delay likely to be caused by the call-in process would prejudice the Council's interest. The Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinator was consulted on 10 October 2022.

#### Information

The Growth Plan 2022, announced by the Government on 23 September 2022, established Investment Zones in England. Investment Zones aimed to drive growth and open up opportunities for housing, with sites benefiting from tax incentives and wider support for the local economy. Investment Zones will be specific sites which have potential to accelerate growth and deliver housing through modified planning rules.

To become an Investment Zone, an Expression of Interest needs to be submitted by 14 October 2022, the Chairman of the Planning Committee and the Divisional Director of Planning, Housing and Climate Emergency confirmed that the Local Planning Authority supports the potential creation of Investment Zones in Torbay.

At the meeting Councillor Long proposed and Councillor Morey 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

To do nothing and not pursue the potential of becoming an Investment Zone. This option was discounted due to the economic benefits that being an Investment Zone would bring to Torbay.

#### 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**

18 October 2022

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 18 October 2022  
Leader of Torbay Council on behalf of the Cabinet

## **Minutes of the Cabinet**

**18 October 2022**

**-: Present :-**

Councillor Cowell

Councillors Carter, Law, Long, Morey and Stockman

(Also in attendance: Councillors Barrand, Bye, Foster, Barbara Lewis (virtually),  
Chris Lewis (virtually), David Thomas and Jacqueline Thomas (virtually))

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### **397. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Steve Darling and Stockman. Councillor Cowell, Deputy Leader of the Council chaired the meeting in the absence of the Councillor Steve Darling.

### **398. Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 27 September 2022 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **399. Communications**

The Cabinet received a presentation from Martin Harris of Unleashed Theatre Company. Members were informed that the Unleashed Theatre Company was a community theatre company working with the homeless and recovery communities in Torquay. The company holds weekly drama workshops and community choir for those on the fringes of community. The Unleashed Theatre Company was about making the arts accessible to people who can't otherwise afford it. Unleashed 1, 2, 3 put a focus on homelessness where participants can reflect and share their own experiences. Members were advised that during the Pandemic devices were shared with participants and St Magdalen Church commissioned the company to do a play, which became a film put forward for several film festivals and ultimately won the 'Best Original Screenplay' award at the Cannes Film Festival. With thanks to a benefactor, the Unleashed Theatre Company was able to purchase the cinema on Abbey Road and extend the companies work whilst protecting local heritage. The company aimed to turn the property into a community arts centre and was conveniently located in the Melville community that the company wanted to reach out to and encourage participation from.

The Deputy Leader, Councillor Cowell thanked Mr Harris for his presentation and the contribution the Unleashed Theatre Company was making to the community and reiterated that the Council would welcome working together to achieve common goals.

**400. 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.

**401. Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy**

**402. Housing Strategy Consultation**

**403. Further disposal of Council owned land at Hatchcombe**

**404. Multi-Functional Devices Contract Award Approval**

**405. Highways Review - Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Board**

**406. Torquay Town Deal - Land Assembly**

Prior to consideration of the item in Minute 406 the press and public were formally excluded from the meeting on the grounds that the item involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

Chairman/woman

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## Record of Decisions

### Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy

#### Decision Taker

Cabinet on 18 October 2022.

#### Decision

That the draft Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy as set out in Appendix 1 to the submitted report, be approved for a 6-week public consultation.

#### Reason for the Decision

To submit for consultation the draft Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy which has been prepared following a review of the current Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy which ceases at the end of 2022 and to take into account the recommendations of a strategic review of the domestic abuse response in Torbay.

#### Implementation

This decision will be implemented immediately.

#### Information

The findings from the Call-to-Action Sexual Violence Project that Torbay Council participated in last year has been used to inform the focus and direction for sexual violence. In addition, data about sexual violence services and demand has been gathered to inform a local position statement on sexual violence in Torbay.

A theory of change has been devised following analysis of all the review findings, which has informed what change needs to happen, what outcomes have been identified and how we deliver them. This revealed a commonality of themes between both domestic abuse and sexual violence that are a focus for the strategy. A small number of themes specific to domestic or sexual violence are also included.

Consequently, the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy has been reviewed with a focus on lived experience, prevention, identification, disruption, evidence and understanding; aiming to:

- a) Elevate responses to sexual violence to achieve parity with domestic violence over the lifetime of the Strategy
- b) Hold those who harm accountable and not their victims
- c) Change the narrative and address myths and victim blaming language and practice
- d) Embed trauma informed practice and improve understanding of how trauma frames victims' responses
- e) Develop a robust evidence base and consistent monitoring

- f) Broaden knowledge and understanding of what constitutes domestic and sexual violence and abuse both in the workforce and across the general public, framed in the context of relationships.

Councillor Carter proposed and Councillor Stockman 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**

An alternative option would be to do nothing. However, this was discounted as the current policy was set to expire this year and would not take account of the information gathered from the strategic review.

**Is this a Key Decision?**

Yes

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

No

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

None.

**Published**

21 October 2022

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

## Record of Decisions

### Torbay Housing Strategy

#### Decision Taker

Cabinet on 18 October 2022.

#### Decision

That the draft Housing Strategy as set out in Appendix 1 to the submitted report, be approved for a 6-week public consultation.

#### Reason for the Decision

The current Housing Strategy was adopted prior to the Council declaring a Housing and Climate Emergency in 2021 and prior to the Covid-19 Pandemic in 2020. Both the Housing Delivery Group and the Torbay Strategic Housing Board have recommended that the Housing Strategy be reviewed in light of the Council's new priorities.

#### Implementation

This decision will be implemented immediately.

#### Information

The Housing Strategy is the over-arching strategic document that pulls together all aspects of the Council's strategic housing function. The draft Strategy sets out what the Council, together with its partners, will be doing over the next 10 years to improve the housing situation for our current and future residents. Responses to the consultation will better inform the approach the Council will take with all its partners and stakeholders to improve housing supply, conditions and support.

At the meeting Councillor Long proposed and Councillor Morey 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

An alternative option would be to not undertake consultation on the Housing Strategy however that would not provide the public, stakeholders and partners the opportunity to improve the housing offer in Torbay.

#### Is this a Key Decision?

Yes

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

No

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

None.

**Published**

21 October 2022

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

## Record of Decisions

### Further disposal of Council owned land at Hatchcombe

#### Decision Taker

Cabinet on 18 October 2022.

#### Decision

1. That the disposal of the land shaded orange on the plan, as set out in Appendix 2 to the submitted report, to Sanctuary Housing, at zero cost, in return for nomination rights into 100% of the properties in perpetuity, under the Local Government Act 1972: General Disposal Consent Order 2003, be approved; and
2. That the Chief Executive in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration, Tourism and Housing, be authorised to further agree the detailed terms of the disposal.

#### Reason for the Decision

The transfer of the parcel of land identified would facilitate a revised scheme, which would provide in the region of sixty apartments for affordable rent.

#### Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 31 October 2022 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in the Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

#### Information

This Hatchcombe Nurseries land is a housing development site owned by Torbay Council and Sanctuary Housing. The latest scheme design proposes a revised access onto the site, to improve the scheme and deliver additional affordable housing units, which in turn requires a further land transfer from the Council to Sanctuary Housing.

The transfer of the additional parcel of land would facilitate a revised scheme, which would provide in the region of sixty apartments for affordable rent. This would assist in meeting the housing needs of households on the waiting list and experiencing homelessness. The revised scheme would also deliver more housing units than the originally proposed development.

At the meeting Councillor Long proposed and Councillor Cowell 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

The alternative options were:

- To do nothing. This option was discounted as not disposing the land to Sanctuary Housing would likely mean that the scheme would not go ahead in any form;
- Sell the council owned land on the open market. This option was discounted as the Council land proposed for disposal to Sanctuary had little value other than as a ransom

strip for the rest of the site.

**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**

21 October 2022

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

## Record of Decisions

### Multi-Functional Devices Contract Award Approval

#### Decision Taker

Cabinet on 18 October 2022.

#### Decision

That the preferred supplier be awarded a contract for the provision of Multi-Functional Devices (MFDs) across the Council estate for a fixed five (5) year term from 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022 until 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2027, as set out in Exempt Appendix 3 to the submitted report.

#### Reason for the Decision

To award a contract for the new Multi-Functional Devices.

#### Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 31 October 2022 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in the Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

#### Information

The current arrangement in place to provide Multi-Functional Devices across the Council estate will conclude by May 2023. Multi-Functional Devices provide printing, copying, and scanning facilities. A new suitable supplier has been identified and approval to award the contract is sought.

At the meeting Councillor Carter proposed and Councillor Cowell 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

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**

21 October 2022

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

## Record of Decisions

### Highways Review - Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Board

#### Decision Taker

Cabinet on 18 October 2022.

#### Decision

That the Cabinet's response to the Highways Review – Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Board be approved as published.

#### Reason for the Decision

The Cabinet was required to respond to the findings of the review undertaken by the Overview and Scrutiny Board.

#### Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 31 October 2022 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 Highways Review – Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Board. 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 Overview and Scrutiny Board within two months. Subsequently the Cabinet prepared a response to the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Board which was proposed by Councillor Morey and seconded by Councillor Law 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**

21 October 2022

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

## Record of Decisions

### Torquay Town Deal - Land Assembly

#### Decision Taker

Cabinet on 18 October 2022.

#### Decision

To proceed with the purchase of the asset using Town Deal grant and in support of the delivery of the Town Investment Plan for Torquay as per the recommendation set out in the exempt appendix 4.

#### Reason for the Decision

The outcomes are in line with Torquay's Town Investment Plan, agreed with the Town Board in June 2020, which was the basis of the allocation by Government of £21.9M of Towns Fund investment.

#### Implementation

The decision in respect of the Torquay Town Deal – Land Assembly will come into force immediately as the decision maker has decided that any delay likely to be caused by the call-in process would prejudice the Council's interest. The Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinator was consulted on 10 October 2022.

#### Information

The Cabinet's approval was sought for the acquisition of a strategically important regeneration site in Torquay town centre to allow for the delivery of Torquay's Town Investment Plan. The site has been identified as critical for long term transformation of the town centre to achieve the objectives of a vibrant town centre in line with the Investment Plan and Torquay's Neighbourhood Plan.

The acquisition would be funded through the Government's Town Deal grant allocation for Torquay and would form the first phase of a programme of projects intended to reshape the town centre.

At the meeting Councillor Long proposed and Councillor Cowell seconded a motion was agreed unanimously by the Cabinet, as set out above.

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

Two options have been considered and are set out below:

- Do nothing - This option will see no immediate implementation of the Town Investment Plan.
- Proceed with the purchase of the asset - Acquisition of the site was based on a strategic regeneration purchase so that the Council has control of the space directly supporting the options for regeneration.

**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**

21 October 2022

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

**Meeting:** Cabinet    **Date:** 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022

**Wards affected:** All wards

**Report Title:** Torbay Economic Growth Strategy

**When does the decision need to be implemented?** 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022

**Cabinet Member Contact Details:** Cllr Swithin Long, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Tourism & Housing, [swithin.long@torbay.gov.uk](mailto:swithin.long@torbay.gov.uk)

**Director/Divisional Director Contact Details:** Alan Denby, Divisional Director of Economy, Environment & Infrastructure, [alan.denby@torbay.gov.uk](mailto:alan.denby@torbay.gov.uk)

## 1. Purpose of Report

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- 1.1 This report introduces the draft Economic Growth Strategy 2030 which provides direction for Torbay Council and its partners responsible for championing Torbay and delivering, with its communities, in respect of the economic development of the place.
- 1.2 Torbay Council, through TDA, has been delivering the Economic Repositioning Plan for 2 years. The Plan was developed in response to the Covid 19 Pandemic and whilst several actions remain relevant, the challenges facing the economy are now more pronounced. As a result, a new Strategy is required that will address these challenges, build upon our successes, and drive Torbay's economy forward.
- 1.3 The extent of the challenges facing Torbay's economy set out a compelling argument for economic growth to be the strategic priority for the Council in the coming years given the risk that a failing economy presents for education, health and other outcomes. Ensuring that there are resources to deliver the subsequent action plan at a time of likely spending restrictions on Councils will be difficult notwithstanding the significant capital funding that has been secured in the past two years and which will catalyse town centre change.
- 1.4 Like the preceding Economic Strategies, this new Strategy is evidence led. To support this, a revised Evidence Base document has been developed that will inform the new strategy (see appendix 1).
- 1.5 Recognising the complexity of the issues leading to slower growth, and ultimately resulting in poorer outcomes and experiences for the community, this report recommends that the strategy set an ambition for the longer term, to 2030. This longer time frame, with a clear vision that communities and partners of Torbay and support, is underpinned by shorter

term actions and indicators that are subject to review at a period to be determined by Cabinet.

- 1.6 Torbay's economy continues to fall behind the UK average. This new Economic Growth Strategy sets the framework and key actions required to transform our economy. Maintaining the status quo will simply see the local economy fall further behind deepening the health and social challenges in the community. If we are to transform Torbay's economy, help turn the tide on poverty and positively impact upon our community's health, wellbeing and pride in place, we will need committed and increased resources.

### **Current Position**

- 1.7 Deyton Bell, an economic development consultancy, has undertaken a review of the evidence base (appended) and national policy. They have also consulted with key stakeholders and businesses across Torbay. This included one-to-one meetings, a questionnaire which returned over 50 responses, and attendance at pre-arranged group meetings, such as the Torbay Hi Tech Cluster and Torbay Business Forum. Deyton Bell have now produced the the final Economic Growth Strategy and are assisting with the development of the action plan which will be presented to a subsequent meeting of the Cabinet upon approval of the Economic Growth Strategy.
- 1.8 The Strategy identifies 4 priority areas through which we can make the necessary interventions to support the local economy and its businesses. These priorities will be underpinned by an action plan which sets out the initiatives that will enable growth across Torbay.

The proposed priorities are:

- Supporting innovators, entrepreneurs and business owners

We will work with local business networks and key businesses to ensure that the Torbay economy is successful. We will welcome entrepreneurs, innovators and social enterprises and will develop programmes and projects that will ensure that the economy offers the conditions for businesses to thrive.

- Building on our economic specialisms

Our key sectors play a key role in delivering growth and providing employment opportunities for Torbay residents. This strategy is seeking to build on the foundations which are already in place around our photonics and micro-electronics, tourism and fishing industries. The strategy also identifies other sectors worth exploring that include medical technology and creative industries. These sectors will provide important employment and growth that will underpin improvements in the Torbay economy.

- Helping our community and residents to reach their economic potential and build an inclusive economy

At the heart of the Council's Corporate Strategy and Community Plan and this Economic Growth Strategy are the people of Torbay. We will work with residents and businesses to create the social prosperity that allows everyone to live and contribute well and turn the tide on poverty.

- Maximising economic value of natural capital

Torbay is home to varied natural assets, its outstanding marine and natural experience is as important for attracting, re-training and growing leading edge tech businesses as it is for bringing visitors to the area and being a place where people want to live. The geography of Torbay shapes our economy to a considerable extent.

- 1.9 In addition to the priority areas, the Strategy will contribute to tackling the Climate Emergency. The subsequent action plan will set out the actions required to take forward our priorities. This will also be accompanied by a monitoring and evaluation plan to enable effective monitoring.
- 1.10 Being able to determine what difference the Strategy is making will be fundamental to its success. Whilst all actions will have relevant key performance indicators, there are a series of key outcomes that the Strategy aims to deliver on. These are:
- Creating more full-time job opportunities for Torbay residents and provide good work for all
  - Reducing our impact on, and increasing resilience to Climate Change
  - Increased Gross Value Added (GVA) per worker, average worker income and productivity – addressing our current position of one of the areas with the lowest GVA per capita in England
  - Improvement in educational attainment and workforce skills– increasing the number of residents qualified to deliver the jobs needed by local business
- 1.11 With sustained increases in each of these measures during the life of the Economic Growth Strategy, Torbay will improve its resilience and improve its economic diversity. This will assist in weathering future global economic trends and market cycles, aiding recovery from economic downturns. Improvements will assist Torbay in being agile enough to adapt to changing technologies and importantly, provide benefit to all residents. The Economic Growth Strategy sets out the basepoint and future targets which the delivery of the strategy will be measured against.

## 2. Reason for Proposal and its benefits

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- 2.1 We want Torbay and its residents to thrive.
- 2.2 We want Torbay to be a place where we have turned the tide on poverty and tackled inequalities; where our children and older people will have high aspirations and where there are quality jobs, good pay and affordable housing for our residents.
- 2.3 We want Torbay to be the premier resort in the UK, with a vibrant arts and cultural offer for our residents and visitors to enjoy; where our built and natural environment is celebrated and where we play our part in addressing the climate change emergency.
- 2.4 The Economic Strategy is fundamental to delivery of the thriving economy theme of the Community Plan. The Economic Strategy will support the Council's place shaping ambitions recognising that economic success is a key determinant of other outcomes by enabling the conditions for job creation; helping people develop skills to find work or better work and the activities through the strategy will support turning the tide on poverty and improve health and wellbeing; in creating a positive environment for businesses to grow or relocate and deliver regeneration schemes enabling investment and reinvestment that increases the value of the local economy which in turn will help sustain or grow Council incomes. Successful delivery and a sustained focus on the Economic Strategy will drive the economic health of Torbay.
- 2.5 This work will result in an Economic Strategy that will underpin the Council's focus on delivering its corporate priorities and better outcomes for the community with a longer-term plan to address key issues and opportunities and build upon recent successes. Alongside the strategy there will be a SMART action plan, a monitoring & evaluation plan with key performance indicators to enable effective delivering of the strategy.

## 3. Recommendation(s) / Proposed Decision

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That the Cabinet recommends to Council

- 3.1 That the Torbay Economic Growth Strategy be approved; and
- 3.2 That subject to 3.1 above the Torbay Economic Growth Strategy Action Plan be presented to a subsequent Cabinet meeting for approval.

## Appendices

Appendix 1: Supporting Evidence Base

Appendix 2: Draft Economic Strategy

## Background Documents

## Supporting Information

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### 1. Introduction

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#### Background

1.1 In January 2022, TDA issued a commissioning brief for the development of a new Torbay Economic Strategy 2022-2030. We received five proposals which were reviewed for quality, price, and deliverability as set out in the brief. Deyton Bell Limited were appointed to support with this work.

1.1 Deyton Bell Ltd have been commissioned to deliver the following:

- An Economic Strategy and Action Plan
- A Monitoring and Evaluation Plan
- A plan on a page

1.2 Deyton Bell have delivered this work in 5 key phases:

Phase 1 - Contract mobilisation

Phase 2 – Review of data/information

Phase 3 – Stakeholder engagement

Phase 4 – Draft Economic Strategy

Phase 5 – Final Economic Strategy

#### Evidence Base

1.3 To support the development of the Economic Strategy, TDA has developed a supporting Evidence Base (see appendix 1). The Evidence Base will help shape, inform the Strategy,

and provide an update on the local economic picture, highlighting emerging issues and opportunities, and secure a better understanding of Torbay's economic performance and drivers of growth. A few notable points to highlight:

- Torbay is home to circa 136,218 people, nearly half of which (49.4%) are aged 50 or over. The lowest representation comes from ages 16 to 24, accounting for around 8%.
- Torbay's workforce has decreased 2.1% from 2015 to 2020.
- Torbay deprivation is worsening with 27.4% of the population living in the country's most deprived areas.
- Torbay continues to have high level of part time work in comparison to regional and national averages.
- 9% of residents have no qualifications, 29.4% are classified as graduates but this figure is notably lower than regional and national averages. Torbay now falls behind regional and national average across all NVQ levels.
- Photonics and microelectronics sector continues to grow, creating high skilled jobs for local people. GVA in this sector is twice the Torbay average.
- Torbay's fishing industry remains important, landing circa £31M value of fish, supporting 499 jobs.
- Superfast broadband is available across 95.3% of the area.
- In 2021 the unemployment rate was 2.3% the lowest it has been for five years. Long term unemployed and youth unemployment figures are falling.
- Vacancy rates are at the highest level for 5 years and significantly exceed the number of people looking for work.
- There is a mismatch between the skills employers need and the skills employees offer.
- Collective performance of Torbay's schools has improved since 2019 however the attainment gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupils has grown.

## Consultation

1.4 Deyton Bell set out a consultation process with key stakeholders covering; key business, economic and political stakeholders, and those identified by TDA, including:

- Local Authority members and officers
- Jobs, skills, education and skills contacts including Department for Work and Pensions
- Industry/commerce contacts including representatives from key infrastructure projects
- Business representative networks/membership groups, Destination Management Organisation
- Business support organisations (HM Government agencies, Enterprise agencies, BIDS)
- County Council and Local Enterprise Partnership colleagues/partners

A contact list was compiled for a combination of survey, phone, video and face to face interactions that along with the content and form of all stakeholder communications was agreed with TDA on behalf the Council.

An on-line survey of all stakeholders was sent to a list of agreed key stakeholders. Deyton Bell conducted meetings on a 1-2-1 or 1-2-many basis as appropriate/needed and attended pre-arranged meetings where stakeholders had already planned to come together.

- 1.5 The consultation survey was sent to 105 key stakeholders, and we received over 50 responses. This included representatives of sector and business groups to cascade to their members (e.g., chambers, business forum, hi tech cluster, tourism bid levy payers). Deyton Bell also attended meetings of the place group, with Torbay aftercare companies and the Torbay hi tech cluster. One-to-one meetings with over 20 key contacts were also undertaken.

### **Public consultation findings**

- 1.6 The public consultation ran from w/c 18<sup>th</sup> July through to October 2<sup>nd</sup> has provided the following

There were over 1,100 visits to the consultation on Engagement HQ

Of these visits, 814 visited at least one page on the Economic Growth Strategy consultation pages, 310 visited more than one page.

468 visitors took the next step and became more 'informed'.

- 310 visited multiple pages
- 210 downloaded a document
- 164 took part in the survey – to note, there were 173 submissions by 164 contributors
- 11 visitors viewed the key dates 19 times

353 downloads of a document were made by 210 visitors:

- the draft strategy was downloaded 189 times
- the draft action plan 113 times
- the evidence base 51 times

- 1.7 Several free form comments were made in the public consultation. These include

- Strengthening the commitment to net zero and carbon reduction

- The need for more affordable housing
- Key area of challenge has been around the sectors with only 54% of respondents agreed with them.
  - There was challenge around the importance and need to support both the fishing and tourism sectors, with a number of views suggesting we shouldn't be supporting these sectors.
  - Comments were also received on the need to strengthen opportunities around health.
  - Research undertaken by University of Exeter into the Creative Industries indicates there is an opportunity here to be further explored citing sector opportunities in coastal areas

#### 1.8 Comments from Overview and Scrutiny committee were as follows

- that the Strategy includes SMART (Specific, Measurable, Aspirational, Realistic and Timely) targets with achievable milestones to enable Members to clearly monitor the progress made in delivering the key objectives of the Strategy;
- to include reference to the risks associated with Freeports and that this has been consciously considered;
- to include clearer signposting references to other key Council policies and strategies and to ensure that all strategies are cross referenced and complement each other (e.g., Housing Strategy, Local Plan, Parking Strategy etc).; and
- that the continued relationships and partnership working with the three Chambers of Trade and Commerce and Torbay Business Forum be highlighted within the Strategy.

## 2. Options under consideration

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- 2.1 Continue with the existing strategy, this is no longer appropriate as it was developed as a response to the pandemic.
- 2.2 Approve the draft Economic Growth Strategy.

## 3. Financial Opportunities and Implications

---

- 3.1 It is expected that there will be both opportunities and implications. The Economic Growth Strategy and subsequent Action Plan will also inform the Council's bidding priorities to funding programmes. The UKSPF is a key government fund that can enable delivery of primarily revenue elements of the Economic Growth Strategy and subsequent Action Plan and therefore has been used as the driver of the Investment Plan required to secure UKSPF funding. However, the UKSPF allocation for Torbay over 3 years was only £1.76M.
- 3.2 The extent of the issues facing the local economy and delivery of the subsequent Action Plan will require a commitment of existing resources and will require additional resources over and above that currently available for delivery. Where possible, other funding sources will be sought.
- 3.3 There are severe implications of a continued or even more pronounced economic failure. The level of skills and ageing workforce risk relocation of higher value businesses, the ageing visitor demographic threatens the prominence of the visitor economy and the direct and indirect income that brings. The level of skills and level of employment has impacts on deprivation along with education, health and other outcomes that ultimately will present back to the authority and the wider public sector as costs. If we experience reduced business rates, fewer visitors, worsening health outcomes and a narrower tax base, then the issues we currently have will be exacerbated.

## 4. Legal Implications

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- 4.1 There are no legal implications with this proposal.

## 5. Engagement and Consultation

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- 5.1 The development of the Economic Growth Strategy involved engagement with key stakeholders and businesses across Torbay using a variety of methods including; online meetings, pre-arranged group meetings, one-to-one meetings and a survey to shape the strategy development.
- 5.2 The Council held a public consultation that ran from 13<sup>th</sup> July 2022 to 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2022. Key findings are set out earlier in the report. The relevant findings have informed the draft Economic Growth Strategy and will inform the subsequent Action Plan.

## 6. Purchasing or Hiring of Goods and/or Services

---

- 6.1 We developed a brief, set a budget and sought proposals from six suppliers to support with the strategy development work. We received five proposals.
- 6.2 We reviewed each proposal against the brief, including value for money.
- 6.3 We appointed a supplier to support the development and drafting of the strategy.

## 7. Tackling Climate Change

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- 7.1 We have engaged with Torbay Council's Climate Emergency Officer who has provided input into the development of this Strategy.

## 8. Associated Risks

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- 8.1 The adoption of the Torbay Economic Growth Strategy 2022 – 2030 is fundamental in ensuring the Council can set the framework for developing Torbay's economy.
- 8.2 The evidence base is indicating that Torbay is facing new challenges and the current repositioning plan is not addressing these issues. Moreover, the extent of the challenges suggests that there is a compelling argument for economic growth to be the strategic priority for the Council in the coming years given the risk that a failing economy presents for education, health and other outcomes.

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

---

	Positive Impact	Negative Impact & Mitigating Actions	Neutral Impact
Older or younger people	There will be skills focus within the strategy setting out how we can best support the aspirations of our younger people.		
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) (Please note Gypsies / Roma are within this community)	A report has been commissioned to provide a high summary of the issues that face Black and minority ethnic owned businesses and people from those communities who aspire to start their own businesses. This will inform the strategy development.		
Religion or belief (including lack of belief)			No differential impact.
People who are lesbian, gay or bisexual			No differential impact.
People who are transgender			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)	The plan will seek to create new job opportunities for residents that will improve the quality of life for them and their families.		
Public Health impacts (How will your proposal impact on the general health of the population of Torbay)	Providing increased employment opportunities can take households from 'workless' to working. This can provide additional income for families to support a healthier lifestyle.		

## 10. Cumulative Council Impact

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10.1 None.

## 11. Cumulative Community Impacts

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11.1 None.



# Torbay Economic Strategy 2022 - 2030

Evidence Base 2022

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Agenda Item 7  
Appendix 1

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\*\*insert your team email or phone no. here\*\*

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# 1. Purpose

---

## 1.1 Introduction

TDA on behalf of Torbay Council is developing its revised Torbay Economic Strategy. The Strategy will provide the framework for the future long-term sustainable economic growth.

The starting point for developing the new Strategy is to undertake a review of the existing Evidence Base. The Evidence Base will help shape and inform the Strategy and provide an update on the local economic picture, highlighting emerging issues and opportunities, identify gaps in the data, and secure a better understanding of Torbay's economic performance and drivers of growth.

The revision of the Evidence Base draws upon the latest data to provide a robust foundation and sound understanding on changing circumstances to inform Torbay's economic policies. These policies and actions will form the backbone of the revised Economic Strategy.

## 2 Comparators

To provide a benchmark for Torbay, key data is included on four comparator locations to help indicate in which areas Torbay is performing/under-performing to provide context on some of the local issues.

The following Local Authorities have been chosen due to their coastal locations and similar socio-economic challenges. These are:

- Darlington
- Redcar and Cleveland
- Blackpool
- Isle of Wight

## 2. Executive Summary

---

### Growth and Economy

- Torbay's total economic output in 2019 was worth £1.98Bn.
- Sectors generating the greatest proportion of output are; real estate activities, human health and social work activities, wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles, education, and accommodation and food service activities.
- The productivity gap in Torbay is continuing to widen. In 2019 GVA per hour worked was 69.4% of the UK average, while GVA per job filled and GVA per head are 62.6% and 49.4% respectively.
- The gap in Torbay's Gross Disposable Household Income is continuing to widen. In 2019 it was 87.2% of the UK average, down from 90.0% in 2008.

### Key Sectors

- In 2020, Torbay's fishing industry landed around 11.7 tonnes, the approximate value of £31.0M and supported 499 jobs.
- In 2020, over 2,240,100 tourists visited Torbay – a decline of over 50.7% compared to 2019.
- GVA per worker in the photonics and microelectronics sector has increased 37.0% from £72,973 in 2015 to £100,000 in 2019.

### Infrastructure

- Superfast broadband is available across 95.3% of Torbay compared to 95% nationally and 92.2% regionally.
- 7 out of 8 key services are accessible in Torbay within 45 mins or less via public transport and walking.
- The highest rates of unoccupied employment space across Torbay are in retail, followed by office, industrial, and leisure space.

### Business and Innovation

- In 2020, there were 4,485 active businesses across Torbay, with 520 new businesses starting up and around 415 closing down.

- Business survival rates in Torbay falls behind the regional average but remain in line with the national average until the fifth year when they fall 1.4 percentage points below the UK average.
- There are 45 fast growing businesses employing approximately 2,680 people mainly in manufacturing and engineering, and other business and professional services for businesses, mostly linked to eHealth and preventive care sectors.

## People

- Torbay has a population of 136,218 people – nearly half of which (49.4%) are aged 50 or over.
- Over the past 10 years, there has been a decline in the proportion of the population aged 49 and under, and equally a greater increase in the proportion of the population aged 50 and above.
- By 2030, Torbay's population is projected to grow by 5.3% reaching 145,120; with those aged 64 and above expected to account for 31.2% of the population.
- 18.7% of Torbay households are classed as 'workless'.
- In 2019, over 27.4% of Torbay's population were classed as living in the bottom 20% of the most deprived areas in England.
- In comparison to the UK average, Torbay has low rates of ethnic diversity, accounting for around 3.0% of the population.

## Employment and Skills

- Over the past five years, the number of jobs in Torbay has decreased by 3.0% to 48,000.
- Between 2020 and 2021, Torbay's employment rate increased from 72.5% to 77%.
- In 2021, Torbay's unemployment rate was 2.3% - the lowest it has been for five years.
- At the end of 2021, Torbay's long-term unemployment figure stood at 160, significantly lower than 465, five years ago.
- 4.5% of Torbay's 16- to 17-year-olds are not in education, employment, or training (NEET) compared to 5.5% across the UK.
- Since its peak in August 2020, Torbay's claimant count has fallen by 47% to 3,175.
- The number of job seekers in Torbay has been on a downward trend for the past five years and is currently 234.

- The top employment sectors have remained unchanged and include health, accommodation & food services, retail, education, and business administration & support services.
- Over the past five years, Torbay has seen significant employment growth in business administration & support services, information & communication, public administration & defence, and manufacturing.
- Vacancy rates are at their highest level for five years. The top recruiting occupations are nurses, care workers, chefs, sales and retail assistants, van drivers, and primary and nursery roles.

## Workforce

- Over the past five years, there has been a 1.9% decrease in the total working age population, falling to 58,500.
- The workforce in Torbay has decreased by 2.1% since 2015 to 46,500 in 2020.
- Full-time jobs account for 58.1% of all employment, compared to part-time jobs accounting for 41.9% of employment. This is far higher than the regional and national average.
- 9% of the working age population in Torbay have no qualifications, an increase from 6.2% in 2017 and is significantly higher than the regional and national averages.
- 29% of the working age population in Torbay have NVQ4+, some way behind the SW and UK, at 40.4% and 43% respectively.
- In fact, Torbay falls behind the national and regional percentages across NVQ1+ right through to NVQ4
- Over the past three years, the collective performances of Torbay's schools have progressed from below average to above the English average in 2019.
- Average Torbay wages have increased by 30% since 2015, to around £412.70 per week, however, remain far below the national and regional averages.
- Higher earners tend to reside in Torbay but work outside of the area, a theme which also occurs across the comparative areas.
- The overall net migration taken from labour flow out of Torbay and Labour flow into Torbay has increased since 2011.

## Environment

- In 2019 Torbay produced 424.1 tonnes of CO2 equating to 3.1 tonnes per person compared to 4.6 tonnes across the region

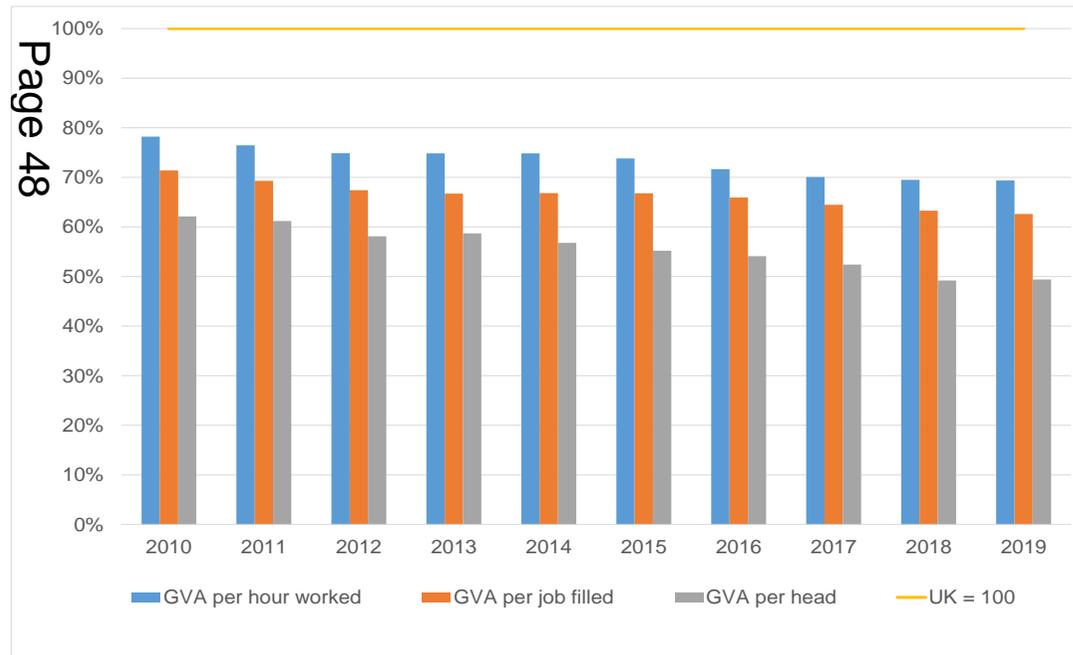
# 3. Growth and economy

## 3.1. Productivity

Torbay’s total economic output in 2019 was £1.98Bn with the sectors representing the most significant proportion of output (GVA) being:

- |    |  |       |
|----|--|-------|
| 1. | Real estate activities                               | 19.6% |
| 2. | Human health and social work activities              | 15.3% |
| 3. | Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles | 12.4% |
| 4. | Education  | 9.3%  |
| 5. | Accommodation and food service activities            | 7.9%  |

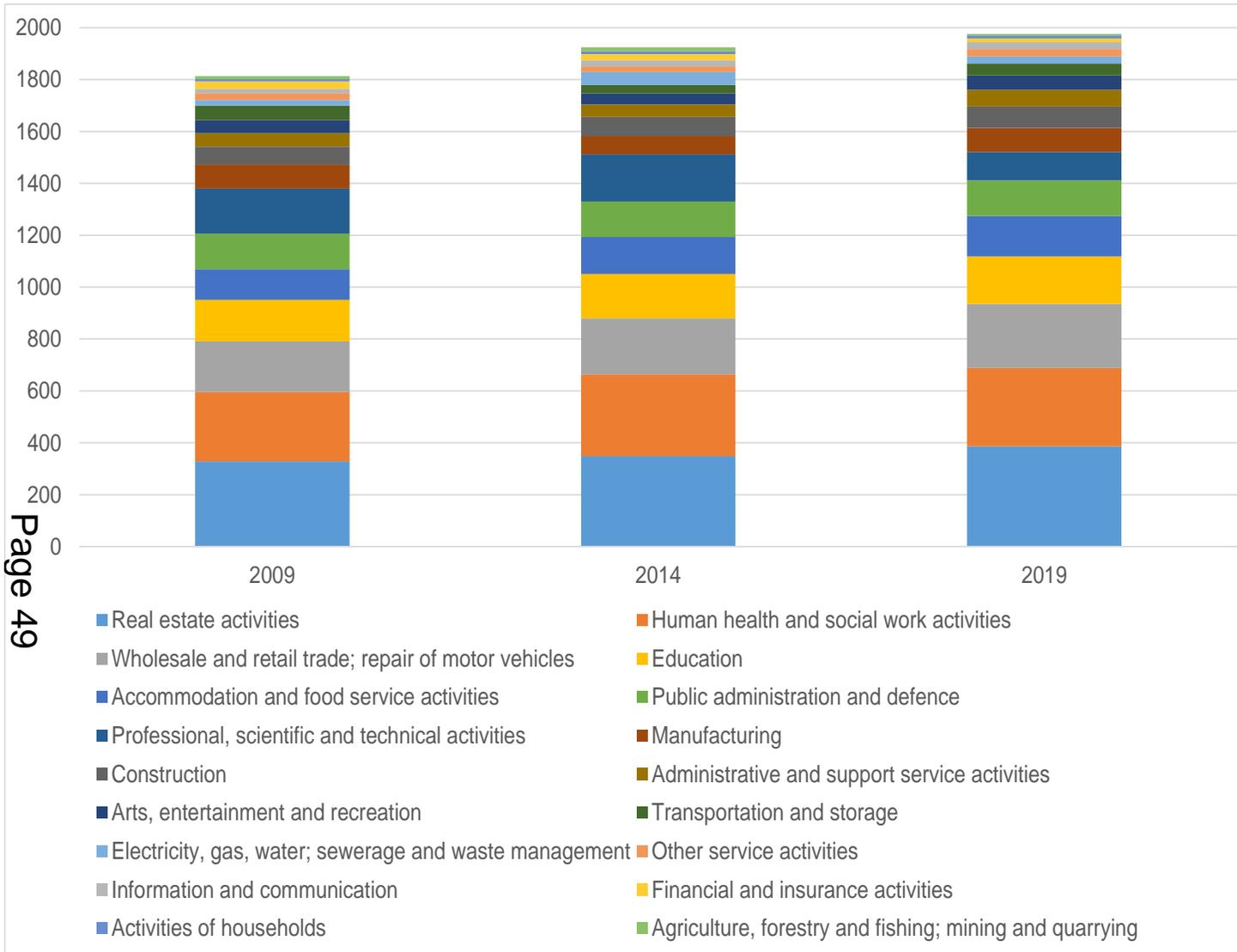
Figure 1: GVA per head, per hour, per job filled indices (2010 – 2019)



Productivity performance in Torbay has continued to fall behind the UK on all three measures. It has been on a steady continual decline for the past decade. In 2019, the economic output (GVA) per hour in Torbay was 69.4% of the UK average, with GVA per job at 62.6% of the UK average and GVA per head at 49.4% respectively. The difference in the figures can be attributed to the higher-than-average proportion of seasonal and part-time jobs in Torbay along with decreasing proportion of Torbay’s population which are of working age and a growing proportion of retired people in Torbay.

Source: ONS, Regional GVA, 2021

Figure 2: GVA by sectors (2009, 2014, and 2019)



Since 2009, the size of Torbay’s economy has grown by 9.0% from £1.81Bn to £1.98Bn.

Information and communication (58.8%), accommodation and food service activities (32.2%), electricity, gas, water; sewerage and waste management (27.3%), wholesale and retail trade (26.2%) and repair of motor vehicles, and administrative and support service activities (23.1%); have contributed to the biggest increase in Torbay’s economic output.

Transportation and storage (-19.6%), professional, scientific, and technical activities (-36.8%), agriculture, forestry, and fishing; mining and quarrying (-45.5%), and financial and insurance activities (-51.7%) have all fallen.

Source: Regional GVA, ONS, 2021

## 3.2. Gross disposable household income

Figure 3: Gross disposable household income (GDHI) (2010 – 2019)

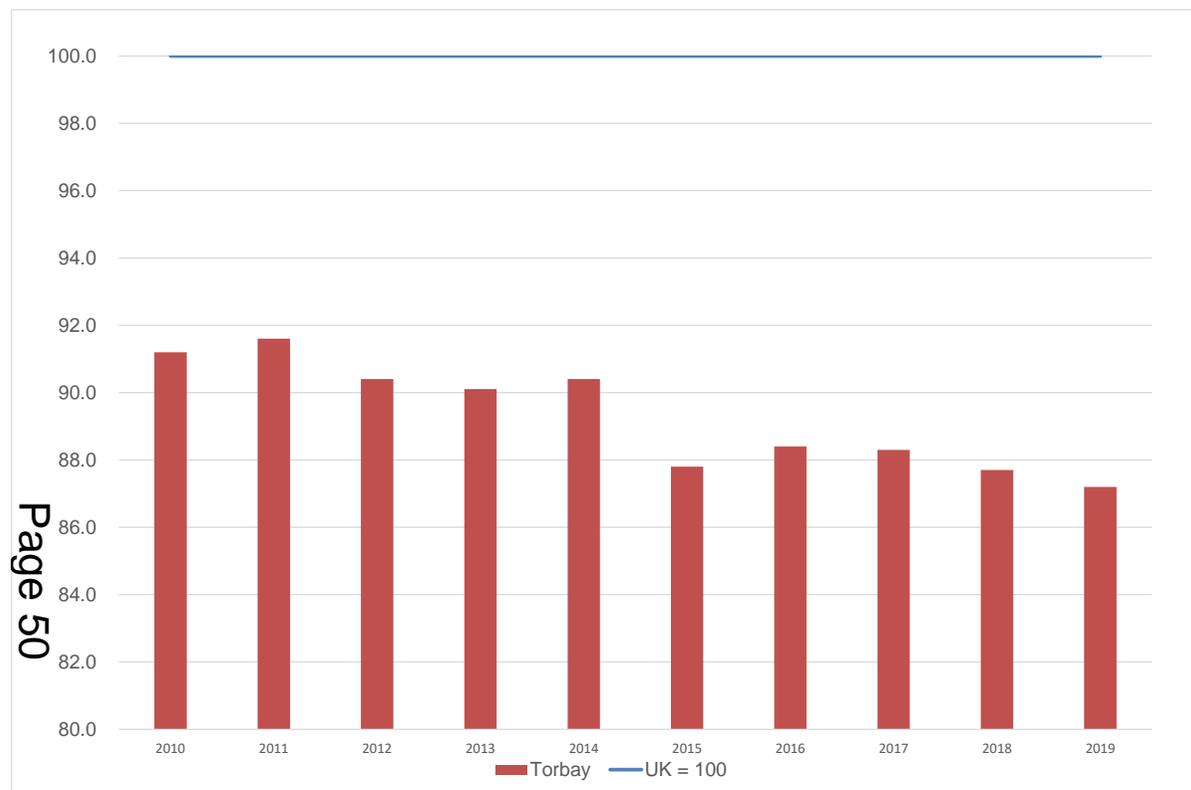


Figure 3 shows the GDHI per head over time relative to the national average. The gross income per household has continued to fall over time compared to the UK average. The gap in GDHI has continued to widen showing the levels of disposable income available to Torbay households and the amount of money to spend in the local economy has fallen relative to the national average.

Source: ONS, Gross Disposable Household Income, 2021

## 3.3. Summary

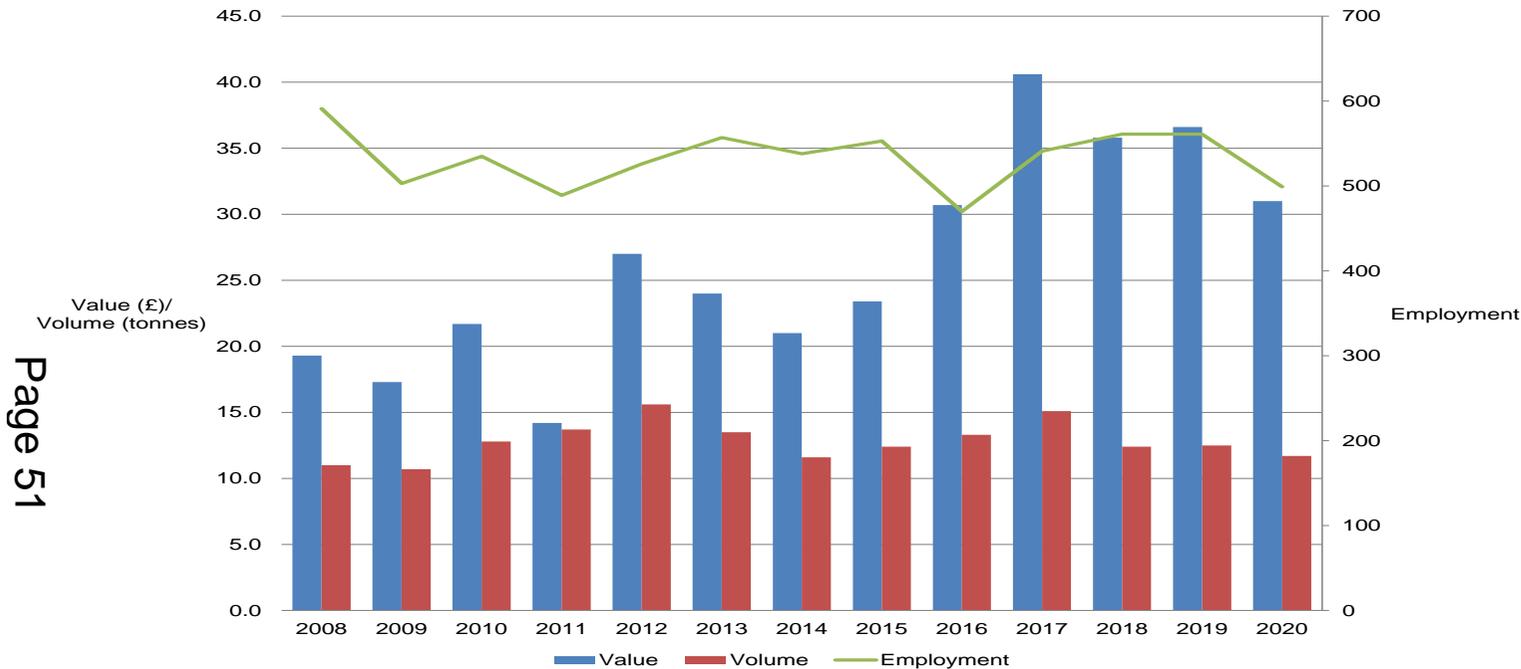
In 2019, Torbay's economy was valued at £1.98Bn, having grown by 9.0% over the past 10 years compared to 40.2% nationally. Torbay's economic competitiveness is far behind the national average. GVA per head is the lowest in England of any local authority and the productivity gap between Torbay and the UK average is continuing to widen on both GVA per job filled and GVA per hour worked measures. This is attributed in part to the sector mark-up of Torbay's economy with reliance upon sectors which are predominantly seasonal and tend to be relatively low value added and low paid.

GDHI is also on a long-term downward trend with the gap between Torbay and the UK average widening, although the gap is not as big compared to the GVA measures. This demonstrates the relatively high number of people across Torbay reliant on benefits and pensions to add to their disposable income and highlights the growing economic inequalities between Torbay and other places.

## 4. Key sectors

### 4.1. Fishing

Figure 4: Volume, value, and employment in Torbay's fishing sector (2008 – 2020)



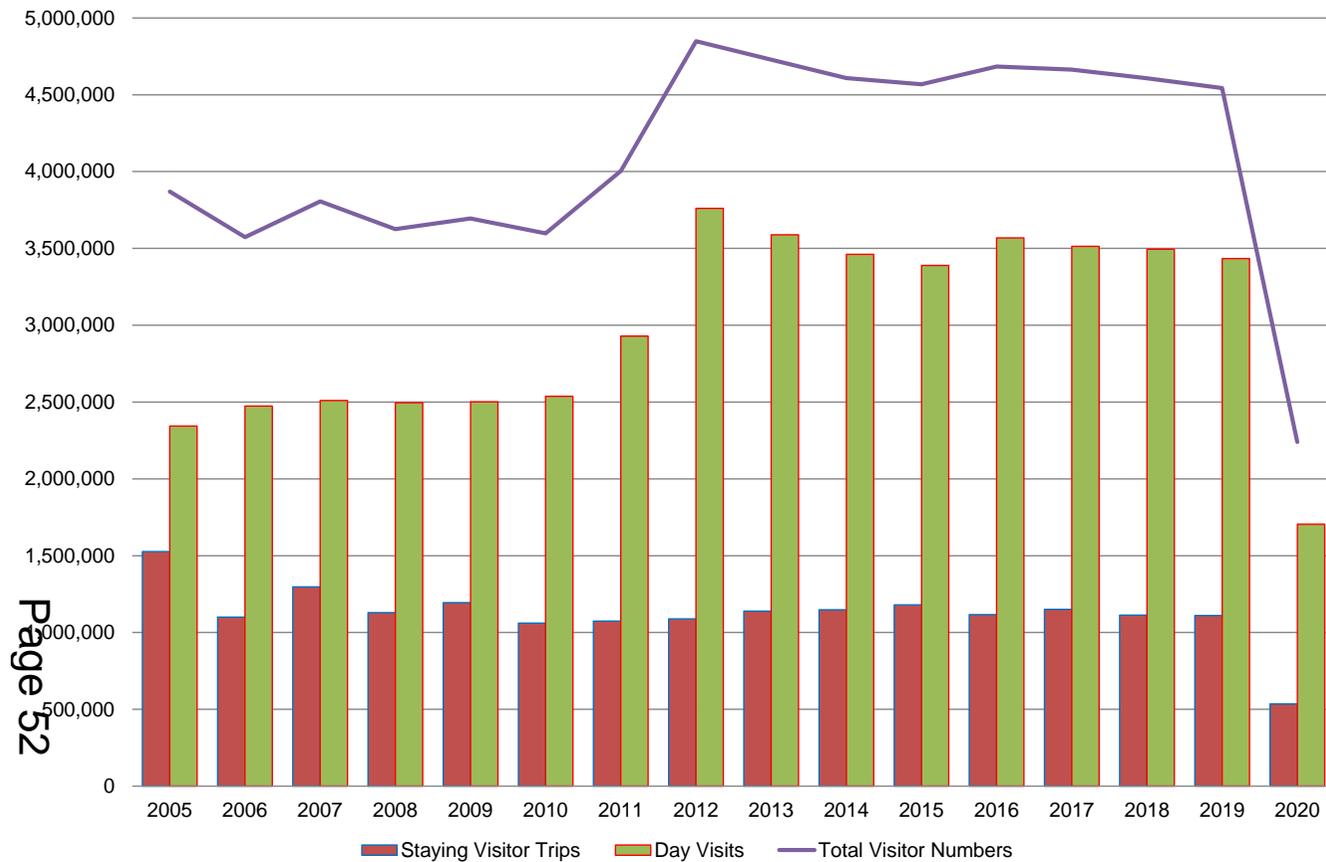
In 2020, the port of Brixham landed the highest value of catch and the second highest volume across England.

The volume of fish caught in Brixham has remained relatively unchanged over the past three years, however the value has declined in the last year along with employment in the sector mainly due to the pandemic.

