

Minutes of the Cabinet

24 May 2022

-: Present :-

Councillor Cowell (Chairman)

Councillors Carter, Law, Long and Morey

(Also in attendance: Councillors Bye and Chris Lewis (virtually))

343. Apologies

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

344. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 19 April and 10 May 2022 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

345. Communications

Members received a presentation from Liz Muir and Davina Luther on the work of Groundwork across Torbay and the wider South Devon area. The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Councillor Cowell welcomed the projects developed by Groundwork in Torbay and appreciated the innovative approach to creating forms of green space in predominantly urban areas.

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Councillor Law referred to the recent judgment on Children's Services in Torbay following an Ofsted inspection which took place between 21 March to 1 April 2022. Ofsted had judged the Council as 'Good' in all four areas of inspection. Councillor Law thanked all staff across the Council for their support in delivering significant improvements.

The Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Tourism and Housing, Councillor Long informed Members that the Leader of the Council would be writing to the Government expressing alarm at the current cost of living crisis and requesting consideration be given to imposing a 'windfall' tax on oil and gas companies to assist with rising energy bills, reducing the standard rate of VAT and financial support for pensioners.

346. 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.

347. Regeneration of 12-14 Strand (former Debenhams building)

348. English Riviera Destination Management Plan Review

349. Torbay on the Move; 'More people, more active, more often'

350. Adults Social Care Governance Changes and appointment of Adults Continuous Improvement Board

351. Safe Places for Young People - Report of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Board

Chairman/woman

Record of Decisions

Regeneration of 12-14 Strand (former Debenhams building)

Decision Taker

Cabinet on 24 May 2022.

Decision

1. That Cabinet authorise up to £9,600,000 funding from the Growth Fund to redevelop (demolition and construction) 12-14 Strand;
2. That delegated authority be given to the Director of Finance in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance to approve the detailed business case once the contractor procurement and further due diligence is completed, on the basis that the financial criteria continue to be met for the economic growth fund;
3. That delegated authority be given to the Director of Finance in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration, Tourism and Housing to agree and finalise the detailed terms of any agreement for lease with perspective tenants of the commercial units; and
4. That delegated authority be given to the Director of Finance in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance to agree the sales terms of any residential unit sold and authorise the disposal on a long leasehold basis.

Reason for the Decision

To provide funding for the regeneration and redevelopment of 12-14 Strand.

Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 8 June 2022 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in the Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

Information

Currently 12-14 Strand is empty, as a result of, Debenhams having ceased trading. This has left the Council with an empty property in a strategically important location, thereby providing the opportunity to rejuvenate this part of Torquay. It was hoped that a mixed used development along with the Strand Public Realm improvements would increase footfall into the town centre and provide a more attractive commercial floor area.

At the meeting Councillor Long proposed and Councillor Cowell seconded a motion, that was agreed unanimously by the Cabinet.

Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision

No alternative options were considered as the property is empty and in a strategically important location.

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

27 May 2022

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

Record of Decisions

The English Riviera Destination Management Plan (DMP) Review

Decision Taker

Cabinet on 24 May 2022.

Decision

That the draft English Riviera Destination Management Plan 2022-27, be approved for public consultation.

Reason for the Decision

The Destination Management Plan 2022-2027 sets out the interventions that can help propel the English Riviera forward and ensures there is a planned approach to the recovery and growth of the visitor economy post Covid-19 and over the next five years.

Implementation

This decision will be implemented immediately.

Information

The Cabinet's approval was sought to launch public consultation on the reviewed English Riviera Destination Management Plan (DMP). The new Destination Management Plan 2022-27 sets out the vision and objectives, markets for growth, destination development, management, delivery model and action plan to take the destination forward.

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 continue with the existing plan, this option was discounted as the existing plan was no longer appropriate and out of date.

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.

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Deputy Leader of Torbay Council on behalf of the Cabinet

Record of Decisions

Torbay on the Move; 'More people, more active, more often'

Decision Taker

Cabinet on 24 May 2022.

