

## **Budget Proposals 2013/14: Major Decision: Business Unit: Residents & Visitors Services (RVS) Brixham Park & Ride**

### **Combined Impact Assessment: Full assessment (Part 2)**

The council and its partners are facing a significant challenge in the savings it needs to make over the next couple of years. This Full Impact Assessment has been developed as a tool to enable business units to fully consider the impact of proposed major decisions on the community. As a council we need to ensure that we are able to deliver the savings that we need to make from the 1<sup>st</sup> April and be able to justify our decisions through any legal challenge.

This full assessment, combined with the initial review, will evidence that you have fully considered the impact of your proposed changes and carried out appropriate consultation on those changes with the key stakeholders. The Combined Impact Assessment will allow Councillors to make informed decisions as part of the decision-making process regarding the council's budget.

**Name:** Sue Cheriton

**Position:** Executive Head – Residents & Visitor Services

**Business Unit:** Residents & Visitor Services

**Department:** Streetscene

**Date commenced:** November 2012

**Date:** January 2013

## Summary from Overall Proposal

Proposals – Outline	Savings 2013/14		Implementation Cost Include brief outline + year incurred	Delivery In place 01/04/13 If earlier or later state date	Risks / impact of proposals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential risks</li> <li>Impact on community</li> <li>Knock on impact to other agencies</li> </ul>	Type of decision*		
	Income £ 000's	Budget reduction £ 000's				Internal	Minor	Major
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stop Brixham Park &amp; Ride.</li> </ul>		20		1/4/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential increase congestion in Brixham town centre.</li> </ul>			x

## Section 1: Purpose of the proposal/strategy/decision

No	Question	Details
1.	<b>Clearly set out the purpose of the proposal</b>	<p>Torbay Council currently operates a seasonal park and ride in Churston which serves central Brixham. The proposal is to stop this facility. The service operates from April through to January each year. The months the site is closed relates to poor weather which impacts on the surface area at the site. The service operates from 8.30am – 6.30pm. The site is rented on an annual basis from a local land owner, the bus service to Brixham town centre is operated as part of Stagecoach's regular services at no cost to the authority.</p> <p>The Council allows free parking at the site therefore no income is generated for the Council. This concessionary parking was agreed by Council at the time of demolishing the multi-storey car park in Brixham town centre to compensate for any negative impact on the local economy.</p>
2.	<b>Who is intended to benefit / who will be affected?</b>	The proposal will affect existing and potential users. It can potentially affect users of car parks in central Brixham as car parks could reach capacity during major events. The proposal could impact upon all residents/users of Brixham town centre as the roads may become more congested as a result of this proposal.

No	Question	Details
3.	<b>What is the intended outcome?</b>	That the park and ride facility is no longer available to serve Brixham. The site remains available and could be used to reinstate the service should demand be sufficient and alternative resources be identified such as voluntary contributions.

## Section 2: Equalities, Consultation and Engagement

Torbay Council has a moral obligation as well as a duty under the Equality Act 2010 to eliminate discrimination, promote good relations and advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not.

The **Equalities, Consultation and Engagement** section ensures that, as a council, we take into account the Public Sector Equality Duty at an early stage and provide evidence to ensure that we fully consider the impact of our decisions/proposals on the Torbay community.

### Evidence, Consultation and Engagement

No	Question	Details
4.	<b>Have you considered the available evidence?</b>	<p>Current surveys show that the usage of the facility is low outside of the summer months of July and August. There are 300 spaces available at the park and ride site, however maximum occupancy which occurs during August only reaches 65 vehicles on site. The park and ride is closed during the winter months from January to Easter each year and with the exception of July and August usage is low with an average of 15 vehicles a day using the site with sufficient parking capacity in the Town Centre available</p> <p>During the summer months the Council Car Parks can become full on occasions In addition to Council car parks the town centre also has the private MDL Car Park which holds 368 vehicles, the usage of this car park is unknown at this present time.</p> <p>There is soon to be a fast ferry service from Torquay to Brixham with integrated transport linking to bus services and cycle routes to be in operation by Summer 2013.</p> <p>The bus operates as part of Stagecoach's standard public service with all their standard accessibility provision. The customers at the park and ride represent a cross section of the community being used by visitors and residents.</p>