Source: UK Sea Fisheries Statistics, Gov.uk

### 4.2. Tourism

Figure 5: Staying visitor, day visitor, and total visitor numbers in Torbay (2005 – 2020)



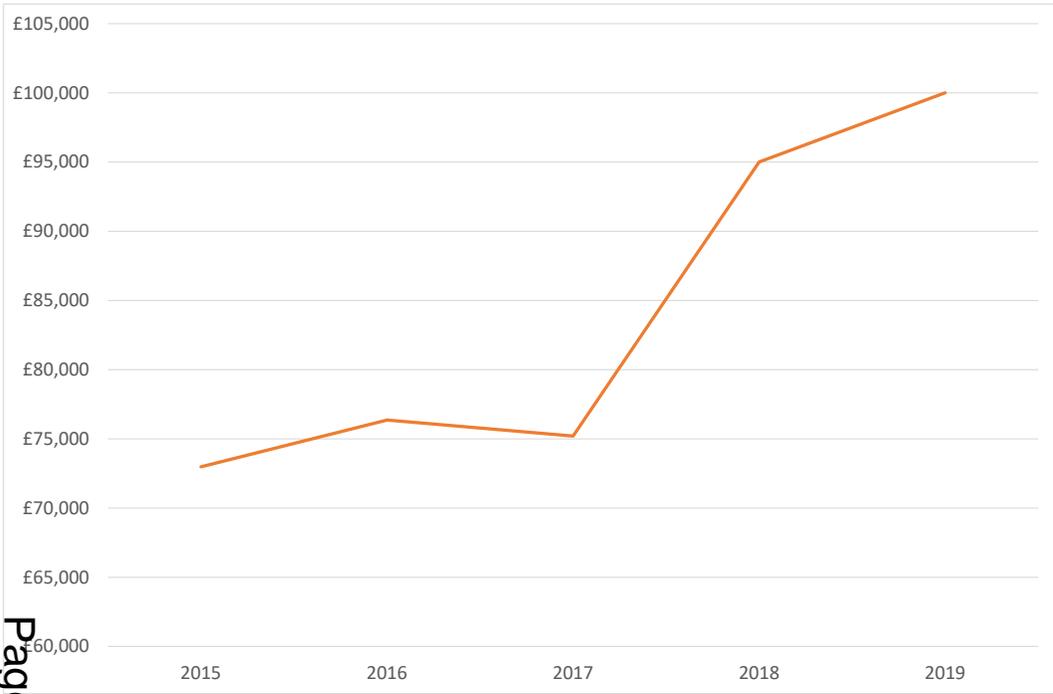
Since 2014 there has not been any significant change in the tourism numbers in Torbay. From 2015 to 2019 the number of visitors has decreased by 1.3% with 3.3.% of the decline in visitor numbers from staying guests.

In 2020 there was a decline of 50.7% in all visitor numbers (-51.8% in day visitors and - 50.3% in staying visitors). Tourism and hospitality was one of the sectors hit hardest and for the longest period of time from the pandemic.

Source: South West Tourism Alliance, Value of Tourism, 2020

### 4.3. Hi-tech sector

Figure 6: GVA per employee in Torbay’s photonics and microelectronics sector (2015 – 2019)



Over the past five years the GVA per worker in the photonics and microelectronics sector has increased 37.0% from £72,973 per worker in 2015 to £100,000 in 2019.

Employment within the sector has increased 24.3% over the period, albeit from a relatively low base, however economic output within the sector has increased at a faster rate by 37% which shows an increase in productivity levels within the sector and the sectors contribution to the local economy.

Source: NOMIS, BRES, 2021 and ONS Regional GVA, 2021

#### 4.4. Summary

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Forbay's key sectors have been heavily impacted by the pandemic, with the fishing sector demonstrating greater resilience with the volume of fish caught remaining relatively stable but witnessing a decrease in value compared to the previous year, partly due to Brexit and the increased export administration, and partly due to the lack of demand from overseas markets as their hospitality sectors locked down due to the pandemic. Equally in the UK, both the staying visitor and day visitor numbers substantially declined in 2020 as these parts of the economy were locked down for significantly longer periods of time compared to others, however anecdotally tourism businesses have suggested a strong bounce back in the 'staycation' market over 2020 and 2021.

## 5. Infrastructure

### 5.1. Digital infrastructure

Table 1: Broadband coverage and speeds in Torbay (2020)

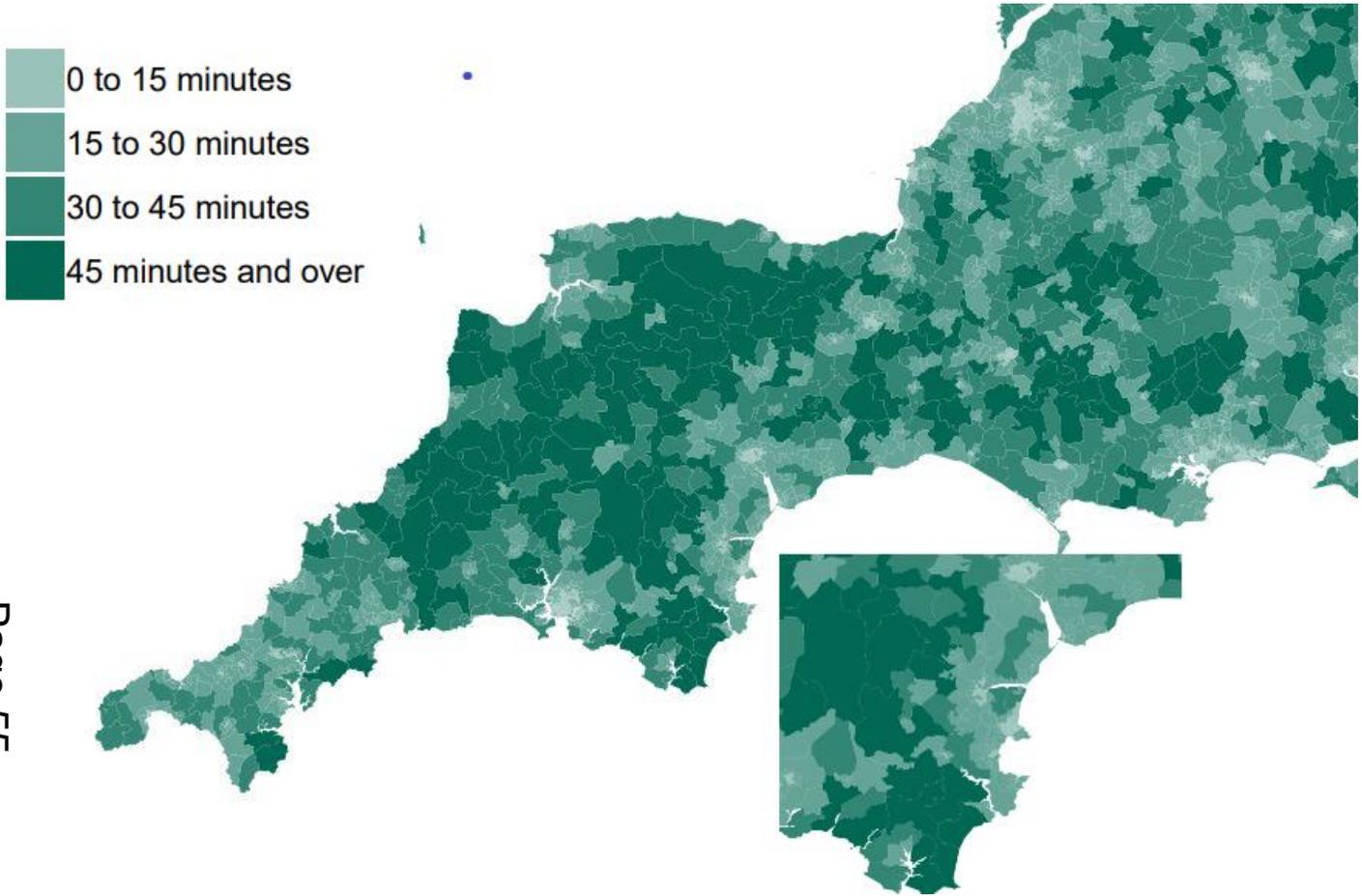
	Average Download Speed (Mbps)	Superfast Availability	Gigabit Availability	Unable to Receive Decent Broadband	Receiving under 10 Mbps	Receiving over 30 Mbps
Torbay	82.0	95.3%	44.4%	0.0%	6.0%	67.9%
South West	76.3	92.2%	37.9%	0.5%	8.8%	72.8%
UK	86.5	95.0%	45.7%	0.4%	7.0%	78.2%

Source: Ofcom, State of the Nation, 2020

Broadband speeds in Torbay are above the South West average and broadly in line with the UK average along with coverage above that nationally. Overall, as measured by the availability of Superfast broadband Torbay has relatively good digital infrastructure provision, albeit Torbay suffers from lower average speeds compared to the national average and only 67.9% of Torbay able to receive over 30 Mbps.

### 5.2. Connectivity

Figure 7: Average number of key service destinations accessible to users within 45 minutes of public transport or walking (2017)



Torbay is relatively well connected in terms of infrastructure with 7 out of 8 key services<sup>1</sup> accessible within 45 mins or less via public transport and walking. Furthermore, Torbay has good transport connections and links with all 8 key services in Torbay being accessible by car within 45 minutes.

Source: Department for Transport, Journey Time Statistics, 2019

### 5.3. Employment space

Figure 8: Location of major industrial and business parks across Torbay (2021)

<sup>1</sup> Employment centres, primary schools, secondary schools, further education, GPs, hospitals, food stores, and town centres

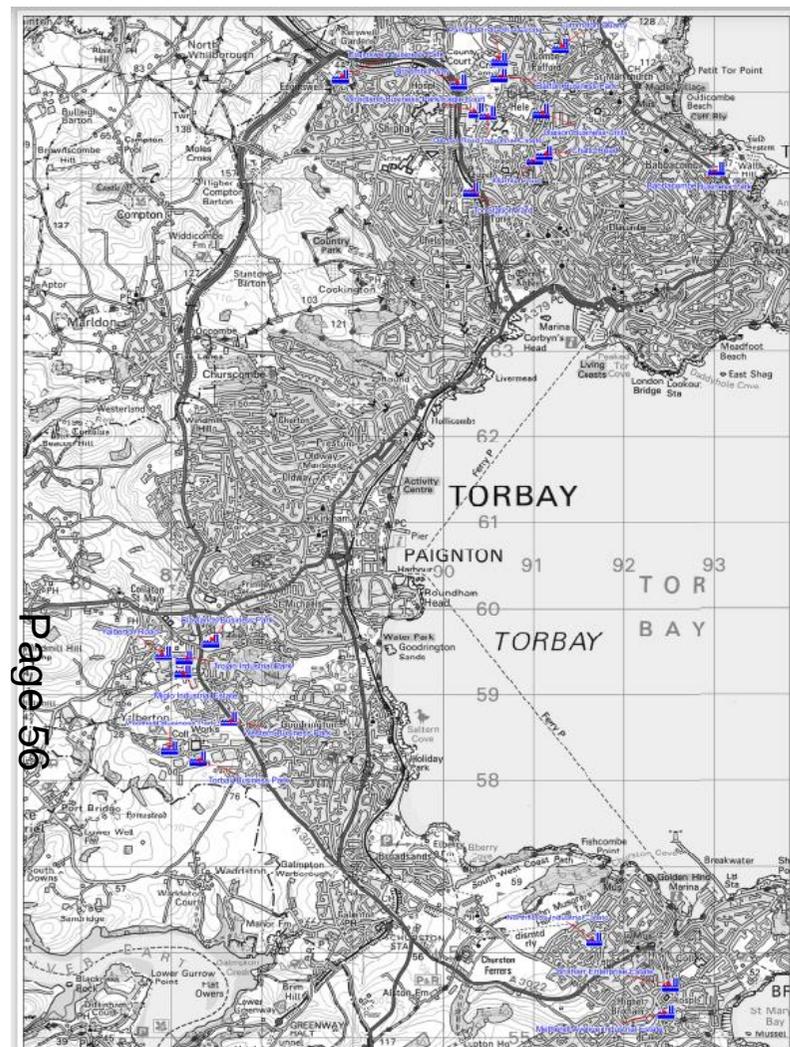
Table 2: Summary of Torbay's commercial space (2020)

	Number of Units	Area (M <sup>2</sup> )	Vacancy Rate (%)
Industrial	727	337,465.08	5.4%
Office	591	116,225.92	9.5%
Leisure	1,065	141,584.11	2.6%
Retail	2,397	414,740.64	11.9%

Source: Sqwyre.com

The overarching issue impacting the commercial property market is the lack of capacity for growth, with limited choice of suitable existing premises and lack of vacant employment land. This is impacting on businesses as they are unable to find premises to meet their requirements within Torbay. Despite over 9,940.63M<sup>2</sup> of new industrial and office space being developed since 2019, there remains over 28,260M<sup>2</sup> of demand through active inward investment enquiries. The vacancy rates show there is strong demand in Torbay for leisure and industrial premises.

Source: TDA, MapInfo



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Over the past five years the majority of new industrial and office across Torbay has been developed with the financial support from the government to address the viability gap and market failure within the local commercial property sector. Despite the need to subsidise such developments, demand for new modern industrial space has been strong, suggesting a miss-match between the local markets price expectations and the cost of development in an area with constrained availability of employment land all of which faces viability challenges.

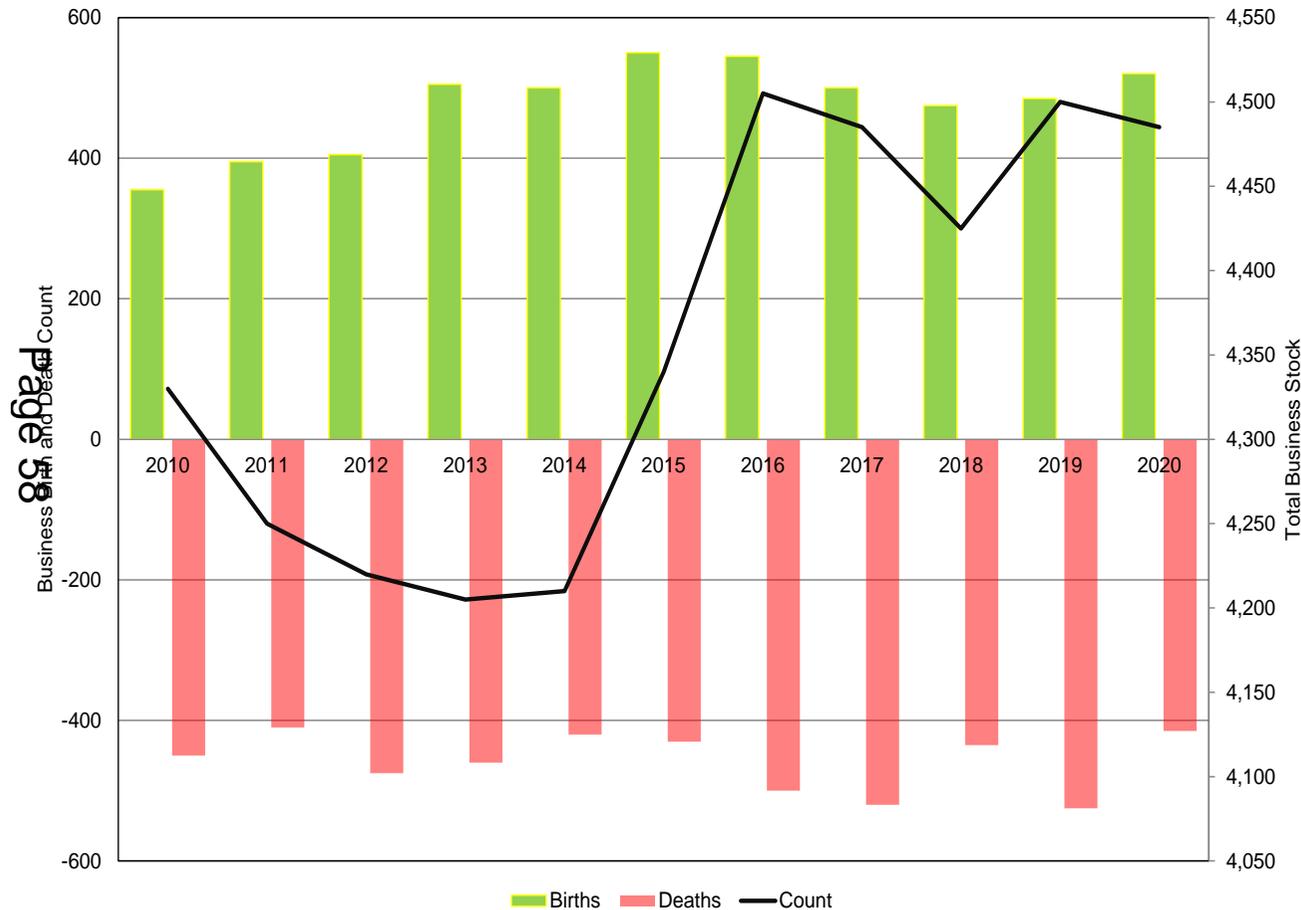
## 5.4. Summary

Torbay is relatively well connected in terms of digital and physical infrastructure. Access to broadband services and digital infrastructure is in line with the national average, albeit slightly below in terms of speeds. In terms of road and public transport access and connectivity Torbay also fairs well with all key services available within a 15 minute drive time and most key services available within a 45 minute walk or via public transport. However, Torbay's commercial space market shows high demand and relatively low vacancy rates for industrial space although the gap in viability of new space due to high development costs and expectations of low rental prices hampers the growth of the economy and ability to support the expansion of local businesses and accommodate inward and foreign direct investments.

## 6. Business and innovation

### 6.1. Business demographics

Figure 9: Business births and deaths (2020)

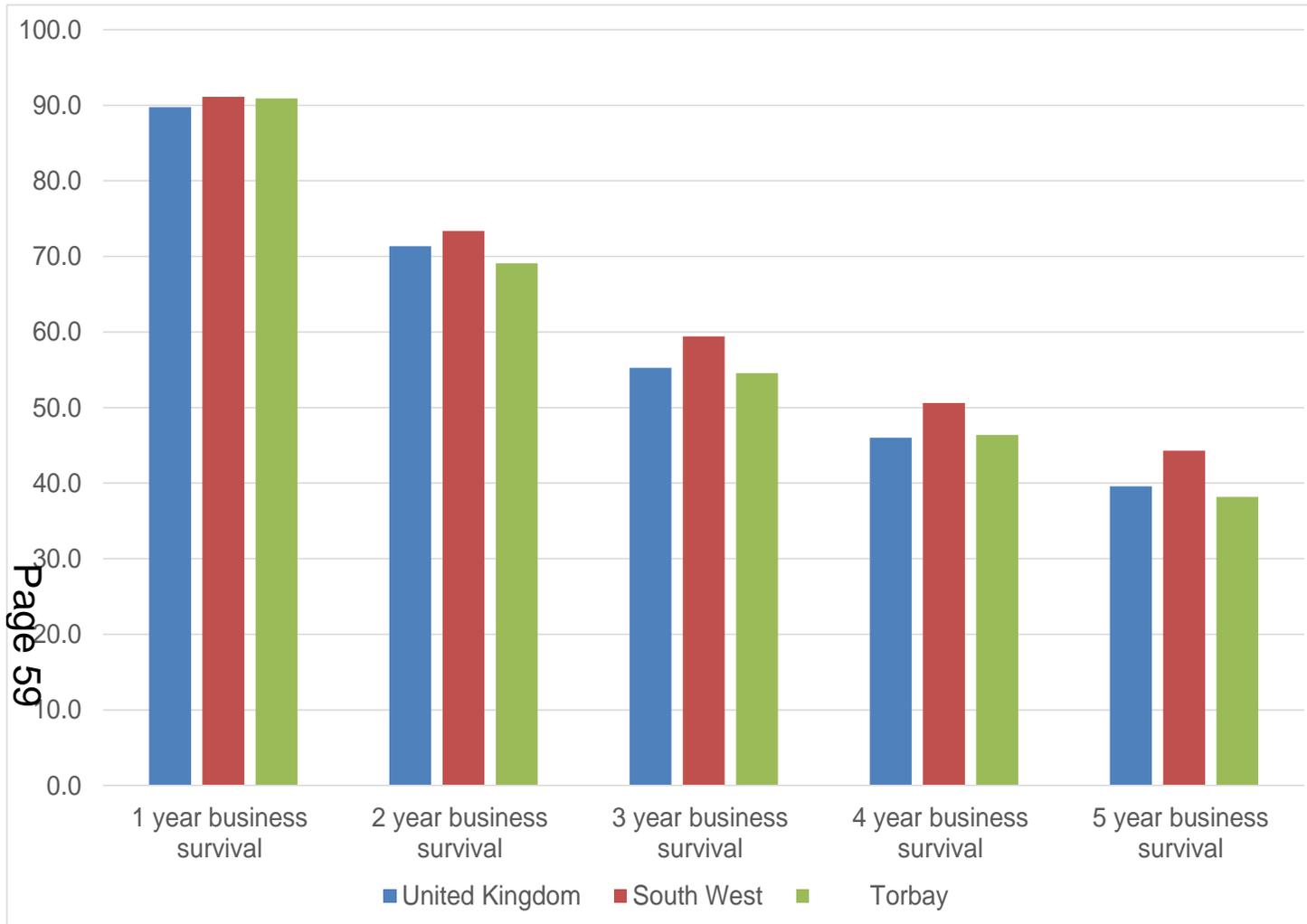


Over the past five years the number of businesses in Torbay has not significantly changed despite minor year-on-year fluctuations. In 2020, there were 4,485 active businesses where around 520 new businesses started up and around 415 ceased trading.

88.4% of businesses are classed as micro (0 – 9 employees), 9.6% are small (10 – 49 employees), 1.6% are medium (50 – 249), and 0.4% are large (250+ employees). Over the past four years, the number of micro businesses has been steadily increasing while the number of small businesses has been steadily decreasing. The number of medium and large businesses has remained broadly unchanged over the same period.

Source: ONS, IDBR, 2020

Figure 10: Business survival rate (2019)



Business survival rates in Torbay are below the South West average over the five year period, and broadly in line with the UK average for the first four years of trading, however then fall marginally behind the national average in 2019.

After their first year of trading in 2014, 90.9% of Torbay businesses survived compared to 91.1% in the South West and 89.7% in the United Kingdom. By 2019 after their fifth year of trading, 38.2% of Torbay businesses had survived compared to 44.3% regionally and 39.6% nationally.

Source: ONS, IDBR, 2020

## 6.2. High growth businesses

In Torbay, there are 42 fast growing companies<sup>2</sup> which have a reported turnover in 2020 of £117M, employing around 2,680 people<sup>3</sup>. Eight of these companies are scaleups<sup>4</sup> and one is a spin-out from a university/ research institute. Most of the fast-growing companies in Torbay are in manufacturing and engineering, and other business and professional services for businesses, mainly in the eHealth and preventive care arenas. Most of the fast-growing companies in Torbay are in the seed and venture funding stages of their evolution. Over the last 10 years there have been 3 management buy outs (MBO) and two acquisitions.

Since 2012, there have been 57 fundraisings totalling over £34.2M and around 36 Innovate UK funding applications totalling £5.9M and five of the companies have benefited from support through an accelerator programme.

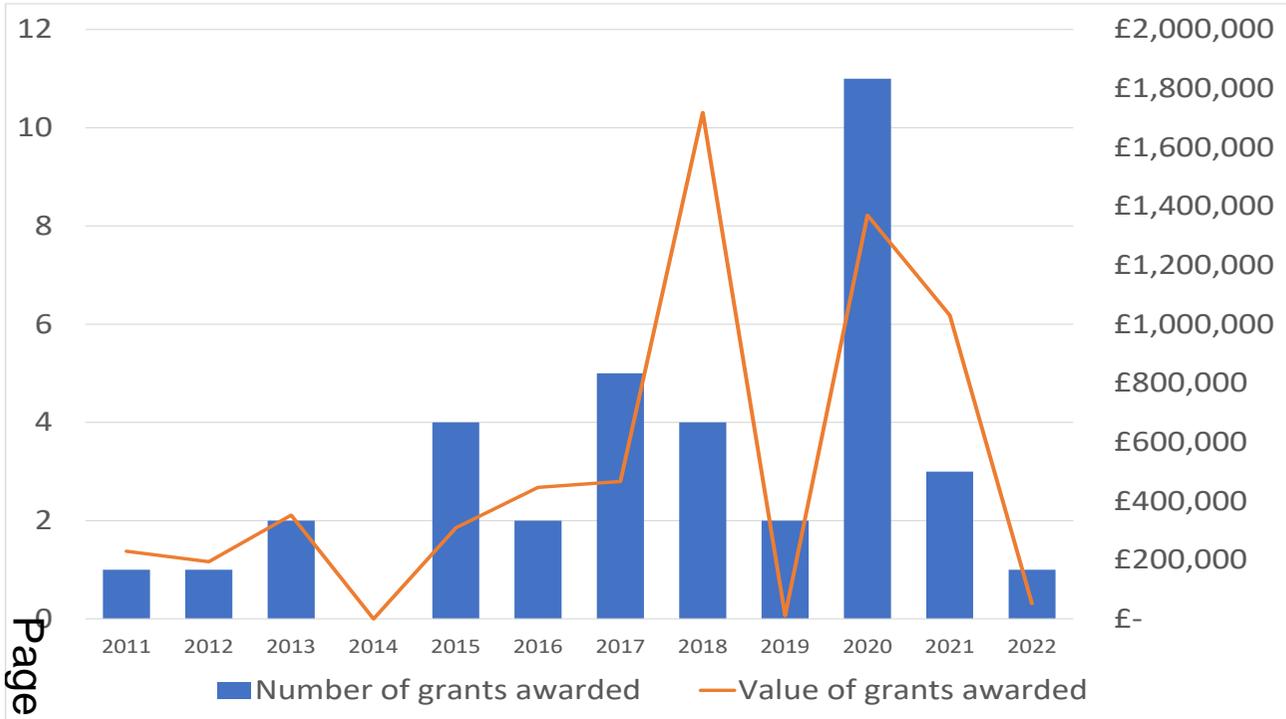
**Figure 11: Number and value of innovation and research grants across Torbay's fast growing companies (2012 – 2022)**

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<sup>2</sup> Growing by at least 15% each year

<sup>3</sup> Beauhurst, 2021

<sup>4</sup> A company that has already validated its product within the marketplace and has proven that the unit economics are sustainable



Since the opening of Torbay’s Electronics and Photonics Innovation Centre (EPIC) in late 2019 there has been an increase in both the number and value of innovation and research grants secured by Torbay’s fast-growing businesses. In the past three years over 47.2% of the grants and 39.9% of the total funding from the past 10 years has been secured. While the evidence shows not all companies which have secured innovation and research grant funding are in EPIC, there is strong evidence to demonstrate that the Centre has helped to strengthen the local innovation ecosystem.

Source: Beauhurst, 2021

### 6.3. Summary

Over the past five years, Torbay’s business

population has not significantly changed, with the proportion of micro businesses growing and proportion of small business declining. Survival rates of Torbay businesses are generally in line with the national average for the first four years to 2018, however in 2019, the business survival rate in Torbay fell below the UK average.

Within Torbay, there are around 45 fast growing businesses employing around 2,680 people mainly in manufacturing and engineering, and other business and professional services for businesses, which are linked to eHealth and preventive care.

# 7. People

## 7.1. Population by age structure and sex

Latest population estimates show Torbay is home to 136,218 people, nearly half of which (49.4%) are aged 50 or over. The lowest representation comes from ages 16-24 who make up only 8% of the overall population, highlighting the challenge Torbay faces regarding retaining graduates and supporting the views that many students leave Torbay in pursuit of higher education or stronger career opportunities and do not return until later in life.

Figure 12: Population estimates by age and sex (2020)

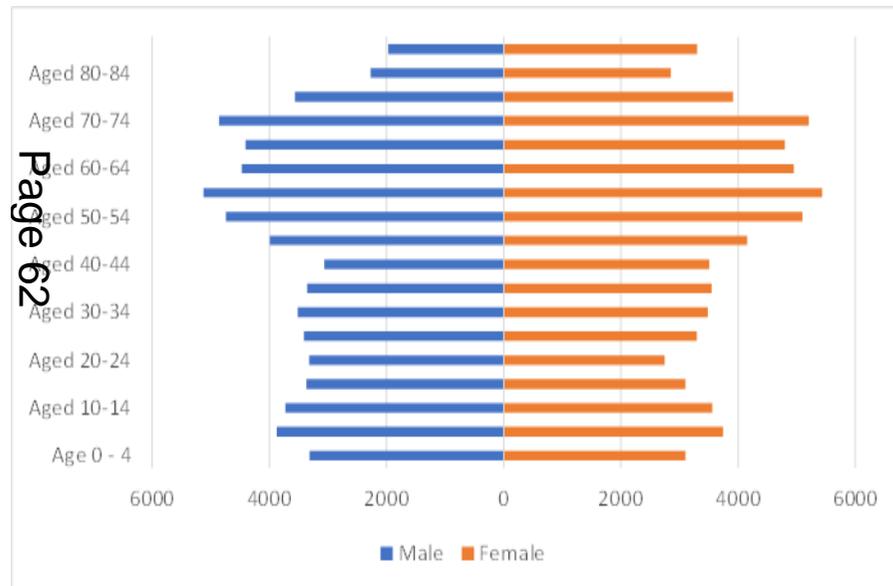
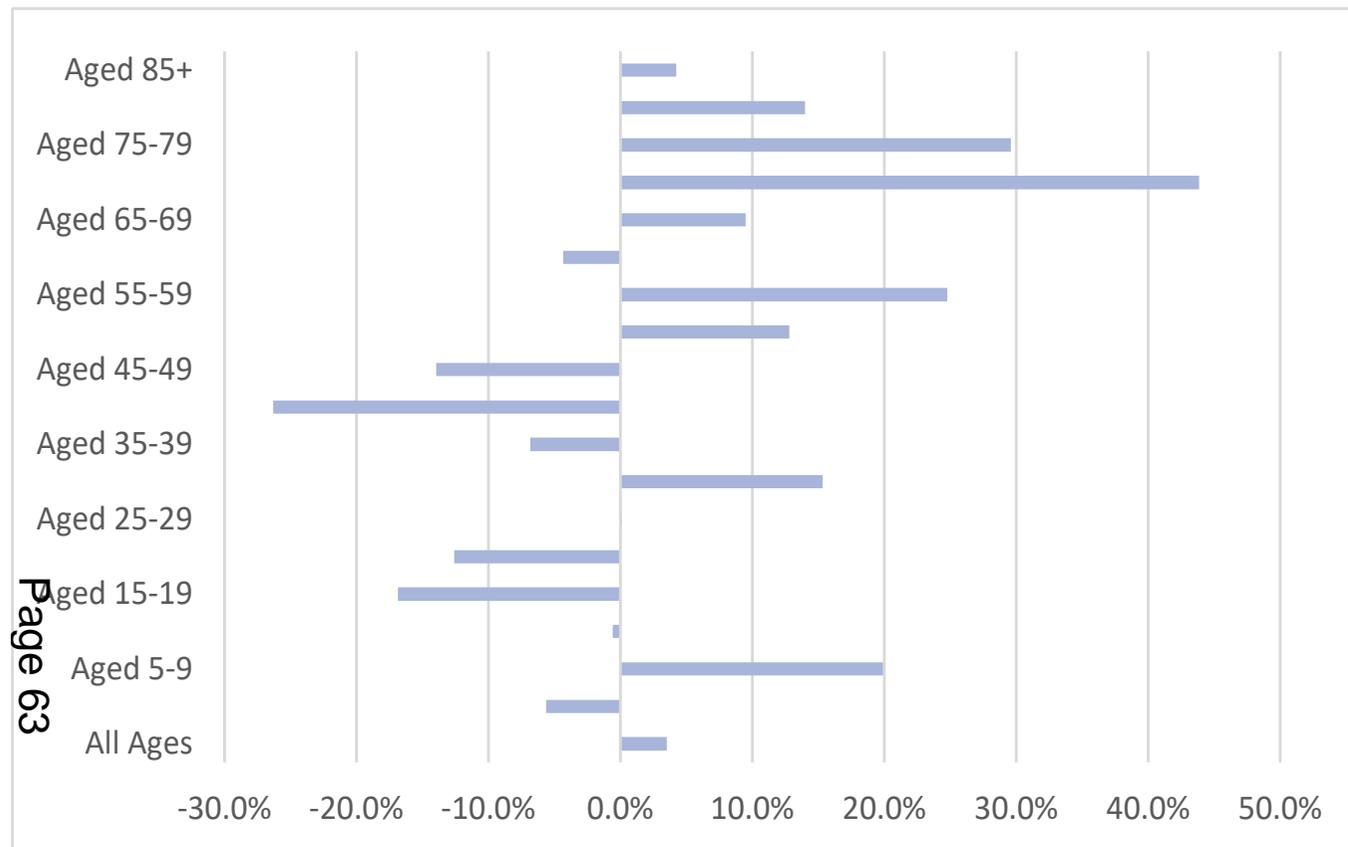


Figure 11 highlights the breakdown of age groups by sex. The graph demonstrates that the population levels of 40 years + are considerably higher. The highest figure for males (5,119) and females (5,443) falls within the 55-59 age bracket.

Source: ONS, Population Estimates, 2020

**Figure 13: Change in population by age (2010 – 2020)**



Over the past 10 years, Torbay has demonstrated a structural change to its area’s demography.

Except for a couple of outliers, the general trend shows that there has been a notable decline in the proportion of ‘young talent’ – the population under 49, and conversely an increase in the proportion of the population aged 50 and above, suggesting that the population is living slightly longer and/or an increase in the number of retired people and/or those approaching retirement are moving to Torbay. This raises issues with businesses looking to back fill roles and around their succession planning.

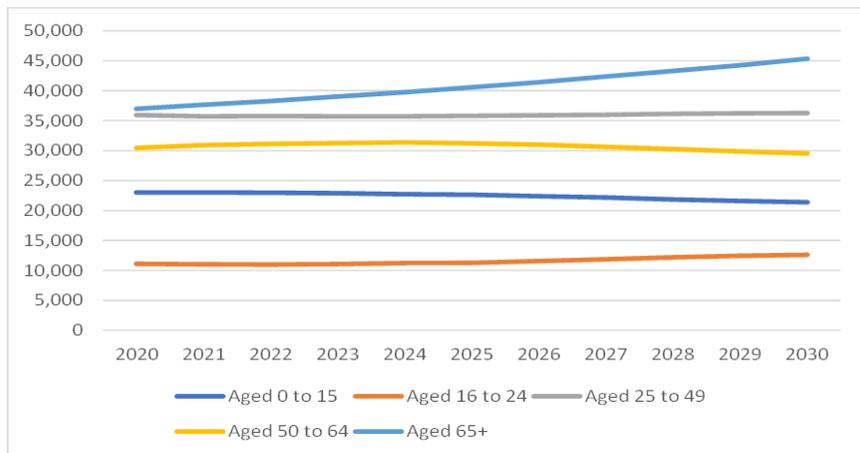
*Source: NOMIS, Population Estimates, 2021*

## 7.2. Population and

### projections

By 2030, Torbay’s population is expected to grow by 5.3%, totalling 145,120 residents. Based on ONS population projections the data shows that ages 16 to 24 and 25 to 49 will see increases (11.8% and 0.9% retrospectively). Ages 0 to 15 and 50 to 64 are likely to see decreases (-7.5% and -3.1%).

**Figure 14: Population projections by year and age (2020 – 2030)**



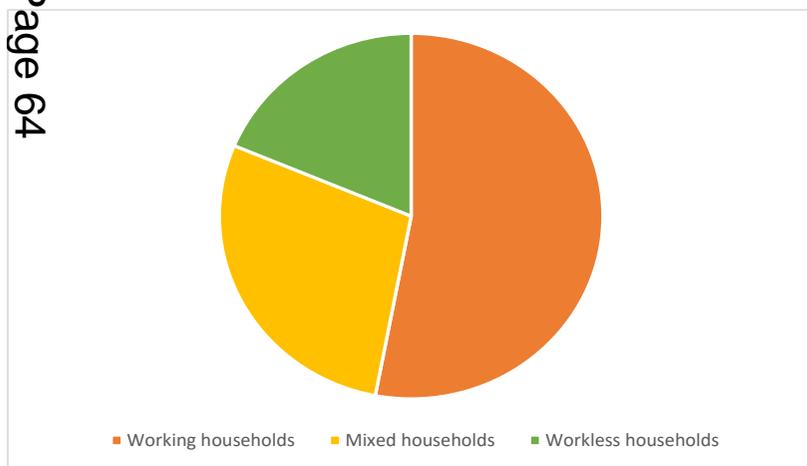
The biggest percentage difference comes from the age 65+ category which is projected to see a 18.4% increase. This is likely to have an impact on Torbay’s workforce and potentially an increased demand on health care services, as this age category is often associated with retirement.

Source: NOMIS, Population Estimates, 2021

### 7.3. Number of households

**Figure 15: Households by combined economic activity status (2021)**

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Torbay currently has an estimated 37,000 households; 20,000 of which are classified as working households (53%), 10,700 households are classified as mixed households (28.3%), while 7,000 are classified as workless households (18.7%) a figure that has increased 20.7% since 2016.

Source: ONS, Annual Population Survey, 2021

### 7.4. Deprivation

**Table 3: Resident population in top 20% most deprived areas (2004 – 2019)**

	2004	2007	2010	2015	2019
--	------	------	------	------	------

Rank of Average Score	66/ 354	71/ 354	61/ 326	46 /326	48 /317
Average Score	23.74	26.42	26.82	28.788	28.104
Population in 20% most deprived wards nationally	18,150	21,800	24,700	42,037	36,691
Proportion of population 20% most deprived wards nationally	13.8%	16.5%	18.8%	32.0%	27.4%

Source: DLUCH, Index of Multiple Deprivations

Torbay is ranked the 48<sup>th</sup> most deprived local authority out of 317, meaning it continues to be in the bottom 20% nationally. However, it has seen a marginal improvement on its position since 2015 when it was ranked the 46<sup>th</sup> lowest. Across the South West, Torbay is the second most deprived local authority. The main factors which contribute the most to Torbay’s overall multiple deprivations are income, employment, health deprivation, and disability. The number of local people living in the 20% most deprived wards nationally decreased from 32% in 2015 to 27.4% in 2019.

## Page 5. Diversity

Torbay’s ethnic diversity is low, standing at a figure of 4,161. Data<sup>5</sup> shows the national average based on an area of Torbay’s size would be around 20,376 ethnically diverse people. In 2021 97.1% of Torbay’s population were classified as white (132,223), with 0.4% Asian or Asian British Indian, 0.5% Asian or Asian British other Asian, 1.2 % for Mixed (a combination of ethnicities), and all other ethnicities accounting for 0.9%.

Torbay is home to 19,708 ‘millennials’ (aged 25 to 39) a figure which again is behind the national average for an area of its size (26,130). On the opposite end of the scale retirement risk is high in Torbay, with approximately 65,345 residents deemed to be of potential retirement age which is significantly higher than the national average for an area of Torbay’s size being around 49,307.

<sup>5</sup> Source: EMSI Analyst Demographics, 2020

## 7.6. Summary

Nearly 50% of Torbay's population are aged 50 or over. In contrast, the lowest representation comes from ages 16 to 24. This reflects the historical challenge Torbay has long faced, where young people leave the area in pursuit of higher education or stronger career opportunities and do not return until later in life. The data supports this further as the general trend illustrates there has been a decline in the population under 49 and an increase in those aged 50 or above. By 2030, the population is estimated to grow 5.3% which the biggest increase coming from ages 50 to 64.

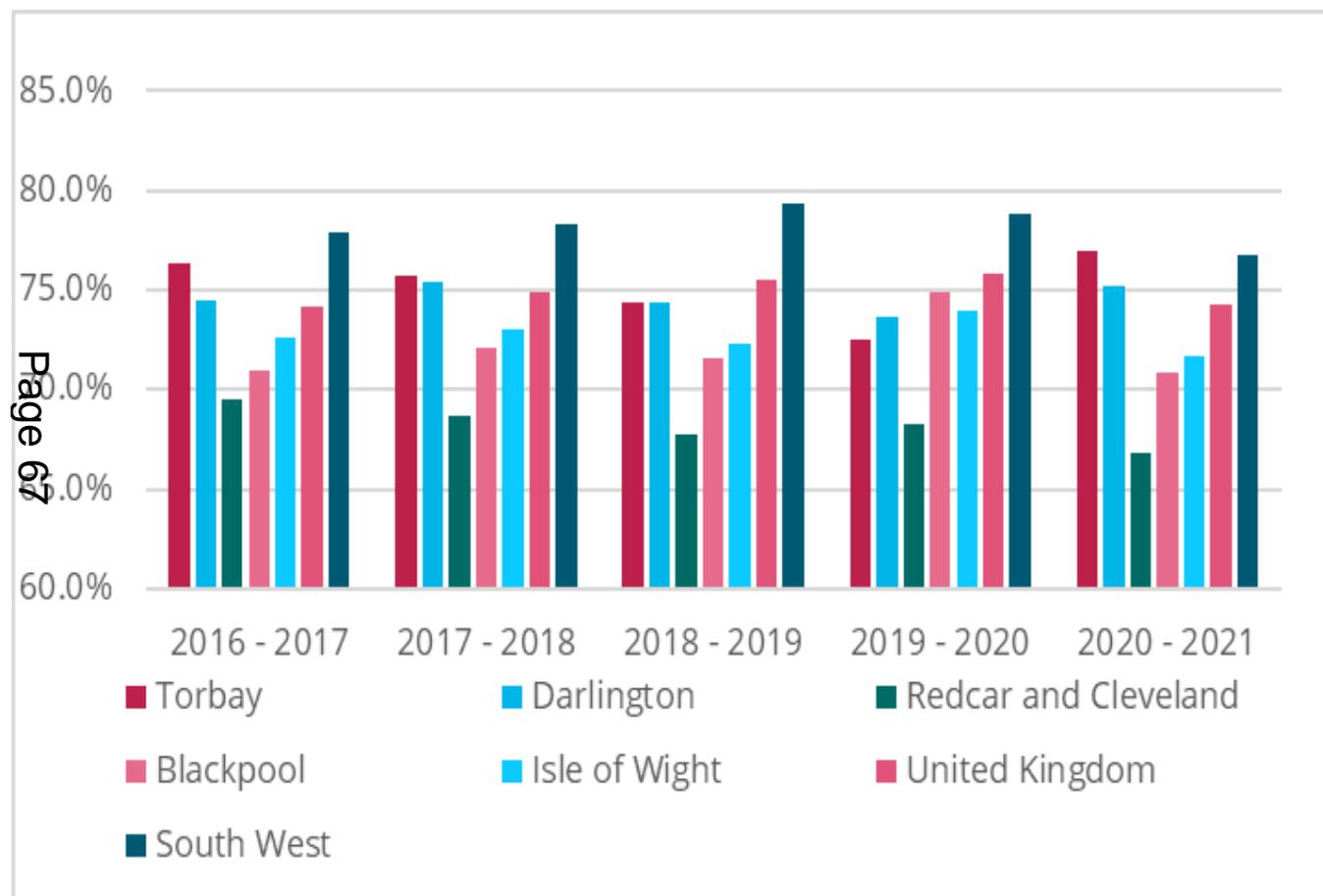
Despite Torbay's proportion of working households being relatively high, making up 53% of the overall households, the workless household's figure continues to rise year-on-year. Deprivation across the area has seen marginal improvements since 2015, particularly in the number of local people living in the 20% most deprived wards, however Torbay remains in the bottom 20% nationally.

Torbay's ethnic diversity is significantly lower than the national average for an area of its size, with 97.1% of its residents classified as White. The number of residents nearing or at retirement age within the area continues to be higher than the national averages.

## 8. Employment and skills

### 8.1. Employment & unemployment rates

Figure 16: Employment rates (2016 – 2021)

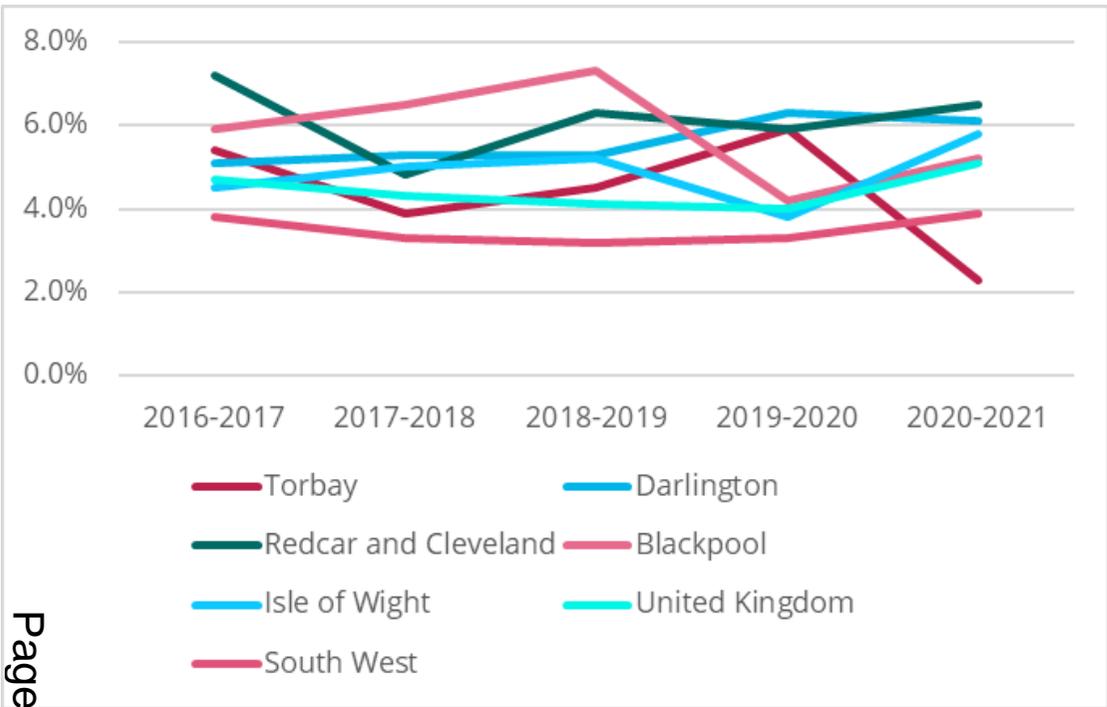


From 2016 to 2020 Torbay's employment rate dropped year-on-year. The lowest being between 2019 and 2020 where the figure was 72.5% (lower than the comparative areas below).

Encouragingly between 2020 and 2021 the figures have increased, rising from 72.5% to 77%. The figure of 77% is higher than its comparators, however this figure may be higher due to a fall in the working age population across Torbay.

Source: NOMIS, Annual Population Survey, 2021

Figure 17: Unemployment rates (2016 – 2021)



Torbay’s unemployment rate is the lowest it has been for five years (2.3%). This is significantly lower than its comparators (Darlington 6.1%, Redcar and Cleveland 6.5%, Blackpool 5.2%, Isle of Wight 5.8%, UK 5.1%, and South West 3.9%). Between 2019 and 2020 the figure jumped significantly from 4.5% to 5.9% which, as above, is likely to be as a direct result of the pandemic, largely due to the makeup of Torbay’s economy, particularly affecting those in the face-to-face service industries.

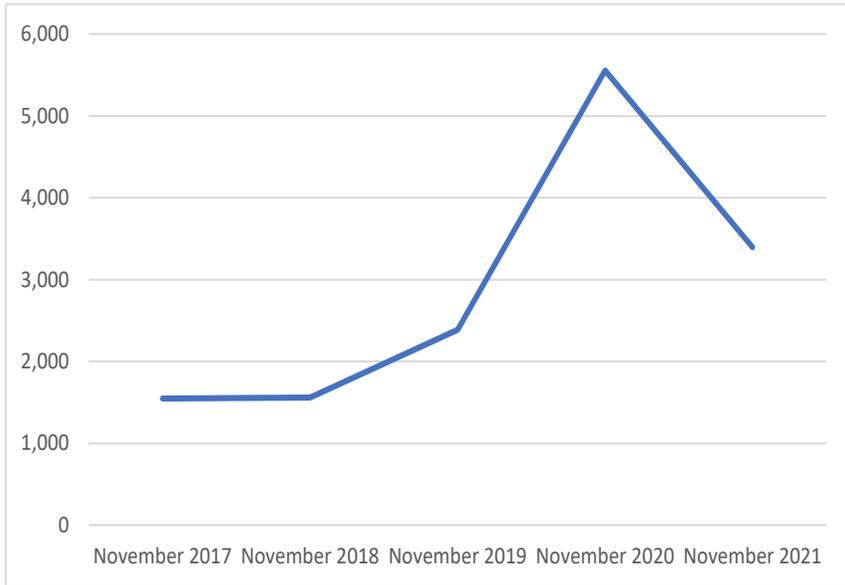
Source: NOMIS, Annual Population Survey, 2021

## 8.2. Claimant count

Claimant count is an administrative count of individuals who are claiming benefits principally for the reason of being unemployed<sup>6</sup>. Between 2019 and 2020 Torbay’s figure rose to 5,555, the highest level since official data has been recorded. However, at the end of 2021, Torbay’s figure stood at 3,395. The last five years has seen unemployment in Torbay broadly fall in line with national and regional trends. Torbay’s claimant count figure is predominately made up by males, accounting for 61.6%.

Figure 18: Claimant count (2017 – 2021)

<sup>6</sup> Claimant count includes those on low income over 18 with some exceptions for 16- and 17-year old’s as well as those eligible for benefits.



Source: Nomis, Claimant Count, 2021

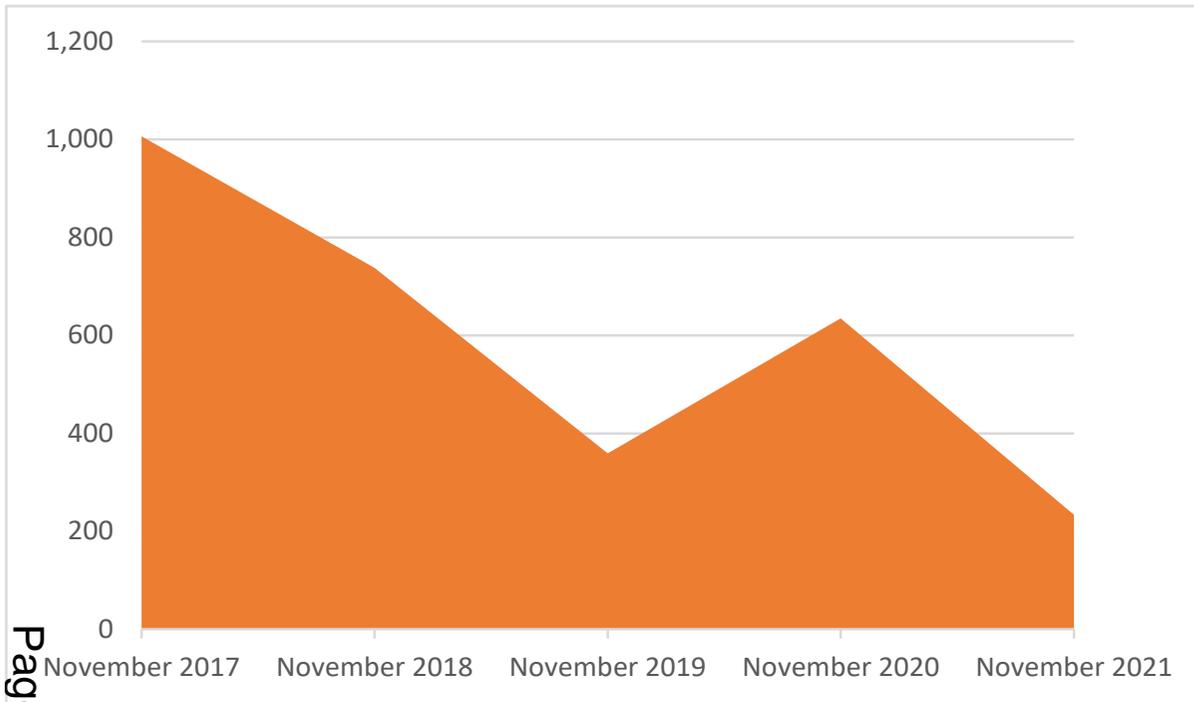
Table 4: Claimant count by sex

	Torbay		Darlington		Redcar and Cleveland		Blackpool		Isle of Wight		South West		United Kingdom	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Male	2,090	61.6%	2,080	60.5%	2,570	62.2%	4,530	63.4%	1,980	58.5%	65,700	58.5%	1,123,020	58.0%
Female	1,305	38.4%	1,360	39.5%	1,560	37.8%	2,610	36.6%	1,405	41.5%	47,625	41.5%	796,080	42.0%

Source: Nomis, Claimant Count 2021

### 8.3. Job seekers allowance

Figure 19: Job seekers allowance (2017 – 2021)



Outside of an increase from 2019 to 2020, which can be attributed to the pandemic, Torbay's figure has fallen year-on-year for the last five years. Its current figure of 234 is the lowest it has been across this period.