Decision

That the Torbay on the Move Findings Report and recommendations as set out below, be approved:

- i) Endorse the proposed Strategic Outcome Themes and pull them together into overarching strategy documentation;
- ii) Commit to a 'Whole Systems' approach as the way of working to deliver the outcomes of Torbay on the Move;
- iii) Communicate Torbay on the Move internally within the Council (including SWISCO & TDA) to ensure broad support for the strategy, break down silos and foster internal collaboration; and
- iv) Give its support to the formation of a 'Strategy Oversight Group' to consist of leaders from within the Council and Community partner organisations. The Group's remit is to be taking forward delivery, overseeing and distributing investment (where available) and providing collective leadership.

Reason for the Decision

Increasing activity levels across Torbay has the potential to make a positive contribution, not just to health and wellbeing agendas but also to the local economy and the environmental agenda with an established link to cleaner air, less carbon produced and cleaner and safer roads.

Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 8 June 2022 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in the Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

Information

In 2018 a series of recommendations were made through the Director of Public Health's Annual Report; Torbay on the Move. In partnership with Active Devon, the Council had undertaken a review of Torbay on the Move and delivered a consultation with partners and key stakeholders across Torbay.

The consultation models used, increased our understanding of the strengths of Torbay and its residents as well as the opportunities for making a difference for our communities. Four main findings arose from the consultation process together with a series of recommendations which the Council was asked to consider and commit to.

At the meeting Councillor Morey proposed and Councillor Carter 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 would be to do nothing at all, this option was discounted as there would be very little impact on activity rates in Torbay.

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)

1. That the current Adults Improvement Board be revised and replaced with a newly appointed Adults Continuous Improvement Board, with an independent Chair, to provide the principal mechanism by which Torbay Council oversees the delivery of Adult Social Care, jointly with Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust. The Head of Governance Support be delegated authority to prepare the terms of reference and membership for the revised Board in consultation with the Cabinet Lead for Adult Social Care and Director of Adult Social Services.
2. That the overall governance structure for Adult Social Care (as set out at Appendix 1 and 2), including relationship with the newly appointed Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny Sub Board, be noted.

Published

27 May 2022

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

Record of Decisions

Adults Social Care Governance Changes and appointment of Adults Continuous Improvement Board

Decision Taker

Cabinet on 24 May 2022.

Decision

1. That the current Adults Improvement Board be revised and replaced with a newly appointed Adults Continuous Improvement Board, with an independent Chair, to provide the principal mechanism by which Torbay Council oversees the delivery of Adult Social Care, jointly with Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust. The Head of Governance Support be delegated authority to prepare the terms of reference and membership for the revised Board in consultation with the Cabinet Lead for Adult Social Care and Director of Adult Social Services.
2. That the overall governance structure for Adult Social Care (as set out at Appendix 1 and 2), including relationship with the newly appointed Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny Sub Board, be noted.

Reason for the Decision

To ensure the Council has sound governance and oversight in place to assure itself, and the people of Torbay that Adult Social Care (ASC) is delivering what it should, and that the voice of the lived experience of the people and communities of Torbay is informing and shaping everything the Council does.

Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 8 June 2022 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in the Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

Information

Torbay Council is, and will remain, accountable for its statutory adult social care functions (ASC). Through a partnership arrangement, the Council has delegated responsibility for the delivery for much of those functions to Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust (TSDFT).

The proposed governance arrangements, set out how the Council can assure itself that the functions it has delegated are being delivered to a good standard. The governance arrangements also ensure that the strategic direction it is setting for adult social care is being implemented in practice and that the desired outcomes for the public are being secured. Including the duties set out in the recent White Paper, 'People at the Heart of Care'.

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

Alternative options were set out in the submitted report.

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.

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27 May 2022

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

Record of Decisions

Safe Places for Young People - Report of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Board

Decision Taker

Cabinet on 24 May 2022.

Decision

That the Cabinet's response to the Safe Places for Young People – Report of the Children and Young People 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 Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Board.

Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 8 June 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 report of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Board on Safe Places for Young People. In accordance with section D7 of Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny as set out in the Constitution, the Cabinet was required to respond to the recommendations of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Board within two months. Subsequently the Cabinet prepared a response to the recommendations of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Board which was proposed by Councillor Law and seconded by Councillor Cowell 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.

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Deputy Leader of Torbay Council on behalf of the Cabinet