

Title: Healthy Torbay Supplementary Planning Document – Public Health

Wards Affected: All

To: Health and Wellbeing Board **On:** 16 March 2017

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1. Purpose

- 1.1. This report introduces and updates the Health and Wellbeing Board regarding the Council's efforts to adopt new planning guidance (a 'Healthy Torbay Supplementary Planning Document') to further the attainment of better outcomes for health and wellbeing through the development process in Torbay, a process managed by Torbay Council as the local planning authority (LPA).

2. Background and achievements since last meeting

- 2.1 The Council adopted the Torbay Local Plan in December 2015. This document forms the Council's statutory 'development plan' which guides decision-making in respect of planning decisions. As part of the toolkit of planning policy measures available to a local planning authority and as enabled by the adoption of the latest Torbay Local Plan, the Council is able to produce and adopt Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) which add useful detail to the Local Plan policies in order to better secure environmental, social, design and economic objectives which are relevant to the attainment of the development and use of land. Once adopted by the Council (having been through a process of production in accordance with the Town and Country Planning Regulations) SPDs hold legal weight as material considerations in the consideration of planning applications.
- 2.2 Within the Local Plan, the Council has committed to producing SPDs to further the practical implementation of policies in the Local Plan. Further information in this regards is detailed in the latest version of the Torbay Local Development Scheme (LDS). One of those documents is a 'Healthy Torbay SPD' to add further detail on a number of issues relating to the attainment of health and wellbeing through the development management process including health impact assessment (HIA), healthy design, healthy food environments and tackling health inequalities.

- 2.3 The Council published a draft version of the Healthy Torbay SPD for public consultation (appended to this report) on 20 February for a period of four weeks. The consultation closes on 20 March. The Council will consider a final version of the Healthy Torbay SPD, taking into account comments feedback from the consultation process and further work on the contents of the SPD, for adoption at the Full Council meeting taking place on 6 April 2017.
- 2.4 Torbay Council's Public Health and Spatial Planning teams have jointly led on the production of the SPD, facilitated by a close working relationship between both teams. This approach sits within the Council's framework of 'Healthy Torbay'. Healthy Torbay brings together the many different elements of the Council's work to address the wider or social determinants of health.
- 2.5 The Healthy Torbay SPD is focused on how interventions made within the built environment, particularly through the development process, can impact on the wider determinants of health. The wider determinants of health in the context of the built environment are neatly illustrated via the 'Health Map' (Barton and Grant, 2006) which shows the significance of the environment as being a determining factor of health and wellbeing.



- 2.6 Although the headline policies in the adopted Torbay Local Plan relating to health and wellbeing (perhaps most obviously SS11 Sustainable Communities and SC1 Healthy Bay) are currently being positively used to guide development towards better health outcomes, the Local Plan is very clear that further guidance on these matters is necessary and will be forthcoming in order to provide certainty to the development industry on the LPA's requirement's of development and help guide the production of successful planning applications. Drawing these elements together within a formal SPD gives these matters material weight for decision making, provides greater clarity to actors within the development process and therefore allows the LPA

to better realise development which contributes to better health and wellbeing outcomes.

3. Challenges for the next three months

- 3.1 The Healthy Torbay SPD will be going to Full Council on 6 April 2017 for approval and a recommendation for the document to be adopted into the Council's Policy Framework. If Council agrees, the local planning authority will subsequently prepare the final version of the document for adoption, alongside an adoption statement and statement of public participation (in line with the Town and Country Planning Regulations). The SPD will become part of the Council's development planning framework and form a material consideration for the consideration of planning applications. The guidance contained within the SPD will supplement the policies of the Torbay Local Plan and will be utilised by officers within Spatial Planning and Members of the Development Management Committee in making decisions on planning applications. It will also be utilised heavily by the development industry during the preparation of planning applications, helping applicants to 'get it right first time' in producing proposals which are acceptable to the local planning authority in terms of health and wellbeing. To facilitate the implementation and influence of the SPD, its guidance will be heavily promoted at the pre-application stage.

4. Action required by partners

- 4.1 To consider the draft Healthy Torbay SPD, provide any feedback on behalf of the board so that it might be considered in the final version of the SPD and support the adoption of the SPD by Full Council on 6 April 2017.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Healthy Torbay Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) – Consultation Draft

Background Papers:

The following documents/files were used to compile this report:

[Healthy Torbay Supplementary Planning Document Consultation Draft \(February 2017\)](#)