Source: Nomis, Jobseekers Allowance 2021

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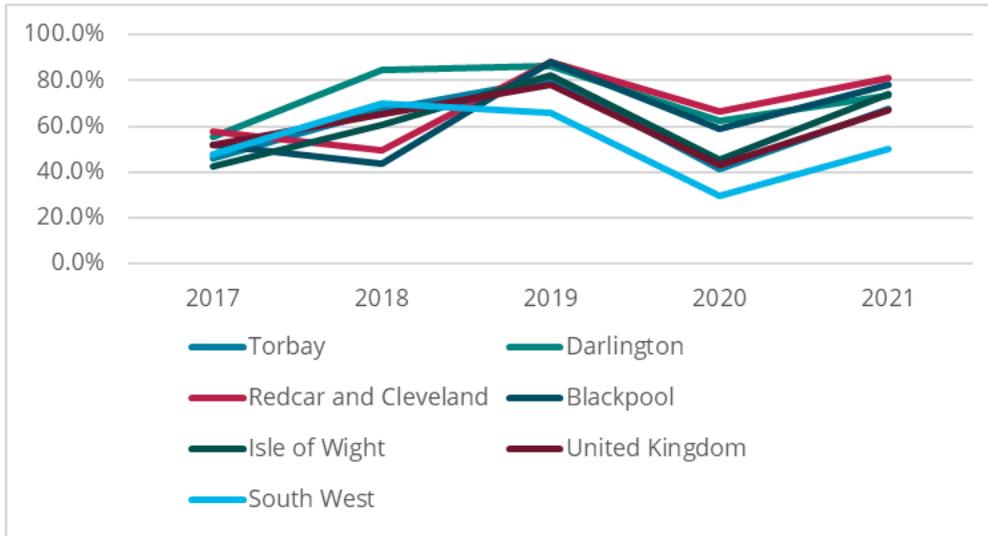
## 4. Long term unemployed

Despite a slight increase from 2017 to 2018 (465 to 495) Torbay's long term unemployed figures, based on those claiming JSA for longer than 12 months, have continued to fall.

At the end of 2021, Torbay's figure was 160, significantly lower than the figure of 465 in 2017. However, percentage wise as a proportion of the overall JSA figure, the current figure of 67.9% is higher than the 2017 percentage (46.3%). This suggests that despite unemployment figures falling, there is still challenges with the long term unemployed who are actively job seeking.

Additionally, percentage wise, Torbay compares favourably with the lowest across the areas of demographic similarities. However, the figure (67.9%) is slightly higher than the national average (67.4%) and significantly higher than the regional average (50%).

**Figure 20: Long term unemployed (2017 – 2021)**



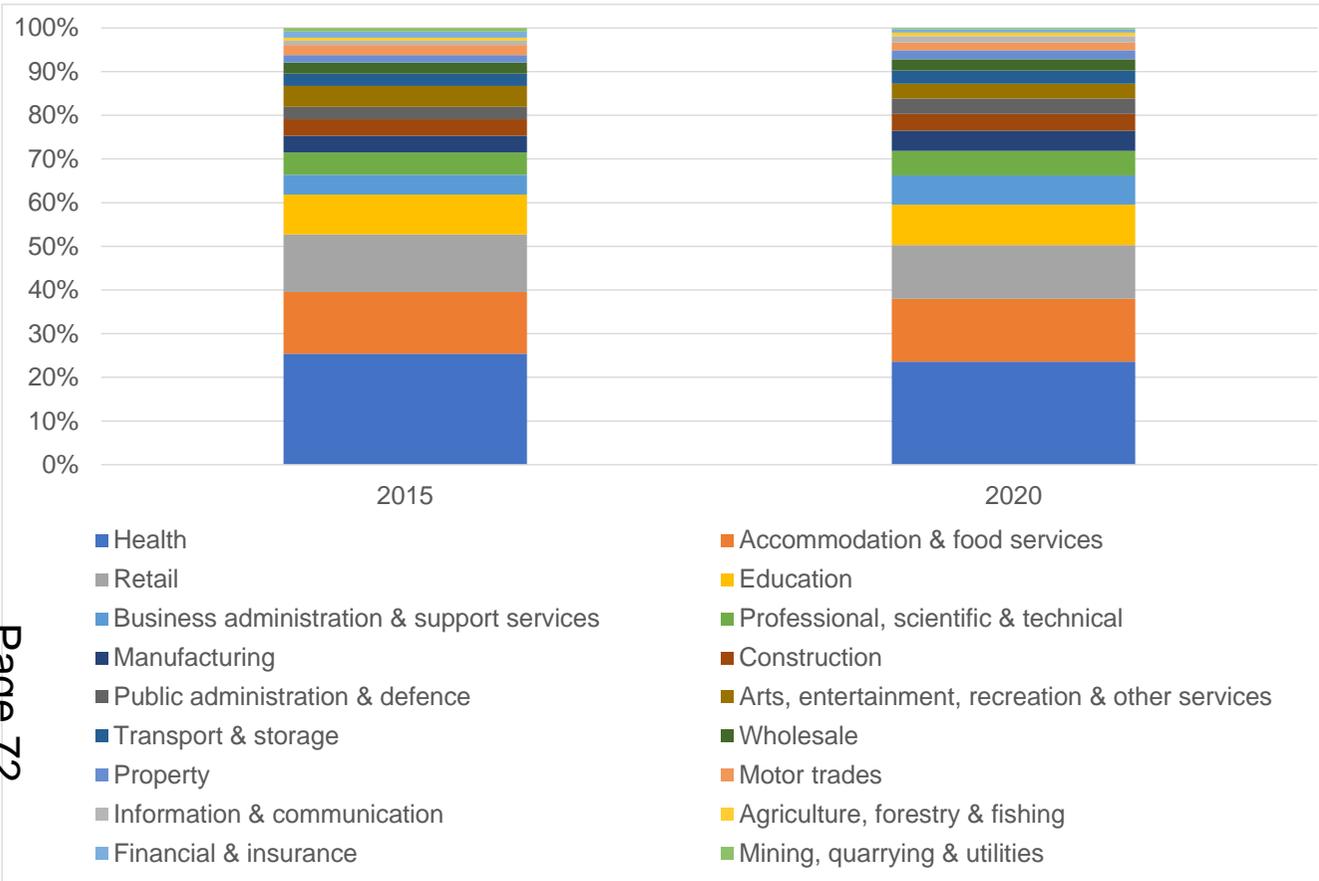
Source: Nomis, Jobseekers allowance by age and duration 2021

## Page 71 5. NEET data

In early January 2022 4.5% of Torbay’s 16–to-17-year-olds were classified as NEET (Not in Education or Training), a figure 1% percentage lower than the UK average of 5.5%. This figure has improved on the previous year’s figure of 5.1%.

## 8.6. Employment by sector

Figure 21: Employment by sector in Torbay (2015 and 2020)



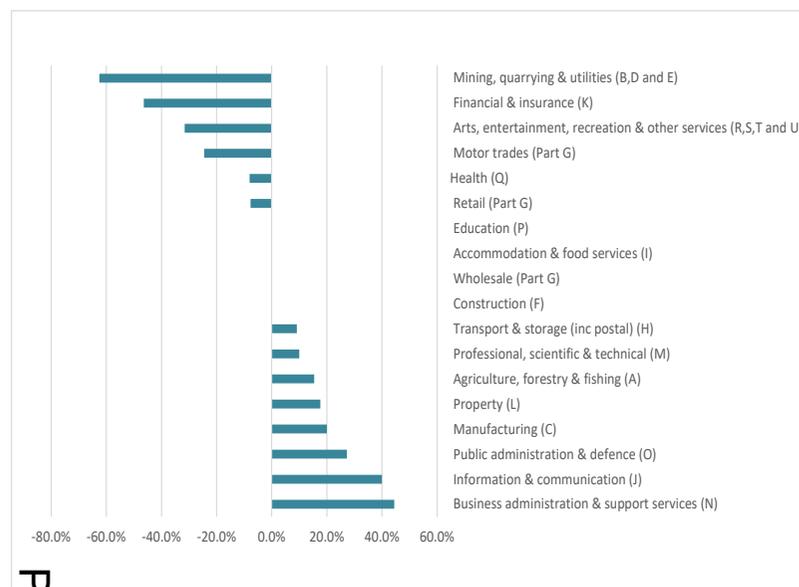
The number of jobs in Torbay has decreased by 3.0% from 49,500 in 2015 to 48,000 in 2020. Over the five-year period, the rankings of the top employment sectors have remained unchanged with; health (24.0%), accommodation & food services (14.6%), retail (12.5%), education (9.4%), and business administration & support services (6.8%).

Source: Business Register and Employment Survey, 2021

## 8.7. Change in jobs

Figure 21 illustrates the change in the distribution of Torbay’s employment over the past five years. Most significantly, during this time Torbay has seen a 44.4% increase in employment in the business administration & support services sector. Other high value-added sectors have also seen increases such as information and communication (40% increase), public administration & defence (27.3% increase) and manufacturing (20% increase).

**Figure 22: Percentage change in Torbay's employment by sector**



Sectors which have seen an increase in the number of jobs over the last five years are business administration & support services (44.4%), information & communication (40%), public administration & defence (27.3%) and manufacturing (20%).

On the other hand, some sectors have declined. Financial & insurance (-46.4%), arts, entertainment, recreation & other services (-31.6%), motor trades (-24.4%), and health (-8.0%) have decreased over the last five years. Most sectors employ relatively few people, however, the health sector and retail (-7.7%) are two key employment sectors which have seen significant decrease over the past five years.

Source: Business Register and Employment Survey, 2021

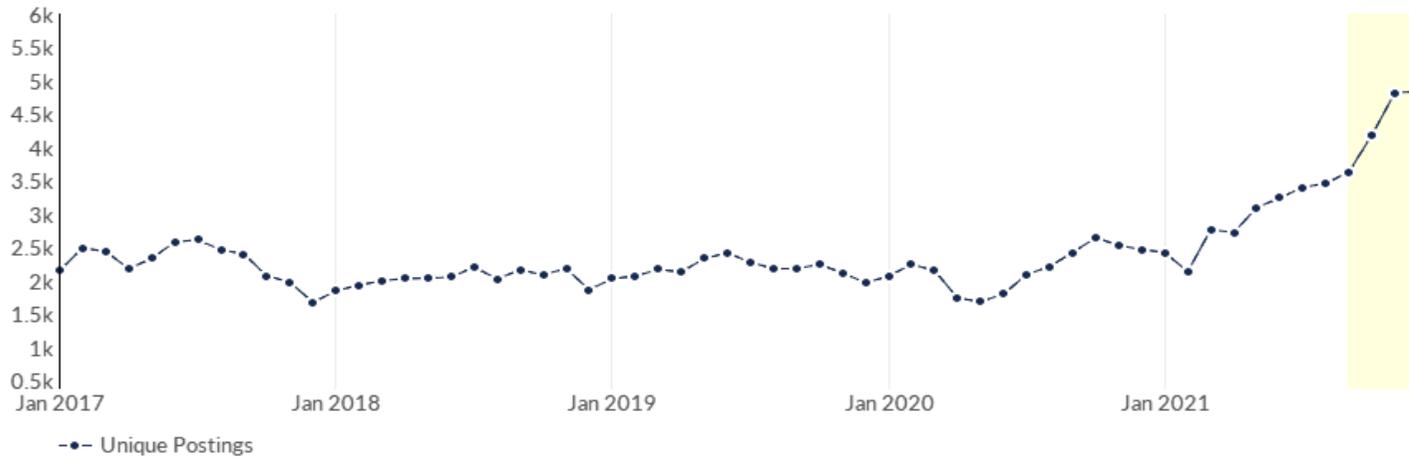
## 8.8. Apprenticeships

Page 3  
 4% of students in Torbay start an apprenticeship after they finish their 16 to 18 studies. This figure is 4% higher than the United Kingdom average (9%).

## 8.9. Vacancies

Vacancies are currently at the highest level they have been over the last five years. We find ourselves in unprecedented times where there are currently more vacancies than people actively looking for work. Sectors such as retail, tourism and health and social care have significant levels of job vacancies with many businesses struggling to recruit to meet their operational requirements.

**Figure 23: Vacancy levels Torbay (2017 – 2021)**



Source: EMSI, Job Postings, 2021

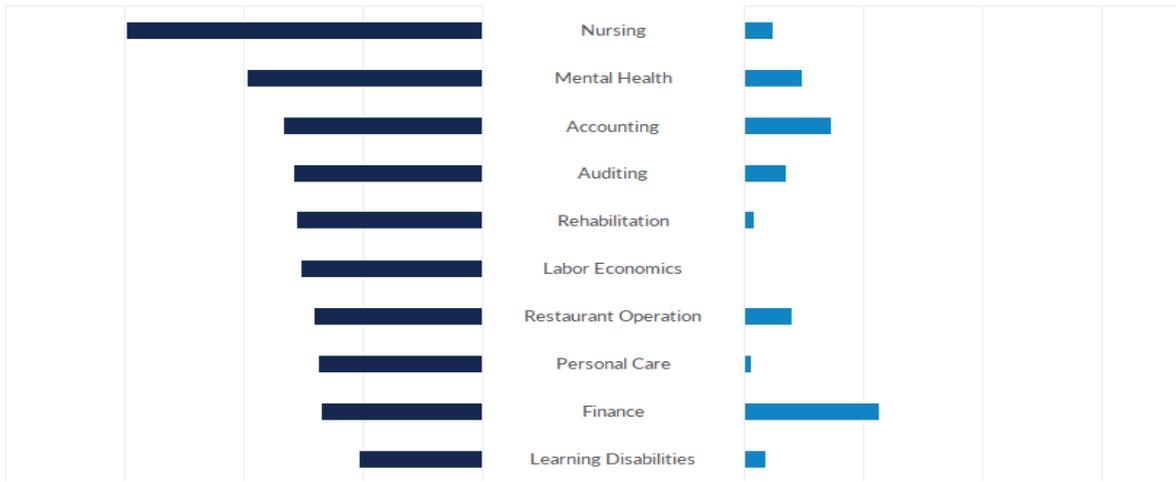
The most common vacancies within Torbay have broadly remained consistent, the level of vacancies have fluctuated as above but the occupations have largely remained the same. Not surprisingly the vacancies sit within sectors of significant importance to Torbay and some within those hard to fill sectors.

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<b>Nurses</b>	<b>Care Workers</b>	<b>Chefs</b>
<b>Sales and Retail Assistants</b>	<b>Van Drivers</b>	<b>Primary and Nursery Roles</b>

Continuing the theme, the most frequent 'hard' skills are largely typically found within the above roles. Figure 23 below provides further insight whilst also alluding to a mismatch between the skills employers are looking for and the skills residents have.

Figure 24: Top Hard Skills (2017-2021)



Source: Emsi, Job Postings, 2021

'Soft' skills have become increasingly important to employers<sup>7</sup> particularly due to the skills often being easier to transfer and replicate across all sectors. Whilst there is an improvement here in comparison to the hard skills, the data still shows disparity amongst the skills residents have, and the skills employers are looking for.

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Figure 25: Top Soft Skills (2017-2021)

<sup>7</sup> The Future of work is now, Exeter University, 2020



Source: Emsi, Job Postings, 2021

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4.10 Summary

On the surface the employment landscape across Torbay reads relatively healthily with employment levels higher than they were pre-pandemic. Unemployment rates are the lowest they have been for five years and are lower than both the national and regional averages. There continues to be a reduction in long term unemployment with figures falling year-on-year, with youth unemployment following a similar trend. There are however underlying issues, the area has a reducing number of jobs, high levels of part time employment and an ageing workforce. This suggests there are other challenges and issues preventing people either from working or from moving from part time to full time work. Anecdotal evidence highlights individuals' perceptions of certain roles and sectors, complex personal circumstances, volatility across employment programmes and multi-generational welfare dependency all to be barriers to employment.

Vacancies are at the highest levels they have been since LMI data<sup>8</sup> has been recorded, following the same pattern as the region and nationally. Torbay has more vacancies than people actively seeking work suggesting that employers across all sectors are struggling to recruit and fill vacancies with the employment market becoming 'tight'

Across the vacancies there are large levels of disparity amongst the skills employers are looking for and the skills residents have.

Torbay has seen a significant increase in employment within the business and administration sector (44.4%). Encouragingly other high value-added sectors such as information and communication and manufacturing have also seen notable increases. Key sectors which have typically accounted for large numbers of employment have seen decreases and have high levels of vacancies. This could be explained by a combination of factors such as Brexit, the pandemic, and the challenges of attracting individuals to certain roles.

## 9. Workforce

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### 9.1. Working age population

Between 2017 and 2021, the data shows there has been a 1.9% decrease of the total working age population, falling from 60,600 to 58,500. Over the same period, there has been a slight increase in the proportion that is economically active, rising from 76.3% to 77%.

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<sup>8</sup> It is worth mentioning that Labour Market Intelligence (LMI) such as EMSI struggles for data within certain sectors. An example being construction, which local intelligence informs us there are a plethora of vacancies locally within this sector.

## 9.2. Distribution of full-time and part-time workers

Since 2015, Torbay's workforce has reduced, falling from 47,500 to 46,500 in 2020.

Distribution wise, 58.1% of employees are full-time whereas 41.9% are part-time. Despite the decrease in total workers, both Torbay's full-time and part-time proportions have remained broadly consistent since 2015.

Across Torbay the statistics demonstrate that there remains a stronger prevalence of part-time work as the 41.9% figure is higher than all its comparators. This prevalence is indicative of Torbay's economic make-up with its dominance in tourism and hospitality, social care, and retail.

**Table 5: Proportion of full-time and part-time workers (2021)**

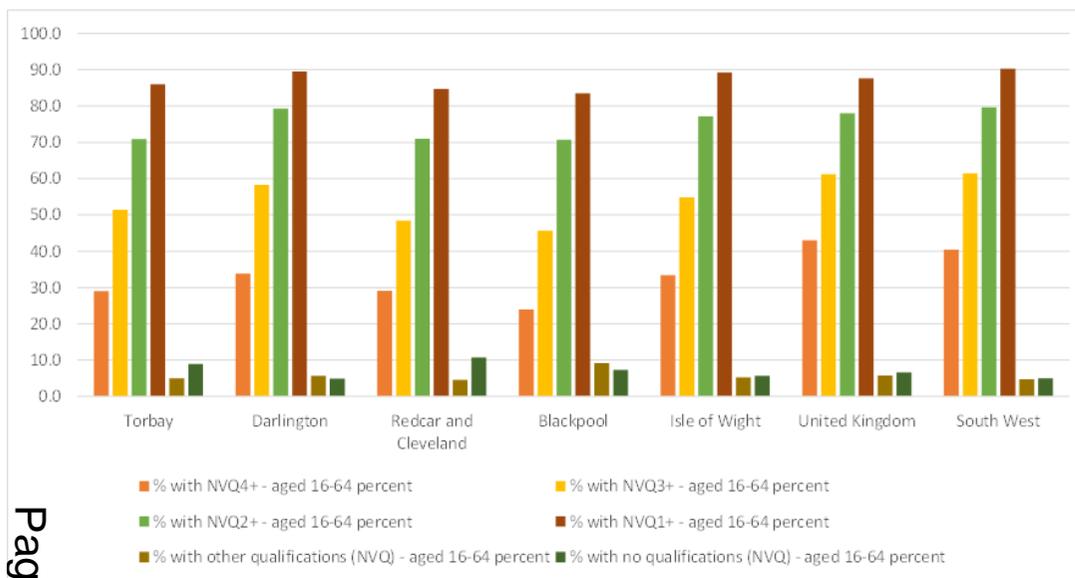
	Workforce (Number)	Full-time (%)	Part-time (%)
Torbay	46,500	58.1%	41.9%
Darlington	51,000	67.6%	32.4%
Redcar and Cleveland	37,000	63.5%	36.5%
Blackpool	63,500	60.6%	39.4%
Isle of Wight	49,000	62.2%	37.8%
South West	2,475,000	65.0%	35.0%
United Kingdom	29,508,500	67.9%	32.1%

Source: Nomis, Business Register and Employment Survey, 2021

## 9.3. Qualification levels

Figure 25 provides a proportional break down of qualifications across the working age population in 2020. . 9.0% of the working population in Torbay have no qualifications, a figure which has increased since 2017, leaping from 6.2% to 9.0%. the largest increase came from 2019 to 2020 (6.6% to 9.0%). The figure of 9.0% is second only to Redcar and Cleveland (10.7%) and is significantly higher than the South West (5.0%) and United Kingdom (6.6%).

**Figure 26: Proportion of working age population by qualification (2020)**



Torbay also compares poorly across the working age population for residents with NVQ4+. The figure of 29.0% is the second lowest, (Blackpool is the lowest with 23.9%) a figure some way behind the South West (40.4%) and United Kingdom (43.0%) totals. In fact, Torbay falls behind the national and regional percentages across NVQ1+ right through to NVQ4+.

Source: Nomis, Annual Population Survey, 2020

## 9.4. School performance

**Table 6: Local authority schools rankings (2017 – 2019)**

	2017	2018	2019
Torbay	-0.1	0.3	0.7
England	0.0	0.0	0.0

Source: Department of Education, 2021

Over the past three years, the collective performances of Torbay’s schools have progressed from being below average in 2017 to above average in 2019. However, despite the relative improvement in the performance of Torbay’s schools the level of NEETs in Torbay remain 0.8 percentage points higher than the England average.

**Figure 27: Attainment gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupils**

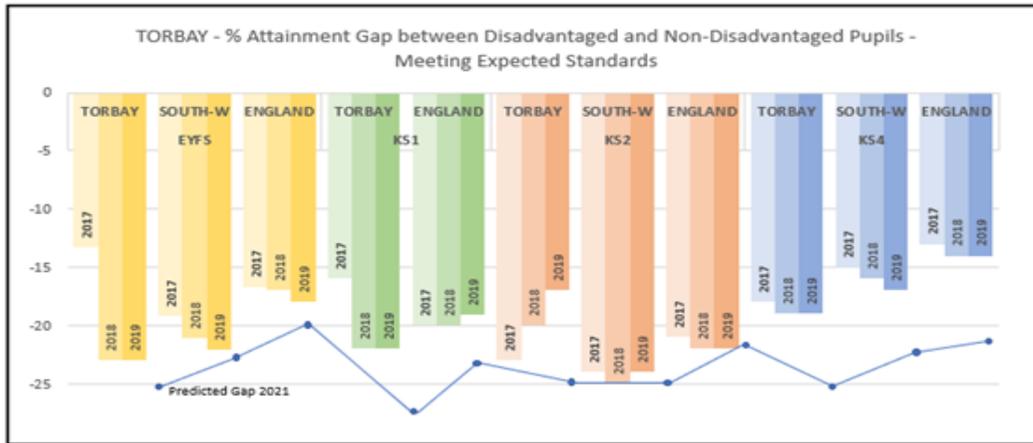
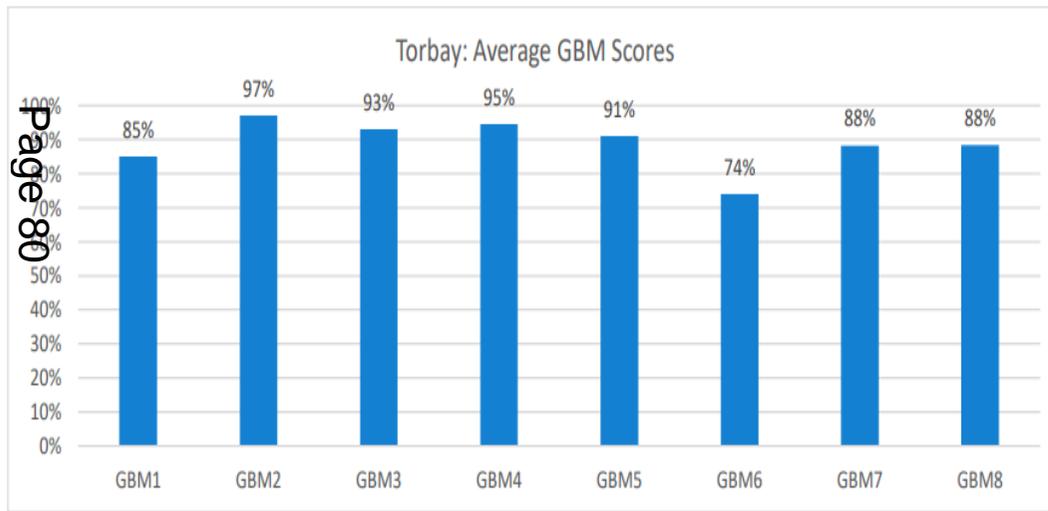


Figure 28: Gatsby Benchmark average scores across Torbay



Since 2017 attainment gaps between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupils are worsening across multiple school stages. EFYS has had the most significant increase, both KS1 and KS4 have also seen slight increases. KS2 attainment gap has improved.

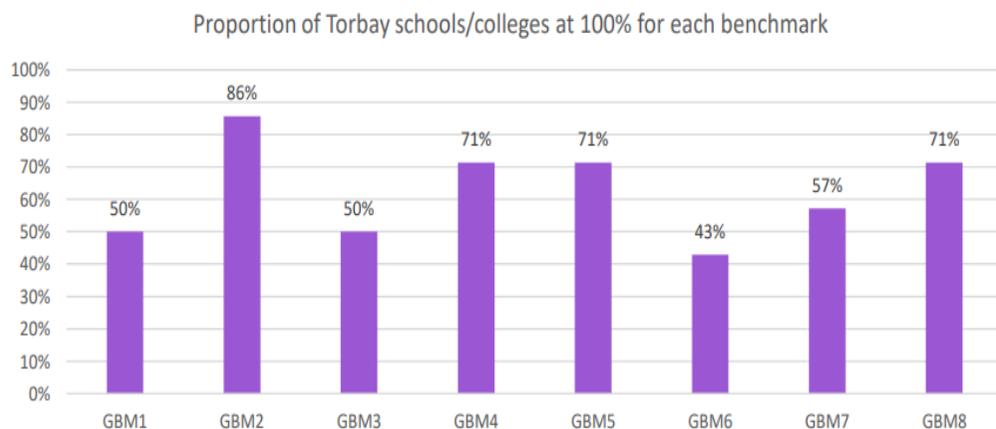
Source: Keyphas – internal Torbay systems matched to national pupil deprivation data 2022

Torbay ranks relatively strongly against most of the Gatsby benchmarks, the benchmarks act as a framework for good, robust careers advice and guidance in schools. The area which currently requires the most support is benchmark 6, experiences of employers and the workforce within school’s career programmes.

Figure 29 below highlights the proportion of Torbay schools or colleges that are at 100% for every benchmark.

Source: HotSW Careers Hub, Torbay Report 2022

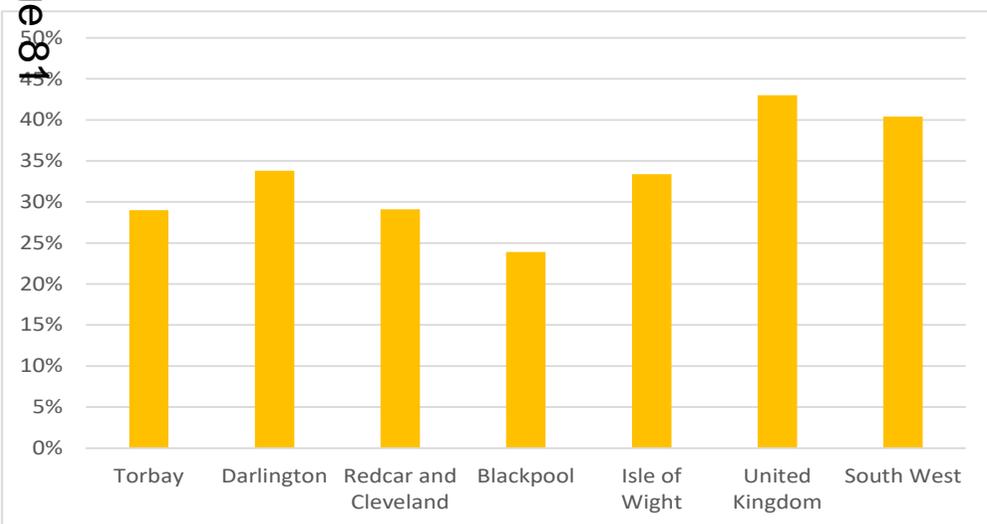
**Figure 29: Proportion of Torbay schools/colleges at 100% for each benchmark**



Source: HotSW Careers Hub, Torbay Report 2022

## 9.5. Graduates in the workforce

**Figure 30: Percentage of working age population with NVQ4+**



29.0% of Torbay’s working age population are graduates. Amongst its comparators, this is the second lowest figure (behind only Blackpool 23.9%), demonstrating the challenges Torbay has with retaining talent, who often leave the area in search of higher education opportunities and enhanced career prospects. Torbay’s figure is significantly lower than both the regional and national figures. (43.0% and 40.4%).

Source: Nomis, Annual Population Survey, 2021

## 9.6. Earnings

Despite a 30% increase in wages for people working in Torbay since 2015, income remain below the average. From 2015 to 2021, people working in Torbay earned less than the comparator locations as well as the national and regional averages. In 2021, people working in Torbay earned on average<sup>9</sup> £412.70, compared to regional and national averages of £464.10 and £540.40.

Additionally, those living in Torbay but work outside of the area in 2021 on average earned around £452.56, a figure £39.60 higher than people working and living in Torbay, suggesting better salaries can be achieved working outside of Torbay, a pattern that is also replicated by some of the areas below.

Table 7: Average full-time gross weekly wages (2015 – 2021)

Resident							
	Torbay	Darlington	Redcar and Cleveland	Blackpool	Isle of Wight	United Kingdom	South West
2015	339.5	402.0	381.0	318.2	369.4	425.1	398.4
2016	361.4	437.2	385.0	332.1	378.4	438.4	410.6
2017	366.0	385.0	387.6	338.8	405.8	448.5	419.3
2018	354.3	332.1	393.7	351.0	402.5	460.0	430.8
2019	392.0	378.4	397.2	379.1	416.2	479.1	444.9
2020	383.2	438.4	417.2	369.7	417.0	479.1	443.8
2021	452.6	410.6	439.2	402.7	422.0	504.4	469.9

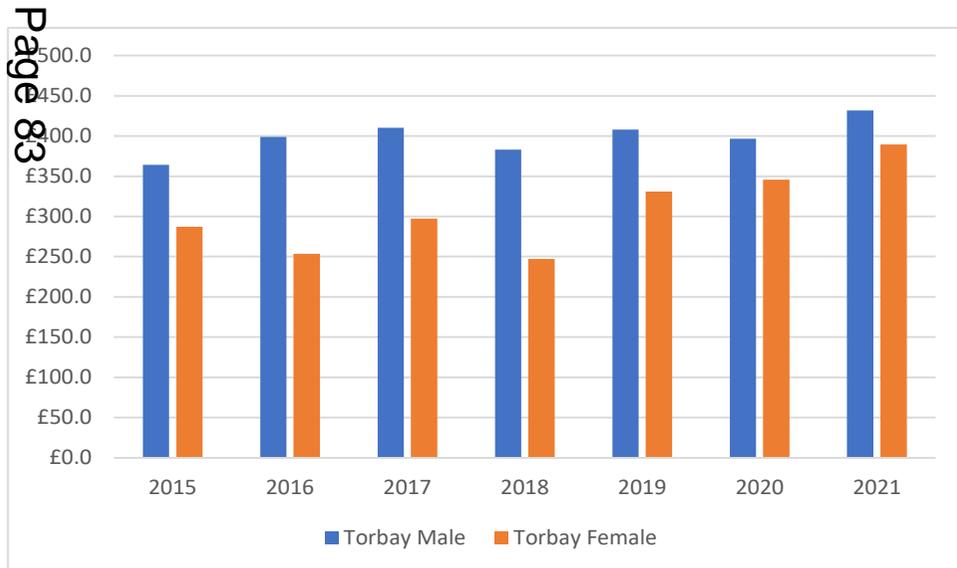
## Workplace

<sup>9</sup> Part-time and full-time average workplace-based earnings

	Torbay	Darlington	Redcar and Cleveland	Blackpool	Isle of Wight	United Kingdom	South West
2015	364.2	523.5	517.4	383.1	446.1	517.5	482.7
2016	398.8	499.5	465.4	430.0	463.5	530.4	498.4
2017	410.2	490.5	497.3	437.1	442.5	540.6	513.1
2018	382.9	506.0	542.2	424.4	470.6	554.6	518.9
2019	408.1	522.6	467.2	435.2	475.6	574.9	536.5
2020	396.7	501.2	534.0	427.0	525.9	568.4	524.7
2021	431.9	567.7	511.4	504.6	480.7	594.1	555.8

Source: Nomis, Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings, 2021

Figure 31: Average weekly workplace earnings between male and female (2015 – 2021)



Both male and female work-based earnings have shown similarities in across 2015 to 2021 in terms of growth and slight falls. However, figure 16 shows that weekly wages for males have consistently been higher than their female counterparts, there is a significant gap but one which is narrowing.

Source: NOMIS, Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings, 2021

## 9.7. Flows of labour

Table 8: Inflows and outflows of labour in Torbay (2011)

	Labour Flow Out of Torbay	Labour Flow Into Torbay	Net Impact
Teignbridge	5,192	4,736	-456
South Hams	2,668	1,896	-772
Exeter	2,127	385	-1,742
Plymouth	784	675	-109
East Devon	415	161	-254
Cornwall and Isles of Scilly	99	86	-13
Mid Devon	91	84	-7
Bristol, City of	65	11	-54
West Devon	60	40	-20
Shaunton Deane	42	0	-42
South Somerset	35	0	-35
South Gloucestershire	33	0	-33
North Devon	30	18	-12
Wiltshire	30	0	-30
Sedgemoor	25	0	-25
North Somerset	22	23	1
Swindon	22	0	-22
Mendip	12	0	-12
Torrige	11	0	-11
Offshore Installation	100	0	-100
Outside UK	82	0	-82

Other	1,032	476	-556
Total	12,977	8,591	-4,386

Source: NOMIS, Census 2011

Table 8 shows the breakdown by area of labour flows in and out of Torbay in 2011, which is still the most recent data as the dataset will not be updated until 2021. Of the total 47,804 employees that worked in Torbay in 2011, around 18% travelled from outside of the area. Of the 52,000 people who live in Torbay and are employed, it is estimated that around 10.8% work outside of the area. Official data<sup>10</sup> from 2019 does indicate that the net migration out of Torbay could be closer to around 5,625.

## 9.8. Summary

Torbay has seen a small decrease in the working age population over the past five years (1.9%). In addition, the total worker's figure has fallen too. The number of full-time and part-time workers has broadly remained consistent over the same period however Torbay's part-time figure of 40.9% of the workforce is higher than most of its comparators. This prevalence is indicative of Torbay's economic make-up.

30% of Torbay's working population have no qualifications, a figure that is increasing. Unsurprisingly this figure has worsened because of the pandemic and although NEET figures are relatively stable these too are above the English average and showing signs of a small increase. At the other end, Torbay continues to fare poorly across the working age population for NVQ+4. 29% are classified as graduates, a figure lower than comparators and the national and regional averages, reiterating further that the challenge Torbay faces is retaining talent. Overall, Torbay lags the national and regional qualification percentages across NVQ1+ right through to NVQ4.

The overall net migration taken from labour flow out of Torbay and Labour flow into Torbay has increased since 2011.

Wages across Torbay have seen an increase over the last five years but remain below the national and regional averages. Additionally, the data shows that higher earners tend to reside in Torbay, but work outside of the area, backing up the evidence that higher skilled and paid jobs come

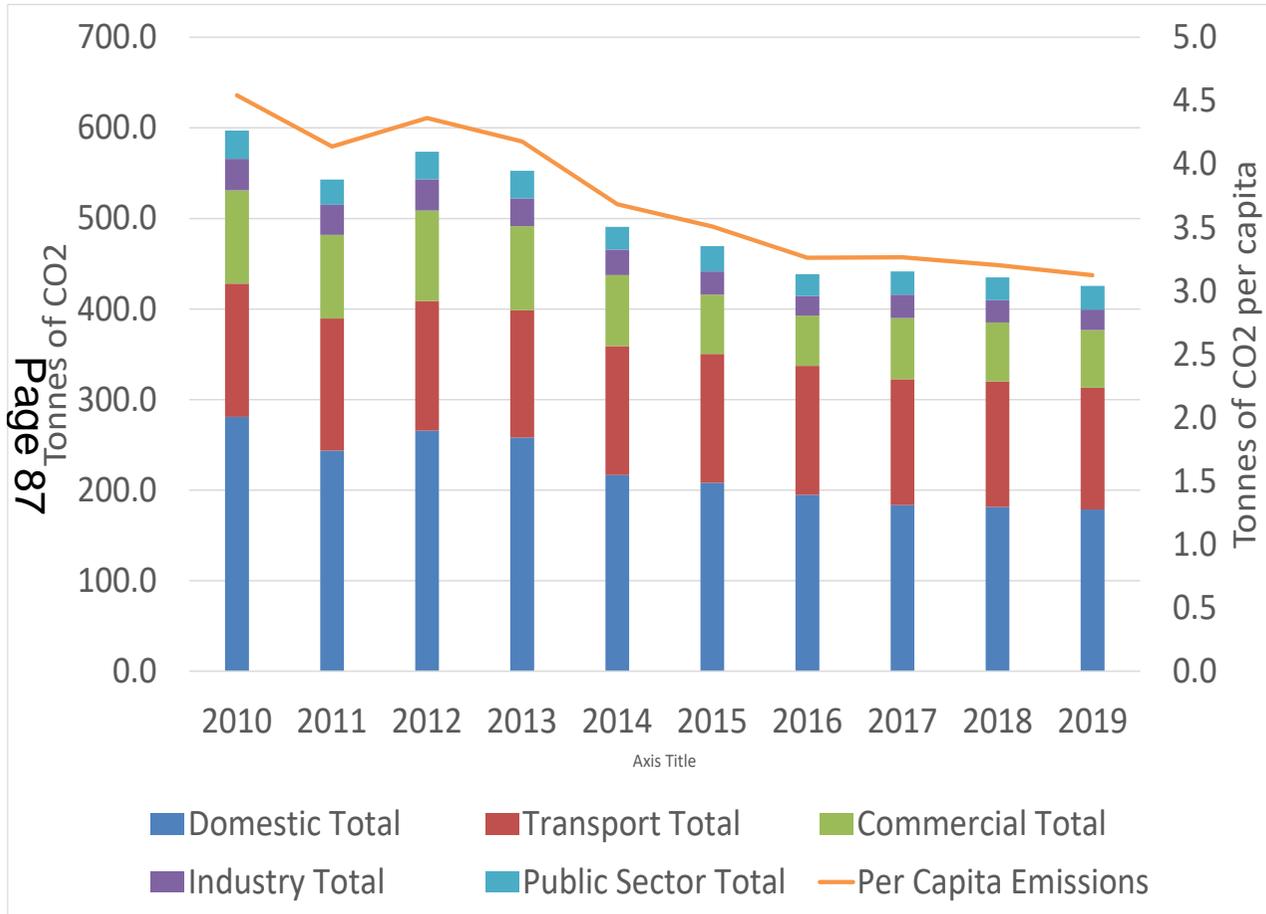
<sup>10</sup> Combination of Business Register and Employment Survey / Annual Population Survey, 2019

from its neighbouring areas. Average wages for males and females have followed similar trends over the last five years with the average wage for males being continuously higher than females with a relatively sizeable gap.

# 10. Environment

## 10.1. Carbon Dioxide Emissions

Figure 32: CO2 emissions in Torbay by category (2009 – 2019)



In 2019 Torbay produced 424.1 tonnes of CO2 equating to 3.1 tonnes per person compared to 4.6 tonnes across the region. Torbay's CO2 per capita decrease 29.6% over the past 10 years from 4.4 tonnes per person.

Around 41.9% of Torbay's total CO2 emissions were from domestic sector compared to 31.6% from transport, 15% from commercial, and 5.3% from industry, and 6.2% from the public sector.

Since 2009 CO2 emissions in Torbay have decreased across all sectors with commercial and industrial sectors accounting for the largest decreases at 38.5% and 36.9% respectively. Transport which is the second largest contributor to CO2 emissions in Torbay has decreased by least (10.8%) over the past 10 years.

Source: DBEIS, UK local authority and regional carbon dioxide emission, 2021

# 11. Appendix 1: Comparators

Table 9: Comparison indicators

Local Authority	GVA per Head Index (2019) <sup>11</sup>	GVA per Hour Index (2019) <sup>12</sup>	Total Population (2020) <sup>13</sup>	% of population aged 16 – 64 (2020) <sup>14</sup>	% of population aged 65+ (2020) <sup>15</sup>	Economic Activity Rate (2020) <sup>16</sup>	Employment Rate 16 – 64 (2020) <sup>17</sup>	% with No Qualifications (2020) <sup>18</sup>	Full-time Employment Rate (2020) <sup>19</sup>	Part-time Employment Rate (2020) <sup>20</sup>	% of population living in 20% most deprived areas (IMD 2019) <sup>21</sup>
Blackpool	68.7%	77.1%	138,381	60.6%	20.5%	76.3%	72.8%	7.3%	60.6%	39.4%	56.7%
Darlington	83.3%	93.0%	107,402	60.7%	20.6%	78.8%	74.1%	4.9%	67.6%	32.4%	30.2%
Isle of Wight	64.3%	84.2%	142,296	55.9%	28.7%	77.7%	73.2%	5.6%	62.2%	37.8%	13.8%
Redcar and Cleveland	-	75.5%	137,228	59.2%	22.8%	72.6%	68.5%	10.7%	63.5%	36.5%	36.0%
Corby	49.4%	69.4%	136,218	56.0%	27.3%	76.1%	72.1%	9.0%	58.1%	41.9%	27.5%
South West	87.4%	-	5,659,143	60.0%	22.4%	81.3%	78.0%	5.0%	65.0%	35.0%	-
United Kingdom	100.0%	100.0%	67,081,234	62.4%	18.6%	78.8%	75.1%	6.6%	67.9%	32.1%	-

- Data not available

<sup>11</sup> Source: ONS, Regional GVA, 2021

<sup>12</sup> Source: ONS, Regional GVA, 2021

<sup>13</sup> NOMIS, Population Estimates, 2021

<sup>14</sup> NOMIS, Population Estimates, 2021

<sup>15</sup> NOMIS, Population Estimates, 2021

<sup>16</sup> Source: NOMIS, Annual Population Survey, 2021

<sup>17</sup> Source: NOMIS, Annual Population Survey, 2021

<sup>18</sup> Source: NOMIS, Annual Population Survey, 2021

<sup>19</sup> Source: NOMIS, BRES, 2021

<sup>20</sup> Source: NOMIS, BRES, 2021

<sup>21</sup> Source: DLUCH, IMD 2019

# Torbay Economic Growth Strategy

November 2022



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# Executive Summary

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Torbay faces an uncertain economic future.

We have key issues which must be addressed if the prosperity of our people, our businesses and our places is to be secured. The most important of these relates to our people.

Education, training and skills sit at the heart of a basket of challenges we face, and together they represent the biggest single set of issues we must address.

Our workforce is ageing and as people retire, they will leave gaps which must be filled, but this can only happen if younger people are able, and want, to grab these jobs.

This will only be possible if younger generations have the right skills and are in the right place. That means that we must inspire them and offer them education and training which equips them for the future. It also means that they live locally. It won't be possible unless they are skilled, want to be here and can afford to live here.

If we fail to address these challenges, our businesses will not have access to the employees they need. Which means our businesses won't thrive and our residents will not be able to access jobs. It is as simple as that, and it represents a ticking time bomb.

This strategy will support ambition to tackle climate change and protect and enhance our naturally inspiring bay. We must ensure that economic growth is achieved in a sustainable way.

We must work together to diffuse the situation. If we do not, our economy, our businesses, our places and our people will suffer.

The Council, business or educators can't do this alone but by working together we can make a difference and we must work together even better to make a difference urgently.

It is time for leaders from our businesses, business groups, schools, colleges and local authority to redouble our efforts. We need to collaborate and cooperate to diffuse the time bomb. That means leaving self-interest outside and taking a seat at the partnership table. It means trusting each other, sharing resource and goodwill, working to a common vision and ambition and taking action now and for the long term. Acting collaboratively, consistently and for the longer term will help Torbay deal in the short term with the likely financial challenges for public sector partners while continuing to deliver the support urgently needed. It will also help reassure the local business community and investors that Torbay has a clear vision of where it wants to be economically and is working together to achieve that.

A strong tech sector, represented largely by a growing electronics and photonics sector, presents a significant growth opportunity. The visitor economy is also fundamental to our economic growth and this strategy sets the framework for the Destination Management Plan that will capitalise upon our heritage, natural assets and excellent food and drink offer. Investment in Torbay Hospital will see a significant growth in the health sector and opportunities to support the growth of the medical and healthcare technology sector will be enabled. Furthermore Torbay provides the right environment for small tech based companies to establish and grow, notably in the digital creative

sector and this will be explored. Fishing, embedded in our heritage and culture should be supported to grow and capitalise on previous investment that has seen the fish processing sector strengthen.

# 1. Introduction

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Torbay offers an inspiring coastal, maritime and landscape setting. This unique setting provides one of the best places to live, work and play in the South West. The towns of Brixham, Paignton and Torquay are key engines of our economy, offering a range of facilities with a rich history. High quality visitor economy is one of the leading sectors with an international reputation. The English Riviera is also home to a globally significant UNESCO Global Geopark designation.

The Torbay economy is home to globally significant technology businesses operating in photonics and micro-electronics, nanotechnology, and medical and healthcare technology (MedTech)

However, as a coastal economy Torbay faces some entrenched challenges that need addressing. Torbay has a narrow business base with employment reliant on three sectors, which include health and social care, tourism and hospitality and retail. The local economy is dependent on the face-to-face service sector, accounting for 30,125 of the 48,500 jobs or 68.4% of all jobs.

This reliance also means that Torbay currently lags behind the UK on many economic measures, it has experienced significantly lower levels of business growth of 13% compared to 30.6% nationally, employment growth of 9% compared to 10.4% nationally, and GVA growth of 7.5% compared to 28.8% nationally, since 2010.

Torbay's workforce is shrinking making it difficult for businesses to recruit. Affordability of housing is becoming more of an issue and will be fundamental in helping to attract people to work in Torbay. Supporting and inspiring our current and future workforce to secure jobs and develop their careers locally will be integral to this strategy.

The world of work has fundamentally changed post-pandemic. Flexible working is now normal practice for many office based jobs, strongly linked to improved wellbeing. Our natural environment presents an opportunity for Torbay to position itself as a location for businesses and entrepreneurs who might want to work in a different way.

The Economic Growth Strategy sets out how the Council working with partners can improve economic conditions and in doing so help businesses to improve performance, create new opportunities for residents, tackle poverty and improve health outcomes. This long-term strategy sets out the challenges we face, and the initiatives we are taking forward to address them. Many are long term initiatives which will require long term commitment if we are to achieve a sustainable change that will enhance our economy.

This Strategy cuts across a number of other Council Strategies and policy documents, in particular the Housing Strategy and the Local Plan. To retain and attract the workforce Torbay needs will require sufficient affordable housing and the Local Plan need to ensure a sufficient supply of employment land to accommodate growth and inward investment.

The Council will not be able to deliver the strategy alone. It is an Economic Growth Strategy for Torbay. We now have a clear, forward looking and vitally shared story for Torbay and each of the towns that will provide focus for their development and promotion. The Torbay Story sets out a

compelling narrative. There is a need to activate more collaboration within places and across Torbay and we are looking to energise that through the Torbay Together Champions Programme.

At the time of writing, Torbay's long-standing ambition to raise its profile within the national and international economy and its contribution to UK plc aligns with the government's Levelling Up agenda, and our interventions and funding bids are targeted to this theme.

Over the lifespan of this strategy, maximising Torbay's economic potential by improving productivity and leveraging investment in local specialisms will remain constant and aligned to the priorities of contemporary regional funding structures

This strategy will cover:

- How is the Torbay economy performing? with a summary of the evidence available
- How we want the Torbay economy to develop, with a vision, objectives, priorities and a theory of change
- How we achieve improved performance; priorities, resource implication and a measurement framework including Key Performance Indicators, and most importantly a practical and prioritised Action Plan.

## 2 Vision for 2030

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We will continue to build our reputation as the UK's 'Tech by the Bay' by supporting Torbay's existing businesses and new investors. We will work with the sector to attract, retain and grow these specialisms. Torbay will be inclusive; our communities will be able to secure good employment and learning opportunities that will enhance their potential. We will address our current challenges by developing a year-round economy, providing greater levels of full-time employment with higher salaries, in a sustainable way. We ensure that investment in our three towns – Brixham, Paignton and Torquay enable them to develop their own very distinct identities and roles: a unified and complementary offer as the country's premier marine and natural experience.

### **Delivering the vision**

We will build on our local strengths, reflecting the role our key towns and wider area play in supporting the economy and our rich natural environment.

Our town centres will undergo significant change. We will work closely with both public sector partners and the private sector to achieve the changes that both our communities and businesses are seeking.

Our schools, college and businesses will work closely together to inspire and develop the skills of our people and to access opportunities that enable them to succeed and be resilient in a fast-changing economy. People who are out of work or in low paid jobs will find it easier to obtain support to upskill into new career opportunities and access opportunities they need to get into the workforce and progress into better jobs. Our skills system will directly address the future needs of our economy and the current needs of our business community, ensuring that residents have access to high quality employment.

We have learnt through the Coronavirus Pandemic that more needs to be done to be prepared for major economic shocks. Working with our partners we will develop plans that enable Torbay to be well placed to respond and be resilient to economic challenges and opportunities.

The key characteristics of Torbay's success will include.

- Creating more full-time job opportunities for Torbay residents and provide good work for all
- Reducing our impact on, and increasing resilience to Climate Change
- Increased Gross Value Added (GVA) per worker, average worker income and productivity – addressing our current position of one of the areas with the lowest GVA per capita in England
- Improvement in educational attainment and workforce skills– increasing the number of residents qualified to deliver the jobs needed by local business
- High levels of business start-up, with increased survival rates beyond 3 years

With sustained increases in each of these measures during the life of the Economic Growth Strategy, Torbay will improve its resilience and improve its economic diversity. This will assist in weathering future global economic trends and market cycles, aiding recovery from economic

downturns. Improvements will assist Torbay in being agile enough to adapt to changing technologies and importantly, provide benefit to all residents. The Economic Growth Strategy Action Plan sets out the basepoint and future targets which the delivery of the strategy will be measured against.

## 3 The Council's Approach to Economic Growth

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Enabling inclusive and sustainable economic growth is integral to Torbay Council, its partners and the community. Sustaining a productive economy will contribute to making Torbay a prosperous, healthy, safe and clean place.

The Torbay Economic Growth Strategy is a key strategy for the Council, its partners and the community that will shape the future of Torbay's economy bringing business and place together, enable the safeguarding and creation of local jobs, stimulate wealth creation for residents, tackling poverty and improving health outcomes. Conversely failure of this strategy will exacerbate the challenges Torbay faces with the challenges that will bring to the community in the medium and longer term.

The Coronavirus Pandemic has demonstrated the impact economic shocks can have upon local, national and international economies. We want to ensure that we have a clear strategy in place that both enables a quick and full recovery from the impact of Coronavirus and also puts in place plans for future potential shocks and challenges such as the potential for public sector funding restrictions in the early stage of this strategy.

The Council recognises that economic growth is fundamental to increasing the prosperity of the community and the businesses in Torbay and that, as through the pandemic, the role of partners across Torbay will be pivotal in securing economic growth. The Council will work with partners and where appropriate through them to deliver this strategy and will seek the support of those partners, particularly the public sector anchor institutions and the business leaders locally, in collaborating and championing the needs and opportunities of Torbay.

