Record of Decisions

Torbay Placement Sufficiency Strategy for Children in Care and Care Experienced Young People 2026-2029

Decision Taker

Cabinet on 20 October 2026

Decision

1. that the Torbay Placement Sufficiency Strategy for Children in Care and Care Experienced Young People 2026-2029 be approved;

2. that the Director of Children's Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children's Services, be authorised to make minor amendments to the Strategy that do not materially change its direction or commitments; and

3. that delivery be progressed through the Placement Sufficiency Delivery Action Plan and the Budget Sustainability Plan for Placements, with progress and exceptions reported through existing governance arrangements.

Reason for the Decision

The Strategy provided a clear framework for meeting the Council's statutory sufficiency responsibilities, improving local placement provision, supporting permanence planning, reducing reliance on high-cost external placements and strengthening accommodation pathways for care experienced young people.

Implementation

This decision may be implemented on 2 November 2026 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in the Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

Information

The Torbay Placement Sufficiency Strategy for Children in Care and Care Experienced Young People 2026–2029 provided a whole-system framework to support more children safely within their families and networks, increase the range and quality of local homes and accommodation, secure permanence without avoidable delay, and improve accommodation pathways for care experienced young people.

At the meeting Councillor Bye proposed and Councillor Tyerman 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 defer approval of the Strategy, this option was discounted as it would have delayed implementation and weakened the Council's response to current sufficiency pressures. Not approving the Strategy was rejected as it would have left the Council without an up-to-date framework for meeting its sufficiency duty.

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

23 October 2026

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