No	Question	Details												
5.	<b>How have you consulted on the proposal?</b>	This proposal has been included as part of the public budget consultation running throughout January 2013 (closing date 21 <sup>st</sup> January 2013). The questionnaire has been sent to members of the Viewpoint Panel and has been made publicly available in all connections offices, libraries and also online.												
6.	<b>Outline the key findings</b>	<p data-bbox="557 419 931 451"><u>Torbay Budget Consultation:</u></p> <p data-bbox="557 491 1081 523"><b>Q6.2) Do you support this proposal?</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1126 560 1565 735"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Number</th> <th>Percent</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>197</td> <td>67.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>97</td> <td>33.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>294</b></td> <td><b>100.0%</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="557 775 1861 807">Two thirds of respondents (67%) supported the proposal to stop the Brixham Park and Ride Service.</p> <p data-bbox="557 847 2130 943">Respondents who said no, they did not support the proposal were asked to say why they didn't support it. Key issues from these responses with examples of comments regarding the proposal are outlined in the Torbay Budget Consultation report.</p> <p data-bbox="557 983 1581 1015">Please see Torbay Budget Consultation Report 2013 – 14 for more information</p>		Number	Percent	Yes	197	67.0%	No	97	33.0%	<b>Total</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
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7.	<b>What amendments may be required as a result of the consultation?</b>	To be considered following ratification at Full Council												

### Positive and Negative Equality Impacts

No	Question	Details		
8.	Identify the potential positive and negative impacts on specific groups			
		Positive Impact	Negative Impact	Neutral Impact
	All groups in society generally		Motorists will need to find alternative places to park the town centre i.e. car parks. This proposal could potentially cause congestion in the local area during busy periods.	The changes will apply to all groups.
	Older or younger people		Motorists will need to find alternative places to park the town centre i.e. car parks. This proposal could potentially cause congestion in the local area during busy periods.	The changes will apply to all groups.
	People with caring responsibilities			The changes will apply to all groups.
	People with a disability	Disabled spaces are provided in Town Centre car parks. Disabled parking spaces are provided currently within the town centre car parks, consideration will be given to increasing the number of spaces if required.	Disabled people could potentially be disadvantaged as the park and ride can offer a direct service to Brixham Town Centre.	
	Women or men			The changes will apply to all groups.
	People who are black or from a minority ethnic background (BME)			The changes will apply to all groups.
	Religion or belief (including lack of			The changes will apply to all groups.

No	Question	Details	
	belief)		
	People who are lesbian, gay or bisexual		The changes will apply to all groups.
	People who are transgendered		The changes will apply to all groups.
	People who are in a marriage or civil partnership		The changes will apply to all groups.
	Women who are pregnant / on maternity leave		The changes will apply to all groups.
	Socio-economic (including child poverty)		The changes will apply to all groups.
9.	<b>Is there scope for your proposal to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity and/or foster good relations?</b>	Due to the minimal use of this provision it is anticipated that sufficient spare parking capacity exists within Brixham town centre and that this decision will not have a negative impact or discriminate against any specific group.	

### Section 3: Steps required to manage the potential impacts identified

No	Action	Details
10.	<b>Summarise any positive impacts and how they will be realised most effectively?</b>	Due to the minimal use of this provision it is anticipated that sufficient spare parking capacity exists within Brixham town centre and that this measure will have no negative impact therefore measures to manage this proposal are not required.

11.	<b>Summarise any negative impacts and how these will be managed?</b>	<p>The loss of parking to Brixham will have to be managed through a publicity campaign advising users on other ways to access Brixham and other parking facilities in Brixham.</p> <p>The availability of disabled parking spaces in the town centre will be monitored, and the numbers increased if necessary.</p>

#### Section 4: Recommended course of action

No	Action	Details
12.	<b>State a recommended course of action</b>  [please refer to action plan]	<b>Outcome 2: Adjustments to remove barriers</b> - Publicity will be required to inform the public of the changes and the various options. Car parking for disabled drivers will be provided in town centre car parks  It is recommended that this proposal is implemented.

#### Section 5: Monitoring and Action Plan

No	Action	Details
13.	<b>Outline plans to monitor the actual impact of your proposals</b>	The car parks in Brixham have a real time monitoring system which will allow the capacity of the existing car parks to be monitored.

#### Action plan

No.	Action	Reason for action / contingency	Resources	Responsibility	Deadline date
1	Consider alternatives to the current provision by operating a park and ride from a Council Car Park at Goodrington.	To provide an alternative at peak times	Liaison with Stagecoach	Public Transport Team	Dec 2012

2	Monitor availability of Disabled spaces within the town centre.	To consider increasing the number of disabled spaces within the town centre	Officer time	Parking team	On-going
3	Undertake a media campaign to ask visitors coming to Brixham to use public transport and also from surrounding towns of Totnes and Dartmouth.	Mitigate any impact on the economy of Brixham	Liaison with bus companies and DCC	Public Transport Team	Dec 2012