Achieving sustainable economic growth is a priority therefore we also recognise the responsibility we have for the Environment. The Council declared a Climate Emergency on 24 June 2019. The Council has agreed a target that by 2030 Torbay will have become carbon neutral, zero waste and a climate resilient place, playing its part in limiting the impacts of climate change. Business and community support will be vital in helping to meet the carbon neutral target. This strategy supports this important objective and will encourage carbon neutral growth.

Over the lifespan of this strategy, maximising Torbay's economic potential by improving productivity and leveraging investment in local specialisms will remain constant and aligned to the priorities of contemporary regional funding structures.

Torbay's long-standing ambition is to raise its profile within the national and international economy and its contribution to UK plc aligns with the government's Levelling Up Agenda. Our interventions and funding bids are targeted to this theme.

The Economic Growth Strategy is a key part of a suite of strategies that will improve Torbay as a place to live, work and play. Key linkages are made within the Strategy to

- Torbay Council's Community and Corporate Plan
- The Torbay Story
- Torbay Local Plan – 2012-2030

- English Riviera Destination Management Plan – 2022-2030

To inform this strategy, two specific actions have been undertaken: -

- An economic baseline analysing trends and progress impacting the Torbay economy has been developed.
- Consultation with, and input from, a wide range of stakeholders has informed the strategy.

This has ensured that the Economic Growth Strategy has been co-produced by the Council and its partners.

The Council is able to celebrate the success of its previous Economic Strategy, which guided the delivery of a number of important initiatives including.

- The Electronics and Photonics Innovation Centre (EPIC) is already proving to be an invaluable asset to the local electronics, photonics and micro-electronics business community. Open in 2019 the Centre now houses over a dozen businesses, many of which are involved in cutting edge technologies and innovation.
- Secured £22m Town Deal to drive Town Centre improvements in Torquay and £13.36m Future High Streets Fund programme for Paignton that will further catalyse investment into our town centres
- Secured inward investment from high tech companies such as Nanusens creating high value jobs
- Supporting the growth of Castings Support Systems (CSS) through developing a new purpose-built 5,550m<sup>2</sup> manufacturing facility at Claylands in Paignton enabling CSS Group to take on the building to support their growing business.
- Secured funding to support the development of Edginswell Business Park and business units totalling 1056 sqm at Lymington Road

## 4 The Torbay Economy overview

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The Torbay Economic Growth Strategy Evidence Base (2022) sets out a comprehensive picture of the Torbay economy. The key issues facing the economy can be summarised as.

- The Torbay economy contributed £1.98bn to the UK economy in 2019 (by Gross Value Added at current prices). Our Productivity performance in Torbay has continued to fall behind the UK average.
- Business survival rates in Torbay are below the South West average over the five-year period, and broadly in line with the UK average for the first four years of trading, however, then fall marginally behind the national average in 2019.
- The number of jobs in Torbay has decreased by 3% from 49,500 in 2015 to 48,000 in 2020. In the past five years, the rankings of the top employment sectors have remained unchanged with; health (24%), accommodation & food services (14.6%), retail (12.5%), education (9.4%), and business administration & services (6.8%)
- The level of qualifications by Torbay's residents reveals a current economic weakness that needs addressing with 9.0% of the working population in Torbay have no qualifications, a figure which has increased since 2017, leaping from 6.2% to 9.0%. the largest increase came from 2019 to 2020 (6.6% to 9.0%). At present, Torbay falls behind the national and regional percentages across NVQ1+ right through to NVQ4+.
- Latest population estimates show Torbay is home to 134,300 people, with 52% aged 50 and over. This is significantly above the national (42%) and regional (46%) averages and has an inevitable impact on income levels and healthcare provision. At the other end of the age spectrum 27% of Torbay's population are aged between 20-44, 7% below the national average. This highlights the challenge Torbay faces in retaining graduates and supports the view that many students who leave the Bay to enter higher education do not return until later in life, impacting on productivity levels.
- Torbay has pockets of severe deprivation, and areas of relative affluence. Torbay is amongst the most deprived in England. Within Torbay around one-in-three of the population live in areas in the top 20% most deprived in England
- From 2016 to 2020, Torbay's employment rate dropped year-on-year. The lowest being between 2019 and 2020 where the figure was 72.5% (lower than the comparative areas below). While the Coronavirus Pandemic has had an impact, encouragingly between 2020-2021 the figures have increased from 72.5% to 77%. While Torbay's unemployment rate is the lowest it has been for five years (2.3%).
- Despite the level of unemployment and drop-in employment rate, vacancies are currently at the highest level they have been over the last five years. We find ourselves in unprecedented times where there are currently more vacancies than people actively looking for work. Sectors such as retail, tourism and health and social care have significant levels of job vacancies with many businesses struggling to recruit to meet their operational requirements.
- Disproportionately high housing costs contribute to in-work poverty exacerbating the labour shortage in the lower paid sectors
- A significant challenge is that part time employment is more common than full time. At present 58.1% of employees are full-time whereas 41.9% are part-time. Across Torbay the statistics demonstrate that there remains a stronger prevalence of part-time work as the 41.9% figure is higher than all its comparators. This prevalence is indicative of Torbay's economic make-up with its dominance in tourism and hospitality, social care, and retail.

- Despite a 30% increase in wages for people working in Torbay since 2015, income remain below the national and regional averages.
- Economic growth can also contribute to increasing carbon emissions. Our businesses and industry were responsible for 20% of Torbay’s carbon emissions in 2019. In 2019 transport emissions made up 31% of Torbay’s carbon emissions and waste made up over 4% of Torbay’s carbon emissions.
- The recent announcement of the Plymouth and South Devon Freeport presents a risk to Torbay. Freeport areas will be able to offer incentives for investment and therefore could present a risk to Torbay businesses if we are not able to accommodate growth locally and incentive investment.

## **Key Sector Profiles**

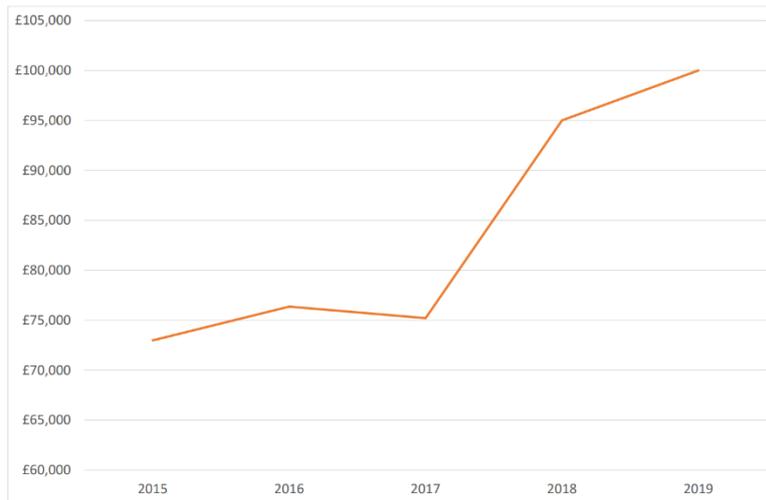
Torbay’s key sectors have been heavily impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic, with the fishing sector demonstrating greater resilience with the volume of fish caught remaining relatively stable but witnessing a decrease in value compared to the previous year, partly due to Brexit and the increased export administration, and partly due to the lack of demand from overseas markets as their hospitality sectors locked down due to the pandemic. Equally in the UK, both the staying visitor and day visitor numbers substantially declined in 2020 as these parts of the economy were locked down for significantly longer periods of time compared to others, however anecdotally tourism businesses have suggested a strong bounce back in the ‘staycation’ market over 2020 and 2021. The Photonics and Micro-electronics sector can demonstrate continued growth and offers hi-tech growth for Torbay in the future. Evidence indicates that there are emerging opportunity sectors around health, in particular medical and healthcare technology, and creative industries.

The Evidence base sets out the performance of our key sectors, they are summarised below.

### **Photonics and Micro-electronics**

Employment within the Photonics and Micro-electronics sector has increased by 24.3% over the period, albeit from a relatively low base, however economic output within the sector has increased at a faster rate by 37% which shows an increase in productivity levels within the sector and the sectors contribution to the local economy. The sector has potential for further growth and is an example of the potential for Torbay to support High Tech economic growth. However future growth may be restricted by the limited availability of employment space in Torbay.

**Figure X GVA per employee in Torbay Photonics and Micro-electronics sector (2015-2019)**

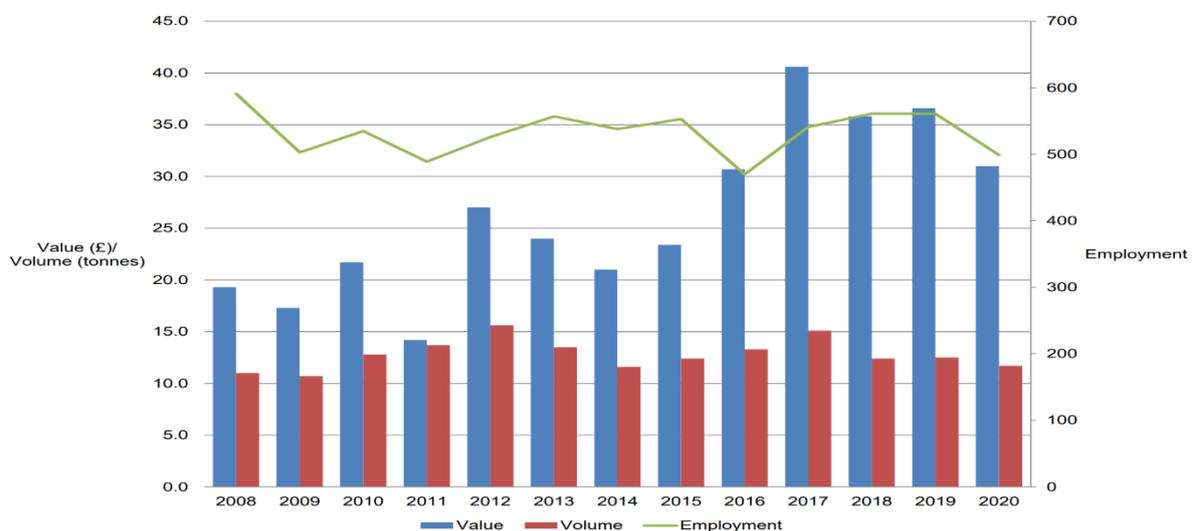


Source: NOMIS, BRES, 2021 and ONS Regional GVA, 2021

## Fishing

In 2020, the port of Brixham landed the highest value of catch and the second highest volume across England. The volume of fish caught in Brixham has remained relatively unchanged over the past three years, however the value has declined in the last year along with employment in the sector mainly due to the pandemic.

**Figure X: Volume, Value and Employment in Torbay’s Fishing sector**



Source: UK Sea Fisheries Statistics, Gov.uk

## Tourism

The English Riviera has a strong history of being a premier coastal resort, with a tourism sector that supports local and regional businesses, creates local jobs, and contributes to the sense of place and quality of life. But in recent times the English Riviera has struggled to keep pace with changing market needs, and the impact of Covid-19 and the climate crisis

are creating unprecedented challenges, with a reduction of 55% of tourism earnings from staying visitors and a 50% reduction from day visitors in 2020 compared to 2019.

The Economic Growth Strategy aligns with the Destination Management Plan which has set out interventions that can help propel the destination forward. The plan seeks to build on the inherent strengths and reflect market trends and opportunities and help to achieve a more sustainable and resilient destination.

The objectives for Destination Management Plan are:

- Recover – return to 2019 spend and visitor levels by 2024
- Grow – achieve an additional £75m of tourism spend and 1,500 new FTE jobs by 2027
- Re-balance – more sustainable visits, with 40% of visits from October - March (currently 35%)
- These objectives will be achieved by:
  - Attracting new and existing visitor markets and an improved reputation and profile for the destination
  - New product investment and development of the existing offer
  - Better destination management and visitor welcome (and resident satisfaction)
  - Clear delivery arrangement

## **Medical & Healthcare**

Torbay has a number of key strategic assets in this regard including; a major hospital rebuilding programme, a leading NHS pharmaceutical manufacturing facility, numerous businesses engaged in the medical and healthcare sector with many as key suppliers to Tier 1 companies with others also undertaking research and development in new technology or products for medical and healthcare uses. In the provision of Adult and Social care digital delivery and Torbay's population demographics could combine to provide opportunities for clinical trials and new product development.

## **Creative and Digital**

Recent University of Exeter research into Creative Industries Policy and Evidence Centre, – *Creative Industries Innovation in Seaside Resorts and Country Towns* indicates Torbay has an opportunity in the creative sector, possibly focussed on digital technologies. The creative industries definition is broad and includes but is not limited to, arts, culture, and heritage, crafts, photography, radio and TV production along with digital applications such as website design, advertising and programming and app design.

Torbay has a strong representation in the creative industries through Torbay Culture and Digital Torbay stakeholder groups, Cockington Court, and small clusters located around Torquay Harbour could enable effective programme delivery.

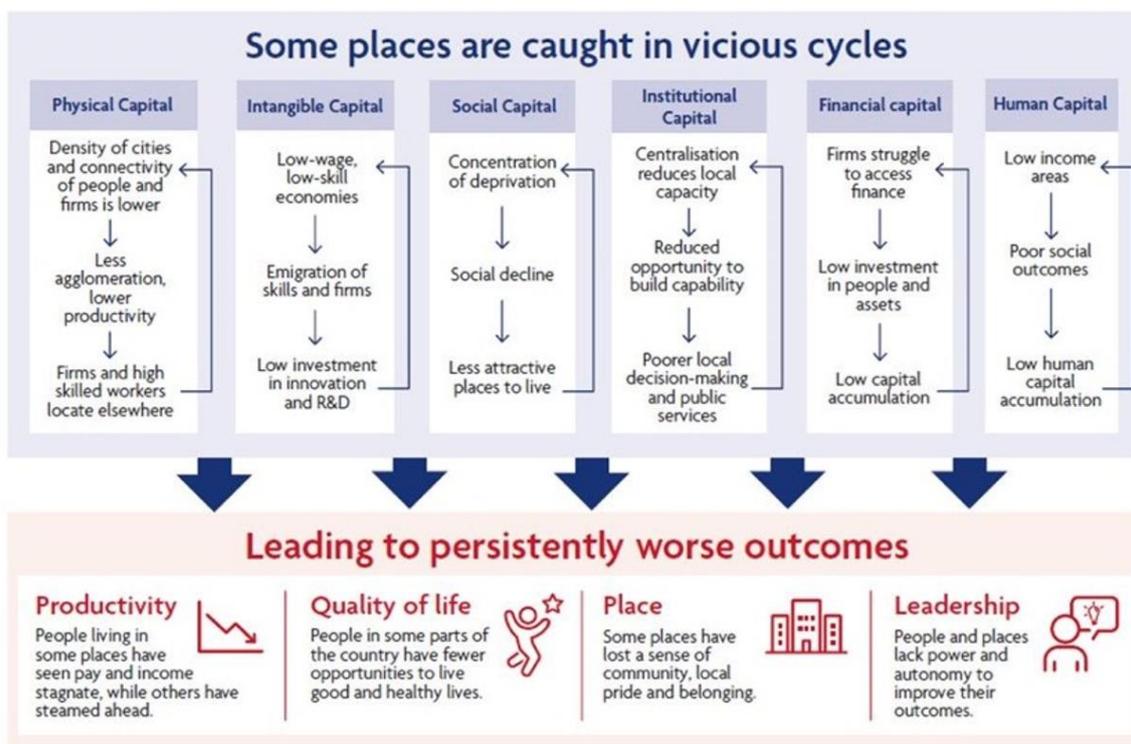
## 5. Working with our partners

The Economic Growth Strategy is an important partnership document. The Council can help provide the conditions through which the private sector can grow and thrive, however it can deliver alone and will work with partners to develop deeper relationships, cultivate strong leadership recognising that effective partnership is essential to develop these conditions.

Similarly, there are a range of social outcomes which are intangible which impact upon Torbay's economic potential. The table below demonstrates the range of inputs needed to drive economic growth; where there are challenges and under-performance, the local economy will suffer. In Torbay evidence shows that current levels of deprivation and low-wage low skill levels negatively impact our economic potential. Each factor set out in the pillars below are an important element of the local economy. Where there is weakness, it will lead to poorer outcomes and a continued weakening of the local economy, for example, fewer people to take employment opportunities or limited high skilled candidates in the local area to take high skilled job opportunities.

The Council and its partners must work together to address each of the pillars set out below. Partnership is key to addressing the vicious cycles that currently exists in the Torbay economy.

### Levelling Up Golden Thread



Source: IED Golden thread for local economies

Torbay has received support from the Government through the Towns Deal and Future High Streets Funding. Government funding initiatives will provide opportunities to deliver projects and

initiatives that will help address Torbay's challenges. We will work with our partners to shape these projects and initiatives.

The Government has also signalled that a Devon County Deal can be progressed across Devon, Plymouth and Torbay. The County Deal will provide a collaborative approach to help lever more investment into the area for the benefit of Torbay's businesses and residents. A County Deal will provide opportunities for deeper collaboration with stakeholders such as universities, colleges, business, the voluntary, community and social enterprise sectors, National Parks, town and parish councils.

The Council also supports a Community Wealth Building (CWB) approach which focuses on increasing local spend by supporting local businesses to bid for local public sector contracts. Torbay Council has committed to using its financial powers more effectively to help benefit the local economy and create new employment and training opportunities for people through its regeneration projects.

The CWB approach brings together public sector partners from across Torbay and has secured their commitment to collaborate and adopt the principles of CWB. Torbay Council, Torbay and South Devon Foundation Trust, South Devon College, and TDA have pledged to spend more with local companies where possible.

The Economic Growth Strategy provides the platform for stakeholders to work together. Through consultation stakeholders have had a key role in shaping the strategy. The strategy is focused and includes objectives and actions that will make a step change to our prosperity. We now need our business community to work with the Council to play a leadership role in addressing the challenges we face and seizing the opportunities we have. We want our key partners such as the Chamber of Commerce, FSB and members of the Torbay Business Forum to step up and proactively work with the Council to deliver this Economic Growth Strategy and raise Torbay's profile nationally.

## 6 Torbay's economic priorities

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The factors that influence Torbay's economy are numerous. The following represents some of the key characteristics, assets and 'influencing factors' which impact our economy.

We have identified 4 priority areas that through partnership working and taking a long term view we can make necessary interventions to support the local economy and its businesses. These priorities are underpinned by an action plan which sets out the initiatives which will take forward to enable growth across Torbay.

Our priorities are:

- Supporting innovators, entrepreneurs and business owners
- Building on our economic specialisms
- Helping our community and residents to reach their economic potential and build an inclusive economy
- Maximising economic value of natural capital

In addition, the Council recognises that addressing the Climate Emergency is a cross-cutting theme. The challenge is significant and will offer economic opportunities over the lifetime of the strategy. It will also impact all four of our priorities are impacted by new policy or approaches. impacted by new policy or approaches.

### **i) Supporting Innovators, Entrepreneurs and Business Owners**

The Council will continue to encourage enterprise. We will work with local business networks and key businesses to ensure that the Torbay economy is successful. We will welcome entrepreneurs, innovators and social enterprises and will develop programmes and projects that will ensure that the economy offers the conditions for businesses to thrive.

Why is this important to Torbay?

- To raise GVA per worker
- To attract new jobs
- To encourage more full time jobs
- Improve living standards

What challenges does Torbay face?

- Limited amount of commercial workspace and employment land available
- Limited skills available from residents
- A fragmented business voice

## Our approach

## Our focus

### **Supporting start-ups and scale-ups**

Whilst Torbay is home to innovative firms, we need more companies investing in R&D ensuring we have the infrastructure to support scale up. We will also support the growth of the social economy. We are aware that we need more commercial space and land to meet demand from our growing businesses and potential new investors.

### **Boosting innovation throughout the economy, including commercialising knowledge from universities and government, and supporting firms of all sizes in all sectors to improve their products, processes and capabilities**

Innovation does not just occur in high tech sectors and top universities. Simple improvements to processes, finding new markets or adapting to new technology can increase productivity. We will continue to support the creation of new businesses and the growth of small businesses, including independents, which are an important part of the Torbay economy. We will commission a business support programme that will facilitate growth.

We will support companies engaged in the Hi-Tech Cluster to ensure that they can thrive within Torbay by developing the relationship with Universities and embedding SetSquared, or a similar organisation, in EPIC.

### **Using the findings of the DBI research that will help our under-represented business communities to engage with local business networks**

We will establish an Ethnic Minority Networking Group to support Torbay's under represented business community. Encourage more underrepresented businesses to participate in the Torbay Business Forum and the Torbay Champions Programme.

### **We will target inward investment opportunities proactively to ensure that we can accommodate new business investment**

We will work with our partners to attract inward investment that we can accommodate within our limited employment space. We will research new business targets recognising that we can attract smaller agile companies associated with our key sectors

**To maximise benefits for local people, we need to provide first class support that will enable Torbay businesses to start, grow and prosper. As part of this, we will contribute to quality workplaces with a healthy, skilled, and motivated workforce**

Through providing expert advice and support to access national grant investment, we will continue to help businesses to expand and innovate, creating new jobs and products and boosting the local economy. New businesses are particularly important, and we will continue to target start-ups and entrepreneurs in our key growth sectors.

## ii) Building on our Economic Specialisms

The Council will continue to encourage growth in key sectors. Our sectors play a key role in delivering growth and providing employment opportunities for Torbay residents.

This strategy is seeking to build on the foundations which are already in place around our photonics and micro-electronics, tourism and fishing industries, as well as emerging opportunities in medical and healthcare technologies and creative industries. The outstanding marine and natural experience are as important for attracting, retaining and growing leading edge tech businesses. These businesses will provide important employment and growth that will underpin improvements in the Torbay economy.

Why is this important to Torbay?

- To secure new opportunities for Torbay’s residents
- To attract new jobs and investment to strengthen the Torbay economy
- To raise GVA per worker
- To attract new jobs
- To encourage more full time and high-quality jobs

What challenges does Torbay face?

- Limited amount of commercial workspace and employment land available
- Limited skills available from residents
- The seasonal nature and low value of the tourism sector

### Our approach

**Growth in our main sectors will create wealth and jobs. We are creating the base for business to grow.**

### Our focus

This will be achieved by building on and enhancing our existing support programmes that are already enabling individuals and businesses to address barriers to growth, improve resource efficiency, raise productivity and compete on an international scale.

**Innovation is a key driver of growth, and we will continue to support the development of an inventive and pioneering economy**

TDA will continue to support our key sectors and play a facilitative role in connecting businesses with new opportunities. We will establish new sector-led business groups to facilitate growth opportunities and linking into support and funding opportunities. In relation to the Photonics and Micro-electronics sector, we will deliver support via our MOU with Set Squared which will provide advice and guidance to innovative companies. We will work closely with our key sectors and large employers, to understand the skills that are required and whether current provision meets those requirements.

**Businesses are finding it difficult to recruit to a range of roles. This is demonstrated by there being more vacancies available in Torbay than at any other point**

We will work with the business community, schools (both secondary and primary), colleges, universities and training providers to shape a skills system that meets the needs of our economy.

**The medical and healthcare sector offers opportunities for economic growth. With an ageing population there is potential to explore different opportunities during the life of the strategy**

We will work with our health partners and medical and healthcare technology based businesses to explore new opportunities that will contribute to economic growth.

**We will work with the tourism and visitor economy sector to explore how Torbay can develop as a year-round destination**

We will support the delivery of the English Riviera Destination Management Plan.

**Explore how the maintenance of the South**

Brixham is the UK's leading port for the Fishing sector. We will continue to support its ambitious growth plans in the fishing sector. We will explore

**West's fishing fleet can be serviced within Torbay**

whether there is demand for a regional hub in Torbay as the sector currently uses maintenance centres in the Netherlands.

**The Council will address the challenge we face regarding the limited amount of employment land we have available to support economic growth**

The Council will review the employment land it has available and work with stakeholders to identify both short- and long-term opportunities to bring more employment land forward. We will review the potential for land acquisition or repurposing existing land and property on an ongoing basis.

The Council will work to ensure that existing employment land sites are protected and not lost to housing development. Furthermore, the employment land allocated in mixed sites developments will also be protected and developed.

We will work with stakeholders to establish whether vacant high street units can be used to provide more employment space through formal change of planning use.

**iii) Helping our community and residents to reach their economic potential and build an inclusive economy**

At the heart of the Council's Corporate Strategy and Community Plan and this Economic Growth Strategy are the people of Torbay. We will work with residents and businesses to create the social prosperity that allows everyone to live and contribute well. We will:

- Continue to work to tackle poverty and reduce economic disadvantage, by transforming prospects for low-income families and creating better futures for our young people particularly care experienced young people.
- Work with local businesses to create good quality jobs and pathways for people to access opportunities.
- Help the most vulnerable by removing or managing barriers to work and connecting our poorest communities to economic growth.
- Focus on activity which helps raise the employment rate of the most disadvantaged residents.
- Encourage the maximum social benefit from the Council's commissioning and procurement activity through our Community Wealth Building approach.

Increasingly employers are reporting that they are unable to recruit, or when they do skills levels are not at a level they require. There is a move nationally to engage with businesses more

significantly to ensure that their demands are understood and acted upon within the education system. This is a fundamental challenge the UK is facing, which Torbay needs to address.

The HotSW Local Skills Report (2022) states that Torbay has ‘Lower supply and lower demand for skills’ (i.e., “Low skills equilibrium”). The Strategy identifies that work in Torbay will focus on ‘maximising the development of existing and new opportunities within Torbay. This will include new employment and upskilling within HotSW wide growth sectors such as Photonics and Micro-electronics, marine engineering, tourism and wider coastal industries. Recognising long standing challenges within the area around inclusion and employment, a specific focus will be placed upon aspiration and talent retention, seeking to support young people and adults to grow and develop within Torbay, as well as supporting companies to upskill, renew and refocus as the economy evolves.

Torbay has an ageing population with over 50% of the working population aged 50 and over. This presents issues in terms of Torbay’s productivity rates and impacts on economic opportunities for younger people. We will explore how we can support the 50+ age group to enhance their work opportunities and contribution to the local economy.

**Why is this important to Torbay?**

- To secure new opportunities for Torbay’s residents
- To increase the economic performance and productivity of Torbay
- To ensure that our residents reach their potential and reduce pressures on other public services
- To ensure residents have access to well paid, full-time work, to combat economic shocks that impact upon cost of living, wellbeing and health
- To turn the tide on poverty

**What challenges does Torbay face?**

- Torbay has high levels of workless households
- Torbay has high levels of deprivation based on National indices
- Only 20% of residents possess a NVQ level 4 qualification, the South West 40.4%
- 9% of our residents do not have a qualification (+6.2% since 2017)
- Only 29% of the workforce are graduates
- Claimant count reached its highest point in 2021
- Our key sectors such as tourism and health and social care are not seen as attractive careers
- There are now more vacancies in Torbay than unemployed people

Our approach	Our focus
<b>We will facilitate activity across key skills stakeholders in Torbay to transform local skills support</b>	We will facilitate closer working between employers and education providers, with business involvement directly in the classroom to mentor and inspire young people. Greater collaboration will help to develop and commission education and training that is tailored to the needs of

employers and our economic priorities. We want our employers to commit to invest more in skills training, engage more with schools, and deepen their involvement in education.

We will promote apprenticeships as a key route for our communities to access employment. We will encourage our private sector stakeholders to explore Degree level apprenticeships as a mechanism for attracting highly skilled employees. Good work has been done in this area over the last five years to put employers at the heart of the apprenticeship system, they now write the standards required and commission training providers, this not only benefits trainees but also business as the apprenticeship levy can offset funding costs to train staff.

The photonics and micro-electronics sector has demonstrated best practice around skills development through the establishment of a training suite and course development, securing associate lecturers from across the sector. This has led to an undergraduate Photonics and Micro-electronics degree and how industry has shaped this work is a model that could be followed by other sectors within Torbay.

We will work with our stakeholders to ensure that roles in key sectors such as tourism and health and social care are viewed as positive opportunities. We will look at how we can work with employers and providers to improve the skills of the existing workforce, to enhance people's productivity, progression and resilience. This will include looking at how greater support can be provided to people who lose their jobs or whose skills need to be kept up to date.

We will develop pathways to help our people enter and progress in our key sectors

**We will support economically inactive people to enhance their economic opportunities**

We will continue to provide the support needed to help people who are out of work to build their confidence and develop the skills need to secure employment (paid or voluntary) or move into further education and training.

**We will help those who are in work access training opportunities to further develop their career**

We will work with career advice providers and training providers to find solutions to help those in work access the necessary training and support to help them develop their career.

**We will work with construction companies to drive recruitment into the sector ensuring we have the skills available to deliver Torbay's place-shaping capital regeneration programmes**

We will support the delivery of construction skills through the Build Torbay programme to ensure the sector has enough skilled labour to deliver the growing number of construction projects

**We will support the over 50s to enhance their economic opportunities**

We will explore how in-work poverty can be addressed through closer working with employers, DWP and with education providers to ensure that those residents in work are aware of opportunities to gain better employment, new skills or retrain. We will also work with partners to ensure that the long-term unemployed have the opportunity to build their skills, become more work-ready and have the opportunity to access employment. Torbay has a major construction programme underway throughout the lifetime of the Economic Growth Strategy. We will work with education providers and businesses via the Build Torbay project to ensure that young people are informed and inspired by working in the construction sector. Torbay has developed a Community Wealth Building programme. Adopting this approach provides value for our communities wherever possible, through the goods we buy, people we employ, assets we own and the powers we have

that can bring about change to maximise Torbay's local economic opportunities.

Working with training providers, stakeholders and DWP we will explore options that will support the economic potential of our over 50s population.

**Build a carbon neutral workforce in Torbay.**

Need to understand the economic potential that a carbon neutral Torbay by 2030 will bring, and the skills needed to achieve this.

**iv) Maximising the economic value of natural capital**

Torbay offers a premier and natural experience and was designated a Geopark in 2007 by UNESCO because of our unique and spectacular geology and natural environment. Torbay is home to varied natural assets, its outstanding marine and natural experience is as important for attracting, re-training and growing leading edge tech businesses as it is for bringing visitors to the area and being a place where people want to live. The geography of Torbay shapes our economy to a large extent.

Tourism related sectors account for around a third of employment and the draw of the South Devon lifestyle attracts people of all ages to relocate here permanently, often setting up small businesses within the sector. The Torbay economy is focused on the service industry, with more than 80% of the workforce employed in service sectors, higher than the regional and national averages. This high proportion of service sector employees is due to local concentrations in distribution, hotels and restaurants, and in the public sector. Around one third of Torbay's workforce is employed in public administration, education and health, and all three sub-sectors are of significant importance to the local economy.

**Why is this important to Torbay?**

- Torbay's natural capital offers new opportunity for economic growth, both onshore and offshore
- The fishing port of Brixham currently lands the highest value of catch in England
- To ensure that new opportunities drive productivity, provide new opportunities for residents and ensure that the Torbay economy performs better
- To make our town centres more vibrant

**What challenges does Torbay face?**

- Torbay's economy relies on a limited number of sectors
- The economy currently relies on a greater proportion of part time, low skilled workers
- Investment will be required to maximise opportunities for Torbay
- Need to protect and enhance our natural environment

Our approach	Our focus
<p><b>We want to positively and sustainably use our natural environment to help secure economic growth</b></p>	<p>We will explore how we can support the visitor economy and fish processing sector to ensure they can increase their profitability and productivity in a sustainable way.</p>
<p><b>We want to ensure that our High Streets and Town Centres are high performing, providing the services businesses, residents and visitors need</b></p>	<p>We will deliver the £21.9m Torquay Towns Fund focusing on the following key priorities increasing density in town centres strengthening local economic assets including local cultural assets site acquisition, remediation, preparation, regeneration and making full use of planning tools to bring strategic direction and change.</p> <p>We will deliver the £13.36m Paignton Future High Streets Fund which will kick start the exciting transformation of Paignton town centre. The funding will allow us to deliver infrastructure improvements, new homes in the town centre and an improved cultural offer</p> <p>We will identify and deliver suitable regeneration in Brixham Town Centre.</p>

## 7 Cross cutting themes

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The Economic Growth Strategy has identified tackling the Climate Emergency as a cross cutting theme. The Council has recognised the urgency of addressing the Climate emergency. The Economic Growth Strategy has identified contributions that can be made to support this objective. We recognise that these will evolve over the lifetime of the strategy and will report on new approaches as they come forward.

### **i)Tackling the Climate Emergency**

Climate change and its repercussions is an acknowledged global problem. Torbay Council is committed to addressing the Climate Emergency as a key priority. In a special report of the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the United Nations highlights the need to take immediate action to limit the increase in average global temperatures to a 1.5°C threshold. Even an increase of half a degree beyond this will drastically worsen the risk of drought, floods, extreme heat and poverty. We are also seeing impacts locally such as more severe storms and flooding which are occurring more frequently.

It has been predicted that due to climate change we will see over the next 100 years the sea level rise in Torbay by over 1m. Over the next 100 years the frequency and impact of water coming over the top of the sea walls will increase, resulting in more infrastructure and properties being affected by flooding. On top of that, more intense rainfall will increase the risk of localised flooding and erosion.

Tackling climate change requires global and local action. Everyone needs to play their part. This is why Torbay Council has declared a Climate Emergency. Torbay carbon emissions have been falling steadily since 2008. However, in 2018 Torbay emitted 424,000 tonnes of carbon emissions (BEIS). In Torbay, housing is responsible for over 40% of our areas emissions. Transport is responsible for just over 30% and commerce and industry 20%. To achieve Torbay's 2030 target we will need to reduce our 424,000 tonnes of carbon emissions as much as we can towards zero. Any residual emissions will have to be offset through local and national tree planting and other offset programmes. Our approach to addressing the climate emergency is as follows:

#### **Why is this important to Torbay?**

- Carbon emissions arising from Torbay equated to 424,000 tonnes in 2019. These emissions come from our homes and our businesses. We need to play our part locally to help reduce our emissions, tackle climate change and avoid a further warming of our planet and the wide ranging adverse impacts it will have on us all.

#### **What challenges does Torbay face?**

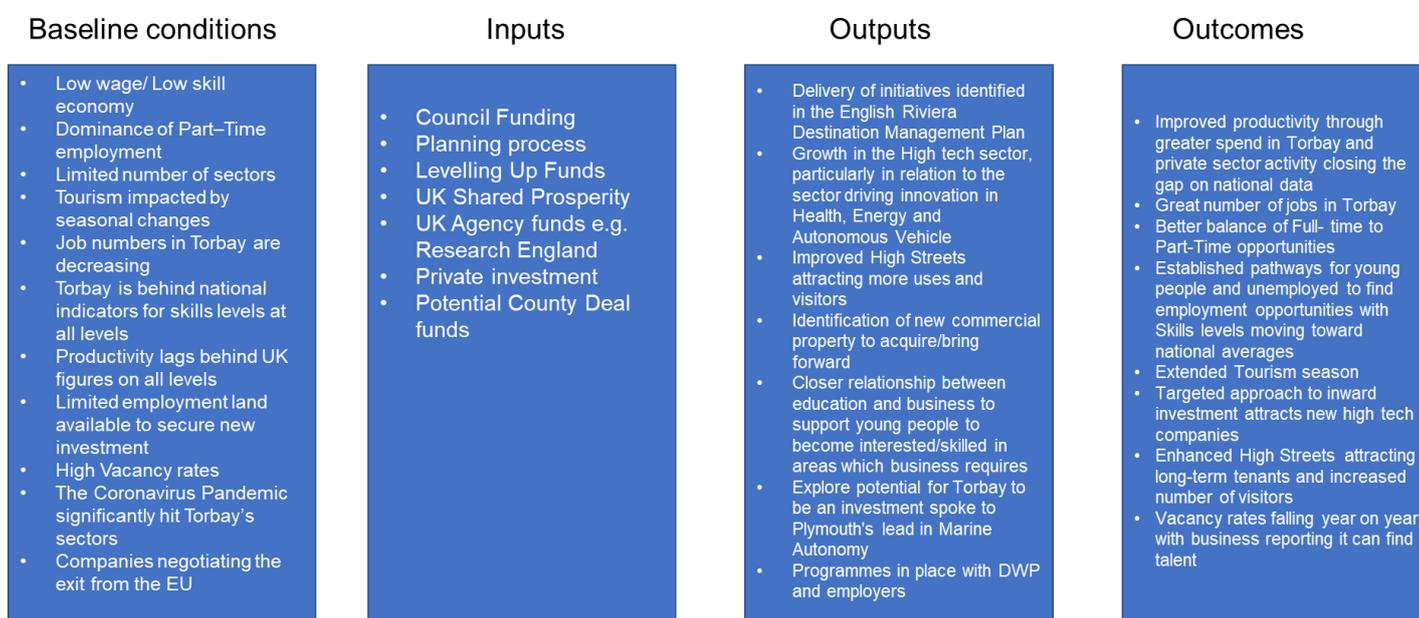
- Torbay has been reducing carbon emissions year on year. Further work is needed to implement a carbon neutral future. The Carbon Neutral Torbay – initial action plan sets the course for addressing the issue

Our approach	Our focus
<p><b>Establish a net zero emission economy</b></p>	<p>We will focus our work on developing approaches to address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transport</li> <li>• Buildings</li> <li>• Waste</li> <li>• Energy</li> <li>• Procurement</li> <li>• Green infrastructure</li> </ul>
<p><b>Support our businesses to adopt climate neutral policies and practices</b></p>	<p>We will ensure that cutting carbon presents economic opportunities for Torbay’s companies through the development of local programmes of activity. Work with existing businesses to improve their environmental performance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a low carbon skilled workforce who are able to secure local jobs</li> <li>• Commission resource efficiency business support programmes</li> <li>• Encourage innovative and inclusive local growth</li> </ul>
<p><b>Develop a resilient economy</b></p>	<p>We will explore with our partners the potential to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use land to capture and store carbon</li> <li>• Improve building standards to target net zero</li> </ul> <p>Implement Retrofit on public buildings and increased development of Green Skills</p> <p>We will seek to secure funding for specialist business support advice through ESW to help businesses reduce their carbon footprint and establish net zero targets.</p>
<p><b>We will ensure that any intervention supports improvements to air quality and health across Torbay</b></p>	<p>We will support development of a local energy action plan and identify energy efficiency programmes such as insulating homes and further renewables will play a vital role in reducing energy demand.</p>

## 8. Measuring economic outcomes

To ensure effective delivery of our priorities, project teams and strategic leads will be assigned to each. It is important to recognise that the actions prioritised by this review are not static, nor do they reflect all activities undertaken by partners in delivering economic development. Therefore, while the overarching strategic framework should remain stable, the actions themselves will be more fluid, subject to periodic review and tweaked to incorporate new opportunities/interventions as they emerge. The Torbay Economic Logic Model set out below highlights the high-level and long-term nature of economic improvement which will be needed through this Economic Growth Strategy up to 2030, but also beyond.

### Torbay Economic Logic Model



In order to measure progress, the Council will produce an Annual Economic Monitor which will draw together a suite of 'real time' economic intelligence indicators. The Economic Growth Action Plan sets out the measures and outcomes that Torbay is seeking to deliver against each of the Priority areas. The Action Plan also establishes core outcomes by 2030, which sets the overall target by the conclusion of the lifespan of this Economic Growth Strategy. These plans will be 'living' documents, monitored and refreshed by project teams. This will ensure all partners are working together towards a coherent set of economic objectives, prioritising resources and delivery where appropriate. The Council will also host an Annual Economic Forum to highlight progress being made on the strategy, and to provide an update on economic performance.

<b>Our Priority</b>	<b>Key performance indicators</b>	<b>Core outcomes</b>	<b>Source</b>
<b>Supporting innovators, entrepreneurs and Business Owners</b>	Business start-up rate Business density Business survival rates	Increased Gross Value Added (GVA) per worker, average worker income and productivity	ONS Business Births, Deaths, and Survival Rates 2021 Business Density & Business Population Estimates 2021
<b>Building on our economic specialisms</b>	New investment from companies in Photonics and Micro-electronics, Fishing or Tourism sectors Number of inward investment successes in key sectors Improved recruitment position reported by key companies	High levels of business start-up, with increased survival rates beyond 3 years Number of inward investment successes Increase in the number of jobs in our core sectors	UK Business Investment Data ONS Inward investment successes Primary research to find recruitment position with companies in Torbay ft/pt employment outcome (BRES data)
<b>Helping our community and residents to reach their economic potential</b>	Businesses reporting skills shortages Number of schools engaged Youth-unemployment rate Number of apprenticeships	Creating more full-time job opportunities for Torbay residents and provide good work for all Improvement in educational attainment – increasing the number of residents qualified to deliver the jobs needed by local business	Primary research with local schools/businesses Unemployment rate and Claimant count Youth unemployment rate national statistics (UK Gov) Youth unemployment by region (ONS) House of Commons Apprenticeships Statistics
<b>Supporting our key sectors</b>	Employment Land Acquired/Developed GVA levels for the Torbay Increase in employment levels	High levels of business start-up, with increased survival rates beyond 3 years	Torbay Gov Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment ONS CVA Nomis Labour Market Profile

## 9. Implementing the Economic Growth Strategy

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Torbay has several economic strengths; we are however facing deep-rooted challenges. The Economic Growth Strategy outlines the necessary steps needed to begin to address the issues. Many will be generational challenges where we need to make a start and address for the long term – such as Skills issues. Other have shorter term solutions upon, including regenerating and refocusing our Town Centres and supporting our entrepreneurs and innovators, these are set out in our priorities and apply across all sectors. Delivering inclusive growth is a key theme within this strategy. This is about ensuring that people and places contribute to and benefit from growth to their full potential. Our priority activities are set out in the Economic Growth Strategy Action Plan. The Action Plan identifies the projects and approach that Torbay will be taking to support the local economy.

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This document can be made available in other languages and formats. For more information, please contact Terri Johnson [terri.johnson@tda.uk.net](mailto:terri.johnson@tda.uk.net)



**Meeting:** Cabinet **Date:** 15 November 2022

**Wards affected:** All

**Report Title:** Torbay Playing Pitch Strategy

**When does the decision need to be implemented?** November 2022

**Cabinet Member Contact Details:** Mike Morey, Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment & Culture. [Mike.morey@torbay.gov.uk](mailto:Mike.morey@torbay.gov.uk)

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## 1. Purpose of Report

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- 1.1 The Torbay Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) underpins Torbay on the Move and supports the Council's ambition for Thriving People. It also supports healthy and physically active lives for all, by improving existing provision and providing new sports facilities that enable increased sporting participation, encouraging people to become more active, and promoting health and wellbeing in Torbay.
- 1.2 The strategy is designed to ensure that there is a good supply of high-quality playing pitch facilities to meet the current and future needs of the area's residents and visitors. To improve Torbay's supply of these facilities the strategy is intended to inform and influence investment decisions of regional and national sporting partners including Sport England and intended to guide local investment decisions, primarily relating to S106 funding and inform the Planning provision.

## 2. Reason for Proposal and its benefits

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- 2.1 The PPS is a key component of *Torbay on the Move* and sits directly alongside *Re-Setting Sport & Physical Activity* to support both the **Place** and **People** themes within the Plan. (see Background documents for *Resetting Sport*.)

- 2.2 This Strategy comes at a challenging time for those responsible for protecting, delivering, managing, and maintaining sports facilities. With an obesity crisis well documented and the cost of living rising, there is an opportunity to put accessible physical activity at the heart of local communities in Torbay. Improving physical health is important not only in supporting health partners in easing pressure on the health system but also in helping address Torbay's economic underperformance. A healthier working age population is a more productive working age population, helping people stay active and stay in employment will also have positive impacts over time on Torbay's economic output.
- 2.3 Financial pressures on the Sport and Physical Activity Service (part of the Culture and Events Section of Place) have been building for many years, this has been exacerbated by the pandemic which has had a crippling impact on leisure providers. On top of this many facilities in the area have reached the end of their lifespan and the recent increases in energy prices has left many sports and leisure services and facilities at risk of closure.
- 2.4 Despite the financial pressures, the pandemic has explicitly highlighted the value that communities place on leisure, opens spaces and park services and being active. Being active has helped people to connect with communities in new and innovative and increasingly virtual ways. It shone a spotlight on the social value of sport, leisure and physical activity and its contribution to wider policy objectives such as levelling up health and wellbeing, tackling inequalities and placemaking.
- 2.5 The PPS will be used in collaboration with National Governing Bodies (NGBs), Sport England, Planning, and other departments to deliver the ambition of improving sporting facilities within Torbay, in response to the current challenges to participation.
- 2.5 Implementation of the PPS would be tasked through to the Capital & Growth Board to ensure alignment with wider capital programme and to ensure that there is a coherent Council wide approach to delivery where appropriate reports will also be made to the Health & Wellbeing Board. Officers will also continue to engage with Sport Torbay and other partners to develop collective leadership externally as well as internally.
- 2.6 In addition to the traditional pitch-based sports that are deemed by Sport England to be essential to a PPS, the Council requested a wider more encompassing strategy that takes in the key outdoor playing facilities within the area. There was also a conscious decision to mitigate against the impact of the climate emergency in the provision of facilities due to the impact of rising sea-levels. As such, a comprehensive assessment has been produced which sits alongside an Executive Summary, and recommendations for prioritisation.
- 2.7 The proposals in this report help us to deliver against our corporate objectives of wanting our residents to thrive; turning the tide on poverty; reducing inequalities and making Torbay a premier resort in the UK. We will help to deliver this ambition by;
- enabling those who live, study, work and enjoy visiting and staying in Torbay to become more active and take part in sport, to whatever level they aspire, for the benefit of their physical and mental health.
  - protecting facilities for sports and physical activity and be planned for, provided, and managed in partnership in a co-ordinated way with a wide range of stakeholders.
  - be placed at the heart of a network of active environments and designed and delivered in ways that respond positively to and help address climate and environmental challenges, help address the issues for deprived communities, engender a sense of

personal and community pride, and contribute to the Bay's social and economic well-being.

- Improved sports facilities will contribute to Torbay being the premier resort in the UK. Implementation of the PPS will offer high quality sports facilities to residents and visitors supporting development of Torbay as a destination for sport where our built and natural environment is celebrated.

### 3. Recommendation(s) / Proposed Decision

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- 3.1 That the Playing Pitch Strategy be launched for consultation in order that it can inform the emerging Sports Strategy.

#### **Appendices**

Appendix 1: Torbay Playing Pitch Strategy Executive Summary

Appendix 2: Torbay Playing Pitch Strategy

Appendix 3: Torbay Playing Pitch Strategy Action Plan

#### **Background Documents**

1. Re-Setting Sport & Physical Activity – A Plan for Torbay

### 1. Introduction

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- 1.1 A Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) plays several important roles in sport, leisure and planning terms, and has a direct link into the health and wellbeing agenda both in relation to formal club-based sport but also social, casual, and informal sport aimed at getting people more active (with positive outcomes for mental as well as physical health).
- 1.2 This PPS will play a vital role in encouraging increased sporting activity and promoting health and wellbeing in Torbay by helping to ensure that there is a good supply of high-quality playing pitch facilities to meet the current and future needs of the area's residents. Torbay Council as a major sports facility landowner, motivator and manager will play the key role in the delivery of the Strategy.
- 1.3 The PPS provides an audit of the quality, quantity, and accessibility of playing pitches, establishes the current levels of demand (and therefore whether pitches are being over or under used), and projects forward demand likely to arise by the end of the strategy period (2040) so that the appropriate pitch and facility provision can be planned for the future.
- 1.4 This PPS has been developed following Sport England's 'Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance' (October 2013). It focuses on the 'main' playing pitch sports of football, cricket, rugby union and hockey, and demand for outdoor tennis, bowls, and netball.
- 1.5 Torbay wishes to protect and provide sustainable high quality outdoor sports facilities with health and well-being central to the 'Torbay on the Move' initiative. In line with the Council's recent 'Vision' document and the focus on the development of Place Stories and Sport England's new Strategy 'Uniting the Movement' (2021), the following Vision Statement for the Torbay PPS has been agreed:

*In Torbay, playing fields and related outdoor sports facilities will:*

- *provide high-quality, accessible, and welcoming facilities and opportunities to enable those who live, study, work and enjoy visiting and staying in Torbay become more active and take part in sport, to whatever level they aspire, for the benefit of their physical and mental health;*
  - *be protected for physical activity and be planned for, provided, and managed in partnership in a co-ordinated way with a wide range of stakeholders; and,*
  - *be placed at the heart of a network of active environments and designed and delivered in ways that respond positively to and help address climate and environmental challenges, help address the issues for deprived communities, engender a sense of personal and community pride and contribute to the Bay's social and economic well-being.*
- 1.6 The strategy provides a "direction of travel" for the necessary improvements to better cater for the needs of pitch sports in Torbay in the period to 2040. In doing so, it proposes various actions and interventions to enable change to take place for the benefit of Torbay's residents and sport as a whole. However, the strategy cannot provide all the answers and it will take continuing work by Torbay Council with the partners who have overseen this

Strategy's development by continuing to collaborate with other key partners to develop, finalise and deliver proposed projects and options after the Strategy is adopted.

## 2. Options under consideration

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- 2.1 The consultation process uncovered opportunities to make change with little additional investment e.g., using FA Pitch Power, collaborating with clubs to improve pitch maintenance, open access to changing facilities, and using the capacity that already exists in the system. To benefit from these opportunities, there needs to be a clear direction.
- 2.2 If we do nothing at all, facilities will deteriorate and therefore it is likely participation rates in Torbay will not improve and may even drop. Sport Clubs will continue to move out of Torbay to better facilities. Overall health and wellbeing will not be supported by improvements in our population's participation in sport and physical activity.
- 2.3 If we continue with the disconnected approach currently being taken it will have little impact on participation rates and improved health and wellbeing of our population. Improved partnership working between Torbay Council, Swisco, education and sports facility providers will give strategic direction for achieving the best possible impact in improving sports facilities in Torbay, and in turn increasing physical activity rates and improvements in overall health and wellbeing

## 3. Financial Opportunities and Implications

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- 3.1 Adoption of the Playing Pitch Strategy provides the Council with a clear foundation to work with National Governing Bodies and local facilities to bring about investment.
- 3.2 Funding will be required; however, the full scale of funding is not yet known and will become apparent as priorities from the Playing Pitch Strategy are assessed and feasibility plans and master plans are developed.
- 3.3 Project proposals will be routed through the Capital and Growth board in the first instance before proceeding to Cabinet and Council for decisions as appropriate.
- 3.4 Match funding may be required for some areas of operation, and this will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.
- 3.5 External grants from the National Governing Bodies and Sport England are expected to be drawn down but local co investment through Section 106 funding and public health funding is assumed to be required.
- 3.6 There is a clear need for us to seek out alternative methods of financing sport and leisure services to create long term sustainability and to deliver on national and local policy objectives. Capital investment into community sport and leisure facilities should create the

conditions for their long-term viability, aiming to operate facilities without subsidy. Strong leadership and recognition of the social value of sport and leisure will be central to unlocking alternative sources of funding for its provision.

- 3.7 The Playing Pitch Strategy is the beginning of a plan that will inevitably require external spend as the associated action plan is put into effect. Specialist providers of facilities will be engaged to provide new facilities and improve what we already have for the benefit of the local community.

## 4. Legal Implications

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- 4.1 None

## 5. Engagement and Consultation

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- 5.1 The PPS followed Sport England's Playing 'Ten Step Approach' to developing a PPS:



- 5.2 At the start of the strategy development process there were already some obvious and notable challenges and opportunities at some sites. These included:
- sites which serve the whole Bay, such as Clennon Valley, which require significant investment to make them the strategic high quality hub sites and facilities that they should be for people in Torbay;
  - other key sites, such as Torre Valley North, Torre Valley South, and Torquay Recreation Ground (forming the "Valley of Sport"), which present challenges relating to their long-term and fit-for-purpose continued use for sport; and,
  - several other sites where access to, the addition of, or improvement of changing facilities and/or adjacent multi-use games areas (MUGAs) (which can be used for informal sport and for training) could transform the activity package on offer and secure them as quality sites for sport and the local community (for example, Armada Park or Barton Downs).
- 5.3 Through the process of this Strategy's preparation, consultation was undertaken directly with all secondary schools and Colleges in the Bay.

- 5.4 Through the process of this Strategy's preparation, consultation was undertaken directly with all relevant sports clubs in the Bay, including Sport Torbay (voluntary group which represents the voice of community sport).
- 5.5 Through the process of this Strategy's preparation, consultation was undertaken directly with all relevant National Governing Bodies.
- 5.6 Through consulting with the organisations mentioned in 5.3, 5.4 and 5.5 we were able to gain a sufficient understanding of the pitch situation at each site, identify key findings, issues, and opportunities, gather supply and demand information and views, and develop an understanding of current and future provision at each site. All of this information has then informed the Strategy document and associated action plan.

## 6. Purchasing or Hiring of Goods and/or Services

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- 6.1 Not applicable

## 7. Tackling Climate Change

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- 7.1 **Sustainable locations:** The strategy will be delivered to ensure that pitch improvements and their use are planned, managed and promoted to ensure that they lie at the heart of their local communities and are easily accessible to all, thus reducing the need to travel, and / or work is progressed to help ensure that transport connectivity (while prioritizing low carbon and active modes of travel first) are delivered in Torbay to ensure good and safe access to strategic and multi-pitch, multi-sport sites from across the Bay.

- 7.2 **Good design** incorporating low carbon and carbon-reducing measures and innovations such as sustainable drainage systems, rainwater recycling, electric car and bike charging points, biomass boilers, the greater use of natural light / passivhaus design and underfloor heating in sports pavilions, solar power for electricity generation will be considered wherever feasible.

Design will also reflect opportunities for multi-use facilities. Compromise and adaptable buildings must be considered to help keep costs down and future proof use, particularly on multi-sport sites. Multi-use must extend to opportunities for wider community uses where feasible, needed, and appropriate. Community Consultation will be at the heart of the project and direct the design.

- 7.3 **Innovations:** Alternatives to grass and other technical developments could be considered in the future: hybrid pitches (a combination of grass and artificial grass) are being trialled in a few locations in the UK and may come forward as a sustainable alternative to full artificial grass provision, which face major challenges now in terms of manufacture, disposal of carpets, reduction of loss of rubber crumb to watercourses (from 3G pitches) and their lifetime cost. Other innovations, such as the use of a different ball for hockey to use on non-sand-based surfaces are also being trialled. The new Gen2 surface offers opportunities for hockey pitches to be viable in the long-term without relying on football demand to supplement income, by enabling netball and tennis to be played on the surface too. Other artificial surfaces and fills could become available during the lifetime of this Strategy and should be considered as options in the future where viable.

- 7.4 **Role of strategic sites in supporting the environment:** Opportunities can be taken on multi-pitch / multi-use strategic sites to invest in whole life and whole site plans which benefit on-site and adjacent ecology and habitats (for example, testing whether net gains in biodiversity can be achieved).

- 7.5 Pursue **whole life plans** for artificial pitches, in particular, to demonstrate how loss of rubber crumb into off-site environments can be minimised (e.g. removable filter in ducting on a dedicated fenced hardstanding path from 3G to changing and / or parking area to prevent loss of crumb to grassed areas), how surface can be sourced to minimise carbon footprint, how investment in a good maintenance and management programme can extend the surface life and how surface will be dealt with at end of its life.
- 7.6 **The role of modular/portacabin prefabricated/container facilities:** Modular, portacabin, prefabricated and shipping container adaptations as buildings can work well in some locations. Subject to them being able to meet standards set by sport's governing bodies and Sport England and demonstrate that they can be a low-carbon option, they could be much more widely used as a cost-effective and viable solution on some sites.

## 8. Associated Risks

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- 8.1 If this strategy is not implemented, an efficient, cohesive approach would be missed, and we would forego the opportunity to work with Sport England and National Governing Bodies of Sport to achieve positive improvements to Torbay's sports facilities and the greatest impact to overall health and wellbeing through increased physical activity.

## 9. 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	YES		
People with caring Responsibilities	YES		
People with a disability	YES		
Women or men	YES		
People who are black or from a minority ethnic background (BME) (Please note Gypsies / Roma are within this community)	YES		
Religion or belief (including lack of belief)	YES		
People who are lesbian, gay, or bisexual	YES		

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

## 10. Cumulative Council Impact

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10.1 Torbay's Playing Pitch Strategy will see a positive impact across several areas including but not limited to; reducing the Council's carbon footprint through encouraging walking and cycling; improved benefits to overall health and wellbeing; benefits to mental health, benefits to our Tourism offer and reducing demands on other health services.

## 11. Cumulative Community Impacts

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11.1 Torbay's Playing Pitch Strategy will see a positive impact across several areas including but not limited to; reducing the Council's carbon footprint through encouraging walking and cycling; improved benefits to overall health and wellbeing; benefits to mental health, benefits to our Tourism offer and reducing demands on other health services.

## TORBAY PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

### SHORT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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**This document is a summary. Please see the full Strategy Document and the Action Plans for full details.**

#### 1 SCOPE AND RATIONALE

The Torbay Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) will play a vital role in encouraging increased sporting activity, encouraging people to become more active and promoting health and wellbeing in Torbay by helping to ensure that there is a good supply of high-quality playing pitch facilities to meet the current and future needs of the area's residents and visitors. Torbay Council, as a major sports facility landowner, motivator and manager will play a key role in the delivery of the Strategy and a Delivery Group (comprising Torbay Council, the TDA, sports governing bodies, Sport England, local clubs, providers, schools and managers of pitches) will be established to meet on a six-monthly basis to monitor, action and help deliver change. A wider strategy review should take place every three years.

Torbay Council is in the early stages of consulting on an update to its current Local Plan. Thus the PPS has a forward-looking scenario to 2040 to ensure facilities and land are safeguarded if likely to be required. It has been developed following Sport England's 'Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance' (October 2013) and focuses on the 'main' playing pitch sports of football, cricket, rugby union and hockey, together with outdoor tennis, bowls, netball, athletics and archery. The guiding principles which underpin the action plans and recommendations for monitoring and delivery are:

#### ***Overarching Principle: Protect, Enhance, Provide***

*To protect existing provision and proactively plan for and provide sufficient and appropriate high-quality pitches, facilities and opportunities (enhanced and new) to meet demand to 2040, wherever possible making the best use of facilities already available.*

#### ***Guiding Principle 1: A Framework for Management and Delivery***

*To create an ongoing management and delivery framework for people and organisations to work together to share skills, expertise, resources and facilities in implementing the Strategy.*

#### ***Guiding Principle 2: Health and Well-being***

*To recognise and emphasise the value of the pitch sports in contributing to enhanced mental and physical health and well-being, particularly for those still underrepresented in the pitch sports, and in helping to address socio-economic deprivation.*

#### ***Guiding Principle 3: The Environment, Decarbonisation and Climate Change***

*To provide, manage and maintain facilities in such a way as to address issues of environmental sustainability and climate benefit.*

#### ***Guiding Principle 4: Education at the Heart of the Community***

*To encourage and support FE establishments and secondary and primary schools in Torbay to embrace and develop community use of their pitch sport facilities by engaging directly with them and creating a forum for discussion around access, desired improvements, management and maintenance.*

## 2 SUMMARY OF STRATEGIES FOR INDIVIDUAL SPORTS

In general, the strategy supports the following across all sports:

- Enhancing the quality of grass pitches for football, cricket and rugby, through improvements to drainage and/or maintenance.
- Enhancing ancillary facilities, such as changing facilities, clubhouses, toilets and car parking.
- Easing pressure on shared sites by providing additional capacity on alternative sites

And for individual sports in addition:

### A FOOTBALL

- Providing additional grass pitches for youth football.
- Developing a hub site for youth and mini football at Clennon Valley.
- Providing suitable sites and facilities to allow progression through the leagues.
- Providing access to the equivalent of one new floodlit full size 3G Football Turf Pitch (FTP) to 2040. Potential sites are referred to within the Strategy.

### B CRICKET

- Reinstating non turf wickets (NTWs) or grass squares for community use on school sites.
- Easing pressure on shared sites by providing additional capacity on alternative sites.
- Providing another cricket ground in the Bay for future demand to 2040.

### C RUGBY

- Providing additional pitches to meet training and matchplay needs.
- Overcoming the lack of available floodlit training pitches (either grass or artificial).
- Enhancement/upgrading of floodlights.
- Supporting, in principle, a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch.

### D HOCKEY

- Protecting existing sand based artificial grass pitches (AGPs) and community access to them, keeping under review, particularly in light of potential loss of community use of Torquay Girls Grammar School pitch (leaving Torbay Leisure Centre as the only surface suitable for hockey).
- Securing improved/greater access to training slots on weekday evenings on AGPs.
- Providing additional 3G FTP space to aid transference of football usage from AGPs, thus freeing up capacity for hockey.

### E ATHLETICS

- Protecting access to the existing range and variety of athletics facilities within the Bay.
- Exploring options for 'compact athletics' facilities, to encourage increased entry level participation and provide training opportunities.

### F TENNIS

- Retaining and enhancing courts in parks through improving community courts.
- Implementing an online booking and payment system (SmartAccess gate technology) to enable growth in casual tennis play.

### G OTHER SPORTS INCLUDING NETBALL, BOWLS AND ARCHERY

- Promoting and protecting individual sites for netball and bowls and finding new and replacement sites for archery in Brixham and Torquay
- Supporting existing American Football and rounders teams, and potential sports such as baseball and lacrosse to maintain the viability and sustainability of sites all year round

- Providing ancillary facilities such as toilets, shelters and cafes where possible to encourage participation in outdoor activities.

### 3 SUMMARY OF KEY ACTIONS

The following table sets out key actions by site by Neighbourhood Plan Area (NPA), based on the Strategy analysis. It does not present the full list of sites, or the full list of actions (or constraints) and is not prioritised in any specific order.

*For further detail of actions for ALL sites, please see the full Strategy documents.*

SITE	SPORT	Pitch/Facility	Ancillary Facilities	Other
<b>TORQUAY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AREA (NPA)</b>				
Armada Park	Football		Upgrade of changing	
Barton Downs	Football	Pitch improvements	Access to changing	Multi use games area upgrade
Cricketfield Road	Football/Cricket	Pitch improvements	Upgrade of changing	Development as well being hub
Windmill Hill	Football		Upgrade of changing	
Torquay Recreation Ground	Rugby/Cricket	Pitch improvements Enhance floodlighting (rugby)	Rugby stands no longer fit for purpose Joint provision of new clubhouse/pavilion	Potential flooding issues
Torre Valley North	Cricket	Major upgrade of pitch	Rebuilding of clubhouse	Consider relocation to alternative site
	Rugby	Pitch improvements Enhance floodlighting		
	Athletics	Consider compact athletics facility		
Torre Valley South	Rugby	Pitch improvements Enhance floodlighting		Feasibility of moving rugby activity to (enhanced) TVN & Recreation Ground
	Athletics	Consider compact athletics facility		
Torquay Girls Grammar School	Hockey (& other sports)	Sand based AGP		Protect community use
Abbey Park	Tennis	Upgrade courts		SmartAccess gate technology
Torquay	Archery	New facilities		
<b>PAIGNTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AREA (NPA)</b>				
Clennon Valley	Football	Pitch improvements Development as mini/youth hub site	Provision of toilets & and other services	Improve parking
	Cricket	Consider feasibility of cricket pitch		
	Rugby	Replacement rugby pitch		
	Athletics	Consider compact athletics facility		
Whiterock	Football		Enlarge & upgrade	
Queen's Park	Cricket			

SITE	SPORT	Pitch/Facility	Ancillary Facilities	Other
	Rugby	Pitch improvements Enhance floodlighting	Major upgrade of joint clubhouse/pavilion	Increase capacity of sites elsewhere to ease pressure on site
<b>Torbay Leisure Centre</b>	Hockey (& other sports)	Sand based AGP		Protect community use for hockey and increase daytime use. Keep under review in light of potential loss of community use at Torquay Girls Grammar School.
<b>Oldway and Victoria Park</b>	Tennis	Upgrade courts		SmartAccess gate technology
<b>BRIXHAM NPA and BROADSANDS, GALMPTON &amp; CHURSTON NPA</b>				
<b>John Charles Park</b>	Football		Access to changing	
<b>St Mary's Park</b>	Football	Reinstate youth pitches if required		
	Tennis	Upgrade courts		SmartAccess gate technology
<b>Churston Ferrers Grammar School</b>	Cricket	Consider feasibility of cricket pitch		
<b>Brixham area</b>	Archery	Replacement facilities		

## C DELIVERY OF STRATEGIC SITES - OPTIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

The strategy identifies three key strategic priority sites/areas in the Bay: **Clennon Valley**, **Torquay Valley of Sport** (Torre Valley North, Torre Valley South and Torquay Recreation Ground) and **Barton Downs**. While there are numerous other important sites where action is required (for example, to improve pitch quality or changing facilities – *please see Action Plans which refer to all sites*), these strategic sites present options and opportunities for projects which can significantly improve access to good quality sports pitches and facilities.

As large multi-sport sites, the proposals for which also inter-relate, proposals for both Clennon Valley and Torquay Valley of Sport will need site detailed feasibility, phasing and masterplanning work to be done as a priority first stage to understand the exact size, specification and layout of pitches. Some of the options for the existing and proposed facilities are summarised in the table above.

## D ASSESSING PRIORITIES

There are a number of considerations which will need to be considered in determining the priority of the actions for sites identified which can be used as a checklist:

- *Supply and demand*: whether sufficient demand; ability to address issues of deprivation; spatial gaps and proximity to existing similar pitch provision.
- *Funding and viability*: Torbay Council/National Governing Body investment priorities; long term viability and availability of ongoing revenue funding for e.g. maintenance

- *Site conditions*: Understanding scope of works required; security of tenure; suitability for ability to upgrade and intensification of use
- *Decision factors*: 'Easy/quick win' improvements; political/corporate priorities; planning and other on-site and setting constraints.

If facilities have little or no prospect of being delivered or community access cannot be secured, then new or alternative sites will need to be identified.

# Torbay Playing Pitch Strategy

November 2022

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

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## Rationale and scope

1.1 A Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) plays a number of important roles in sport, leisure and planning terms, and also has a direct link into the health and wellbeing agenda both in relation to formal club-based sport but also social, casual and informal sport aimed at getting people more active (with positive outcomes for mental as well as physical health). This PPS will play a vital role in encouraging increased sporting activity and promoting health and wellbeing in Torbay by helping to ensure that there is a good supply of high-quality playing pitch facilities to meet the current and future needs of the area's residents. Torbay Council as a major sports facility landowner, motivator and manager will play a key role in the delivery of the Strategy.

1.2 At its basic level, the PPS provides an audit of the quality, quantity and accessibility of playing pitches, establishes the current levels of demand (and therefore whether pitches are being over or under used), and projects forward demand likely to arise by the end of the strategy period (2040) so that the appropriate pitch and facility provision can be planned for the future. What the strategy does not and cannot do is provide a precise blueprint for change to 2040. The strategy can present options based on evidence and the assessment of it (and indeed recommendations) but cannot do the work necessary (for example, logistical, feasibility and viability work) required to confirm actions with 100% certainty and make things happen 'on the ground'.

1.3 Delivery of the strategy and its recommendations will be the responsibility of various bodies (such as Torbay Council, sports governing bodies and Sport England) and other key stakeholders (such as clubs, providers, owners and managers of pitches) following the strategy's adoption. The delivery stage of the PPS (known as "Stage E" in the Sport England guidance) should include six monthly meetings of the Steering Group (which will become a Delivery Group) to monitor, action and help deliver change. A wider strategy review should take place every 3 years. This strategy has been developed following the steps set out in the Sport England Guidance (see Appendix 1 for a summary of the steps).

1.4 The Torbay Local Plan (adopted in 2015) runs to 2030 and the Council is in the early stages of consulting on an update to this plan. It has been agreed that the Torbay PPS will have a forward-looking scenario to 2040 to ensure facilities and land are safeguarded if likely to be required. In order to provide a 'future proof' scenario, the longer-term population estimate for planning for pitches uses the current ONS population data with a potential housing growth adjustment. This conservative estimate of a population of 145,900 people in 2028 (5 year time frame for the PPS) and 160,420 to 2040 ensures that under-provision is not 'baked in' to the Playing Pitch Strategy and Action Plan for future plans. It is stressed that these numbers are only

for providing a scenario for longer term estimations of sports team generation for playing pitches and are not intended for planning for or assessing housing land supply.

1.5 An analysis of ONS population projections across the different age ranges for Torbay 2022 - 2040 shows that there will be a relative decline in the U10s age group and that the proportion of the population in the 10-34 year old age group will stay mostly the same, so proportionately little demand will be fed by an increase in young people. An ageing population of the scale presented highlights the growing challenges in Torbay for increasing participation in sport and physical activity, as well as for the health and caring services and for access to transport and other everyday activities.

1.6 Ensuring that deprived areas have easy access to high quality physical activity opportunities is a driving force behind health and wellbeing initiatives in the Bay. The existing high levels of deprivation in areas of Torbay have become more urgent to address in 2022, accelerated and exacerbated by the cost-of-living crisis and recently recognised by Torbay Council in its declaration of a 'Cost of Living Emergency' in the Bay. Analysis of how many young people live within 20 minutes' walk of some of the key sports locations within Torbay and the relative deprivation of these catchment areas demonstrates that sports facilities at Torquay Academy, Barton Downs and Paignton Academy are especially valuable in addressing the activity and sporting needs of deprived areas. The Strategy should prioritise addressing basic deficiencies and poor-quality facilities on sites such as these (and others within areas of high deprivation) which are well located to serve their local communities and where there is demonstrable demand for their continued use or reintroduction of formal sport.

1.7 The most recent Active Lives Survey (May 2020 to 2021) (recorded during the first Covid-19 lockdown) indicates that Torbay had a slightly higher percentage of residents in the Active (150+ minutes a week activity) category compared to England as a whole (63% compared to 61%), but less than in the county of Devon (67%). The 'Torbay on the Move' project is focusing on encouraging people to become more active, and this PPS will be an important component of this initiative.

## Typology and Study Area

1.8 This Playing Pitch Strategy focuses on the "main" playing pitch sports of football, cricket, rugby union and hockey, and also demand for outdoor tennis, bowls and netball. Within this

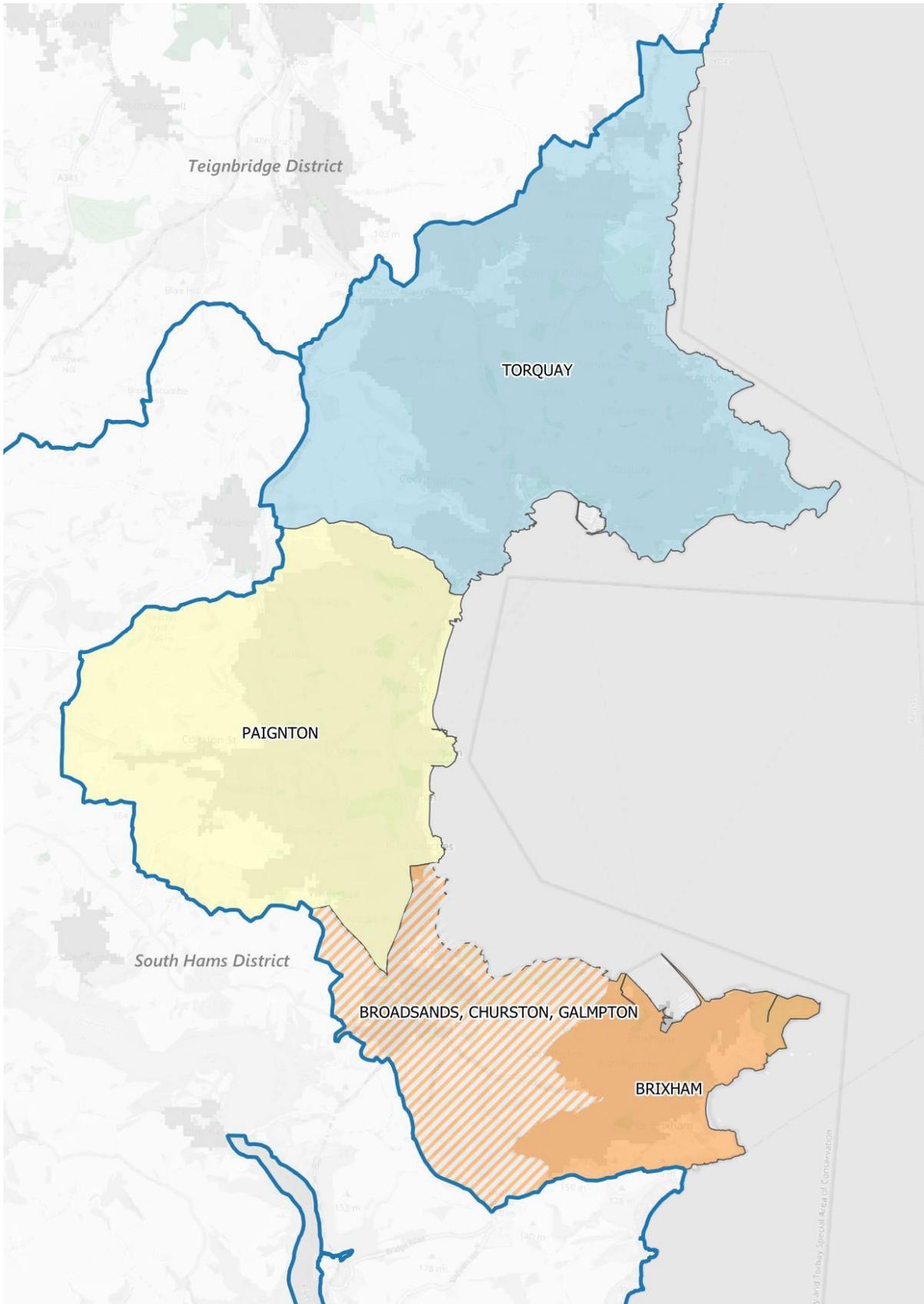
context, grass and artificial pitch surfaces have been considered<sup>1</sup>. The assessment has also explored options for athletics and archery alongside these other sports given the potential relationship between facilities used by these sports and sites used by the main pitch sports.

1.9 The PPS has been developed for Torbay, following the Torbay Council boundary. Action Plans are presented according to Neighbourhood Plan areas as follows: Torquay, Paignton, Brixham and Broadsands, Churston and Galmpton (as shown in Map 1 below).

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<sup>1</sup> where football uses grass and artificial (3G) surfaces for matches and training and sand-based artificial pitches for informal / casual play and training, where rugby uses grass but can use 3G surfaces for non-contact training through to full contact training and matches on WR22 compliant 3G surfaces (where they have a shock pad and senior rugby pitch dimensions), where hockey uses sand-based artificial surfaces, and cricket predominantly use grass for matches and grass and artificial pitches (wickets / strips) for training and sometimes youth matches, supplemented by fixed nets (depends very much on the club and quality of facilities).

**Map 1: NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AREAS AND TORBAY BOROUGH BOUNDARY**



## Delivering Change

1.10 This strategy provides a “direction of travel” for the necessary improvements to better cater for the needs of pitch sports in Torbay in the period to 2040. In doing so, it proposes various actions and interventions to enable change to take place for the benefit of Torbay’s residents and sport as a whole. However, the strategy cannot provide all of the answers and it will take continuing work by Torbay Council and the wider Steering Group which has overseen this Strategy’s development - as a ‘Delivery Group’ - working with other key partners to develop, finalise and deliver proposed projects and options after this Strategy is adopted. Section 4 provides further detail on the focus for this Group moving forward.

## 2 STRATEGY VISION AND THEMES

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2.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (revised July 2021) requires that planning policy making and decision taking should consider the role of health and wellbeing in planning and has stringent policies around the protection of playing fields<sup>2</sup>, the disposal of which can only be considered if robust evidence can be provided to support alternative, equal and replacement provision. Para 99 of the NPPF states that:

*Existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:*

- a) an assessment has been undertaken which has clearly*
- b) the loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or*
- c) the development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the benefits of which clearly outweigh the loss of the current or former use.*

2.2 Section 8 as a whole of the NPPF focuses on promoting healthy and safe communities and particularly since local authorities took on new public health responsibilities in 2013, an increasing

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<sup>2</sup> A playing field is defined (in planning terms) as “the whole of a site which encompasses at least one playing pitch”. A playing pitch may have either a natural or artificial grass surface and is defined as “a delineated area which, together with any run-off area, is of 0.2 hectares or more, and which is used for association football, American football, rugby, cricket, hockey, lacrosse, rounders, baseball, softball, Australian football, Gaelic football, shinty, hurling, polo or cycle polo.”

range of statutory, corporate and planning documents, including Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), Sport England and National Governing Body (NGB) strategies, reiterate the importance of creating healthy environments which can support and benefit people's wellbeing – both physical and mental.

2.3 A variety of national policy documents set the scene for the Strategy in this report. These include: 'Sport England's Playing Fields Policy and Guidance (2018; updated December 2021); and Sport England's 'Planning for Sport Guidance' (2019) which sets out 12 guiding principles under the three objectives of 'Protect, Enhance and Provide'. Its new 10 Year Strategy: 'Uniting the Movement' has five key themes including 'Positive experiences for children and young people'; 'Connecting with health and wellbeing' and 'Active Environments'. The various National Governing Body Strategies have many common themes around the sustainability of pitch sport provision and focusing on participation by women and girls and young people.

2.4 This Strategy comes at a challenging time for those responsible for protecting, delivering, managing and maintaining sports facilities. With an obesity crisis well documented and costs of living rising, there is an opportunity to put accessible physical activity at the heart of local communities in Torbay. Other initiatives are already tackling these issues, and the PPS is not separate from them – a playing field is a healthy site and the PPS should be closely linked, through delivery, with the 'Torbay On the Move' and the health and wellbeing agendas.

2.5 At the start of the strategy development process there were already some obvious and notable challenges and opportunities at some sites. These include:

- sites which serve the whole Bay, such as Clennon Valley, which require significant investment to make them the strategic high quality hub sites and facilities that they should be for people in Torbay;
- other key sites, such as Torre Valley North, Torre Valley South and Torquay Recreation Ground (forming the "Valley of Sport"), which present challenges relating to their long-term and fit-for-purpose continued use for sport; and,
- several other sites where access to, the addition of, or improvement of changing facilities and/or adjacent multi-use games areas (MUGAs) (which can be used for informal sport and for training) could transform the activity package on offer and secure them as quality sites for sport and the local community (for example, Armada Park or Barton Downs).

2.6 These are just a few examples of challenges and opportunities which readily presented themselves and which have informed the Vision Statement below, outcomes and priorities presented in this Strategy.

2.7 Torbay wishes to protect and provide sustainable high quality outdoor sports facilities with health and well-being central to the 'Torbay on the Move' initiative. In line with the Council's recent 'Vision' document and the focus on the development of Place Stories and Sport England's new

Strategy 'Uniting the Movement' (2021), the following Vision Statement for the Torbay PPS has been agreed:

*In Torbay, playing fields and related outdoor sports facilities will:*

- *provide high-quality, accessible and welcoming facilities and opportunities to enable those who live, study, work and enjoy visiting and staying in Torbay become more active and take part in sport, to whatever level they aspire, for the benefit of their physical and mental health;*
- *be protected for physical activity and be planned for, provided and managed in partnership in a co-ordinated way with a wide range of stakeholders; and,*
- *be placed at the heart of a network of active environments and designed and delivered in ways that respond positively to and help address climate and environmental challenges, help address the issues for deprived communities, engender a sense of personal and community pride and contribute to the Bay's social and economic well-being.*

2.8 Within the context set by the Vision, the assessment process and development of this strategy have been steered objectively by an overarching principle and several guiding principles, helping to set a “direction of travel” for outcomes and recommendations. The “overarching principle” responds to the strategic drivers highlighted by Sport England’s in its Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance (2013) (i.e. Protect, Provide, Enhance)<sup>3</sup>. Other guiding principles also respond to these drivers but are split-out to provide focused structure to approach and recommendations in this Strategy. In turn, these principles form the basis of a set of recommendations for monitoring and delivery in Section 4 of this Strategy.

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3 Protect, enhance and provide mean the following. **Protect** existing facilities: Sport England seeks to help protect sports and recreational buildings and land, and expects these to be retained or enhanced as part of redevelopment unless an assessment has demonstrated that there is an excess of provision and they are surplus to requirements or clear evidence supports their relocation. **Enhance** the quality, accessibility and management of existing facilities: to make the best use of existing sports facilities through improving their quality, access and management. Using the supporting advice of Sport England and NGBs, ensure efficient facility management for community access to school sites. **Provide** new facilities to meet demand: Sport England seeks to ensure that communities have access to sufficient, high quality sports facilities that are fit for purpose. Guiding investment into new facilities and the expansion of existing ones to meet new demands that cannot be met by existing provision.

2.9 The Guiding Principles are:

**Overarching Principle: Protect, Enhance, Provide**

*To protect existing provision and proactively plan for and provide sufficient and appropriate high-quality pitches, facilities and opportunities (enhanced and new) to meet demand to 2040, wherever possible making the best use of facilities already available.*

**Guiding Principle 1: A Framework for Management and Delivery**

*To create an ongoing management and delivery framework for people and organisations to work together to share skills, expertise, resources and facilities in implementing the Strategy.*

**Guiding Principle 2: Health and Well-being**

*To recognise and emphasise the value of the pitch sports in contributing to enhanced mental and physical health and well-being, particularly for those still underrepresented in the pitch sports, and in helping to address socio-economic deprivation.*

**Guiding Principle 3: The Environment, Decarbonisation and Climate Change**

*To provide, manage and maintain facilities in such a way as to address issues of environmental sustainability and climate benefit.*

**Guiding Principle 4: Education at the Heart of the Community**

*To encourage and support FE establishments and secondary and primary schools in Torbay to embrace and develop community use of their pitch sport facilities by engaging directly with them and creating a forum for discussion around access, desired improvements, management and maintenance.*

## 3 STRATEGY FOCUS AND PRIORITIES

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31. The Assessment Report and Key Findings Report which accompany and have informed this draft Strategy (both of which were subject to “check and challenge” by and agreement of the Steering Group) provide an extensive amount of detail about the data gathered, and specific issues relating to and options for each sport and site moving forward. That detail is not repeated here, but Appendix 3 summarises the key findings for each main pitch sport (football, cricket, rugby union and hockey), from these reports, in relation to supply and demand. This informs the

main issues, Strategy focus and priorities for action identified in this section. Each of the individual pitch sport sections that follow set out:

**For Pitch Sports:**

- The main issues currently facing each sport
- Issues influencing future provision
- Strategy focus
- Priority sites and actions (in tables)

**For Non Pitch Sports:**

- Key findings and main issues
- Priority sites and actions (in tables)

## PITCH SPORTS

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### A FOOTBALL

3.1 The main issues can be summarized as follows:

#### **MAIN ISSUES CURRENTLY FACING FOOTBALL**

*Grass pitches (See Appendix 2 for Map of Football Pitch Sites)*

- The majority of pitches are rated as ‘standard’ quality and there are problems with drainage and sloping pitches at some sites.
- There are poor quality and inappropriate changing facilities at a number of sites. Clubs’ aspirations are changing and higher quality changing and ground facilities are required, together with the means to raise income to support their club activities.
- There are issues with access to changing facilities at Barton Downs which need to be resolved if clubs are to return to the site.
- A number of clubs have stated that pitch characteristics or issues with their home venue made it difficult for them to accommodate all their home matches, expand their activities and/or progress to a higher league.
- Clubs have difficulties in finding suitable facilities at convenient times for training
- Torquay Utd FC has been looking for a site for a new stadium within Torbay for many years.
- Based on existing patterns of play, it would seem that some youth teams prefer to play on artificial grass pitches, although this may be because grass pitches have traditionally been of unacceptable quality. Nevertheless, this pattern of play on 3G FTPs does seem to be consolidating.

### *Artificial Grass Pitches*

- An analysis of overall usage versus capacity of all AGPs in Torbay shows just over 75% (77%) of overall peak time capacity is used. The usage of the three 3G FTP pitches is significantly higher than that for the two sand-based pitches (88% compared to less than 50% overall). When a comfort factor of 10% is applied, spare capacity is further reduced.
- For football, the strategy focus necessitates further elaboration of the strategy for 3G FTPs and the relationship of provision with sand-based AGPs (which provide the only surface that can be used for hockey). Hence:

### *Mid week evening availability on artificial grass pitches*

- 3G FTPs: There are only 3 hours of time spare on midweek evenings at the three existing 3G FTPs and none of these hours are full pitch space and all at unsocial hours. So, there is minimal availability for more football training, small sided leagues, Trust activity and rugby training during the week.
- Sand based AGPs: There is currently a little spare capacity for additional training for hockey and football during the week at the Torbay Leisure Centre sand based AGPs, albeit at unsocial hours.
- The pitch at Torquay Girls Grammar School has been available for hockey training on Wednesday evenings; however, the School has recently announced that it will be ceasing community use of this facility in the near future (when the current 21 year community use agreement ends).

### *Weekend availability*

- 3G FTPs: South Devon College and Paignton Academy are effectively full at weekends. Torquay Academy's pitch has c 5 hours of spare slots on weekend afternoons but only caters for youth football.
- Sand based AGPs (not a surface sanctioned for matchplay by the FA/FF): Torbay Leisure Centre has availability on both Saturday and Sundays between 2pm and 5pm for hockey matchplay. TGGS will no longer be accommodating 6.5 hours of hockey matchplay on Saturdays and Sundays.

Most secondary schools and colleges in Torbay do not have full-size AGPs on site: Torquay Boys Grammar School (has a small AGP), Brixham College, The Spires School, Churston Ferrers Grammar School and St Cuthbert Mayne in Torquay. The first two are currently discussing proposals to develop these facilities.

## **ISSUES INFLUENCING FUTURE PROVISION**

- Population growth to 2040 plus latent and displaced demand plus aspirations/trends could result in up to another 50 or so teams playing in the Bay (this includes 22 teams from

Watcombe Wanderers which are currently playing outside the Bay). This is made up of 9 adult, 36 youth and 7 mini (numbers do not correspond exactly due to rounding). These would require access to the equivalent of 5 adult pitches, 18 youth pitches and 5 mini pitches (depending on time of play).

- Up to 19 adult teams could be accommodated at peak times on grass pitches: 13 on pitches which are already marked out and up to 6 on pitches which could be marked out on existing playing field sites (subject to appropriate changing facilities, drainage etc – at Barton Downs and Steps Cross in Torquay and St Mary's Park in Brixham). (This does not include marking out pitches for adults at Clennon Valley or at King George V Playing Fields in Torquay - the latter site has been discounted from the analysis as the cost of levelling pitches there is regarded as prohibitive; however, one adult pitch could be marked out on the less severe slope area and there is changing to serve this (if made secure and vandal proof). There does not thus appear to be an issue in accommodating any predicted growth in adult teams.
- Provision for youth teams is more constrained. Up to an additional 12 youth teams could be accommodated: 5 on pitches that are already marked out and up to 7 teams on sites where additional pitches could be marked out (2 at Barton Downs, 1 at Windmill Hill and 4 at St Mary's Park Brixham (if youth pitches are marked out there instead of adult pitches)). Whilst this would not accommodate the predicted increase in youth teams, as it leaves c.17 teams nominally without a grass pitch it does not include the opportunities which could arise from reinstating the former adult pitches as youth pitches at Clennon Valley, for example. Up to 8 youth pitches would be required to accommodate these teams; sizes will depend on the age group and provision made elsewhere. Up to 5 mini pitches may be required across the Bay as a whole at sites already identified.
- It is concluded that there are potentially enough grass pitches – or land that could be marked out as pitches - within Torbay to accommodate the expected increase in the number of youth and adult football teams for matchplay. However, pitches need to be in the right places, of appropriate quality with appropriate ancillary facilities.
- Other considerations include:
  1. The extent to which football will be played on grass or artificial grass pitches in the future is critical – whether this is mini, youth, adult 11v11 football or small sided soccer or community trust led development initiatives etc.
  2. One large club – Watcombe Wanderers (22 teams) playing outside the Bay desires to return to a site within the Bay, ideally in the Watcombe, Torquay area
  3. The Pioneer Youth League have expressed a desire to base the league for mini soccer at a central hub site

4. The predicted increase in teams to 2040 (which includes the return of Watcombe Wanderers to the Bay) could justify one additional full-size floodlit 3G FTP pitch (at least) to satisfy additional demand for training. Additional provision should also be cognisant of existing use of 3G pitches for matches, particularly for junior and youth play. Should this type of use migrate to improved quality grass pitches, weekend demand and its potential impact on viability should be monitored.
5. In provision, there may be scope for both full-size and smaller (9v9) provision and co-operating with the rugby sector to introduce some additional capacity for football use alongside catering for rugby's needs (see below).
6. Demand for training for football could also potentially be met by:
  - Installation of (portable) floodlights on grass areas adjacent to grass pitches, and/or on grass pitches if this does not result in overplay
  - Upgrading/provision of small MUGAs at existing grounds

## STRATEGY FOCUS

### 3.2 The Strategy for football is based around:

- improvements in the quality of grass pitches. At some sites this could enable more youth matches to be played on adult pitches (if deemed appropriate - see Action Plans). However, this will not enable more teams to be played at peak times (Saturday afternoons for adult matches and Sunday mornings for youth matches).
- improvements to ancillary facilities (changing facilities for adults, toilets, car parking, shelters) to create more welcoming and age and gender appropriate provision at selected sites.
- the provision of additional grass pitches for youth football particularly in settings which can provide a central venue particularly for mini and younger age group youth soccer (U7-U12) incorporating 5x5, 7x7 & 9x9 pitches
- development of hub site for youth football at Clennon Valley
- the provision of suitable sites and facilities to allow the development of teams and progression through the leagues
- the provision of access to the equivalent of one floodlit full size 3G FTP during the strategy period to meet the demand for football training, the growth in small-sided soccer and other informal offers such as walking football and to accommodate matchplay. Location and size will be dependent upon demand demonstrated "on the ground" for 3G capacity and based

on an understanding of the degree of transition of mini and youth football from the existing supply of 3G pitches to sites with improved grass pitch provision.

## KEY SITES AND ACTIONS

3.3 The following tables set out the key sites for football, based on the above analysis. They do not present the full list of sites, or the full list of actions (or constraints) and are not prioritised in any specific order here. For further detail of actions for all sites please see the Action Plans. Any reference to artificial pitches being provided is done so on the basis that floodlighting will be a standard requirement to ensure evening use and help ensure long-term viability. Early community engagement is key for any project seeking Football Foundation funding and to maximise the use and local community benefit.

**TABLE 1 KEY PROJECTS FOR FOOTBALL – SITE SPECIFIC**

LOCATION	PROJECT	OPTIONS (additional or if no clear project/action identified)
Torquay		
Armada Park	Enhancement of changing facilities – either refurbishment or upgrade	
Barton Downs	Pitch improvements. Access to Acorn Centre for changing facilities or new portacabins.	Additional upgrade of poor quality MUGA. Potential site for Football Foundation ‘PlayZone’.
Cricketfield Road	Changing facilities/pavilion upgrade as community sport, health and wellbeing hub Pitch improvements.	
Windmill Hill	Changing facilities upgrade	
Paignton		
Clennon Valley and Torbay	Drainage improvements Reinstatement of youth football pitches and appropriate ancillary	Additional 9v9 3G FTP subject to a first phase bringing youth football back to the site to grass pitches

LOCATION	PROJECT	OPTIONS (additional or if no clear project/action identified)
Leisure Centre	<p>facilities (number and size of pitches to reflect further understanding of which teams and age groups would move, to be developed through the Delivery Group and fit alongside rugby pitch(es) and allowing for new cricket square)</p> <p>Resolve parking issues</p> <p>Improved access to toilets and a catering offer</p> <p>Enhanced pitch maintenance programme now being adopted by Torbay Council at Clennon Valley. Masterplanning and feasibility work required to establish possible pitch layouts, ground conditions, timetable and costs for drainage and other works etc</p>	<p>(which unlocks additional demand on the site overall), timing of other 3G provision coming forward in the Bay and demand being demonstrated and subject to floodlighting and other planning considerations. Protect full size existing sand based AGP to accommodate hockey activity displaced from TGGs sand based pitch (if and when Torquay Girls Grammar School ends community access in April 2023). This may also result in football training being displaced from Torbay Leisure Centre.</p> <p>Keep this under review through Stage E Delivery Group, pending developments at the Grammar School and within the context of an overall masterplan for the site.</p> <p>Resolve parking issues on the site.</p> <p>Key partners and stakeholders (including Torbay Council, Parkwood Leisure, Torbay Hockey Club, England Hockey and</p>

LOCATION	PROJECT	OPTIONS (additional or if no clear project/action identified)
		other NGBs as appropriate) to work closely together to secure use of the AGP to establish usage agreements and help ensure long term viability.
White Rock	Changing facilities upgrade and enlargement to support further development of club on site	
Brixham		
Furzeham Recreation Ground		Potential to enhance changing facilities.
John Charles Park	Provision of access to changing facilities	Explore further possibilities of access to adjacent cricket pavilion (Brixham CC)
St Mary's Park	Reinstatement of youth pitches	



**TABLE 2 KEY ACTIONS FOR FOOTBALL**

<p>Developing multi pitch sport sites</p>	<p>In new sites, development of flexible multi pitch layouts with opportunities for joint provision and shared use of ancillary facilities. The preference is for large areas of land allocated rather than specific pitch sizes as such areas are better suited to future proofing and can also allow space for other sports (multi-sport, multi-pitch sites). There should be the option to have movable goals that can be chained together or stored away to allow areas to be flexible year on year and which will help to retain the goalmouth areas. This will pertain to Clennon Valley.</p>
<p>Pitch quality improvements</p>	<p>Support clubs with management responsibilities especially on multi pitch sites to improve the pitches under their control by, for example, engaging with the Grounds Maintenance Association (GMA). The Pitch Power App/website should be used. This records the quality of pitches and is the gateway to funding improvements related to grass pitches (6 year tapered grants available).</p>
<p>Improving changing facilities</p>	<p>Support clubs with funding applications to improve changing and ancillary provision to meet current aspirations and requirements around multi gender, multi age and multi-purpose facilities. Multi use and early community engagement to consider other uses for pavilions such as keep fit activities, table tennis, playgroups etc is key.</p>
<p>3G FTPs</p>	<p>Educate and request to pitch providers and managers that 3G FTPs should meet the Performance Test and are listed on the FA Register of approved sites for matchplay. Sinking funds to be accrued and ringfenced for future replacement in-line with funding and manufacturer guidelines.</p> <p>The equivalent of one full-size floodlit 3G FTP pitch will be required in Torbay during the life of this Strategy, to meet training and potentially matchplay demand from football. There are several options which could be considered:  A full-size 3G FTP Register compliant facility predominantly for football  A 9v9 x 3G FTP with shock pad predominantly for football  A World Rugby 22 compliant full-size 3G FTP for rugby and football</p>

	<p>There are several potential sites to emerge so far for such a facility, including:  Torquay Boys Grammar School  Clennon Valley (possibly 9v9)  Brixham College (proposed as World Rugby 22 compliant).</p> <p>All artificial grass pitches should be protected with appropriate secure community use agreements negotiated wherever possible, which should be monitored and reviewed on a regular basis.</p>
<p>Maintaining high quality artificial grass pitch provision</p>	<p>All artificial grass pitches (both sand-based and 3G FTPs) should have the following in place:  Sufficient funding for ongoing maintenance and upgrades e.g. to maintain appropriate levels of floodlighting.  Adequate sinking funds for replacement and upgrade of facilities when required, whatever the ownership and management arrangements.</p>
<p>Continue to explore options for new sites for Torquay Utd FC</p>	<p>Torquay Utd FC, based at Plainmoor, is a professional football club, currently competing in the National League. Its training ground is outside the Bay, at Seale Hayne, Newton Abbot. Although an elite club, it has a role in the community through the Torquay Utd Community Sports Trust which has various youth teams and initiatives and projects running in the Bay. A long-standing issue for the club is to find a replacement ground for Plainmoor and/or provide additional training facilities within the Bay. No obvious or available site/s for these have come forward during development of the Strategy but options should continue to be explored, perhaps in conjunction with a Local Plan review, to find a suitable site within the Bay (or consider alternatives just outside the boundary in neighbouring Local Authority areas).</p>

## B CRICKET

3.4 The main issues can be summarized as follows:

### **MAIN ISSUES CURRENTLY FACING CRICKET (See Appendix 2 for Map of Cricket Pitch Sites)**

- The majority of cricket pitches are rated 'good'. However, the poor quality pitch at Torre Valley North cannot meet the need to accommodate 3rd XIs within the Bay or casual, informal formats of the game
- Improving the two standard rated pitches at Cockington Court and Wall's Hill will have only limited effect on their capacity (off peak) due to the condition of their outfield and restricted sites. The cricket ground at Cricketfield Road (Barton CC) has been recorded as standard overall, due to the poorly drained outfield, but the wicket itself was rated as good.
- Torquay CC's ground at Torquay Recreation Ground and Paignton CC's ground at Queen's Park, Paignton have very little spare capacity and are full at peak time.
- There is spare capacity across the Bay to accommodate play outside of peak time (i.e. on Sundays and for midweek youth and adult), but over half of this capacity is at Brixham CC's ground at North Boundary Road.
- Non turf wickets (NTWs) at Barton CC at Cricketfield Road, Torquay and Paignton CC have considerable theoretical spare capacity.
- There are no longer any playable NTWs at schools in the Bay.
- There are concerns for the future viability of Torquay Recreation Ground due to rising sea levels.
- There are overlapping outfield areas at Torquay CC's and Paignton CC's grounds (with rugby pitches) which restrict play on the shoulders of the season for both sports and raise issues over end of season renovations.
- Changing facilities/pavilions at Torquay Recreation Ground, Queen's Park in Paignton and Barton Cricket Club (Cricketfield Road) urgently require upgrading.

### **ISSUES INFLUENCING FUTURE PROVISION**

- Future growth in teams suggests that up to 10 new cricket teams will form by 2040. This will require access of up to an additional 16 cricket wickets (8 wickets/pitches per cricket square/ground, according to Sport England's calculator). Whilst up to half of this demand could be met from existing provision, there will be a need for an additional cricket ground to meet demand to 2040.
- Realistically, the only way to increase capacity unless Torre Valley North can be substantially improved is to provide a new replacement ground. If cricket is lost at or moved from Torre Valley North (the surface at which is currently unsuitable for play), then both a replacement location for 3rd XI teams is required and an additional new pitch will be needed to cater for growth and demand. Further consideration would be necessary to

determine how such a new site can be managed and tended from a grounds maintenance and management perspective.



## STRATEGY FOCUS

3.5 The Strategy for cricket is based around:

- improvements in the quality of grass cricket pitches if possible at Wall's Hill and Cockington Court and major renovations to Torre Valley North (if cricket remains on the site for the long-term).
- improvements to ancillary facilities (changing facilities and clubhouses) at Torquay Recreation Ground, Queen's Park Paignton and Cricketfield Road, Torquay to create more welcoming and age and gender appropriate provision.
- reinstating NTWs or grass squares on education sites and securing community use. If a ground is only required for junior play, then a smaller site could be sufficient.
- easing pressure on shared sites (cricket and rugby) by reducing rugby use through provision of additional capacity on alternative sites (for example, providing rugby pitches at Clennon Valley to accommodate some demand from Queen's Park in Paignton and/or Torquay Recreation Ground/Torre Valley North in Torquay.
- providing another cricket ground in the Bay for future demand later in the Strategy period. The location of a new ground will be challenging with few flat or level pitch locations. Bearing this in mind, an existing strategic site may provide the opportunity to act as a reserve site for cricket to be considered if demand emerges towards the later part of the strategy period. If this is not feasible then a new cricket site should be allocated within the next iteration of the Local Plan, subject to demand. This will be in addition to improving or replacing the pitch at Torre Valley North or providing a good quality non turf wicket elsewhere, possibly on a school site.

## KEY SITES AND ACTIONS

3.6 The following tables set out the key sites for cricket, based on the above analysis. They do not present the full list of sites, or the full list of actions (or constraints) and are not prioritised in any specific order here. For further detail of actions for all sites please see the Action Plans.

**Table 3 KEY PROJECTS FOR CRICKET – SITE SPECIFIC**

LOCATION	PROJECT	OPTIONS (additional or if no clear project/action identified)
Torquay		
Cricketfield Road	Changing facilities/pavilion upgrade as community sport, health and wellbeing hub Pitch improvements – drainage to football pitch which will help improve cricket outfield.	
Torquay Recreation Ground	Investigate and clarify situation re: potential flooding of this site due to rising sea levels and impact on cricket season (for example from flooding at the start of the season and need for additional maintenance if flooding continues during rugby season). Major upgrade of pavilion, ideally provision of clubhouse/changing facilities jointly with rugby club.	
Torre Valley North	Rebuilding of changing rooms/clubhouse Major renovation of square	Explore option and feasibility of removing cricket from the site to an alternative

LOCATION	PROJECT	OPTIONS (additional or if no clear project/action identified)
		location (new ground or additional capacity at a new square/pitch at Clennon Valley (see below)).
Paignton		
Clennon Valley	<p>Consideration to be given to the provision of a cricket ground to provide additional capacity for Paignton 3rd XIs and/or and to meet demand for new provision to 2040. Enhanced pitch maintenance programme now being adopted by Torbay Council at Clennon Valley.</p> <p>Masterplanning and feasibility work is required to establish possible pitch layouts, ground conditions (including work to establish suitability for a new cricket square), timetable and costs for drainage and other works etc</p>	
Queen's Park	<p>Increase capacity of ground for cricket by provision of pitch space elsewhere. Upgrade to changing rooms/pavilion (shared with rugby).</p>	
Broadsands, Galmpton & Churston		

LOCATION	PROJECT	OPTIONS (additional or if no clear project/action identified)
Churston Ferrers Grammar School	Provision of cricket facilities proposed on field with two football pitches. However, currently no square laid and further dialogue and feasibility work is required by all parties to determine if cricket could be a viable option on the playing field. Any future changes including cricket must not affect the football outcomes for the site in line with the terms and conditions of the FF grant.	

**TABLE 4 KEY ACTIONS FOR CRICKET**

To improve and upgrade changing/pavilion facilities	To support club development and help to attract youth and women players in line with the ECB's Creating 'welcoming environments' resource (self help guide for cricket clubs to broaden appeal within the community).
Provision of non turf wickets	Consideration to be given to the provision of a non turf wicket as well as fine turf wickets at all new sites to increase capacity of the site and improve opportunities for recreational and youth play. To consider provision/replacement of (poor quality) non turf wickets on school sites, including those mentioned above, to support development of youth cricket.
Training facilities	To support the development of good quality training nets at grounds to enhance sustainability & improve overall performance. Promote provision of indoor training for cricket at sports halls.

## C RUGBY

3.7 The main issues can be summarised as:

### **MAIN ISSUES CURRENTLY FACING RUGBY (See Appendix 2 for Map of Rugby Pitch Sites)**

- All rugby pitches in the Bay used by Torquay RUFC, Paignton RUFC and Brixham RUFC are overplayed, primarily because of poor quality through low levels of maintenance and lack of drainage.
- The analysis has estimated that in order to accommodate all the matchplay and training demand (expressed as MES or 'match equivalent sessions') the following is required:
  - For Torquay RUFC: 12.75 MES: 6.25 for matchplay and 6.5 for training 2.5 MES currently available)
  - For Paignton RUFC: 8.0 MES: 4 for matchplay and 4 for training 1.0 MES currently available)
  - For Brixham RUFC: 9.75 MES: 5.75 for matchplay and 4 for training (2.0 MES currently available).
- The main rugby pitch on Torquay Recreation Ground has serious drainage issues and over the next decade or so may become increasingly unable to accommodate play; a replacement ground may be required. The main concerns relate to increasing periods of intense rainfall and rising sea levels / flood risk. Even improved drainage may not sufficiently mitigate this impact. If the club moved it would probably want to also move play from Torre Valley North and South.
- Changing/pavilion facilities at Queen's Park Paignton (Paignton RUFC) and Torquay Recreation Ground (Torquay RUFC) are in urgent need of upgrading. Torquay RUFC's 2nd stand has been condemned.
- None of the 3G FTPs in Torbay are World Rugby compliant and rugby usage is currently low at c.1.5 hours per week on weekday evenings.

### **ISSUES INFLUENCING FUTURE PROVISION**

- Growth in demand is estimated to be c.13 teams (4 adult and 9 junior) in total, which may require access to the equivalent of three to four pitches.
- Analysis for rugby has shown how overplay of pitches and shortfalls in MES cannot be solved through improvements to quality (and capacity) alone. Access to additional pitch space for training and matchplay is required – either through additional rugby pitches or 3G pitches which are rugby compliant.

## STRATEGY FOCUS

3.8 The strategy for rugby is based around:

- The need to address inadequate quality (drainage and maintenance) which is resulting in the overplay of pitches on club sites. With good maintenance and pipe/slit drainage, one pitch could accommodate 3.5 MES per week.
- The requirement for additional pitches to meet training and matchplay needs.
- Addressing issues with grounds shared with cricket whereby enhancements to quality and use of other pitch sites can create greater capacity for both sports.
- Enhancing or replacing outdated, old changing rooms and clubhouses which are inappropriate for modern requirements.
- Overcoming the lack of available floodlit training pitches (either grass or artificial).
- Upgrading of floodlights, many of which are old and in need of complete replacement. There are good sources of advice in various Sport England and RFU facility guidance notes.
- The provision of at least one rugby pitch at Clennon Valley is a good option to help meet the identified need from Paignton RUFC and resolve the outstanding required mitigation of loss of a former rugby pitch when the velo park was built, subject to confirmation that the club would utilise the site.
- Support, in principle, for a World Rugby compliant 3G pitch, if a proposal comes forward from a potential provider/host, should improvements to existing club pitches and any additional grass pitches not be sufficient to accommodate training needs or should such a 3G provide a solution to existing overplay at club sites.



## KEY SITES AND ACTIONS

3.9 The following tables set out the key sites for rugby, based on the above analysis. They do not present the full list of sites, or the full list of actions (or constraints) and are not prioritised in any specific order here. For further detail of actions for all sites please see the Action Plans. Any

reference to artificial pitches being provided is done so on the basis that floodlighting will be a standard requirement to ensure evening use and help ensure long-term viability.

**TABLE 5 KEY PROJECTS FOR RUGBY - SITE SPECIFIC**

LOCATION	PROJECT	OPTIONS (additional or if no clear project/action identified)
Torquay Recreation Ground	<p>Investigate and clarify situation re: potential flooding of this site due to rising sea levels and increasing surface water flooding from high rainfall events in winter.</p> <p>Long-term future for rugby on this site (and therefore associated sites of use at Torre Valley North and South) should be given certainty either on this or an alternative new club site.</p> <p>Address issue of stands no longer fit for purpose: ideally provision of clubhouse/changing facilities jointly with cricket club.</p> <p>Improved maintenance and provision of pipe and slit drainage</p> <p>Addition of improved sports lighting on pitches used by Torquay RUFC</p>	
Torre Valley North (TVN)	<p>Rebuilding of changing rooms/clubhouse</p> <p>Improved maintenance and provision of pipe and slit drainage</p>	<p>Explore option and feasibility of moving rugby activity from TVS to improved TVN and/or Torquay</p>

LOCATION	PROJECT	OPTIONS (additional or if no clear project/action identified)
	Addition of improved sports lighting on pitches used by Torquay RUFC	Recreation Ground (if cricket is removed from TVN and more space/capacity becomes available for rugby); with a new compact athletics facility developed on Torre Valley South (see athletics section).
Torre Valley South (TVS)	Improved maintenance and provision of pipe and slit drainage Addition of improved sports lighting on pitches used by Torquay RUFC	
Queen's Park, Paignton	Improved maintenance and provision of pipe and slit drainage Upgrade to changing rooms/pavilion Upgrading of floodlight facilities	
Clennon Valley	Provision of at least one rugby pitch to help meet the identified need from Paignton RUFC, and resolve the outstanding required mitigation of loss of a former rugby pitch when the velo park was built, subject to confirmation that the club would utilise the site. Enhanced pitch maintenance programme now being adopted by Torbay Council at Clennon Valley. Masterplanning and feasibility	

LOCATION	PROJECT	OPTIONS (additional or if no clear project/action identified)
	work required to establish possible pitch layouts, ground conditions (including work to establish suitability for a new cricket square), timetable and costs for drainage and other works etc	

**TABLE 6 KEY ACTIONS FOR RUGBY**

Protecting provision at secondary schools	Work to secure community use agreements for rugby pitches at secondary schools in the Bay – particularly Paignton Academy, TBGS and Brixham College - to support schools' rugby and provide important overflow facilities for local clubs (school: club links).
Portable floodlights	Support for the provision of portable floodlights where this can support additional floodlit training for rugby clubs/teams. This must be carefully considered as a solution on existing natural turf pitches which are already close to capacity.
To consider the provision of artificial grass pitches for training.	There is also a wider need for access to suitable floodlit training provision for many sports, particularly for rugby union and football. Given the competing demands from many sports for access to floodlit provision, there is a need for 3G pitches to also be multi-sport facilities where possible and to be maximised to meet the challenges of broad and significant sporting demand and limitations on available space across the study area. However, where there is a high demand for both sports, programming becomes a challenge as both sports may like the same peak times for weekday training and matchplay and funding of ancillary facilities such as shock pads may affect the business planning model.

<p>World Rugby 22 Compliant 3G</p>	<p>Brixham College has plans for a rugby compliant full-size rugby 3G pitch. This could accommodate additional training needs for Brixham RUFC and possibly the other clubs in the Bay if they are willing to travel. Depending on the College's financial plans/business case for the pitch, it seems likely that long-term viability would also depend on the pitch accommodating some football training from most Brixham clubs and casual/informal football use. Further work on a usage plan would need to be undertaken by the Delivery Group to help understand long-term viability and certainty of use in this location.</p> <p>If it comes forward, the Brixham College pitch should be protected with an appropriate secure community use agreement which should be monitored and reviewed on a regular basis.</p> <p>The pitch should have the following in place:</p> <p>Sufficient funding for ongoing maintenance and upgrades e.g. to maintain appropriate levels of floodlighting.</p> <p>Adequate sinking funds for replacement and upgrade of facilities when required, whatever the ownership and management arrangements.</p>
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## D HOCKEY

3.10 The main issues can be summarised as:

### **MAIN ISSUES CURRENTLY FACING HOCKEY (See Appendix 2 for Map of Artificial Grass Pitch Sites)**

- The analysis for the Strategy considered the sand-based pitches at Torbay Leisure Centre and Torquay Girls Grammar School. This concluded that there is, in theory, sufficient capacity for any predicted growth in hockey to 2040 in Torbay; however, both pitches require protection as good quality sand-based surfaces (Any upgrades should consider replacement surfaces potentially being Gen2 suitable for netball and tennis to help make more viable).
- It has recently been announced that the Torquay Girls Grammar School (TGGS) pitch is due to be closed to community use in the near future. If this happens, it will have major ramifications for hockey and the provision of all types of artificial grass pitches in Torbay.

The Bay will then have one sand-based pitch only to accommodate hockey activity – at Torbay Leisure Centre.

- The Torbay Leisure Centre pitch is already almost at capacity during weekday evenings accommodating training for football and for Newton Abbot Hockey Club. It cannot accommodate the four hours of training required by Torbay Hockey Club without displacing football activity, but there is no spare capacity on any other artificial grass pitches in the Bay to which this football activity could be transferred.
- In addition, Torbay Hockey club requires 4.5 hours of matchplay on a Saturday and 2 hours on a Sunday. At present, there is only one hour spare on Saturday mornings and 2 hours on Sunday mornings before 11am at the Torbay Leisure Centre pitch (or after 2pm at weekends or on Friday evenings). Thus times of hockey matchplay may have to be amended to fit in with this. Otherwise access to additional suitable pitches will be required.
- Moreover, this does not allow any room for growth by either hockey club, both of which would like to increase activity for juniors and develop informal formats of the game.
- The sand-based AGP at Torbay Leisure Centre does have considerable spare capacity in the day which could potentially meet demand from education for hockey – from South Devon College for example.

## **STRATEGY FOCUS**

3.11 The Strategy for hockey is based around:

- Protection of the two existing good quality sand based artificial grass pitches at Torbay Leisure Centre and Torquay Girls Grammar School for community access for hockey.
- Any upgrades of hockey appropriate AGPs should consider replacement surfaces potentially being Gen2 suitable for netball and tennis to help make more viable.
- Improved/greater access to training slots on weekday evenings for hockey training at Torbay Leisure Centre.
- The provision of additional 3G FTP space to help ensure the security of use of sand-based pitches for hockey by moving increasing demand for football training from sand based AGPs to 3G FTPs.

## **KEY SITES AND ACTIONS**

3.12 The following tables set out the key actions for hockey, based on the above analysis. They do not present the full list of sites, or the full list of actions (or constraints) and are not prioritised in any specific order here. For further detail of actions for all sites please see the Action Plans. Any reference to artificial pitches being provided is done so on the basis that floodlighting will be a standard requirement to ensure evening use and help ensure long-term viability.

**TABLE 7 KEY PROJECTS FOR HOCKEY – SITE SPECIFIC**

LOCATION	PROJECT
Torquay Girls Grammar School	Urgent engagement with TGGs about the pending closure to community use of their sand-based pitch. Elected members/senior officers and the Education Team at the Torbay Development Agency to engage with TGGs regarding community access in the future. Original community use agreement to be checked.
Torbay Leisure Centre	<p>Protect full size existing sand based AGP to accommodate hockey activity displaced from TGGs sand based pitch (if and when Torquay Girls Grammar School ends community access in April 2023). This may also result in football training being displaced from Torbay Leisure Centre.</p> <p>Keep this under review through Stage E Delivery Group, pending developments at the Grammar School and within the context of an overall masterplan for the site.</p> <p>Resolve parking issues on the site.</p> <p>Key partners and stakeholders (including Torbay Council, Parkwood Leisure, Torbay Hockey Club, England Hockey and other NGBs as appropriate) to work closely together to secure use of the AGP to establish usage agreements and help ensure long term viability.</p> <p>Promotion of greater usage during the day.</p>

**TABLE 8 KEY ACTIONS FOR HOCKEY**

To protect the stock of and viability of sand-based AGPs capable of accommodating hockey.	<p>All artificial grass pitches should be protected with appropriate secure community use agreements negotiated wherever possible, which should be monitored and reviewed on a regular basis.</p> <p>If any existing sand-based AGPs are being considered for possible future ‘conversion’, (including non-sand-based resurfacing), no decision should be taken in isolation without consulting the relevant NGBs and other key stakeholders,</p>
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	particularly if/where planning permission is required for such works.
Maintaining high quality artificial grass pitch provision	All artificial grass pitches should have the following in place: Sufficient funding for ongoing maintenance and upgrades e.g. to maintain appropriate levels of floodlighting. Adequate sinking funds for replacement and upgrade of facilities when required, whatever the ownership and management arrangements.



## NON PITCH SPORTS

### E ATHLETICS

#### KEY FINDINGS AND MAIN ISSUES

- The grass athletics tracks in Torbay used by the two main clubs are satisfactory, within the constraints of this facility type. There are no synthetic 400m ‘track and field’ athletics facilities that are suitable for competitions and high-level training in Torbay. Field events facilities are not of a high quality and the lack of bespoke facilities militates against skill development as training on grass tracks limits improvement in skill and technical expertise. Tracks can also become waterlogged and run-ups become slippery in wet weather.
- The availability of the facilities in Torbay is reasonable. Torquay Athletics Club has use of the athletics track at Torre Valley North (usage of the site is shared with cricket and Torquay Athletic RUFC), whilst South Devon Athletics Club use the velopark and grass facilities at Clennon Valley and the summer track and field facilities at Churston Ferrers Grammar school for junior athletics.

- The nearest synthetic 400m 'track and field' athletics facilities are located at Exeter Arena and service the needs of traditional 'track and field' athletics within Torbay. The Arena is a 45-minute drive-time from Torquay, which is outside the recommended 20-minute drive-time (for urban areas) and 40-minute drive-time (for rural areas) by England Athletics.
- Thus the journey time to the nearest full-size outdoor track from Torbay is longer than ideal, and the Bay is a good example of where good coaching has created significant demand despite the lack of a local athletics facility.
- However, England Athletics has adopted the strategic position that it should concentrate on preserving and improving the existing stock of 400m tracks rather than seeking to build additional ones. If a full size synthetic 400m track was to be provided in Torbay, England Athletics would still recommend that Exeter Arena is used for competitions and training for school and club teams from Torbay.
- However, there are options and opportunities through the development of compact athletics facilities which are intended to fill these gaps and can be designed to provide training facilities in places where there is insufficient demand, funding or land to accommodate a full-size track.
- A 'compact athletics' facility can take a number of forms, but essentially provides a strip of synthetic track plus some capacity for jumps and throws, enabling core athletic skills to be taught, enjoyed and developed. There are alternative innovative solutions that are also designed so that other sports (as well as athletics) can be accommodated. For example, a 'mini track' (larger-scale compact facilities) could be designed specifically to meet local needs in Torbay.

#### Example of a Compact Athletics Mini Track



## KEY SITES AND ACTIONS

**TABLE 9 KEY PROJECTS FOR ATHLETICS – SITE SPECIFIC**

LOCATION/PROJECT	ACTION
Existing athletics facilities	PROTECT: To protect access to the existing range and variety of athletics facilities within the Bay that are currently at Torre Valley North, Clennon Valley and Churston Ferrers Grammar School.
Torre Valley North	PROVIDE: To encourage innovative approaches to the location and design of facilities for individual components of the sport in order to facilitate increased entry level participation in the sport and to provide training opportunities at one or more of: Torre Valley North Torre Valley South Clennon Valley
Clennon Valley	
Torre Valley South	
Torre Valley North	ENHANCE: The quality of clubhouse facilities at Torre Valley North playing fields should be considered for re-development and it is recommended that further feasibility work be completed to ensure the needs of the multi-sports users are met.

**TABLE 10 KEY ACTIONS FOR ATHLETICS**

To maximise the use of existing assets	Actively encourage athletics and running facilities to be used to their fullest possible extent by the sport and by all sections of the community in order to maximise viability. To fully utilise existing assets by improving the access to and quality of facilities to ensure demand is met. For example, it is recommended that floodlighting of the circuit at Clennon Valley be investigated to increase all-year-round usage of the facility.
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## F TENNIS

### KEY FINDINGS AND MAIN ISSUES

- Torquay LTC has a total of nine outdoor tennis courts, five of which are artificial clay, four artificial grass, three indoor acrylic courts, two mini tennis courts and a hitting wall. The club also benefits from a clubhouse/bar and small fitness studio. The Club have been working on improving the quality of the 4 artificial grass courts. Two have now been resurfaced (May 2022) and the remaining two will be addressed at a later date. The club is not at capacity and has significant opportunity for growth, creating a cushion for current and future demand. Courts are open to the public on a pay & play basis at off peak times.
- Cary Park LTC has six outdoor tennis courts and is operating at 161 club members with opportunity for growth. Courts are open to non-members on a pay & play basis. Given the venue type Cary Park would benefit from SmartAccess gate technology to improve accessibility and customer journey.
- Churston Tennis Club is based in Brixham with two floodlit courts. This club is a members' only club and courts are not available to the public on a pay & play basis. This venue is not an LTA registered venue and membership data is unavailable.
- The majority of people with access to a car can reach an affiliated indoor or outdoor tennis court site within about 20 minutes' drive. There is also available provision for tennis 7 days a week. The LTA Geographical Report for Torbay highlights the need for a good quality accessible and affordable park tennis offer across the area to accommodate families and young people looking for additional sports/activities that are sociable but do not require the commitment that comes with traditional club memberships.
- A priority for the LTA in Torbay is to work with Torbay Council on the DCMS parks investment programme to retain and enhance courts in parks and public green spaces. Park venues highlighted for investment include Abbey Park, Oldway, St Mary's and Victoria Park. Improving community courts and implementing an online booking and payment system will facilitate a future growth in casual play and create financially sustainable tennis facilities, avoiding previous repeats of historical losses.
- The redevelopment of park tennis will form two phases. Phase one includes five courts at Abbey Park, six courts at Oldway and four courts at St Mary's and are currently being looked at as part of DCMS funding. Victoria Park and any subsequent investment into additional courts at Abbey Park will be considered separately as a second phase. It is important that current tennis provision at Victoria Park is retained until the second phase is complete.
- Future demand projections and LTA data analysis suggests there is sufficient demand to reinstate all the park courts mentioned above. Ensuring good quality facilities with an operational model that will improve the customer journey to court will make tennis more accessible across Torbay.
- The Local Plan stipulates increase in housing across Torbay in the future thus creating extra demand for sport and tennis. The LTA wishes to be consulted on any new

housing/population increases to ensure that tennis is provided for across the local population.

- Padel is a fast growing sport that is also under the governance of the LTA. Torbay does not current have any padel courts therefore in this strategic cycle it would be recommended to make provision for padel. Present data suggests that padel works best at an existin g tennis club e.g. Torquay TC or attached to a broader sporting facility.



## KEY SITES AND ACTIONS

**Table 11: KEY PROJECTS FOR TENNIS – SITE SPECIFIC**

LOCATION/PROJECT	ACTION
Abbey Park, Torquay	The 5 tennis courts currently in use should be improved with an operational model that enables growth in casual tennis play. This will include the integration of SmartAccess gate technology to facilitate online court bookings and payments. These 5 courts at Abbey Park will form phase 1 of LTA & Council investment.
Oldway, Paignton	The quality of the 6 tennis courts in use should be improved with an operational model that enables growth in casual tennis play. This will include the integration of SmartAccess gate technology to facilitate online court bookings and payments. Oldway will form part of phase 1 of LTA & Council investment.
Victoria Park, Paignton	The quality of the 2 tennis courts in use should be improved with an operational model that enables growth in casual tennis play. This will include the integration of SmartAccess gate technology to facilitate online court bookings and payments. St Mary's will form part of phase 1 of LTA & Council investment.
St Mary's Park, Brixham	The quality of the 4 tennis courts should be improved and the courts should be reconfigured to maximise the original court footprint. The LTA highlights this site as part of phase 2 of investment and will include the integration of SmartAccess Gate Technology to facilitate online court bookings and payments to create continuity for the player in line with phase 1 sites.

**TABLE 12: KEY ACTIONS FOR TENNIS**

<p>To protect and retain all existing courts.</p>	<p>All courts should be retained or enhanced as part of any redevelopment unless an assessment demonstrates that there is an excess of provision and is surplus to requirements or clear evidence supports relocation. The LTA must be consulted on any discussions relating to the above.</p>
<p>To develop the community use of school tennis courts</p>	<p>The study has identified that there are a significant number of facilities located at education sites across the borough and improvements in accessibility to encourage greater participation by all sectors of the community is recommended.</p>
<p>Support clubs</p>	<p>Ensure clubs are LTA Registered and meet minimum safeguarding standards. Continue to support clubs to work towards the LTA’s strategy of Tennis Opened Up. Ensure clubs are supported more broadly and can access resources in relation to governance, facility management, programming &amp; court utilisation, club &amp; coach relationships and inclusion.</p> <p>Ensure membership growth and retention meets financial sustainability.</p> <p>Support the implementation of LTA products and programmes to enable that growth and retention, taking into consideration the demographic needs of the local area.</p> <p>Work with Torquay TC to increase membership and financial sustainability.</p> <p>Support Cary Park to improve customer journey and accessibility of courts.</p>
<p>Improve access to and quality of community courts.</p>	<p>The largest priority for tennis in Torbay is to improve the quality of park courts and their accessibility to the local community and visitors through an affordable offer and effective online journey to court.</p>

	<p>Improve access to community courts as part of the councils work with the LTA on DCMS investment, these include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abbey Park (Torquay)</li> <li>• Oldway Mansion (Paignton)</li> <li>• St Marys's (Brixham)</li> <li>• Victoria Park (Paignton)</li> </ul> <p>All sites will have SmartAccess gate technology installed to facilitate an effective customer journey through enabling people to search, book and pay for a court online.</p> <p>Continue to assess future need based on housing development and population growth, taking into consideration Torbay's Local Plan.</p> <p>Once investment has been made and an online booking journey is established across all park sites consider court availability, usage and income to undertake an informed assessment as to whether there is demand to add floodlights to one of the four park sites.</p>
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## G NETBALL

### KEY FINDINGS AND MAIN ISSUES

- There are eight outdoor netball courts and seven indoor netball courts in total, located at education sites (South Devon College, Torquay Academy and Paignton Academy Hub). The majority of courts in Torbay are considered satisfactory by the netball clubs and teams that use them.
- The main factor limiting accessibility for netball clubs and teams in Torbay is the preference of players to play indoors, as courts are not always available at peak times. Expensive hire costs and lack of car parking are also highlighted as issues (particularly at Paignton Academy Hub).
- Junior netball is played at South Devon College, Paignton Academy Hub and Torbay Leisure Centre. The number of both adult and junior netball club members has stayed relatively constant in recent years. Newton Ninjas netball team playing in Abbotskerswell (just outside Torbay) would like to use new courts in Torbay.

- Paignton Academy’s Hub is the main netball league venue in Torbay. It hosts county and regional events and England Netball festivals and courses. The Devon School Games and junior netball clubs use the venue for training and local and regional level matches.
- Dart Netball Club use Torbay Leisure Centre as their training venue for both junior and adult netball.
- England Netball Local Area Profile data shows there has been a decrease in membership since 2019/20 membership year, which reflects the membership feedback provided by clubs. However, the Profile data also shows high latent demand potential in Torbay – coupled with a home Commonwealth Games in 2022 – England Netball expects membership numbers to increase past pre-pandemic levels for the coming 2022/23 membership year. It is important that the strategy reflects this potential to grow participation which could be hampered due to a lack of netball facilities.
- England Netball’s priorities are to increase participation and to provide opportunity for those living in low socio-economic areas. However, the majority of the sports halls in Torbay do not have the required run off space around the perimeter of the court and therefore matches cannot always be played in those halls.

**KEY SITES AND ACTIONS**

**TABLE 13: KEY PROJECTS FOR NETBALL – SITE SPECIFIC**

LOCATION/PROJECT	ACTION
Paignton Academy hub	Protect Paignton Academy Hub for netball use and continue to promote as Torbay’s main netball league venue that hosts county events, regional events, festivals and courses.

**TABLE 14: KEY ACTIONS FOR NETBALL**

To protect existing facilities and secure long term community access to school netball courts.	To protect and continue to develop the community use of netball facilities on education sites. All sports halls with indoor netball courts have unsecured access for community use and restricted opening hours for community use. The outdoor netball courts are also restricted at the education-owned sites in Torbay. It is recommended that further work be completed to ensure longer-term community access at these sites.
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## H BOWLS

### KEY FINDINGS AND MAIN ISSUES

- All existing greens are well used and there are several strong leagues in the area. Bowls facilities are available up to 7 days a week for club use but most clubs have capacity for additional members and there is scope to accommodate additional teams on most greens. Upton Park Bowls Club has closed (March 2022) but there is sufficient capacity at other sites to accommodate bowlers from this former club.
- The bowls facilities in Torbay are generally of acceptable quality, well-used and adequately maintained to meet club demands. Brixham, Brixham St Marys and Paignton bowls clubs all plan to refurbish the car parking facilities at their sites but funding has not been secured for these plans. Babbacombe Bowling Club clubhouse roof requires repair. There is a lack of security for club access to outdoor bowling greens at Babbacombe and Torbay Country bowling clubs.
- Torbay has a sufficient number of bowls facilities, which are reasonably well located to meet the needs of the sport. The key challenges for the sport are the recent reductions in numbers of players and the inability to attract sufficient new members to the sport. The problems facing bowls in the Torbay area appears to mirror the experiences of other counties, although the decline in membership (failure to attract new members) is of particular concern.
- English Indoor Bowling Association say with the existing number of bowling clubs located within Torbay, and the number of indoor bowling centres, the Association consider it essential that the clubs continue to operate to meet the demand of Torbay's population.
- The PPS, through its assessment of supply and demand for bowls and consultation with Bowls England, supports the assessment that the capacity for pay and play of the second bowling green at Abbey Park should be protected in principle, to meet casual demand for bowls (Bowls England has various initiatives to support this). However, given the current condition of the green and the cost of rehabilitating it, its viability as a pay & play facility may be compromised and therefore there may be other options to explore in the short – medium term to utilise the site for other sports uses.



## KEY SITES AND ACTIONS

**TABLE 15: KEY PROJECTS FOR BOWLS– SITE SPECIFIC**

LOCATION / PROJECT	ACTION
Abbey Park	<p>Protect the capacity provided by the pay and play green, in principle. However, given the current condition of the green and the cost of rehabilitating it, its viability as a pay &amp; play facility may be compromised. Therefore, there may be other options to explore in the short – medium term in order to maximise the usage of the well located site:</p> <p>Whether the expected pay &amp; play element of demand could be accommodated at one of the other bowling greens nearby (e.g. Abbey Park Bowls Club)</p> <p>Uses to which this space could be put on a temporary basis, with the possibility of it being reinstated as a bowling green should future demand arise (i.e. not tarmac the surface). For example, a bowling green is normally square and that at Abbey Park is probably in the region of 31m square. A volleyball court (grass or sand) is 15.2m (50') by 24.4m (80') so would fit comfortably within this space.</p>

**TABLE 16: KEY ACTIONS FOR BOWLS**

To protect current provision and ensure facilities are fit for purpose	<p>To protect and maintain all three indoor bowls centres and 11 outdoor bowling greens in Torbay. Continue to support clubs to ensure demand for bowls is met and facilities are fit-for-purpose. This includes supporting refurbishment plans of bowls clubs and appropriate replacement facilities if any existing bowling facilities are redeveloped (e.g. at Torquay Utd FC's ground at Plainmoor) .</p> <p>There is a lack of security for club access to outdoor bowling greens at two bowls clubs and it is recommended</p>
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	that further work be completed to ensure longer-term community access at these sites.
To safeguard disused bowls site for sport	To investigate the opportunity to repurpose disused bowls sites for another sport, based on local demand.

## I ARCHERY

### KEY FINDINGS AND MAIN ISSUES

- There are three archery clubs based in Torbay; Torquay Company of Archers, Brixham Archery Club and Paignton Archery Club.
- Torquay Company of Archers has a waiting list for beginner courses (50 people) across the age ranges. The club would like to move to a dedicated indoor shooting range in addition to a field facility as this would enable them to host competitions for visiting archers and clubs. It would continue to use Torquay Academy sports hall for indoor shooting.
- Brixham Archery Club uses six sites in Torbay for archery (including three field archery sites). Due to the likelihood of its existing facilities at Upton Manor Campsite being lost to redevelopment, the Club is actively seeking new sites for indoor and outdoor facilities and it is aware that there could be land near to its existing facilities which may offer space to relocate the facilities.
- As a relatively small NGB, Archery GB cannot offer information on participation rates. However, it is able to provide membership numbers and financial data, and it is aware of the plans for archery clubs in Torbay. Generally, the biggest hindrance for archery clubs is security of access at sites that favour football and cricket club usage.

### KEY SITES AND ACTIONS

**TABLE 17: PRIORITY PROJECTS FOR ARCHERY– SITE SPECIFIC**

LOCATION/PROJECT	ACTION
Site for Brixham Archery Club	Replacement facilities for Upton Manor Campsite and outdoor range used by club
Site for Torquay Company of Archers	Permanent site with secure access for Torquay Company of Archers

**TABLE 18: KEY ACTIONS FOR ARCHERY**

<p>To protect current provision</p>	<p>To protect and maintain current archery facilities and access to them by the community. Facilities used by the two archery clubs in Torbay are to be retained or enhanced as part of redevelopment unless an assessment has demonstrated that there is an excess of provision and is surplus to requirements or clear evidence supports relocation.</p>
<p>To find new and replacement sites for archery</p>	<p>Continue to support clubs to ensure demand for archery is met and facilities are fit-for-purpose. Archery clubs in Torbay should be supported in their searches for new facilities. Playing pitch sites that have been identified as surplus to requirements, or have spare capacity to accommodate archery, should be considered (such as Easterfield Lane in Torquay and Clennon Valley and Oldway in Paignton). It is recommended that further feasibility work be completed to ensure the needs of the users are met by new archery facilities.</p>

## J OTHER SPORTS

- This Strategy is primarily focused on playing pitches and the main sports which are played on them – football, cricket, rugby and hockey – and other facilities such as bowling greens and tennis courts which often lie adjacent. But there are other aspects to playing pitches and the land on which they lie. Many playing fields are valuable in their own right as public open space sites for informal recreation and a wealth of informal activities – kite flying, picnics, play, environmental studies, dog walking and so on – which all contribute towards people’s good health and well being and need to be managed proactively to ensure harmony between users.
- The strategy has also considered athletics and archery which make use of playing fields. Moreover, there are other pitch sports which play on grass, including baseball, lacrosse, softball, American football and rounders. There are clubs and teams for the latter two in Torbay – American Football is played at Foxhole Field in Paignton by American Trojans and Clennon Valley is used by a local rounders league. There may be other examples which are not recorded here. This diversity and activity should be supported; it helps to maintain the viability and sustainability of the sites and ensures that they are used all year round.

Additional ancillary facilities such as toilets, shelters and cafes should be provided to similarly encourage participation in outdoor activities.

## 4 DELIVERY OF STRATEGIC SITES - OPTIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

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4.1 The strategy identifies three key strategic priority sites in the Bay: Clennon Valley, Torquay Valley of Sport (Torre Valley North, Torre Valley South and Torquay Recreation Ground) and Barton Downs. While there are numerous other important sites where action is required (for example, to improve pitch quality or changing facilities – **please see Action Plans which refer to all sites**), these strategic sites present opportunities for projects which can significantly improve access to good quality sports pitches and facilities. Improving these sites will have a major impact on sport because they fulfil one or more of the following:

- Are large and/or multi-pitch sites;
- Are not being used or not utilised to their full extent, often due to constraints and/or poor quality facilities and pitches;
- Are large enough to be able to become “hub” sites for single or multiple sports;
- Provide an opportunity to reduce the number of shared use sites;
- Provide an opportunity to accommodate sport in a wider than local context; and,
- Provide pitches and facilities to help fill gaps in demand and address deprivation.

4.2 As large multi-sport sites, the proposals for which also inter-relate, proposals for both Clennon Valley and Torquay Valley for Sport will need site detailed feasibility, phasing and masterplanning work to be done as a priority first stage to understand the exact size, specification and layout of pitches.

4.3 The existing and proposed facilities which could be considered at these sites can be summarised as follows:

### **Clennon Valley**

- Improve drainage, reinstate the rugby pitch, provide youth football pitches as a hub site with appropriate ancillary facilities, consider the provision of a new cricket ground and retain the sand-based artificial grass pitch.
- An enhanced pitch maintenance programme has now being adopted by Torbay Council at Clennon Valley. Masterplanning and feasibility work is now required to establish possible pitch layouts, ground conditions (including work to establish suitability for a new cricket square), timetable and costs for drainage and other works etc.

- Other additional options/pitch uses to be considered subject to feasibility and masterplanning including a compact athletics facility (if not feasible at Torquay Valley of Sport), sports lighting for velo track, a 9v9 3G FTP and expansion of other sports such as rounders.

### **Torquay Valley of Sport:**

- Address flood risk (and potential long-term loss of playable area at Torquay Recreation Ground) and the condition of stands; enhance/provide new (joint) clubhouse facility for rugby and cricket at the Recreation Ground; move cricket from Torre Valley North to Clennon Valley (subject to feasibility).
- Various other options subject to further feasibility and masterplanning include: introducing a compact athletics facility on either Torre Valley North or Torre valley South and transferring rugby use from Torre Valley South to Torre Valley North.



### **Barton Downs:**

- Bring grass pitches back into use; provide access to existing changing facilities; secure good maintenance and management of facilities and site and improve the surface of the Multi Use Games Area

## **ASSESSING PRIORITIES**

4.4 The identified strategic sites should be the main priorities behind which all partners can get behind to help deliver. Across the numerous other site-specific actions identified in the Action Plan which accompanies this Strategy, priorities for these will have to be established by the Delivery Group, which will also have to monitor priorities and progress being made. Partnership working should be undertaken throughout and discussion and delivery of priorities cannot be left to Delivery Group meetings to execute. There are a number of factors which will need to be considered in determining the priority of the actions for sites identified which can be used as a checklist:

### **Supply / demand considerations**

- Certainty that demand will continue/return to a site.
- Risk to the sport remaining in the Bay.
- The ability for improvements/provision to address pockets of high deprivation.
- Spatial gaps and proximity to existing similar pitch provision.

### **Funding and viability considerations**

- TBC investment priorities.

- NGB investment priorities.
- Funding available and dependency on more than one source of funding.
- Long-term viability and availability of ongoing revenue funding for e.g. maintenance

### **Site considerations**

- Understanding the precise scope of works required (e.g. through any investigation works, understanding of NGB standards, masterplanning for larger/more complex sites)
- Security of tenure
- Suitability for intensification of use (e.g. ability to upgrade).

### **Decision considerations**

- 'Easy'/quick win improvements to existing facilities and pitches (e.g. refurbishment, access to existing changing, minor drainage works).
- Political/corporate priorities.
- Planning and other on-site and setting constraints.
- Need (or not) for planning permission and timescales needed for pre-application and full application approval.

If facilities have little or no prospect of being delivered or community access cannot be secured, then new or alternative sites will need to be identified.

## **5 DELIVERY OF THE STRATEGY**

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### **ACTION PLAN**

5.1 This Strategy is accompanied by an Action Plan, setting out the site-specific actions for each sport and strategic and priority projects. Following consultation on the draft Strategy and Action Plan, and any changes made as a result, this Strategy's Action Plan should be monitored periodically, making the Action Plan a "live" document. Members of the PPS Steering Group (which will become a "Delivery Group") will have a responsibility to update the Action Plan and work collaboratively (with others including clubs, teams, providers and owners of facilities and pitches) to implement projects. The delivery stage will also confirm options for change presented in this strategy as further work during implementation is done on feasibility, viability and implications of other actions. Further recommendations for the Delivery Group to follow are presented under Guiding Principle 4 later in this section.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MONITORING AND DELIVERY**

5.2 Alongside the priority and strategic actions for sports and their sites, pitches and facilities identified above, the principles set out in Section 2 provide a structure for further, additional

recommendations and actions, which will help enable appropriate delivery of the PPS, and which apply across Torbay (rather than being for individual specific sites).

**Overarching Principle: Protect, Enhance, Provide**

*To protect existing provision and proactively plan for and provide sufficient and appropriate high-quality pitches, facilities and opportunities (enhanced and new) to meet demand to 2040, wherever possible making the best use of facilities already available.*

Recommendations - Protect, Enhance, Provide	
OP1	<b>Follow statutory planning policy and guidance.</b> Proposals to be considered in accordance with national policy, the development plan (Torbay Adopted Local Plan and made Neighbourhood Plans), Sport England policy (Playing Fields Policy and Guidance), this PPS and other material considerations.
OP2	<b>Protect existing playing fields</b> from change of use or loss where there is demand now or likely to be demand for their use in the future.
OP3	<b>Make best use of existing supply.</b> Improve the quality of existing sites before new sites are provided.
OP4	<b>Support proposals for sport</b> in line with this PPS in principle.
OP5	<b>Sports site development or enhancement.</b> When undertaking sports-related site development or enhancement, the following issues will continue to be considered: alignment with Torbay Council’s Strategy ‘Torbay on the Move’; financial viability including delivery and ongoing maintenance costs; security of tenure; planning constraints and material considerations; adequacy of existing finances to maintain existing sites; site Masterplan; analysis of the possibility of shared site management opportunities; availability of opportunities to lease sites to external organisations; options to assist community groups to gain funding to enhance existing provision; negotiation with landowners to increase access to private strategic sites; and, impact on all sports that use a site regardless of the sport that is the subject of enhancements.
OP6	<b>New developments to have adequate and appropriate provision for the pitch sports,</b> complementary to existing provision and making the optimum

Recommendations - Protect, Enhance, Provide

	<p>use of existing resources and facilities available. Demand arising from developments to be accommodated via investment wherever possible at existing club sites or strategic multi-pitch facilities unless development is of such a scale that it is commensurate with on-site facilities.</p>
<p>OP7</p>	<p><b>Proposals to develop and use facilities contrary to the recommendations of this assessment and any subsequent strategy and action plan, should only be approved where:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ an assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the facilities to be surplus to requirements; or</li> <li>▪ the loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or</li> <li>▪ the development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss.</li> </ul>
<p>OP8</p>	<p><b>Appropriate and high-quality facilities</b>, as well as helping to attract and retain players in informal and formal sport, will enable clubs to move up through the leagues and may require ancillary provision such as changing facilities, perimeter fencing and floodlighting. Existing and new pitches and facilities must be protected from damage, vandalism, and misuse (for example, from littering and dog fouling<sup>4</sup>). This may require the sensitive introduction of measures at shared use open spaces and facilities. Pitches on public open space sites require good, careful and timely management to ensure quality is maintained. Appropriate sites are identified in the Actions Plans.</p>

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<sup>4</sup> Fouling of pitches by dogs is a major problem on sites owned by Torbay Councils and reduces the likelihood of teams, particularly junior and youth age groups, from using them at all. Measures to control can be challenging but working closely in partnership with local communities to install appropriate measures and infrastructure, as well as education, is a key to addressing this problem.

Recommendations - Protect, Enhance, Provide

OP9

- While the **Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS)** is not a statutory planning document, **it should, nonetheless, be taken fully into account as and when the statutory development plan (comprised of the adopted Local Plan and made Neighbourhood Plans) within Torbay is produced / reviewed.** This extends to considering the up-to-date position in the Action Plan and subsequent updating of that Plan by the Stage E delivery / steering group as delivery of priorities takes place. It is necessary for development plans not only to be cognisant of the short, medium and long-term strategy for protection, provision and enhancement of pitches and ancillary facilities in the PPS, but also of the opportunities that their review can present in providing solutions to constraints and growing demand in the Bay.
- Other than the recommendations in the Action Plans, it will be very important for Torbay Council to provide complementary guidance through their planning policies, and these should cover the following:
  - Include policies and proposals in its Development Plan documents which are consistent with National Planning Policy Framework guidance and, in particular, include reference to the recommendations contained in this Section. Strategic policies should set out expected requirements and formulae for the provision of facilities and open space and specify that sums for offsite delivery may be required.
  - Where strategic development sites or new communities are being considered there should be early identification of suitably sized level areas which can be safeguarded for provision of playing pitches
  - Include proposals that cover the relevant recommendations contained in the Action Plans where the location and/or site of new or improved provision is determined.
  - In assessing all options, the potential for developing/improving bone fide community facilities on existing and new school sites should be considered.

OP10 **New sites allocated for the pitch sports** should have sufficient area and flexibility to be future proofed for a range of pitch sizes and different sports.

## Recommendations - Protect, Enhance, Provide

New, isolated, single pitch and single sport sites / provision are unlikely to be fit for purpose for the modern game, will not be likely to maximise their use and may not see value for money or a good return from the investment made.

OP11

- **Funding of sport and recreation facilities** is often difficult and the many demands on development obligations result in complex viability negotiations with the needs of e.g. affordable housing, balanced against the needs of social and community infrastructure. A key factor is the deliverability of the scheme – whether funding has been allocated and whether the structure is already in place to deliver it. Schemes need to be fluid and flexible and able to adapt quickly to change. There will be some elements of schemes that have quick, easy ‘wins’ – enhancements for example.
- Any Football Foundation investment will be targeted towards projects identified in the Local Football Facilities Plan and will concentrate on 3+ adult pitch or equivalent sites. (LFFP identified projects are identified in the Action Plan).
- Section 106 planning obligations should continue to be used for collecting and allocating contributions to sport and recreation projects and will play a role alongside the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and Government’s proposed changes (in the Regeneration and Levelling-up Bill 2022) to the CIL regime in funding or part-funding improvements to pitches and facilities.
- Maintenance payments through developer contributions are unlikely to cover full costs for maintenance and operational funds have to come from other budgets. Projects involving education sites might also be funded through separate national capital funds. Other potential funding sources may include those listed below.
- Considerable investment is now being made into health which may be a way forward in securing funding for pitch improvements, particularly through community sport and wellbeing hubs which have an active sports component and link to nearby sports facilities.

## Recommendations - Protect, Enhance, Provide

- Capital funds from Sport England and National Governing Bodies (NGBs) can make a major contribution to key local capital projects. NGBs will work together to increase opportunities for joint funding, management and use of facilities and to avoid duplication and make the best use of what we already have.
- Innovative ways to link existing community assets/groups into the development of new identified projects will need to be developed to ensure they are sustainable and embedded within their local communities. There are other ways, not just financial, in which people can work together to improve the viability of pitch sport sites, for example, reviewing and rescheduling football kick-off times.
- Support for the voluntary sector in relation to the management and maintenance of facilities and membership activity (through, for example, subsidised training sessions and benefits if Clubmark is achieved) would help to ensure a thriving club sector and good quality facilities.

OP12 **Improvements to existing pitches and facilities and development of new pitches and facilities should demonstrate that they return good value for money, are efficient use of investment and provide long-term viability.** Wherever possible, sites and ancillary facilities should be multi-use and be capable of hosting a range of activities – throughout the year - on site (both formal sport and other activities) to enable all year-round use. Business cases and management plans (justifying capital and management / maintenance / revenue needs) should be put in place and acted upon through delivery to ensure this takes place.

### Guiding Principle 1: A Framework for Management and Delivery

*To create an ongoing management and delivery framework for people and organisations to work together to share skills, expertise, resources and facilities in implementing the Strategy.*

## Recommendations - A Framework for Management and Delivery

- GP1.1 **Torbay PPS Delivery Group.** Once the Strategy has been agreed by the Steering Group it will be adopted by Torbay Council and will form part of its evidence base for future development plan documents.
- The Steering Group will continue to provide the basis for membership of a “Torbay PPS Delivery Group”. This is a critical part of the PPS process, known as “Stage E”. Other organisations and individuals can be invited on to the Delivery Group as needed to oversee certain projects.
  - The evolving context of participation in sport and active recreation means that monitoring and review of the strategy is as important as the initial preparation of the document to ensure it remains sufficiently robust. The Council will also continue to maintain the PPS database underpinning the Strategy (Stage B database) and ensure data is kept up to date and communicated through the steering group to relevant bodies.
  - The Delivery Group will thus continue to be committed to advancing the strategy and keeping it up to date through:
    1. Development of detailed understanding of priority projects' configuration and costs through feasibility, masterplanning and business planning.
    2. Monitoring the delivery of the recommendations and actions and identifying any changes that are required to the priority afforded to each action.
    3. Recording changes to the pitch stock in the Borough and evaluating the impact of this on the supply and demand information.
    4. Assessing the impact of changes to participation, including changing trends and the development of new formats of the game as well as affiliation data for each of the National Governing Bodies of Sport.
    5. Assessing the impact of demographic changes and new population estimates/ projected planned housing numbers.
    6. Analysis of funding sources and new funding opportunities for the provision/improvement of sports facilities.

## Recommendations - A Framework for Management and Delivery

	<p>7. Reviewing growth of emerging sports, their participation rates, facilities available for them and likely facilities necessary for their support and development.</p> <p>8. Taking both proactive and reactive actions to implement and follow the recommendations of this Strategy.</p>
GP1.2	<p><b>Continue to develop partnership working</b> between Council departments, health agencies, facility operators, the education sector, NGBs, local sports clubs and the third / voluntary /community sector to expand the range of affordable and accessible opportunities for both residents and visitors to Torbay.</p> <p>Explore opportunities for collaborative working between neighbouring authorities to maximise cross-boundary usage. Maintain and develop relationship with South Hams and Teignbridge District Councils.</p>
GP1.3	<p><b>Opportunities for the co-location of facilities and types of pitch</b> between different sport, surface types and other, more informal or commercial, leisure activities should be considered to help ensure long-term viability of sites and their use throughout the year.</p>
GP1.4	<p><b>Extending the use of pitch assets out of season:</b> Torbay has traditionally hosted summer sporting festivals – run by either the local authority or commercial operators. The Easter Hockey Festival is taking place this year at Torbay Leisure Centre. ‘Torbay’ football festivals in the recent past have used playing facilities in Newton Abbot whilst staying in Torbay. This year, the SCI Torquay Football Tournament is taking place in May at Stoke Gabriel (just outside the Bay). Such events can clearly have an economic value to the Bay, particularly out of season and during mid-season breaks, where visiting teams and their families may make use of Torbay’s visitor offer. Sports festivals should be promoted and encouraged to be hosted in Torbay to help contribute to year-round viability of pitches and facilities and the wider economy.</p>
GP1.5	<p><b>Understanding costs of improvements and maintenance:</b> Within the Delivery phase, develop a funding strategy to maintain/enhance facilities and pitches. Identify lead personnel to drive this forward. This may</p>

## Recommendations - A Framework for Management and Delivery

	necessitate further feasibility work to fully understand costs associated with improvements and maintenance.
GP1.6	<b>Understanding acceptable costs to access pitches and facilities:</b> Seek to ensure that sports facility charges are reasonable in terms of affordability to residents, and are comparable with similar facilities elsewhere. Keep community accessible sports facility charges under review and benchmark against neighbouring authorities.

### Guiding Principle 2: Health and Well-being

*To recognise and emphasise the value of the pitch sports in contributing to enhanced mental and physical health and well-being, particularly for those still underrepresented in the pitch sports, and in helping to address socio-economic deprivation.*

## Recommendations - Health and Well-being

GP2.1	<b>Role of pitch sports in physical and mental health and well-being</b> There is now widespread appreciation of the problems of obesity and poor physical and mental health and well-being through a lack of exercise, and how the provision and use of sports pitches and associated facilities may link into wider health and community development agendas. Provision of pitches and facilities should reflect opportunities to improve the physical and mental health and well-being in local communities through both formal and informal sport.
GP2.2	<b>Multi-use of playing fields and their environs:</b> Playing fields are undoubtedly 'healthy places', serving multiple roles such as open recreational / leisure space, habitat and biodiversity at their edge, being part of a wider green infrastructure network, sustainable drainage, pollution control, carbon sequestration and, of course, for sport. Their importance has been highlighted through the Covid-19 pandemic when so many regular sporting activities have been severely curtailed and on return to a more 'normal' situation, it will be important to ensure that they provide facilities and opportunities for as many people within the community as possible and serve a wider than sport role.

## Recommendations - Health and Well-being

GP2.3 Playing pitch facilities should be an equitable resource – available and accessible to all, whatever their age, gender, level of ability or disability, level of inactivity or activity, or income. Football, cricket and rugby are still predominantly male sports; hockey is more gender equitable with generally equal numbers of participants and teams. Other under-represented groups include people from lower income households and socio-economic groups (particularly in areas with high levels of deprivation), people with disabilities, people from particular ethnic groups and those with long-term health conditions. There is evidence that costs and programming can disproportionately hinder use by under-represented groups. Investment should be targeted at providing pitch and facility types and improvements which are suitable to help deliver change but which also enable value for money and security of investment made in the long-term within the context of limited funding being available for sport.

GP2.4 **Opportunities to use both formal and informal sport to help reduce inequalities and improve health and well being in disadvantaged areas** should be a factors in determining localized priority sites for enhancement, subject to satisfactory protection of investment being secured . Better quality, dedicated changing, shower and pavilion facilities, toilets for youth participants and measures to enhance the safety, security and attractiveness of playing field sites – such as improving accessible paths, good quality grass, kick-about areas / MUGAs, adequate lighting, windbreaks, shelters and seats, “visibility” and multi-use of facilities through daytime and evening use, CCTV, vandalism proofing facilities without compromising accessibility and quality, and secure storage – are all measures that can enhance inclusivity and help ensure that investment made demonstrates value for money, helps to build community cohesiveness and ownership and helps to address the quality and offer available in areas of high deprivation for the benefit of local communities.

### **Guiding Principle 3: The Environment, Decarbonisation and Climate Change**

*To provide, manage and maintain facilities in such a way as to address issues of environmental sustainability and climate benefit.*

## Recommendations - The Environment, Decarbonisation and Climate Change

GP3.1	<p><b>Sustainable locations:</b> The strategy should be delivered to ensure that pitch improvements and their use are planned, managed and promoted to ensure that they lie at the heart of their local communities and are easily accessible to all, thus reducing the need to travel, and / or work is progressed to help ensure that transport connectivity (while prioritizing low carbon and active modes of travel first) are delivered in Torbay to ensure good and safe access to strategic and multi-pitch, multi-sport sites from across the Bay. When planning for major new developments and links to sports pitches and facilities, planning officers should be considering the principles established by Sport England / Public Health England's Active Design Guidance.</p>
GP3.2	<p><b>Good design</b> incorporating low carbon and carbon-reducing measures and innovations such as sustainable drainage systems, rainwater recycling, electric car and bike charging points, biomass boilers, the greater use of natural light / passivhaus design and underfloor heating in sports pavilions, solar power for electricity generation should be considered wherever feasible.</p> <p>Design must also reflect opportunities for multi-use of facilities by different sports, despite sometimes different standards being required. Compromise and adaptable buildings must be considered to help keep costs down and future proof use, particularly on multi-sport sites. Multi-use must extend to opportunities for wider community uses where feasible, needed and appropriate. Community Consultation should be at the heart of the project and direct the design.</p>
GP3.3	<p><b>Innovations:</b> Alternatives to grass and other technical developments could be considered in the future: hybrid pitches (a combination of grass and artificial grass) are being trialed in a few locations in the UK and may come forward as a sustainable alternative to full artificial grass provision, which face major challenges now in terms of manufacture, disposal of carpets, reduction of loss of rubber crumb to watercourses (from 3G pitches) and their lifetime cost. Other innovations, such as the use of a different ball for hockey to use on non-sand-based surfaces are also being trialed. The new Gen2 surface offers opportunities for hockey pitches to be</p>

## Recommendations - The Environment, Decarbonisation and Climate Change

	<p>viable in the long-term without relying on football demand to supplement income, by enabling netball and tennis to be played on the surface too. Other artificial surfaces and fills could become available during the lifetime of this Strategy and should be considered as options in the future where viable.</p>
GP3.4	<p><b>Role of strategic sites in supporting the environment:</b> Opportunities can be taken on multi-pitch / multi-use strategic sites, in particular, to invest in whole life and whole site plans which benefit on-site and adjacent ecology and habitats (for example, testing whether net gains in biodiversity can be achieved).</p>
GP3.5	<p>Pursue <b>whole life plans</b> for artificial pitches, in particular, to demonstrate how loss of rubber crumb into off-site environments can be minimised (e.g. removable filter in ducting on a dedicated fenced hardstanding path from 3G to changing and / or parking area to prevent loss of crumb to grassed areas), how surface can be sourced to minimise carbon footprint, how investment in a good maintenance and management programme can extend the surface life and how surface will be dealt with at end of its life.</p>
GP3.6	<p><b>The role of modular/portacabin prefabricated/container facilities:</b> Modular, portacabin, prefabricated and shipping container adaptations as buildings can work well in some locations. Subject to them being able to meet standards set by sports governing bodies and Sport England, and also demonstrate that they can be a low-carbon option, they could be much more widely used as a cost-effective and viable solution on some sites.</p>

### Guiding Principle 4: Education at the Heart of the Community

*To encourage and support FE establishments and secondary and primary schools in Torbay to embrace and develop community use of their pitch sport facilities by engaging directly with them and creating a forum for discussion around access, desired improvements, management and maintenance.*

## Recommendations - Education at the Heart of the Community

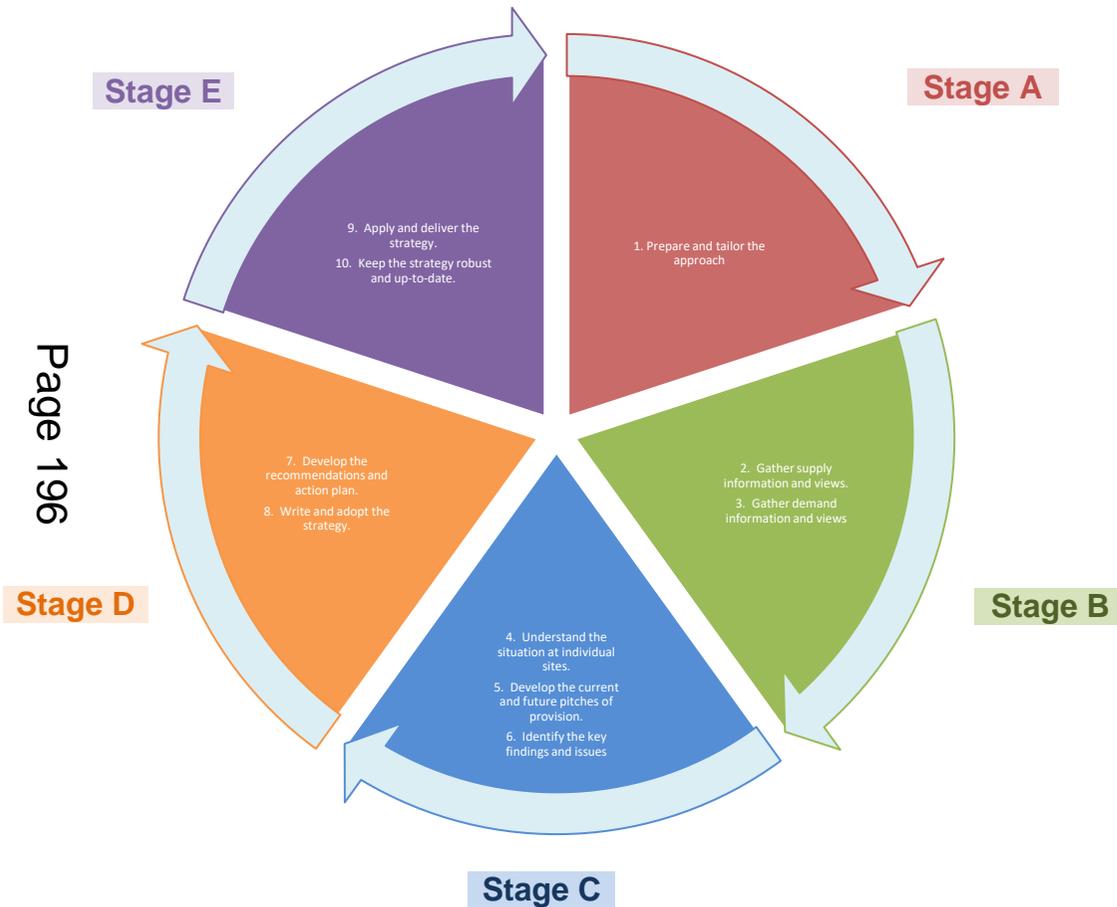
GP4.1	<p><b>Securing schools' role for community sport:</b></p> <p>South Devon College, the Secondary schools and some primary schools in Torbay make an important contribution to the playing pitch sports, particularly with regard to artificial grass pitch provision, but there is scope for greater community use at some, where long-term security of use for the community outside of the school day can be secured.</p> <p>In each of the main towns, the proximity/relationship of school sites to local authority provision can potentially lead to a more integrated approach between indoor and outdoor facilities and schools, sports clubs and the Council, if planned and progressed in partnership (for example, the cricket academy being developed by Torquay Academy and Barton Cricket Club in Cricketfield Road, Torquay). However, there are also examples of facilities being provided in schools without secure community use agreements, and a lack of ancillary provision, such as appropriately managed access, floodlighting and access to changing facilities and toilets, the latter being especially important for youth football sites.</p> <p>Links to the education sector should continue to be established in Torbay, by Active Devon, the NGBs, the Council itself and the TDA and the Delivery Group should include a representative from Education in Torbay who can influence community use in schools. This will require a proactive approach and intervention at the earliest stage of proposed projects, to ensure that the necessary community use agreements and appropriate design of facilities for community use are enacted.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that there are often issues around the security of and access to educational sites and a lack of funding to pay for appropriate upkeep and maintenance of facilities to maintain sufficient capacity for both school and community use. Sport England can provide advice on this (see <a href="http://www.sportengland.org/campaigns-and-our-work/use-our-school">www.sportengland.org/campaigns-and-our-work/use-our-school</a> ).</p>
GP4.2	<p>Ensure, as far as possible, that <b>any new sports facilities</b>, provided as part of future educational provision in Torbay, are designed for curricular, extra-curricular, community and sports development use and made available for community use out of school hours. Any proposed school</p>

Recommendations - Education at the Heart of the Community

sports facilities in Torbay should have appropriate external lighting, car and bicycle parking and changing facilities to enable community use.

# APPENDIX 1: THE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY “TEN STEP APPROACH” TO DEVELOPING A PPS

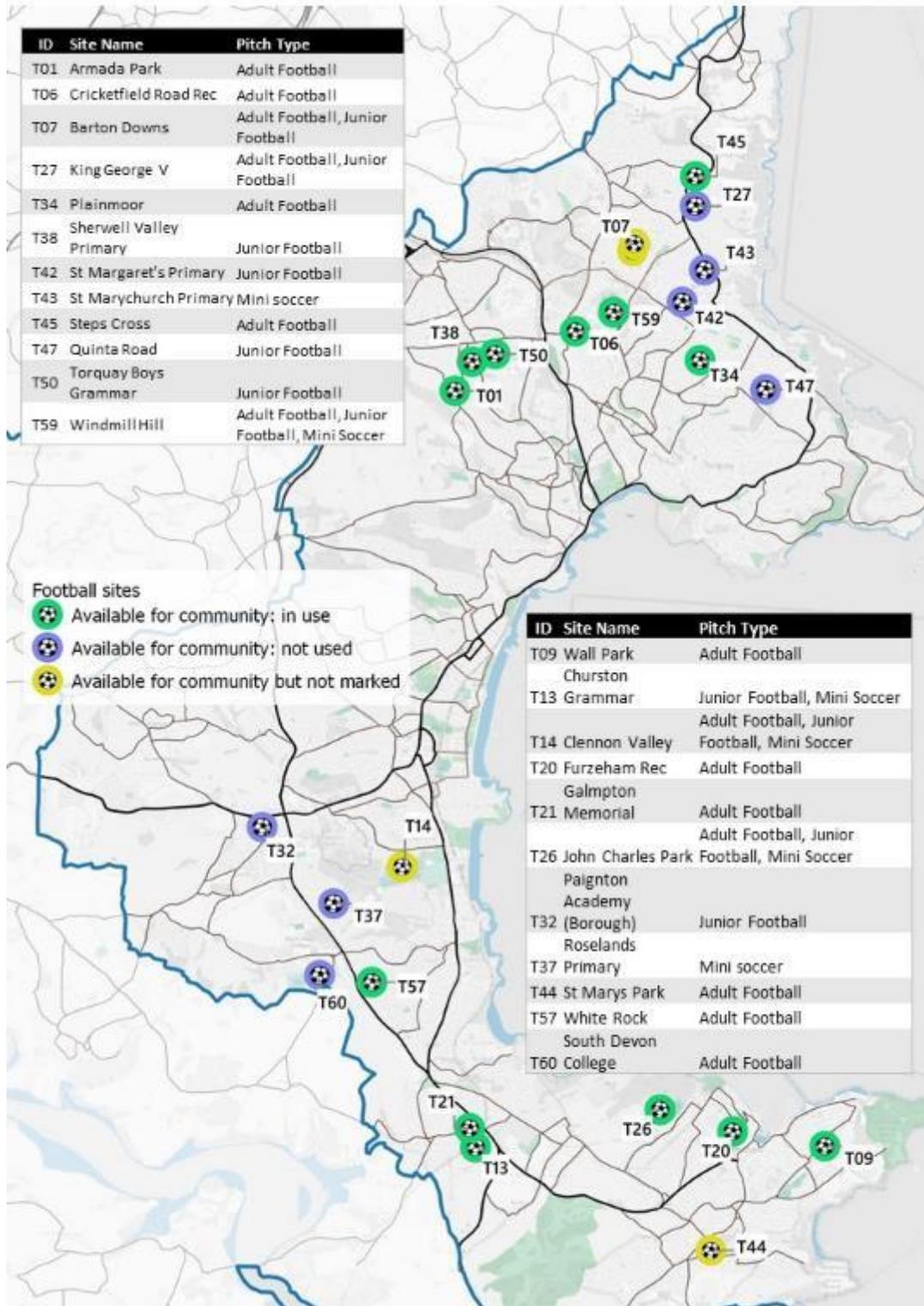
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# APPENDIX 2: SUMMARY OF PITCH SPORT DATA

## FOOTBALL

Map 2: FOOTBALL PITCH SITES IN TORBAY (see also Map 5)



## Grass Football Pitches

- 63 grass football pitches are recorded – 28 adult pitches; 23 youth and 12 mini. 16 are available for and in use by the community at 11 separate sites.
- 23 are available for use but not currently used – these include c16 pitches which could be marked out at short notice or have been in the past (at Clennon Valley, King George V (since discounted, Barton Downs, Windmill Hill and St Mary’s Park Brixham).
- 19 pitches, mostly at schools, are not available for community use.
- 4 pitches are at sites which have been disused for some time and have reverted to open space (Ilsham Valley, Stoodley Knowle and Easterfield Lane).

## Artificial Grass Pitches

- There are 5 full-size artificial grass pitches in Torbay – three x 3G FTP, all on the FA 3G Register and accredited for matchplay and all on education sites (Paignton Academy; South Devon College and Torquay Academy). The latter two 3Gs FTPs are rated as good quality; and the Torquay Academy surface is due to be upgraded in summer 2022. The pitch at Paignton Academy is rated as standard and requires resurfacing in order to meet re-accreditation in September 2024.
- As referred to under hockey, there are two x sand-based AGPs - Torbay Leisure Centre and TGGs both of which have been upgraded within the last 5 years. No particular issues with regard to quality have been identified.
- A drivetime catchment of 20 minutes shows a good geographical spread of facilities in terms of the three 3G FTPs, although parts of Brixham are not easily accessible.
- 97 teams are recorded as originating in Torbay – this includes 25 teams which play their matches outside it. The breakdown of these 97 teams is 29 adult, 1 ladies, 40 junior boys, 5 junior girls and 22 minis. Since 2013, there has been a movement of teams to play outside the Bay (due to lack of appropriate facilities within), a decline in the number of Saturday adult teams and a movement from grass to artificial grass pitches especially for matchplay.
- Additional demand to 2040 is predicted to be c.50 teams. This includes 22 teams currently playing outside the Bay and comprises c9 adult, 36 youth and 7 mini teams, viz:

**TABLE 19: PROJECTED GROWTH IN FOOTBALL TEAMS IN TORBAY**

Line	Reason for more teams	Men’s	Ladies’	Boys 11v11	Girls 11v11	Boys 9v9	Girls 9v9	Mixed 7v7	Mixed 5v5	3G
1	Population growth to 2040	4.5	0.2	3.8	0.5	2.3	0.3	2.3	1.0	

2	Pitch space based on above	2.3		2.1		1.3		1.2	0.5	0.4
3	+Latent/displaced demand	2		11		7	3			
4	+Aspirations/trends	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	
5	TOTAL TEAMS to 2040	7.5	1.2	16.8	2.5	11.3	5.3	4.3	3.0	
6	Est. Requirement for GRASS pitches	5		10		8		3	2	

# CRICKET

## Map 3: CRICKET PITCH SITES IN TORBAY



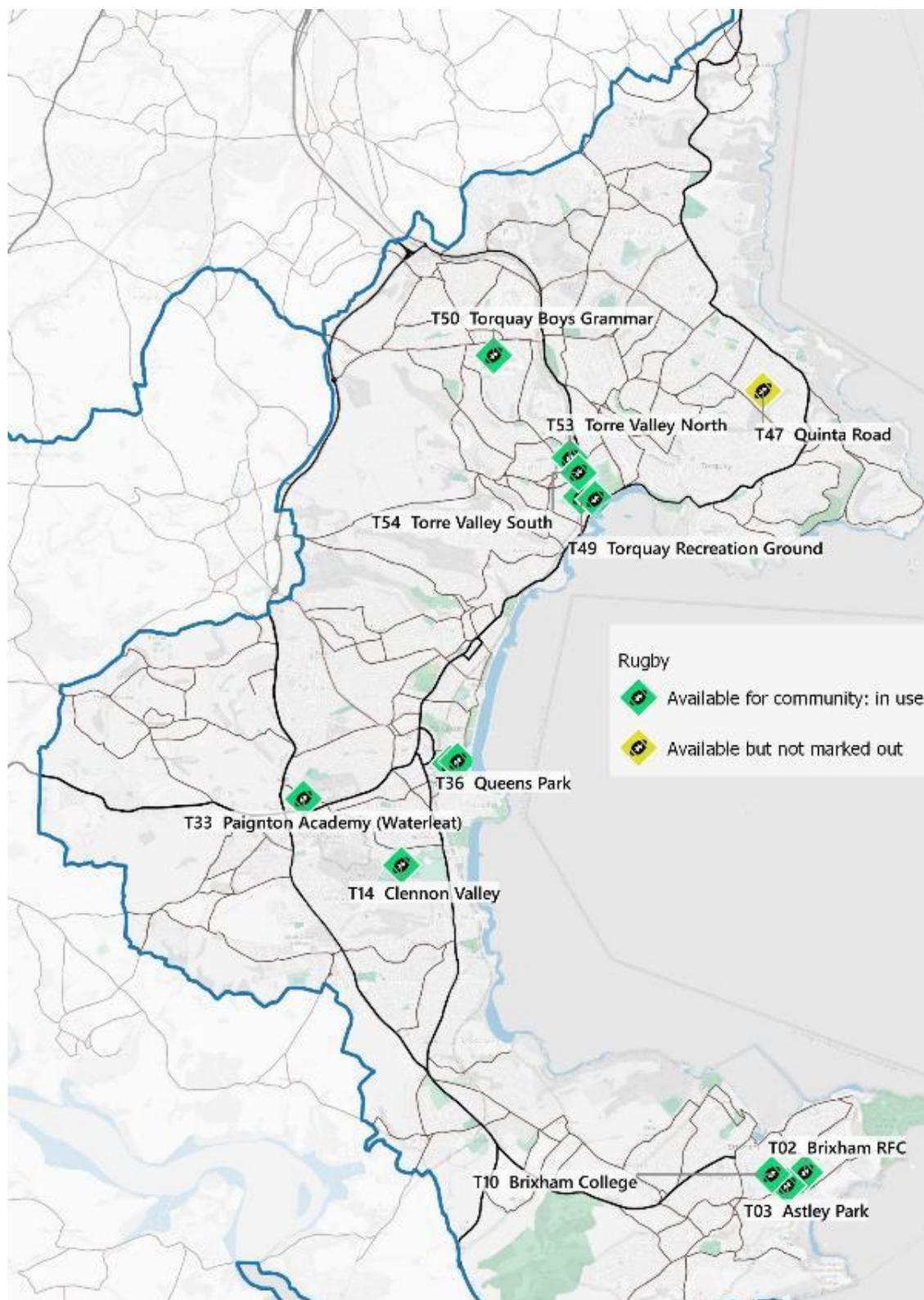
- 7 cricket grounds in Torbay, comprising 7 grass squares and 3 non turf wickets. One site – Brixham Cricket Club – is owned by the club; the other 6 sites are owned by Torbay Council, of which 4 are leased to clubs.
- There are no longer any playable non turf wickets (or grass squares) at schools.
- There are 7 cricket clubs: Torquay CC, Barton CC, Babbacombe CC and Paignton CC run both adult and youth teams; St Marychurch Old Boys, Cockington Corinthians and Brixham CC run adult teams only (the latter has a junior section.)
- In total across the Bay there are 19 adult teams, 3 Colts, 10 junior boys, 1 Ladies and 3 girls’ teams, making 36 teams in total (no Vets were recorded). There has been a decline in the number of teams playing in the Bay since 2013, noticeably in Brixham.
- Additional demand to 2040 could be in the order of 12 teams (5 men, 2 ladies and 5 juniors), as follows:

**Table 20 : PROJECTED GROWTH IN CRICKET TEAMS IN TORBAY**

Line	Reason for more teams	Men’s	Ladies’	Boys	Girls
1	Population growth to 2040	3.2	0.5	1.7	0.2
2	Pitches based on above 2040	1.2 (8 wickets per pitch)			
3	+ Latent/displaced demand				
4	+Aspirations/participation trends	1	1	1	1
5	TOTAL TEAMS to 2040	4.2	1.5	2.7	1.2
6	Requirement for pitch space 2040	9.6 teams in all – requiring access to up to 2 pitches (16 wickets)			

## RUGBY

Map 4: RUGBY PITCH SITES IN TORBAY



- Excluding educational and commercial sites, the number of marked rugby pitches with posts at either end are as follows: 2 adult and 1 midi pitches in Torquay (Torquay Recreation Ground, Torre Valley North and Torre Valley South); 1 adult and 1 midi pitches in Paignton (at Queen's Park) and 2 adult pitches in Brixham at Astley Park. There are a further 5 rugby pitches at school sites (those at Brixham College, Torquay Boys Grammar School and Paignton Academy having some degree of community use) and 2 pitches which have been marked in the past (at Clennon Valley in Paignton and Centry Road in Brixham). Mini pitches are marked out on several sites as and when required.
- All three rugby clubs' main pitches are leased from Torbay Council: Astley Park (Brixham RUFC); Torquay Recreation Ground (Torquay RUFC) and Queen's Park, Paignton (Paignton RUFC). Torquay RUFC also has use of pitches at Torre Valley North and Torre Valley South. Brixham RUFC has use of other pitches adjoining its main pitch at Astley Park.
- Each club runs the full complement of minis and juniors up to U16s. There are 8 adult teams; 2 Colts, 2 Ladies, 1 vets, 18 junior boys, 4 junior boys and at least 13 minis.
- There has been a slight increase in the number of teams since 2013 (from 45 to 48); other changes are: more boys' youth teams (up from 12 to 18 teams); 4 new girls' teams and less minis (decreased from 18 to 13 teams).
- Additional demand to 2040 could be in the order of 13 teams (4 adult and 9 youth), as follows:

**Table 21: PROJECTED GROWTH IN RUGBY TEAMS IN TORBAY**

Line	Reason for more teams	Men's	Women's	Boys	Girls	Mixed
1	Population growth to 2040	1.2	0.3	1.5	0.5	3.5
2	Pitches for 2040	2.2				
3	Latent demand	May result in larger squad sizes or existing players playing more often.				
4	Aspirations/Unmet demand		2	2	2	
5	TOTAL TEAMS to 2040	1.2	2.3	3.5	2.5	3.5
6	Requirement for pitch space	Up to 4 additional pitches				

# HOCKEY

Map 5: ARTIFICIAL GRASS PITCH SITES IN TORBAY



- There are two full-sized pitches sand based pitches with approved surfaces for hockey in Torbay – Torbay Leisure Centre (TLC) at Clennon Valley (sand filled – resurfaced in 2018) and Torquay Girls Grammar School (TGGS) (sand dressed – upgraded in 2018).
- Paignton and Torquay are well covered by the two sand-based AGPs although the catchment of the better surface (sand dressed at TGGS) does not extend to Brixham
- When a 20-minute walk-time catchment is assumed, ease of travel to facilities is greatly restricted.
- Cost of pitches varies significantly from £32 to £82 for half a pitch (mean £57) and from £54 to £105 for a full pitch (mean £70).
- Currently community use of the TGGS pitch is restricted by the school to matches and training by Torbay Hockey Club as their link club. Newton Abbot Hockey Club no longer play there but train and play at Torbay Leisure Centre, which also hosts training by local football clubs and other activities.
- Torbay Hockey Club has 180 members: 98 adults and 82 youth. It runs 6 league teams: 3 Men's teams, 3 Ladies teams and a junior U12 and a junior U10 sides playing in friendlies and tournaments.
- Newton Abbot Ladies run one Ladies team in Petroc 1. They have around 22 members in 2021/22, with 2 members aged 17-18 years.
- Additional demand to 2040 in terms of teams would be small, but social and less formal formats of the game are expected to increase as are the number of club members.

## APPENDIX 3: PROPOSALS FOR PITCH PROVISION AT TORBAY SCHOOLS

Through the process of this Strategy's preparation, consultation was undertaken directly with all secondary schools and Colleges in the Bay. This Appendix summarises the issues raised of relevance to the PPS.

Name of school	Community use facilities existing and planned
South Devon College	<p>No community use of grass pitch. No changing nearby.</p> <p>3G FTP has very few spare slots; used by wide range of football activity and demand growing.</p> <p>College would like to extend its range of sports, notably hockey and athletics.</p>
Brixham College	<p>Brixham RUFC mark out two rugby pitches on Sunday mornings for their midi/mini teams. (Area could be used for football on Saturday mornings if club could mark.) No cricket NTW.</p> <p>College set up a Working Group late last year to progress plans for a 3G FTP on site, in partnership with clubs in the town (rugby and potentially football)</p>
Churston Ferrers Grammar School	<p>Paignton Villa youth and mini teams use the youth &amp; mini pitch.</p> <p>Adult pitches (and associated changing) not available for use due to building works nearby although there is a CUA in existence.</p> <p>Devon Cricket reports School has approached them with regard to providing a cricket wicket at the school.</p>
Paignton Academy	<p>3G FTP is effectively full. Accommodates wide range of football related activity and demand is growing.</p> <p>Very likely that 3G FTP will need resurfacing in time for assessment for FA Register approval in September 2023; limited sinking funds available.</p> <p>Football pitch (Borough Road site) not used (slightly small); rugby pitch at Waterleat Road used as occasional overflow by Paignton RUFC.</p>

Name of school	Community use facilities existing and planned
Torquay Boys Grammar School	<p>Football pitch has some community use through Saints South West. Small AGP which needs upgrading; little community use as not suitable</p> <p>Reciprocal arrangement with Torquay RUFC (as overflow and school matches sometimes played at Recreation Ground).</p> <p>Major plans to develop school as community sports and wellbeing hub. May involve restructuring of artificial surfaces near to school to provide larger area and provision of a full-size, World Rugby 3G FTP on lower school playing fields, plus improvements to fitness suite and other indoor provision.</p> <p>– School would like to jointly manage sand-based pitch on adjacent TGGs site</p> <p>Cricket NTW no longer usable.</p>
Torquay Girls Grammar School	<p>AGP is home to Torbay Hockey Club for matches and training ('link club'). Currently not available for any other use.</p> <p>Prior to Covid, AGP was also home pitch of Newton Abbot Ladies Hockey Club and accommodated several football clubs and sessions.</p> <p>Announcement in June 2022 by the School that they will no longer be providing community use of their AGP, with the 21 year community use agreement due to end soon in October 2022.</p>
The Spires	<p>Quinta Road Playing Fields (off site) have football and rugby provision – apparently available for community use but not used for some time (managed by Semperion).</p> <p>No developments possible until PFI contact finishes 2027.</p> <p>Small MUGA on main school site; was hired out pre-Covid.</p>
St Cuthbert Mayne	<p>Adult football and small rugby in front of school – no community use</p>

Name of school	Community use facilities existing and planned
Sherwell Valley Primary	The only primary school recorded as having regular community use – Upton Athletic minis use its mini pitch and the pitch is widely used after school and during the holidays.
Other Primaries	See Strategy Action Plan. Several schools record they would be happy to host some community use; however, problems of pitch quality and access to the sites are issues which require resolving.

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND PITCH SIZES

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**Glossary Table 1 LIST OF ACRONYMS USED IN THE REPORT**

<b>3G FTP</b>	3G Football Turf Pitch	<b>FA</b>	Football Association/Devon FA
<b>AD</b>	Active Devon	<b>FF</b>	Football Foundation
<b>AGP</b>	Artificial Grass Pitch	<b>LFFP</b>	Local Football Facility Plan
<b>AGB</b>	Archery GB	<b>TC</b>	Torbay Council
<b>Comm. Org.</b>	Community Organisation	<b>LTA</b>	Lawn Tennis Association
<b>CUA</b>	Community Use Agreement	<b>MUGA</b>	Multi Use Games Area
<b>DC</b>	Devon Cricket	<b>NGBs</b>	National Governing Bodies
<b>ECB</b>	England and Wales Cricket Board	<b>NTW</b>	Non-Turf Wicket (Cricket)
<b>EA</b>	England Athletics	<b>RFU</b>	Rugby Football Union
<b>BE</b>	Bowls England	<b>SE</b>	Sport England

<b>EH</b>	England Hockey	<b>VQA</b>	Visual Quality Assessment
<b>EN</b>	England Netball	<b>SLA</b>	Service Level Agreement
<b>EIBA</b>	English Indoor Bowling Assn		

For reference, playing pitch areas (including run offs, excluding ancillary facilities) are:

**Glossary Table 2 AREA AND DIMENSIONS OF PLAYING PITCHES BY SPORT**

	Type	Age Range	Overall Space	Hectares
Football	5v5	U7, U8	43m x 33m	0.14
	7v7	U9, U10	61m x 43m	0.26
	9v9	U11, U12	79m x 52m	0.41
	Youth 11v11	U13, U14	88m x 56m	0.49
	Youth 11v11	U15, U16	97m x 61m	0.59
	Adult	U17 upwards	106m x 70m	0.74
Cricket	Full pitch	All	111.56m x 115.84m	1.29
Rugby Union	Youth	U12 and below	80m x 53m	0.42

\*Source: Comparative Sizes of Sports Pitches & Courts (OUTDOOR) September 2015 Update – Sport England



# TORBAY PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

## Action Plan

October 2022

Relevant potential delivery partners are highlighted in the Action Plans. Progress towards delivering against the action plans and the potential for additional actions will be considered at regular meetings of the Playing Pitch Strategy Delivery Group. Partners to deliver action and other acronyms will be used as follows:

<b>3G FTP</b>	3G Football Turf Pitch	<b>FA</b>	Football Association/Devon FA
<b>AD</b>	Active Devon	<b>FF</b>	Football Foundation
<b>AGP</b>	Artificial Grass Pitch	<b>LFFP</b>	Local Football Facility Plan
<b>AGB</b>	Archery GB	<b>TC</b>	Torbay Council
<b>Comm. Org.</b>	Community Organisation	<b>LTA</b>	Lawn Tennis Association
<b>CUA</b>	Community Use Agreement	<b>MUGA</b>	Multi Use Games Area
<b>DC</b>	Devon Cricket	<b>NGBs</b>	National Governing Bodies
<b>ECB</b>	England Cricket Board	<b>NTW</b>	Non-Turf Wicket (Cricket)
<b>EA</b>	England Athletics	<b>RFU</b>	Rugby Football Union
<b>BE</b>	Bowls England	<b>SE</b>	Sport England
<b>EH</b>	England Hockey	<b>VQA</b>	Visual Quality Assessment
<b>EN</b>	England Netball	<b>SLA</b>	Service Level Agreement
<b>EIBA</b>	English Indoor Bowling Association		

Indicative time frames and/or priorities could be as follows (although it is recognised that many actions will run concurrently and/or take advantage of opportunities arising):

- S Short term (1-3 years): Ongoing and very important; to be addressed now
- M Medium term (3-8 years): Important: to be addressed and planned for in Council decision making and policy - these can be added.

**Cost Band to be entered at Delivery stage, if necessary,**

Cost estimates – if included - will be taken from the latest version of the Facilities Costs Datasheet provided by Sport England.

**Recommendations from previous PPS included to show progress and/or how demand has changed.**

- A TORQUAY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AREA**
- B PAIGNTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AREA**
- C BRIXHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AREA**
- D BROADSANDS, CHURSTON AND GALMPTON PLAN AREA**

## A LIST OF SITES – TORQUAY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AREA

TORQUAY SITE REFS	SITE	SPORT; PITCHES; QUALITY RATING	SUMMARY OF KEY ACTION POINTS IN 2014 PPS	SPORT FACILITY AND ACTIVITY SUMMARY FROM SITE AUDITS AND CLUB SURVEY	OPTIONS AND RECOMMENDED ACTIONS (STAGE D)	Priority Site/ Projects	Lead partners to deliver action	Funding
T63	Abbey Park	2 x outdoor bowling greens. Victoria Bowls Club (Good quality) and open-access green (Below Average quality).  10 x outdoor tennis courts - 5 courts in use (Below Average quality); 3 disused courts and 2 courts leased by a climbing facility operator.	Progress Torbay Seafront Sports Hub (including Torquay Bowling Club (private), Abbey Park Bowling Green operator, Victoria Bowling Club & Kings Bowling Club).  Support proposals for upgrading tennis courts (resurfacing and deep cleaning of existing courts) where this would enhance the quality of play and skill development. Priority sites included Abbey Park (phased programme of upgrading).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One green is enclosed by fencing and managed through Victoria Bowls Club; the other is open access (available to hire).</li> <li>All tennis courts are fenced (5 available to hire and 2 floodlit).</li> </ul>	<p>ENHANCE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that the capacity provided by the bowling club green and at least 5 tennis courts are accessible to the community for the full period of the strategy.</li> <li>Protect the capacity provided by the pay and play bowling green, in principle. However, given the current condition of the green and the cost of rehabilitating it, its viability as a pay &amp; play facility may be compromised. Therefore, there may be other options to explore in the short – medium term in order to maximise the usage of the well located site:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whether the expected pay &amp; play element of demand could be accommodated at one of the other bowling greens nearby (e.g. Abbey Park Bowls Club)</li> <li>Uses to which this space could be put on a temporary basis, with the possibility of it being reinstated as a bowling green should future demand arise (i.e. not tarmacing the surface). For example, a bowling green is normally square and that at Abbey Park is probably in the region of 31m square. A volleyball court (grass or sand) is 15.2m (50') by 24.4m (80') so would fit comfortably within this space.</li> </ul> </li> <li>To ensure the facilities are fit-for purpose and retained or enhanced as part of any redevelopment, unless an assessment has demonstrated that there is an excess of provision and is surplus to requirements or clear evidence supports.</li> <li>The quality of the 5 tennis courts in use to be improved with an operational model that enables growth in casual tennis play. This will include the integration of SmartAccess gate technology to facilitate online court bookings and payments. These 5 courts at Abbey Park will form phase 1 of LTA &amp; Council investment.</li> </ul>	Yes	LTA	LTA
T01	Armada Park	1 x adult football, overmarked with 7v7 Standard	Consider improvements to meet requirements of Peninsula League (and other leagues as appropriate) Possible asset transfer site (Kingskerswell & Chelston)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tiered site; basic changing facility; poor. Clubs rate pitch as adequate.</li> <li>Used by Upton Athletic and UnAthletic FC</li> <li>Capacity analysis suggests pitch is potentially able to accommodate additional teams</li> <li>Apparently new changing room shell going up – with possible use of portacabins.</li> </ul>	<p>ENHANCE AND PROVIDE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision of new changing facilities (LFFP priority)</li> <li>Investigate changes to maintenance regime and remedial work to help improve pitch quality</li> <li>Add measures to increase use of pitch and reduce recreational overplay</li> </ul>	Yes	TC, Club	TC

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lease in process of being negotiated with Upton Athletic.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Options for provision of car parking/improved access to the site.</li> </ul>			
<b>T64</b>	<b>Babbacombe Bowling Club</b>	1 x outdoor bowling green – good quality.	No specific action for Babbacombe Bowling Club - general bowls actions was to raise participation in bowls.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Club reported the requirement of a new lease (current lease expires in 2023) in order to obtain funding for a new clubhouse roof (which will need repairing in the near future).</li> </ul>	<p>ENHANCE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that the supply of facilities is accessible to the community for the full period of the strategy by providing Babbacombe Bowling Club with a new 20-year lease.</li> <li>A full building survey on clubhouse and work up of a full cost plan is recommended to work out what is needed for the future of this facility.</li> </ul>		Bowls England, Club	
<b>T07</b>	<b>Barton Downs</b>	Currently only marked as 1 adult pitch, (standard – although not formally rated as not in use).	Improvement/upgrade of changing facilities to cater for two pitches and better cater for women and juniors and disabled Support upgrade of existing MUGA to half size/9v9 3g football turf pitch Increase/introduce summer football, baseball, rounders, American football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Badly worn goal mouths from casual, unbooked use?; currently no recorded formal use;</li> <li>No access for footballers to Acorn Centre facilities and consequently no changing facilities on site.</li> <li>Previously home to Barton Athletic FC. Club wishes to return to this ground if access to some type of changing facility can be achieved.</li> <li>Ongoing negotiations currently with several other clubs around possible relocation here, including Babbacombe Corinthians FC and Watcombe Wanderers FC.</li> <li>Scouts and other activities are based at the site. MUGA is not floodlit, small and in poor condition.</li> </ul>	<p>ENHANCE AND PROVIDE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enormous potential for site lying in area of high deprivation. Potential for up to three pitches (2 adult and 1 youth). Investigate changes to maintenance regime and remedial work to help improve pitch quality.</li> <li>Improve access to the Acorn Centre changing rooms by, for example, avoiding main entrance and exit.</li> <li>If access to changing facilities cannot be renegotiated, need for changing facilities to bring site back into use as soon as possible. Portacabins may be an option.</li> <li>Upgrade ageing, poor quality MUGA – potential site for Football Foundation ‘PlayZone’ facility (LFFP upgrade priority)</li> <li>Please see Options for Strategic Sites in Key Findings and Issues Report</li> </ul>	<b>Yes</b>	TC; club; FA/FF	Club
<b>T65</b>	<b>Cary Park LTC</b>	6 x outdoor tennis courts leased by Cary Park LTC – all good quality courts.	Resurfacing of 3 courts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Club has grown significantly in recent years and expects membership numbers to continue to increase. Still under capacity based on LTA benchmarking.</li> <li>Three 'Tiger Turf' courts laid in October 2021. All courts of good quality, 3 floodlit.</li> <li>Gates to the courts are broken and need repairing.</li> </ul>	<p>ENHANCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure the club continues their LTA Registration and maintains minimum safeguarding standards.</li> <li>Continue to support clubs to work towards the LTA's strategy of Tennis Opened Up. Ensure membership growth and retention meets financial sustainability.</li> <li>Support Cary Park more broadly in relation to governance, facility management, programming &amp; court utilisation, club &amp; coach relationships and inclusion.</li> <li>Support the implementation of LTA products and programmes to enable that growth and retention, taking into consideration the demographic needs of the local area. More specifically support Cary Park through our Open Court Programme to establish disability tennis activity.</li> <li>Continue to support the Club in enhancing the quality of its facilities such as installation of SmartAccess gate technology to improve awareness, customer journey and increased usage/membership conversions.</li> <li>If membership and demand increases then there may be an opportunity to floodlight the remaining 3 courts.</li> </ul>		LTA; Club	Club
<b>T15</b>	<b>Cockington Court</b>	Cricket 8 grass wickets Standard	Spare capacity to increase use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attractive setting square in a pronounced dip. Square roped off in winter. Irregular surface. Attractive, traditional pavilion.</li> <li>Used by St Marychurch Old Boys for a few fixtures in 2021, but no use in 2022?</li> </ul>	<p>PROTECT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support for increased use of pitch - great setting and valued cricket facility.</li> <li>Limited scope for quality improvements given topography of site</li> </ul>		DC; TC	

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capacity analysis suggests potentially able to accommodate additional play.</li> </ul>				
<b>T16</b>	<b>Coombe Pafford School</b>	Small 3G FTP MUGA		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No community use. Access (secure site) difficult plus not registered by FA for matchplay</li> </ul>				
<b>T06</b>	<b>Cricketfield Road</b>	Cricket 11 grass wickets; standard; NTW, standard  1x adult football, rated standard	<p>Potential to increase use:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhancement to site:</li> <li>improvements to changing facilities; ground levelling;</li> <li>development of clubhouse;</li> <li>development of class rooms;</li> <li>indoor cricket facility etc</li> </ul> <p>Cricket</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance quality of cricket pitch</li> <li>Potential to increase use</li> </ul> <p>Football</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain community use</li> <li>Improve maintenance regime and pitch quality</li> <li>Consider improvements to meet requirements of Peninsula League (and other leagues as appropriate)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multi pitch site adjacent to Torquay Academy, serving deprived area.</li> <li>Lease now transferred to Barton CC</li> <li>Substantial building on site with changing rooms, meeting rooms and clubhouse facility and indoor cricket wicket. Building is in poor state and requires major investment.</li> <li>Clubhouse, changing rooms and meeting rooms hardly used during midweek daytime.</li> <li>Developing partnerships with Torquay Academy for school to use pitches, plus formation of Riviera Cricket to coach students of Academy and other students from across the Bay.</li> </ul> <p>Cricket</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Well tended wicket (not protected). Football on outfield. Portable nets on outfield. Rated standard; drainage poor, problems with dog fouling and litter.</li> <li>Home to Barton CC (men's, ladies and youth teams) and Cavendish Cavaliers (friendlies)</li> <li>NTW used for training only.</li> <li>Capacity analysis suggests pitch has potential for additional use outside of peak time (Saturdays)</li> </ul> <p>Football</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pitch has a dip in it and still prone to waterlogging in one corner, despite remedial work. .</li> <li>Football pitch is sub let to Torquay Town FC; capacity analysis suggests pitch has potential to accommodate additional use outside of peak time</li> </ul>	<p>ENHANCE AND PROVIDE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Now lease is in place, fund raising for major upgrade of site and facilities can begin.</li> <li>Investigate changes to maintenance regime and remedial work to help improve drainage of football pitch which will also help improve cricket outfield.</li> <li>Development of building on site to provide integrated sport, health and wellbeing facility to serve local deprived area. Building to incorporate indoor cricket facility (as now) plus requisite changing facilities for football and cricket teams, catering for adult and youth, male and female players.</li> </ul>	<b>Yes</b>	DC, FA/FF, TC, Club	
<b>T17</b>	<b>Easterfield Lane</b>	Rugby league occas.	Poor site – no changing facilities – relinquish from playing pitch use?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No pitches marked out; has reverted to scrubland and used by dogwalkers.</li> </ul>	<p>PROTECT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect as public open space</li> <li>Area could be used for other sports such as Archery.</li> </ul>		TC	
<b>T25</b>	<b>Ilsham Valley Playing Fields</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Site no longer marked as pitches</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect as public open space</li> </ul>		TC	
<b>T27</b>	<b>King George V Playing Fields – Fields in Trust site (Active Spaces)</b>	Football	Rationalisation of pitches; work towards replacement of 3 adult pitches on flat site in Torquay (Brown's Bridge, Torquay). Rehoming of Watcombe Wanderers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pitches not marked out.</li> <li>Changing rooms have been vandalised and no longer in use.</li> <li>Previously home to Watcombe Wanderers (now relocated to Long Lane Newton Abbot)</li> </ul>	<p>PROTECT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retain as public open space with option to redeploy as playing pitches in the future if demand is forthcoming. (Pitches could be marked out on less severely sloping areas if required).</li> </ul>		TC	
<b>T34</b>	<b>Plainmoor (Torquay Utd FC)</b>	Football		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Torquay Utd FC – no capacity analysis. Youth teams play at South Devon College AGP and teams train at Seale Hayne.</li> <li>TUFC are looking for new site/s for matchplay and for training pitches within Torbay .</li> </ul>	<p>PROVIDE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Options for a new site/s should continue to be explored, perhaps in conjunction with a Local Plan review, to find a suitable site within the Bay (or consider alternatives just outside the boundary in neighbouring Local Authority areas)</li> </ul>		TC, Club	
<b>T47</b>	<b>Quinta Road Playing Fields</b>	Various pitches, rated poor.	Encourage greater community use Maintain and improve non-turf wicket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Off site playing field for The Spires School.</li> <li>Flexible markings for football and rugby pitches and a running track. Non turf wicket removed as unsafe. Pitches are very poor.</li> <li>The College and its playing field is provided under a PFI contract between Torbay Council and Semperian.</li> </ul>	<p>PROTECT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LFFP priority – new multi use facility/pitches could support the local community.</li> <li>Protect for community use in the future if required but no other actions arising from current PPS.</li> </ul>		TC, School, FA/FF	

				College cannot consider any improvements until the PFI contract ends in 2027. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pitches used in the past by community teams, but no current community demand expressed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support school in aspirations for improved facilities to develop community use</li> </ul>			
<b>T38</b>	<b>Sherwell Valley Primary</b>	Football	Junior football pitch – as above	One junior football pitch, currently used by Upton FC Mini teams at weekends and other community use in the holidays. Pitch can get very boggy; when unfit, school uses Torquay Academy facilities. School vision is to be able to offer all year round community usage, indoors and out. Ideas include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>resurfacing of the hard court / playground areas</li> <li>introduction of changing facilities to serve local community</li> <li>an astro/3G pitch to replace the current sports field to allow all year round usage for the school and local community.</li> </ul>	ENHANCE AND PROVIDE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support school in aspirations for improved facilities to develop community use</li> <li>Any future improvements must not lose ability for match play football</li> </ul>		TC, School	
<b>T41</b>	<b>St Cuthbert Mayne School</b>	One adult football & small rugby pitch	Support improvements to drainage to enable use for school and community	No community use or demand recorded.	ENHANCE AND PROVIDE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support school in aspirations for improved facilities to develop community use</li> </ul>		TC	
<b>T42</b>	<b>St Margaret's Academy Primary</b>	1 x junior football	junior football pitch – as above	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pitch shared with the Priory School next door. Sports court and a large playground.</li> <li>Happy to consider community use.</li> <li>Main playground area resurfacing as it is not safe and the tarmac is broken in places.</li> </ul>	PROTECT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potentially available for some community use</li> </ul>		TC, School	
<b>T43</b>	<b>St Marychurch CoE Primary</b>	Football	junior football pitch – as above	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Large playing field which is marked for a football pitch during the season. Various community uses although no regular club. No proposals at present for improvements.</li> </ul>	PROTECT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potentially available for some community use</li> </ul>		TC, School	
<b>T45</b>	<b>Steps Cross Playing Field</b>	1x adult football Poor	Rationalisation of pitches; work towards replacement of 9v9 pitch on flat site in Torquay (Brown's Bridge, Torquay).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sloping pitch with irregular surface. Pitch marked out and goals in place. Rated poor. Changing in portacabins</li> <li>Steps Cross receives little/no community use bookings. Apparently used by Barton Athletic 3rd XI (but not booked).</li> <li>Capacity analysis suggests potential to accommodate a little additional use but poor pitch and no community feel as a football pitch.</li> </ul>	PROTECT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retain as playing field site for the future if demand is forthcoming</li> <li>(This could be one of the sites that could be improved to accommodate a growth in adult play...)</li> </ul>		TC	
<b>T46</b>	<b>Stoodley Knowle Playing Fields</b>	General	Maintain as playing field site, pending finance to resolve problem with culverts	Site now closed.	PROTECT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect as public open space</li> </ul>		TC	
<b>T66</b>	<b>The Spires School (formerly Westlands)</b>	General	Upgrade multi use games area to floodlit 3g football turf pitch of suitable size, given restricted dimensions of site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The MUGA has been resurfaced and no longer has tennis courts; caters for small sided football &amp; netball.</li> <li>Some community use pre Covid.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PROTECT:</li> <li>MUGA available for community use - promote</li> </ul>		TC, School	
<b>T19</b>	<b>Torquay Academy</b>	Full size floodlit 3G FTP Adult grass pitch	Consider how to increase opening & floodlighting hours at weekends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Good quality 3G FTP, being relaid summer 2022. Used for youth football only. Main user is Torquay Academy Sports.</li> <li>Almost at capacity; a little spare for 2 extra matches on weekend afternoons</li> <li>Also grass football pitches – no pitch sport community use but pitch is used by Torquay Archery Club.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PROTECT AND ENHANCE:</li> <li>Maintain community use of 3G FTP and review lack of bookings on weekend afternoons (currently only for youth teams).</li> <li>Support joint initiatives with Barton CC via usage of adjacent pitches and development of youth cricket</li> <li>Negotiate improved security of tenure for archery club</li> </ul>		TC, FA/FF, School	

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Academy has set up partnership with Barton CC – ‘Riviera Cricket’ coaching.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate use of grass football pitch for community teams</li> <li>LFFP priority – upgrade poor quality grass pitches</li> </ul>			
<b>T19</b>	<b>Torquay Academy netball courts</b>	2 x outdoor netball courts (not floodlit), 1 x outdoor archery range (playing fields). Sports hall used as 1 x netball court and indoor archery range.	The MUGA (netball/tennis courts) could achieve higher use by being floodlit or covered and meeting need for netball.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Torquay Academy are generally of a good quality. There is good access for the disabled; appropriate equipment storage and car parking.</li> </ul>	<p>ENHANCE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Secure community access to netball courts and to archery facilities by maintaining the current availability of existing facilities through community use agreements.</li> </ul>		NGBs, User Clubs	N/A
<b>T67, T68, T69</b>	<b>Torquay Bowling Club, Kings Bowling Club and Victoria Bowling Club</b>	3 x outdoor bowling green (good quality).	No specific actions for these sites - general bowls action to raise participation in bowls.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No issues at these sites were identified as part of this study.</li> </ul>	<p>PROTECT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect provision of bowling greens at these sites for the lifetime of this strategy.</li> </ul>		TC	
<b>T50</b>	<b>Torquay Boys Grammar School</b>	1 11v11 youth football pitch; slightly undersized rugby pitch. One sand based half size artificial grass pitch - unfenced, informal ‘kick-about’ area	Maintain community use Maintain and improve non-turf wicket (drainage)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pitches do have some community use – football through Saints South West and reciprocal arrangement with Torquay RUFC (as overflow and school matches sometimes played at Recreation Ground).</li> <li>Cricket: NTW was installed by Paignton CC and previously used by their 3<sup>rd</sup> XI. However, it is no longer used as unsafe.</li> <li>Small AGP which needs upgrading; little community use as not suitable</li> <li>Major plans to develop school as community sports and wellbeing hub. May involve restructuring of artificial surfaces near to school to provide larger area and provision of a full size, World Rugby 3G FTP on lower school playing fields, plus improvements to fitness suite and other indoor provision.</li> </ul>	<p>PROTECT, ENHANCE, PROVIDE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Together with Torquay Girls Grammar School, the outdoor pitch facilities at the two schools form an important pitch site with potential for much greater community use.</li> <li>TBGS has major plans for improved facilities including artificial grass pitches. Dialogue required with school at earliest opportunity.</li> <li>Investigate potential for joint management of sand based AGP on adjacent TGGs site with TGGs</li> <li>Cricket NTW no longer usable. Investigate potential for upgrade and return of cricket to this site.</li> </ul>	<b>Yes</b>	Schools, TC, NGBs	
<b>T54</b>	<b>Torquay Girls Grammar School AGP</b>	Full size floodlit sand based AGP	Maintain community use; extension of floodlighting hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sand dressed Artificial Grass Pitch, resurfaced 2018. Prior to Covid, pitch accommodated Torbay Hockey Club and Newton Abbot Ladies Hockey Club and football teams for training.</li> <li>Currently available only to Torbay Hockey Club for training on Wednesday evenings and matchplay at weekends. Almost at capacity for matchplay.</li> <li>Update: TGGs have notified Torbay Hockey Club that the pitch will no longer be available for community use following the ending of the community use agreement in October 2022 (although they may be use for the coming season).</li> </ul>	<p>PROTECT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Urgent engagement with TGGs about the pending closure to community use of their sand-based pitch. Elected members/senior officers and the Education Team at the Torbay Development Agency to engage with TGGs regarding community access in the future.</li> <li>Revisit community use arrangements to encourage/renew access for Torbay Hockey Club, Newton Abbot Ladies Hockey Club and other community use for football training for example.</li> <li>Investigate potential for joint management of sand based AGP with TBGS</li> </ul>	<b>Yes</b>	England Hockey; TC, TDA, SE	
<b>T70</b>	<b>Torquay Lawn Tennis Club</b>	9 x outdoor tennis courts (plus 2 mini courts) and 3 x indoor tennis courts (air	Progress Torbay Seafront Sports Hub (including Torquay Bowling Club (private), Abbey Park Bowling Green operator, Victoria Bowling Club & Kings Bowling Club).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The club is resurfacing two artificial grass courts (previously poor quality and not used) and repair the broken floodlights.</li> <li>It would then like to address the quality of the remaining two artificial grass courts by resurfacing.</li> </ul>	<p>ENHANCE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure the club continues their LTA Registration and maintains minimum safeguarding standards.</li> <li>Continue to support club to work towards the LTA’s strategy of Tennis Opened Up. Ensure membership growth and retention meets financial sustainability.</li> </ul>		LTA; club	LTA; club

		dome). No quality issues with air dome or 5 x clay courts. 2x brand new artificial grass courts. Remaining 2 x artificial grass courts in poor condition,		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Club runs under capacity based on LTA benchmarking. Significant opportunity for membership growth.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support Torquay TC more broadly in relation to governance, facility management, programming &amp; court utilisation, club &amp; coach relationships and inclusion.</li> <li>Support the implementation of LTA products and programmes to enable that growth and retention, taking into consideration the demographic needs of the local area.</li> <li>Continue to support the club in enhancing the quality of its facilities through advice and guidance.</li> </ul>			
<b>T49</b>	<b>Torquay Recreation Ground (part of Torquay Valley of Sport)</b>	Cricket 12 grass wickets; Good  Rugby pitch (one adult) M1/DO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Possible asset transfer site (with T6 &amp; T7)</li> <li>Improve changing facilities for both rugby club and cricket club (ideally joint clubhouse)</li> </ul> <p><i>Cricket</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhancement of site:</li> <li>Support better maintenance of square</li> <li>Work towards raising quality of pitch to minor counties standard again</li> <li>Support provision of new nets at ground</li> </ul> <p><i>Rugby</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhancement of pitch:</li> <li>Drainage and pitch quality improvements</li> <li>Access to off site training facilities required for wet weather</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is an iconic site on the seafront in Torbay which has been the focus of sporting activity for many decades.</li> <li>A new partnership is being developed between Torquay RUFC and Torquay CC on this site.</li> </ul> <p><i>Cricket</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Square bordered by rugby pitches and has restricted width. Enclosed full length full lane net facility.</li> <li>Good adult pitch, only scores lower on evenness of surface .</li> <li>Home to Torquay CC teams; also used for some junior county matches.</li> <li>Train in the nets + portable nets on the wicket</li> <li>Capacity analysis suggests pitch is potentially able to accommodate a little additional use outside of peak times.</li> <li>Club say cost of professional grounds maintenance is significant and is not sustainable</li> <li>Club say changing facilities/pavilion is good but understood that it requires renovating.</li> </ul> <p><i>Rugby</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Good overall pitch quality. Vulnerable to flooding. Poor, inadequate changing; one stand is condemned and unusable..</li> <li>Main ground of Torquay Athletic RUFC with full range of teams. Capacity analysis suggests pitch is being overplayed</li> <li>Changing facilities at the Recreation Ground can only accommodate one match which restricts the activities of the club if changing at TVN is out of action.</li> </ul>	<p>PROTECT, ENHANCE, PROVIDE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Situation re potential flooding of this site due to rising sea levels to be examined and clarified. Need for future proofing of site.</li> <li>Depending on outcome; proposals to either enhance site through improved drainage etc, or possible movement of sports/clubs.</li> <li>Potential for joint provision of new ancillary facilities: both clubs' pavilions/changing facilities are in need of major upgrades commensurate with the level of sport they support.</li> <li>Investigate changes to maintenance regime and remedial work to help improve drainage and quality of rugby pitch – e.g. provision of pipe and slit drainage</li> <li>Addition of improved sports lighting on pitches used by Torquay RUFC</li> </ul>	<b>YES</b>	TC, RFU, Devon Cricket	
<b>T71</b>	<b>Torquay United Indoor Bowling Club</b>	1 x indoor bowling rink (no quality issues identified as part of this work).	Identify sporting hub sites in order to make the most effective use of existing facilities. Site included in Plainmoor Sports Hub: improve sustainability of sites, increase participation, benefit from the sharing of facilities, resources and finance and support bids for funding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Torquay United Indoor Bowling Club leases facilities from Torbay United FC (expires 2031) and has reported that paying rent throughout Covid restrictions has depleted club finances to a critical level</li> <li>Torbay archery clubs require additional indoor shooting space.</li> </ul>	<p>ENHANCE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximise programming to accommodate as many participants as possible, leading to improved access for all sections of the community.</li> <li>Define the role of facility within the wider community use offer across Torbay and work with facility provider (Torquay United Football Club) to identify programming improvements for community use of the indoor bowls hall. Investigate whether 'taster' bowling sessions could be offered to football fans or hiring of the hall to archery clubs for indoor shooting sessions.</li> </ul>		EIBA, Club	EIBA Club

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alternative use of the indoor bowling rink could be for Archery. This would require the correct protection of the playing surface (and therefore have implications in terms of cost and storage under the maintenance contract).</li> </ul>			
<b>T53</b>	<b>Torre Valley North (part of Torquay Valley of Sport)</b>  <b>Also see below for athletics</b>	General – Fields in Trust – Queen Elizabeth II Field Mini football Cricket 6 grass wickets; Poor  1x senior rugby pitch M0/D0	Possible asset transfer site (with T7 & T8): Chelston CC, Torquay RUFC, Torquay Athletics Club  <i>Cricket</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase capacity of site: improvements to quality of square and more wickets?</li> </ul> <i>Rugby</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain quality of pitch</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multi sport site on level ground in central location.</li> <li>Pavilion now demolished (due to vandalism).</li> <li>Temporary changing rooms and portaloos have been installed.</li> <li>Torquay Athletics Club has proposed development options for Torbay Council to consider for TVN (please see ‘Torre Valley North: Design Options for Replacement Sports Pavilion &amp; Sports Pitch Enhancements’). These design options include facilities for rugby, cricket and athletics (including an all-weather athletics track, changing and social facilities; as well as an area for field events in order to host competitions).</li> <li>In the past there has been a mini football pitch marked out.</li> </ul> <i>Cricket</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pitch rated poor. Indistinct square where only 3 wickets appear to have sustained recent use. Square borders rugby pitch. Ground uneven.</li> <li>Home to Paignton CC 3rd &amp; 4<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>Capacity analysis suggested pitch is overplayed despite low usage because poor quality.</li> </ul> <i>Rugby</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slight elevation gives better drainage than main pitch at Recreation Ground. Dog fouling is a problem. Currently no changing on site</li> <li>Used by Torquay Athletic RUFC. Adult pitch used by 2nd XV and Colts for matchplay.</li> <li>Midi pitch when marked out is used by U14 and U13 for matchplay and training</li> <li>Capacity analysis suggests site has potential to accommodate a little additional use.</li> </ul>	<p>PROTECT, ENHANCE, PROVIDE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rebuilding of changing rooms/clubhouse</li> <li>Provision of pipe and slit drainage on rugby pitch</li> <li>Addition of improved sports lighting on pitches used by Torquay RUFC</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Major enhancement/replacement of grass cricket wicket on safety grounds and to increase capacity. However, options to be agreed on removal of cricket from this site, pending development for rugby and/or athletics.</li> </ul>	<b>Yes</b>	TC, RFU, DC	
<b>T53</b>	<b>Torre Valley North playing fields</b>	Outdoor 400m grass running track (marked out in the summer) and long jump pit.	Support improvements/new provision to changing facilities and enlargement of fitness/gym facility. To provide a compact athletics facility in tandem with other facility proposals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quality of outdoor track is satisfactory, within the constraints of this facility type. Tracks can become waterlogged and run-ups become slippery in wet weather.</li> <li>The use of TVN is shared with a cricket club and a rugby club which limits the capacity for the amount of activity, and skill development is constrained by the lack of appropriate facilities.</li> <li>There are no synthetic surfaced athletics tracks or facilities (outdoor or indoor) in Torbay. Exeter Arena is the closest specialist ‘track and field’ facility to Torbay.</li> </ul>	<p>ENHANCE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The quality of clubhouse facilities should be considered for re-development and it is recommended that further feasibility work be completed to ensure the needs of the multi-sport users are met.</li> </ul> <p>PROVIDE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expand athletics provision at this site to facilitate increased entry level participation in the sport.</li> <li>Determine an appropriate mix of athletics provision alongside a detailed business plan for a Compact Athletics facility to be located close to primary school on Torre Valley North playing fields or on Torre Valley South playing fields (if rugby were to vacate fields).</li> </ul>	<b>Yes</b>	EA, TC Club	EA Club

T54	Torre Valley South playing fields	1 rugby pitch M0/D0		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Single pitch with posts. Irregular surface, rutted in part.</li> <li>Suffers from dog fouling</li> </ul>	<p>ENHANCE AND PROVIDE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision of pipe and slit drainage</li> <li>Addition of improved sports lighting on pitches used by Torquay RUFC</li> <li>Potential site for a Compact Athletics facility if rugby activity moves use to Torre Valley North and cricket, in turn, moved from Torre Valley North to alternative ground (for example, Clennon Valley with new square provided).</li> </ul>	Yes	TC, EA, RFU, DC, ECB, Clubs	
T72	Upton Park bowling green	1 x FORMER outdoor bowling green.	No specific action for this site - general bowls action to raise participation in bowls.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The anti-social behaviour within Upton Park has escalated over the past two years with damage to both the pavilion and on the green.</li> <li>Upton Park Bowls Club has closed (March 2022). There is sufficient capacity at other sites to accommodate bowlers from this former club.</li> </ul>	<p>PROTECT AND PROVIDE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bowling green is disused and in a poor condition. Investigate opportunity to repurpose green for another sport, based on local demand for multi-sport and leisure use.</li> </ul>		TC	Sport England
T05	Walls Hill, Babbacombe	Cricket 9x grass wicket; standard, NTW poor	Spare capacity to increase use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pitch has pronounced dip, rocky areas on outfield. Gradient and dog fouling are issues.</li> <li>Visual quality assessment rating was poor but club say acceptable/good</li> <li>NTW – used to train on only; torn and very old.</li> <li>Changing facilities rated as Standard – club say acceptable.</li> <li>Home to Babbacombe CC adult &amp; junior teams</li> <li>Capacity analysis suggests pitch is being used to the level the site can sustain.</li> </ul>	<p>PROTECT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited scope for quality improvements given topography of site</li> </ul>		TC, DC, Club	
T59	Windmill Hill Playing Field	Football 2x adult football; Standard, 1x 9v9, 2x 7v7; Poor (not marked out)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase/introduce summer football, baseball, rounders.</li> <li>Possible site for rugby league?</li> <li>Consider realignment of pitches to improve rest &amp; recovery etc</li> <li>Possible asset transfer site (Waldon Athletic FC)</li> </ul> <p>Football</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider improvements to meet requirements of Peninsula League (and other leagues as appropriate)</li> </ul> <p>Cricket</p> <p>Install cricket pitch for mid week league; junior growth, Last Man Standing etc to meet demand for additional pitch in Torquay</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lease being transferred to Waldon Athletic FC to enable improvements to clubhouse and further ground enhancements and development (including potentially floodlighting)</li> <li>Changing rooms adequate but need enhancement.</li> <li>Two adult pitches of average quality; well used for dog walking. Area for youth and mini between two adult – stony and no grass cover but not marked.</li> <li>Used by 4 different clubs: Babbacombe Corinthians; Waldon Athletic; Torquay Olympians FC and Plainmoor Ladies, plus disability teams.</li> <li>Capacity analysis suggests potential to accommodate a little additional play outside of peak time. Also room on site for youth and mini pitches as listed.</li> </ul>	<p>ENHANCE AND PROVISION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support improvements and upgrade to changing facilities and other enhancements at the site, particularly to enable progression of teams.</li> <li>Investigate changes to maintenance regime and remedial work to help improve pitch quality.</li> <li>Potential for more play here if other youth and mini pitches marked out</li> </ul>	Yes	TC, Club	
T52	Torre CoE Primary			A small school playing field; however the condition is poor and bumpy. The field was resurfaced and grassed after additional classrooms were built by Torbay Council, but the installation of a large storm tank underneath it and poor resurfacing means that the drainage is very bad. It needs to be completely resurfaced and the drainage problem resolved so it could be used much more. .	<p>ENHANCE:</p> <p>Support for improvements to playing field to enable community use</p>		TC, School	
	Brown's Bridge	General	Area of search for additional grass and artificial turf pitches .		Nightingale Park has been granted planning permission for a solar farm.			

## B LIST OF SITES – PAIGNTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AREA

B PAIGNTON SITE REF	SITE	SPORT; PITCHES; QUALITY RATING	SUMMARY OF KEY ACTION POINTS IN 2014 PPS	SPORT FACILITY AND ACTIVITY SUMMARY FROM SITE AUDITS AND CLUB SURVEY	OPTIONS AND RECOMMENDED ACTIONS (STAGE D)	Priority Site/ Projects	Lead partners to deliver action	Funding
T14	Clennon Valley	General	<p>Improvement /upgrading to changing facilities for all sections of community and possible relocation to better serve all pitches. Potential for increased use Increase summer football and other activities e.g. rounders Provide dedicated facilities for American football &amp; baseball Increase use for other non-pitch sport activities e.g. athletics, volleyball, archery Maintain and expand use for tournaments and festivals.</p> <p><i>Football</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Various pitch enhancements: Consider improvements to meet requirements of Peninsula League (and other leagues as appropriate) if sufficient room (or at other site within Paignton – possibly new White Rock development?)</li> <li>Improvements to drainage</li> <li>Improvements to pitch surface</li> <li>Maintain sufficient pitches and spare capacity to meet existing &amp; future demand and for rest and recovery of pitches. In total: 3 adult pitches; 3 x youth &amp; 4 x mini pitches</li> </ul> <p><i>Cricket</i> Possible site for identified additional cricket pitch in Paignton.</p> <p><i>Rugby</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Various enhancements:</li> <li>Drainage improvements (replacement rugby pitch now being laid)</li> <li>Additional rugby pitches – 1 junior, 2 mini and floodlit training area</li> </ul>	<p>Currently no grass pitches marked out and no requests for use. Discussions with Pioneer Youth League over potential for youth football hub. Site Report June 2021 by GMA: concluded site reasonably level with some localised undulations (landfill site). Report concluded that maintenance of the pitches could be improved to help with rainfall percolation and improve playability of the site. This would be first step towards an improvement and if this were not as successful as desired, then consideration to improving drainage. Huge potential. Opportunity for linking with indoor facilities (gym, pool, sports centre), sand based AGP, velopark and lakes and green environment (green link) Central, accessible site with car parking and variety of accommodation nearby Issues around drainage and site cannot be further developed with new pitches until this is sorted. Distance to changing rooms; concerns around loss of amenity from local residents. Cost of car parking identified as significant barrier to use of site. No current use for football. No progress re: cricket facility</p> <p><i>Rugby:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The club had a block booking for midweek, Saturday senior and Sunday midi/mini play on a senior rugby pitch at Clennon Valley until recently. Due to late call offs, it is understood the club ceased to rely on it and it is now only used on an occasional ad hoc basis.</li> <li>Also displacement of rugby pitch by velopark; replacement pitch not installed.</li> </ul>	<p>PROTECT, ENHANCE. PROVIDE:</p> <p><b>Huge potential of site as centre for activity and sport.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhanced pitch maintenance programme now being adopted by Torbay Council at Clennon Valley. Masterplanning and feasibility work required to establish possible pitch layouts, ground conditions, timetable and costs for drainage and other works etc and floodlighting and other planning considerations</li> </ul> <p>Development of site to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Range of youth pitches</li> <li><u>Minimum</u> of one (replacement) rugby pitch</li> <li>Feasibility of site for grass cricket square</li> <li>Appropriate changing facilities and toilets near to pitches</li> <li>Address car parking cost issue</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Masterplanning work should include consideration of whether an archery facility can be accommodated somewhere on the Clennon Valley site (perhaps alongside Easterfield Lane and/or Oldway) as an option to consider alongside other possible sites.</li> </ul>	Yes	TC, FF/FA, NGBs,	
	Clennon Valley	Closed road circuit track for running and jogging (no quality issues identified as part of this work).	To consider a compact athletics facility in tandem with other facility proposals (such as for new artificial grass pitches). Such facilities might comprise: integration of tracks and straights with artificial grass pitch developments (minimum of 100m (or 200m) sprint track, 8 lanes wide; mobile sprint straights and 'J' bends; and range of field event facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The membership numbers of clubs have increased greatly in recently years and are expected to increase in the coming years. Floodlighting would allow for greater use of the track.</li> </ul>	<p>ENHANCE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To fully utilise existing assets by improving the access to athletics facilities and ensuring demand for facilities are met. It is recommended that floodlighting of the circuit at Clennon Valley be installed to increase all-year-round usage of the facility.</li> </ul> <p>PROVIDE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To determine an appropriate mix of athletics provision alongside a detailed business plan for a compact athletics facility incorporating, for example, track straights alongside artificial grass pitch</li> </ul>	Yes	EA Club, TC	Sport England

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					(minimum of 100m (or 200m) sprint track (8 lanes wide); mobile sprint straights and 'J' bends; and range of field event facilities.			
T18	Foxhole Field (previously Belfield Road)	American Football	Potential for increased use, particularly youth teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Previously used by Foxhole FC and had new changing provision installed a few years ago, now run by community organisation. .</li> <li>Now known as Foxhole Field and used by Torbay Trojans – American Football – for training in winter – awaiting information.</li> </ul>	PROTECT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As playing field site. No further actions identified.</li> </ul>			
T73	Oldway	6 x outdoor tennis courts (3 courts floodlit). 2 x outdoor bowling greens 1 x indoor bowling facility Croquet Lawn in the past	Replace 6 non-grass outdoor courts at Oldway. Work with the developer to ensure that the replacement courts meet the LTA's technical specification. At least 3 of these courts to be floodlit Investigate the establishment of a new tennis club at Oldway, once the replacement courts have been installed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two blocks of three courts with facilities that are Below Average quality with improvements to the surface quality required.</li> <li>Evidence remains of 7 former grass tennis courts – 2 blocks of 3 courts (now being used as dog walking enclosures) and separate, single court (no markings, locked and fencing intact).</li> </ul>	PROTECT AND ENHANCE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure the facilities are fit-for purpose and retained or enhanced as part of any redevelopment, unless an assessment has demonstrated that there is an excess of provision and is surplus to requirements or clear evidence supports.</li> <li>The quality of the 6 tennis courts in use should be improved with an operational model that enables growth in casual tennis play. This will include the integration of SmartAccess gate technology to facilitate online court bookings and payments. Oldway will form part of phase 1 of LTA &amp; Council investment.</li> <li>The redundant tennis courts should be protected for tennis in future and for short term leisure uses in the meantime.</li> <li>Also a potential site for a croquet lawn – on the former croquet lawn area - and for petanque.</li> </ul>	Yes	LTA BE TC	LTA Bowls England
T32	Paignton Academy (Borough Road)	One small adult pitch		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In theory available for community use but not used</li> </ul>	PROTECT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No further actions identified.</li> </ul>			
T33	Paignton Academy (Waterleat Road)	Full size floodlit 3G FTP; standard Plus rugby pitch on site	Potential site/support for additional 3G IRB22 artificial turf pitch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First 3G FTP to be installed in the Bay; fully used by range of football activity.</li> <li>3G FTP will need resurfacing in time for assessment for FA Register approval in September 2023.</li> </ul>	PROTECT AND ENHANCE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support for resurfacing of 3G FTP to meet ground requirements by 2024.</li> </ul>		TC, FA/FF, School	
T36	Paignton Academy Hub netball courts	Sports hall used for multiple sports including 4 indoor netball courts.	Development of a sports hub at Paignton Academy including a new 16 badminton court sports hall.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision considered satisfactory by the netball clubs and teams that use them. Multi-sport venue with car parking issues during peak times.</li> <li>Junior netball is played at this site and netball clubs have reported that the number of junior members has stayed the same in recent years.</li> </ul>	ENHANCE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to support users and work with facility provider to enhance the accessibility of the netball courts and ensure that the courts are accessible to the community for the full period of the strategy through long-term agreements.</li> </ul>		EN Clubs	N/A
T74	Paignton Bowling Club	1 x outdoor bowling green – good quality.	To encourage greater partnerships working between Paignton bowling clubs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The car park is of poor quality as it floods regularly. The club hope to upgrade the car park and install new fencing in 2022 – grant application and planning permission yet to be obtained..</li> </ul>	ENHANCE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support development proposals by Paignton Bowling Club which reports poor quality car parking facilities.</li> </ul>		EB Club	Club

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T75	Paignton Torbay Bowling Club	1 x outdoor bowling green (good quality facilities)	To encourage greater partnerships working between Paignton bowling clubs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Club has reported vandalism and damage to the playing surface is hindering club development. The club hopes to improve the quality of its facilities which in turn could attract more members.</li> </ul>	<p>PROTECT AND ENHANCE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support Paignton Torbay Bowling Club which has reported vandalism and damage to the playing surface. Nearby Paignton Bowling Club hope to install new fencing in 2022 – grant application and planning permission yet to be obtained.</li> <li>It is recommended that both bowling greens be fenced to enhance security of the site.</li> </ul>		TC EB Club	Club
T36	Queen's Park, Paignton	Cricket 12 grass wickets; Good, NTW Good  Pitches (1x senior rugby and smaller pitch). M0/D0	<p><i>Cricket</i> Improve condition of cricket outfield by moving rugby activity to alternative pitches at Clennon Valley</p> <p><i>Rugby</i> Upgrade/improve changing facilities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Iconic hub site near seafront in Paignton, adjacent to two bowling clubs.</li> <li>Old and outdated changing facilities serving both rugby and cricket</li> <li>Shared, busy site; some curtailment of respective sports' seasons.</li> </ul> <p><i>Cricket</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Square is bordered by rugby pitches. Wickets worn but well maintained. Club say pitch is good, but drainage poor.</li> <li>Home to Paignton CC teams: adult &amp; youth teams, plus some Devon age groups.</li> <li>Teams train at Paignton Academy and in net cage.</li> <li>NTW used by younger junior teams for training &amp; matchplay and ladies' softball.</li> <li>Capacity analysis suggests grass pitch is being used to the level the site can sustain; potential for additional use of NTW if required.</li> </ul> <p><i>Rugby</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Busy site making full use of available grass</li> <li>Pitches are liable to flooding when the weather is poor and tide is in, plus no drainage,.</li> <li>Floodlights need to be replaced and new wiring required.</li> <li>Home to Paignton RUFC with full range of teams. Pitches are overplayed.</li> <li>Club say training takes place elsewhere on home ground; assume on land adjacent to Sands Road .</li> </ul>	<p>ENHANCE AND PROVIDE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Site is fully used with no room for growth. Site is overplayed and rugby club requires access to additional pitch space, especially for training, and some matchplay.</li> <li>Additional capacity also required for cricket.</li> <li>Suggest provision off-site to alleviate pressure - Clennon Valley preferred site for additional rugby pitches and grass cricket square.</li> <li>Provision of pipe and slit drainage on rugby pitches</li> <li>Upgrading of floodlight facilities for rugby.</li> <li>Changing facilities/pavilion (shared between sports) require upgrading.</li> </ul>	Yes	TC RFU DC Clubs	
T37	Roselands Primary	Football	Junior football pitch – secure community use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One junior pitch, not used by the local community but used for school matches. Also a netball court. Facilities are adequate and we are very fortunate. We do not have requests for community use.</li> <li>We would like to have changing facilities so the pitch can be used at the weekend and storage for sports equipment. Also outdoor toilet facilities.</li> </ul>	<p>PROTECT AND ENHANCE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support school in aspirations for improved facilities to develop community use</li> </ul>			
T40	South Devon College	Either on site or off site as appropriate	Additional provision for football training and/or matches – options include small AGP on site; full size 3G FTP ; grass pitches for rugby and football	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3G FTP installed. Fully used by range of local football teams and community activity.</li> <li>Excellent sizing for 2 x 7v7 and 2 x 9v9. Issues include shortage of parking; also a windy site but excellent on site changing and clubroom facilities</li> </ul>	<p>PROTECT:</p> <p>No other action identified</p>			

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T60	South Devon College	1x (undersize) adult football	Maintain grass football pitch for community use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pitch is unmarked/unused. Grass is cut and posts in place. Area slightly too small for adult pitch. No changing. Not in use and no recorded demand</li> </ul>	<p>PROTECT AND PROVIDE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect playing pitch.</li> <li>Football area could be used for other sports such as Archery. Would need access to toilet facilities and basic storeroom.</li> </ul>		TC, College, clubs	
T40	South Devon College netball courts	1 x outdoor netball court and sports hall that includes 1 x indoor netball court.	Identify sporting hub sites. In order to make the most effective use of existing facilities (including indoor sports facilities and outdoor facilities, including. South Devon College Sports Hub: Indoor sports hall, outdoor pitches, artificial grass pitches, water sports and adventure facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Junior netball is played at this site and netball clubs have reported satisfactory facilities and that the number of junior members has stayed the same in recent years.</li> </ul>	<p>ENHANCE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to support users and work with facility provider to enhance the accessibility of the netball courts and ensure that the courts are accessible to the community for the full period of the strategy through community use agreements.</li> </ul>		EN College Clubs	N/A
T76	Torbay Country Bowling Club	2 x outdoor bowling greens (good and above average facilities)	To encourage greater partnerships working between Paignton bowling clubs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Torbay Country Bowling Club (lease expired 2016) has been trying to re-new the lease since October 2016 without success.</li> <li>Vandalism and damage to the playing surface is hindering club development.</li> </ul>	<p>ENHANCE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A longer lease is required to apply for grants in order to address the issues and improve facilities generally.</li> <li>Enhance security of community access by maintaining the current availability of existing facilities through long-term lease agreement.</li> </ul>		Council Club	Club
T14	Torbay Leisure Centre, Clennon Valley	Full size floodlit sand based AGP; good	Maintain and upgrade of existing sand AGP for hockey Support for 3G artificial turf pitch (preferably full size, IRB 22 compliant)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AGP upgraded in 2017 on Clennon Valley site. .</li> <li>Well used for range of football activity on weekday evenings, some spare slots. Also used for hockey training on weekday evenings (2.5 hours).</li> <li>Low use at weekends – a little football activity and hockey matches for one Newton Abbot Ladies Hockey Club</li> <li>Spare capacity at weekends and very underused during the day</li> <li>Hosts Easter Hockey Festival.</li> <li>Dart Netball Club use Torbay Leisure Centre as their training venue for both junior and adult netball.</li> </ul>	<p>PROTECT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect full size existing sand based AGP to accommodate hockey activity displaced from TGGs sand based pitch (if and when Torquay Girls Grammar School ends community access in April 2023). This may also result in football training being displaced from Torbay Leisure Centre.</li> <li>Keep this under review through Stage E Delivery Group, pending developments at the Grammar School and within the context of an overall masterplan for the site.</li> <li>Resolve parking issues on the site.</li> <li>Key partners and stakeholders (including Torbay Council, Parkwood Leisure, Torbay Hockey Club, England Hockey and other NGBs as appropriate) to work closely together to secure use of the AGP to establish usage agreements and help ensure long term viability.</li> </ul>	Yes	TC EH	
T77	Torbay Park	Rugby		Although an amenity park, can accommodate a small area for touch rugby; marked out when required. Changing in Queen's Park pavilion.	<p>PROTECT:</p> <p>No further actions identified</p>			
T78	Victoria Park tennis courts	2 x non-floodlit outdoor tennis courts as part of 6 MUGAs: all grey tarmac; tennis courts with permanent nets and open access.	Support proposals for upgrading (resurfacing and deep cleaning of existing courts) where this would enhance the quality of play and skill development. Priority sites included Victoria Park, Paignton (relining).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is no signage and the courts are worn-out and unmaintained.</li> <li>Victoria Park tennis courts are in a poor condition and are poorly maintained. There are no changing rooms but there are public toilets nearby. These courts are not used for tennis; markings completely worn and area used for bike riding and circuit training.</li> </ul>	<p>PROTECT AND ENHANCE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The quality of the 2 tennis courts should be improved and the courts should be reconfigured to maximise the original court footprint. The LTA highlights this site as part of phase 2 of investment and will include the integration of SmartAccess Gate Technology to facilitate online court bookings and payments to create continuity for the player in line with phase 1 sites.</li> <li>The 2 tennis courts should be protected for tennis in future and for short term leisure uses in the meantime.</li> </ul>	Yes	TC, LTA	TC

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 x Junior football pitches no longer marked out; protect site as playing field and encourage use</li> </ul>			
T57	White Rock Playing Field	2x adult football; Standard. Pitch furthest from changing is slightly smaller.	<p>Improvement of changing facilities to cater for two pitches and better cater for women and juniors and disabled</p> <p>Improve sustainability of site – summer football; cricket</p> <p>Possible asset transfer site ? (Hookhills FC)</p> <p>Possible site for identified additional cricket pitch in Paignton.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Both pitches well prepared and in good condition.</li> <li>Regarded by clubs as some of best pitches in Bay; rating downgraded because of lack of parking and dog fouling.</li> <li>Currently used by Paignton Villa 2nd XI and Marldon Youth teams.</li> <li>Capacity analysis suggests potential to accommodate considerable additional play..</li> <li>Lease now signed by Paignton Villa FC – understood that they will move senior team here (from South Devon College 3G FTP) once changing has been upgraded (\$106 allocated)</li> </ul>	<p>ENHANCE AND PROVIDE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community based club. Development of ground will assist expansion of club, including development of women’s football.</li> <li>Site needs to be made secure and changing facilities upgraded.</li> <li>LFFP priority – poor quality pitches and changing provision</li> <li>Investigate changes to maintenance regime and remedial work to help improve drainage of football pitch.</li> </ul>	Yes	FA/FF, club, TC	
T28	Kings Ash Academy Primary	Football	Junior football pitch – secure community use	<p>One 7-a-side grass pitch, used solely by the school, plus a full sized outdoor basketball court.</p> <p>Facilities adequate but grass pitch gets very muddy very quickly as the drainage is poor, so winter use is limited. It would amazing if we could get the playing field astro-turfed as it could be used throughout the school day/year. The benefits to our pupils would be huge and it could provide a fantastic training/playing facility for local football teams and possibly rugby as well if the correct surface was laid.</p>	<p><b>PROTECT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support school in aspirations for improved facilities to develop community use</li> <li>Any future improvements must not lose ability for match play football</li> </ul>		TC, School	

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T02	Astley Park (Brixham RUFC)	1x senior rugby M1/DO; training area		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Well tended and appears well drained. Floodlit. Club rate pitch as good. Since lockdown more incidents of vandalism and irresponsible dog owners. Small grass training area next to main pitch.</li> <li>Main pitch used by Brixham RUFC senior teams and ladies.</li> <li>Capacity analysis suggests pitch being played to level the site can sustain</li> </ul>	ENHANCE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Club state they have difficulties in accommodating all requirements and wish for additional training facilities in particular.</li> <li>The provision of pipe and slit drainage</li> </ul>		Club, RFU, TC	
T03	Astley Top Field – Fields in Trust site (Queen Elizabeth II Field)	1x senior rugby M0/DO	Drainage improvements and improvements to pitch surface	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open access sloping site, pitches appear well drained and in good condition. Evidence of dog fouling.</li> <li>Top pitch used by 3rd XV &amp; Colts and youth teams from Brixham RUFC for matchplay and training.</li> <li>Capacity analysis suggests pitch are overplayed because of training.</li> <li>Midi and mini pitches when marked out used by all other teams except U10s &amp; U9s who play at Brixham College,</li> </ul>	ENHANCE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The provision of pipe and slit drainage</li> <li>Sports lighting installed at the site to increase training capacity.</li> </ul>		Club, RFU, TC	
T79	Brixham Bowling Club	1 x outdoor bowling green (good quality).	No specific action for this site - general bowls action to raise participation in bowls.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Car parking is poor, but about to be addressed. The club shall be applying for permission from the Council to install a car parking area behind the clubhouse.</li> </ul>	ENHANCE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support development proposals by Brixham Bowling Club that address the quality of car parking facilities.</li> </ul>		Club	Club
T10	Brixham College	Rugby pitch, youth football & NTW	Maintain and improve non turf cricket wicket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Small rugby pitches marked out and used by Brixham RUFC youth teams</li> <li>Youth football pitches previously used by Brixham football clubs but need to mark own pitches as College does not have machine to do this</li> </ul>	ENHANCE AND PROVIDE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue dialogue with the College which is exploring plans for a 3G FTP or rugby compliant 3G on the site, in partnership with clubs in the town (rugby and potentially football)."</li> </ul>		School, TC, FA/FF, RFU	
T44	Brixham St Marys Bowling Club	1 x outdoor bowling green (Above Average quality).	No specific action for this site - general bowls action to raise participation in bowls.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The car park and driveway are of poor quality and in need of resurfacing. Club has approached Council with match-funding but is awaiting a decision.</li> </ul>	ENHANCE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support development proposals by Brixham St Marys Bowling Club that address the quality of car parking facilities.</li> </ul>		Club	Club
T44	Brixham St Marys tennis courts	4 x outdoor tennis courts (Below Average quality).	Support proposals for floodlighting of existing courts (currently none floodlit).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The tennis signage and line markings on tennis courts are poor and need attention.</li> </ul>	ENHANCE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The quality of the 4 tennis courts in use should be improved with an operational model that enables growth in casual tennis play. This will include the integration of SmartAccess gate technology to facilitate online court bookings and payments. St Mary's will form part of phase 1 of LTA &amp; Council investment.</li> </ul>		LTA	LTA
T12	Centry Road, Brixham			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Was previously marked for football and rugby and had community use by Brixham clubs but needs a new SLA as there has been no demand for last 2 years.</li> </ul>	PROTECT AND ENHANCE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Could potentially be available for rugby and football?</li> </ul>		TC	

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				This is currently being drawn up by new owners of facilities for football and rugby clubs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There may be an issue through new services having been installed close to the pitch but needs further investigation</li> </ul>			
T20	Furzeham Recreation Ground	1x adult football, overmarked with 7v7; Standard	Measures to prevent fouling by dogs Important role for accommodating cancellations Investigate further why not currently used by senior side	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exposed site appears in good condition. Portable changing unit with graffiti.</li> <li>Currently home to Brixham Town AFC and used by local primary school</li> <li>Capacity analysis suggests potential to accommodate a little additional use outside of peak time.</li> </ul>	<p>ENHANCE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Changing requires upgrading (from portacabins)</li> <li>Investigate changes to maintenance regime and remedial work to help improve pitch quality.</li> </ul>		TC,	
T11	North Boundary Ground	Cricket, 12 grass wickets; Good	Potential to increase use for cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Playing surface c.10 years old and has become established. Nice set up. Club say excellent wicket and outfield maintained by volunteer groundstaff</li> <li>Home to Brixham CC. Number of teams has declined in last few years; has junior members but no teams at present.. Previous county and charitable matches but none currently.</li> <li>Train on grass wicket and fixed nets with non turf surface + portable nets.</li> <li>Capacity analysis suggests considerable spare capacity.</li> </ul>	<p>PROTECT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beautiful ground with high quality pavilion, but underused. Potential to increase use of ground and facilities.</li> <li>Explore possibilities of allowing access to changing facilities and toilets by adjacent football club in John Charles Park.</li> </ul>		TC, Clubs	
T44	St Mary's Park – Fields in Trust site (Covenanted Fields)		Reinstatement of junior/mini pitch Improvements to pitch surface Potential site for summer football and other summer sports (rounders etc)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No pitches marked out currently</li> <li>No expressed demand for this site at present – possibly rugby and football jointly</li> <li>Changing rooms (portacabin) in standard condition – not used.</li> <li>Car park pitted and cracked</li> </ul>	<p>PROTECT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Site is underused and could potentially meet need for youth pitches or adult pitches</li> </ul>		TC	
T80	Upton Manor Campsite archery range	Indoor archery ranges. No quality issues were reported by Brixham Archery Club as part of this study.	To provide archery specific, safe and sustainable facilities – both outdoor and indoor – for competition and training.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Club pay month-to-month rent at Upton Manor Campsite. It would like a long lease arrangement in order to develop the facilities, however the site is being considered for redevelopment for new housing.</li> <li>The Club also hires the farmer's field in Churston on an annual basis, however the charity that owns the site intends to develop a care home on the site in the future.</li> </ul>	<p>PROVIDE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure the facilities are fit-for purpose and retained or enhanced as part of any redevelopment, unless an assessment has demonstrated that there is an excess of provision and is surplus to requirements or clear evidence supports.</li> <li>Support Brixham Archery Club to search for a new site. Investment is required and new developments (e.g. residential, commercial and retail) should contribute towards the enhancement.</li> <li>Playing pitch sites that have been identified as surplus to requirements, or have spare capacity to accommodate archery, should be considered (such as Easterfield Lane, Clennon Valley and Oldway)</li> </ul>	Yes	TC, Archery GB Club	Upton Manor Campsite archery range
T09	Wall Park	1x adult football (stadium); floodlit; Good. Overmarked with 9v9 pitch	Consider improvements to meet requirements of Peninsula League (and other leagues as appropriate) Address issue of overuse by junior teams; provision of additional pitches for use by	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 adult pitch, rated good on all indices. Changing good; club have recently redone home changing rooms. Badgers still cause problems occasionally.</li> </ul>	<p>PROVIDE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional pitches for training and matchplay in Brixham (St Mary's Park); possible artificial grass pitch.</li> </ul>			

C BRIXHAM SITE REF	SITE	SPORT; PITCHES; QUALITY RATING	SUMMARY OF KEY ACTION POINTS IN 2014 PPS	SPORT FACILITY AND ACTIVITY SUMMARY FROM SITE AUDITS AND CLUB SURVEY	ISSUES AND POSSIBLE OPTIONS TO RESOLVE (STAGES C AND D)	Priority Site/ Projects	Lead partners to deliver action	Funding
			youth teams in Brixham at site nearby (Centry Road?) or North Boundary Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Home to Brixham AFC 1st XI who play in the SW Peninsula League and are the most senior team in the Bay. Also run 2nd XI and youth teams</li> <li>• Capacity analysis suggests pitch is being played to the level the site can sustain.</li> <li>• Club would like to run more junior teams; constrained by lack of pitches (Brixham Town are using Furzeham). Club train at South Devon College</li> <li>• Brixham and Galmpton football teams struggle to access enough facilities for training and matchplay.</li> </ul>				

## D LIST OF SITES – BROADSANDS, CHURSTON & GALMPTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AREA

D BROADSANDS, CHURSTON & GALMPTON SITE REF	SITE	SPORT; PITCHES; QUALITY RATING	SUMMARY OF KEY ACTION POINTS IN 2014 PPS	SPORT FACILITY AND ACTIVITY SUMMARY FROM SITE AUDITS AND CLUB SURVEY	OPTIONS AND RECOMMENDED ACTIONS (STAGES C AND D)	Priority Site/ Projects	Partners to deliver action	Funding
T13	Churston Ferrers Grammar School	1 x 9v9 and 1 x 7v7 pitches; standard. Plus 2 x adult pitches nr. changing block. NTW for school use	Potential for increased use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pitches have been improved.</li> <li>Junior 9v9 and 7v7 pitches used by Paignton Villa youth on Sunday mornings. Capacity analysis suggests probably being used to level the site can sustain.</li> <li>School states: currently the adult pitches are not let as there is no access due to the ongoing Gliddon development. Brixham Archery Club use adjacent school field.</li> <li>There have been recent discussions between Paignton CC, the school and Devon Cricket about installing a cricket pitch/wicket on the field with two football pitches.</li> </ul>	<p>PROTECT AND PROVIDE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clarify position regarding whether community use was a condition of funding of changing facilities</li> <li>Support further dialogue and feasibility work to determine if cricket could be a viable option on the playing field. (Any future changes including cricket must not affect the football outcomes for the site in line with the terms and conditions of the FF grant</li> <li>Consider for provision of compact 'track and field' athletics facility</li> </ul>	Yes	School, Devon Cricket, TC	
T21	Galmpton Memorial Playing Fields	1x adult football, stadium pitch Good; overmarked with 9v9 and 7v7 pitch. Also area where 5v5 marked out in past.	Support improvements and upgrading of ground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Well set up and tended ground. Club rate pitch as good.</li> <li>Home to Galmpton FC adult and youth teams.</li> <li>Capacity analysis suggests pitch is being used to level the site can sustain.</li> <li>Since 2016 PPS, the club declined a little but is now doing well. Club say the physical lack of capacity at their home ground restricts numbers of teams.</li> <li>(Currently club's senior teams have withdrawn from the league)</li> </ul>	<p>ENHANCE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Club would require larger changing facilities and floodlights if they progress to higher leagues – support for improvements to support progression .</li> <li>LFFP priority – upgrade disused tennis court to training MUGA</li> </ul>		Club, FA/FF	
T22	Galmpton Primary School	Playing field		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We have a playing field which we use for both football, cricket and sports day activities; unusable in wet weather.</li> <li>Facilities do not meet the needs of the school as too small and far too old. We have to travel via minibus or an external coach off-site to Brixham College, Paignton College and Churston to do some of the sporting activities.</li> <li>Require a new outdoor multi use games area; we would welcome any assistance you could provide.</li> </ul>	<p>ENHANCE AND PROVIDE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support school in aspirations for improved facilities to develop community use</li> </ul>		TC, School	
T26	John Charles Park	2 x adult football, over marked with 9v9, 7v7 and 5v5; Standard	Improve sustainability of site: Possible site for provision of junior & mini football pitches (as alternative to Brokenbury Quarry)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Used by Brixham Town juniors and minis</li> <li>Capacity analysis suggests potential for pitches to accommodate additional although heavily used by youth teams.</li> <li>Currently club states that there are... '2x 11v11 pitches on the top field (within these 2x 9 aside 1x 7 Aside and 1x 5 aside. Overmarked; however we will soon be keeping one 11 v 11 specifically for adults</li> </ul>	<p>PROTECT, ENHANCE AND PROVIDE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access to changing facilities urgently required. Consider negotiation with Brixham CC pavilion in adjacent field.</li> <li>Clarification required as to precise layout and sizing of pitches in line with planning applications P/2020/0480 and P/2022/0339</li> </ul>	Yes	FA/FF, Club, TC	

D BROADSANDS, CHURSTON & GALMPTON SITE REF	SITE	SPORT; PITCHES; QUALITY RATING	SUMMARY OF KEY ACTION POINTS IN 2014 PPS	SPORT FACILITY AND ACTIVITY SUMMARY FROM SITE AUDITS AND CLUB SURVEY	OPTIONS AND RECOMMENDED ACTIONS (STAGES C AND D)	Priority Site/ Projects	Partners to deliver action	Funding
				and one for children'. (The lower field remains undeveloped at present). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No changing facilities here, so 2 x senior teams play at Furzeham. Club are fund raising for changing facilities.</li> <li>Site is located within the AONB and could encounter difficulties with further intensification of use (e.g. floodlighting).</li> </ul>				
	<b>Churston Tennis Club</b>	Good		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>	ENHANCE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage the club to become an LTA registered venue to ensure minimum safeguarding and quality standards are met.</li> <li>Support club to work towards the LTA's strategy of Tennis Opened Up increasing court utilisation, accessibility of courts and growth of members.</li> </ul>			
	<b>Churston – Brokenbury Quarry (Policy SC2.6 in Local Plan)</b>	General	Protect site for playing field/sports use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Currently under consideration as a solar park</li> </ul>	PROTECT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect site for playing field/sports use</li> </ul>			

End

**Meeting:** Cabinet **Date:** 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022

**Wards affected:** All

**Report Title:** Healthy Behaviours Service contract award proposal

**When does the decision need to be implemented?** The provider needs to be notified of intention to award before the end of November 2022 to ensure sufficient implementation time for contract go-live on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023.

**Cabinet Member Contact Details:** Councillor Jackie Stockman, Cabinet Member for Adults and Public Health, [jackie.stockman@torbay.gov.uk](mailto:jackie.stockman@torbay.gov.uk)

**Director/Divisional Director Contact Details:** Dr Lincoln Sargeant, Director of Public Health, [Lincoln.sargeant@torbay.gov.uk](mailto:Lincoln.sargeant@torbay.gov.uk)

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## 1. Purpose of Report

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- 1.1 The current Torbay Healthy Behaviours (Lifestyles) contract, delivered by Torbay & South Devon NHS Foundation Trust is due to end on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023. In accordance with Public Contract Regulations 2015, we have undertaken an open market procurement for the new contract. The contract will commence on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 and the term will be 3 years, plus a 1-year optional extension.
- 1.2 The highest scoring bidder at completion of the tender evaluation process is set out in Exempt Appendix 1, and therefore the recommendation is that Torbay Council award the Healthy Behaviours Service contract as set out in Exempt Appendix 2.
- 1.3 The successful bidder will deliver adult weight management, smoking cessation, health coaching including delivery of very brief advice on alcohol consumption, physical activity, emotional health and wellbeing and oral health, and delivery of Making Every Contact Count (MECC) and Connect 5 training in Torbay under this contract. The Services will continue to be available to all Torbay residents (aged 18+), and there will be increased efforts made to support population groups within Torbay who experience health inequalities.

## 2. Reason for Proposal and its benefits

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- 2.1 The proposals in this report help us to deliver against the Corporate Plan by reducing levels of deprivation in the Bay, supporting healthy, physically active lives for all, promoting good mental and physical health, reducing the occurrence of preventable illnesses, and reducing reliance on addictive substances.

## 3. Recommendation(s) / Proposed Decision

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1. That the preferred supplier be awarded the Healthy Behaviour Services contract for a period of 3 years, plus a 1-year optional extension, commencing on 1 April 2023, as set out in Exempt Appendix 2.

### **Appendices**

Appendix 1: Tender Evaluation Scores (Exempt)

Appendix 2: Preferred Supplier (Exempt)

### **Background Documents**

[Healthy Lifestyles - Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust](#)

### 1. Introduction

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- 1.1 Torbay Council has statutory responsibility under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 for improving the health of their local population and for provision of public health services.
- 1.2 In Torbay, we have commissioned Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust to deliver the Torbay Healthy Behaviours (Lifestyles) contract since 2012. This contract comprises delivery of adult weight management, health coaching including delivery of very brief advice on alcohol consumption, physical activity, emotional health and wellbeing and oral health, and delivery of Making Every Contact Count (MECC) and Connect 5 training
- 1.3 In accordance with the Public Contract Regulations 2015 we have undertaken an open market procurement for the new Healthy Behaviours Service contract which will commence on 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2023 when the current contract ends (31<sup>st</sup> March 2023).
- 1.4 The result of the tender evaluation process was the highest scoring bidder as set out in exempt Appendix 1, and therefore they are the preferred provider to deliver the new contract.
- 1.5 All tender submissions received were evaluated through the Most Economically Advantageous Tender (MEAT) criteria which was based on 70% quality, 20% price and 10% Social Value.
- 1.6 All the services listed above (in point 1.2) will continue to be delivered under the new contract and will continue to be available to all Torbay residents (aged 18+). In addition, delivery under the new contract requires increased efforts and approaches to support population groups within Torbay who experience health inequalities and where higher rates of smoking and excess weight exist, specifically:
  - Pregnant people
  - People with learning disabilities
  - People with poor mental health
  - The deprived population / those in lower income groups
  - Working aged people, particularly those in manual occupations
- 1.7 The contract will be funded through the Public Health ring-fenced grant and has been built into the base budget for the contract term (1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026, with optional extension to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2027 at mutual agreement between the Council and the provider).

## 2. Options under consideration

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- 2.1 Prior to progressing with an open market procurement, an options appraisal was conducted. It was determined through this that decommissioning the services would be detrimental to the health of Torbay residents and that in-housing the services would not make best use of resources and expertise within the market. Therefore, a procurement process was pursued.
- 2.2 The Council retains the right not to award the contract following the tender evaluation process. The disadvantages of this decision would be that the Council would be required to either in-house or decommission the services under the existing contract before 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023. As identified before the procurement was undertaken, neither of these options were considered advantageous or favourable.
- 2.3 The tender evaluation process provided evidence and assurance of ability in the market to deliver (please refer to Exempt Appendix 1). Therefore, there are not perceived to be any advantages to the Council of taking this decision over the recommendation made.

## 3. Financial Opportunities and Implications

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- 3.1 The contract will be funded through the Public Health ring-fenced grant and has been built into the base budget for the contract term (1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026, with optional extension to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2027 at mutual agreement between the Council and the provider).
- 3.2 Under the proposed contract award, the Council will be committing to 3-year expenditure the cost of which is set out in Exempt Appendix 2 for this contract.

## 4. Legal Implications

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- 4.1 Through the tender process conducted, the Council has met its legal duty under the Public Contract Regulations (2015) for transparency and competition in the open market.
- 4.2 The procurement and award of the contract for these services enables the Council to meet its Public Health responsibilities under the Health and Social Care Act 2012.
- 4.3 The Council has fulfilled its obligations under the Transfer of Undertaking (Protection of Employment) [TUPE] Regulations 2006 by making interested bidders' aware that TUPE may apply and by making available information about the staff employed under the current contract to inform their tender submissions.

## 5. Engagement and Consultation

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- 5.1 A Health Needs Assessment was undertaken by Public Health as part of the pre-procurement activity. The views of people who had used the service – both members of the public and

professionals were captured in relation to their experience and areas for improvement. These were included within the service specification development for the new contract.

- 5.2 Potential bidders and key stakeholders were also consulted with through two market engagement events as part of the pre-procurement activity. These events enabled us to share our aspirations for this contract and gain feedback to ensure the skills and expertise in the market to deliver for Torbay.

## 6. Purchasing or Hiring of Goods and/or Services

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- 6.1 Every bidder was required to make a Social Value submission as part of their overall tender submission. The Torbay TOMs Framework was used, and bidders were required to set out their Social Value offer against all 41 measures of the Master Set and therefore covers measures associated with all 5 of the Council's Strategic Priorities. 10% of the overall tender score was attributed to Social Value.
- 6.2 If the recommendation for contract award is agreed, the preferred supplier will be required to complete quarterly Social Value returns which will make up part of contract monitoring to ensure that their commitments are fulfilled.

## 7. Tackling Climate Change

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- 7.1 The specification for this Contract sets out the Council's declared climate emergency, and the expectation of its providers with respect to tackling climate change, including the requirement for the provider to have an environmental policy and can ensure their environmental impact is measured and reported regularly.
- 7.2 The preferred supplier has within their submission committed that they can and will comply with these requirements. Review of their environmental policy will be undertaken as part of the due diligence process initiated when contract award notification is issued. The preferred supplier's environmental impact will be measured and monitored through the Social Value returns which will be completed as part of contract monitoring.

## 8. Associated Risks

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- 8.1 If the recommendation is not approved, there will be risks to continued service delivery either because of needing to decommission or in-house the services under the current contract. If decommissioning, this will leave residents in Torbay with limited access to weight management, smoking cessation, and health coaching services. This would also pose risk of redundancy to the existing workforce, potentially resulting in skilled professionals leaving the local workforce. If in-housing, this will require added resource and capacity from the Council to ensure transition of service can be completed before contract go-live data of the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023. This could risk delay in service commencement.

- 8.2 If the recommendation is approved, there are some continuity risks to the integrated pathway for adult weight management. Structure Diabetes Education Programme, tier 3 and tier 4 services will remain the provision of Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust under the commissioning of the Integrated Care Board (ICB) and tier 2 will be delivered by the preferred supplier. Determining how the pathway will remain integrated will be a priority area within the transition plan.
- 8.3 If the recommendation is approved, there could also be some continuity risks to the pathways between the local stop smoking service and the emerging Treating Tobacco Dependence (TTD) offer as set out in the NHS long term plan. The TTD offer will remain the provision of Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust under NHS England and the local stop smoking service will be delivered by the preferred supplier. Determining how the pathways will remain integrated will be a priority area within the transition plan.

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

	Positive Impact	Negative Impact & Mitigating Actions	Neutral Impact
Older or younger people	The Service will as part of their initial assessment of adults referred seek to understand their domestic and family context. This will allow for identification of children and adolescents who may be at greater risks of developing health problems associated with excess weight and/or smoking. This will support closer working with children's services to support the whole family.	None identified.	There is no change to the criteria or scope of the service that will impact older people.
People with caring Responsibilities	The Service will be delivered at times of day which support those with caring responsibilities to receive contact and support.	None identified.	None identified.
People with a disability	The Service will refocus and prioritise engaging with adults with disabilities both directly and in collaboration with organisations already involved in their care and support. Specific, tailored	None identified.	None identified.

	interventions will be developed to support adults with disabilities.		
Women or men	The Service will be delivered at times of day which support men and women to receive contact and support outside of work and/or caring responsibilities.	None identified.	None identified.
People who are black or from a minority ethnic background (BME) (Please note Gypsies / Roma are within this community)	Service design and delivery should be more flexible under the proposed changes meaning that any differing engagement, access and support needs based on ethnic background can be more easily accounted and adapted for.	None identified.	None identified.
Religion or belief (including lack of belief)	Service design and delivery should be more flexible under the proposed changes meaning that any differing engagement, access and support needs based on religion or belief can be more easily accounted and adapted for.	None identified.	None identified.
People who are lesbian, gay or bisexual	Service design and delivery should be more flexible under the proposed changes meaning that any differing engagement, access and support needs based on sexuality can be more easily accounted and adapted for.	None identified.	None identified.
People who are transgendered	Service design and delivery should be more flexible under the proposed changes meaning that any differing engagement, access and support needs based on gender identity and/or transition can be more easily accounted and adapted for.	None identified.	None identified.

People who are in a marriage or civil partnership	The services will continue to support positive relationships.	None identified.	None identified.
Women who are pregnant / on maternity leave	The Service will refocus and prioritise engaging with pregnant people both directly and in collaboration with organisations already involved in their care and support. Specific, tailored interventions will be developed to support pregnant people.	None identified.	None identified.
Socio-economic impacts (Including impact on child poverty issues and deprivation)	The Service will refocus and prioritise engaging with those living in areas of deprivation both directly and in collaboration with organisations already involved in their care and support. Specific, tailored interventions will be developed to support those experiencing deprivation through focussing on the wider determinants of health.	None identified.	None identified.
Public Health impacts (How will your proposal impact on the general health of the population of Torbay)	The proposal should positively impact the general physical & mental health of the Torbay residents. By operating to proportionate universalism, the service will be available to all, but will prioritise and target those groups where health inequalities are greatest.	None identified.	None identified.

## 10. Cumulative Council Impact

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10.1 None.

## 11. Cumulative Community Impacts

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11.1 The ICB commissions Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust to deliver the Diabetes Structured Education Programme. The Trainers who deliver this Programme are

also the Trainers who are employed by the current Healthy Behaviours (Lifestyles) Service. It is not envisaged that the recommendation will negatively impact this situation as Trainers have separate employment arrangements for their delivery across these different contracts.

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**Officer Scheme of Delegation  
Urgent decisions taken by the Chief Executive**

**Paragraph 1.21 of Schedule 6 to Part 3 (Responsibility of Functions) of the Council’s Constitution**

**Report to the Meeting of the Cabinet to be held on 15 November 2022**

The Officer Scheme of Delegation states that the Chief Executive may take an urgent decision in relation to a cabinet function (in consultation with the Leader of the Council) that as a matter of urgency any decision in relation to an Executive function shall be taken by him/her in the best interests of either the Council or the inhabitants of the Borough, as he/she considers necessary.

A report detailing the action taken in accordance with the Officer Scheme of Delegation must be submitted to the Cabinet. The table below sets out the details of the action taken:

<b>Matter for decision</b>	<b>Decision taken by</b>	<b>Decision and Alternative Options Considered</b>	<b>Reasons for urgency</b>	<b>Date of decision</b>
P 2022 1243 Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust Funding Extension	Chief Executive of Torbay Council	<p><b>Decision:</b></p> As set out in Exempt Appendix 1. <p><b>Alternative Options Considered:</b></p> To enable the Council to provide financial support to a local organisation to assist with economic regeneration within Torbay.	The decision was very time constrained and in the best of the Council and the inhabitants of the Borough.	3 November 2022

**Anne-Marie Bond**  
Chief Executive

**4 November 2022**

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