

Meeting: Overview & Scrutiny Board

Date: 10th June 2020

Wards Affected: All

Report Title: Post Covid Economic Plan

Is the decision a key decision? No

When does the decision need to be implemented? As soon as possible

Cabinet Member Contact Details: Cllr Swithin Long, Cabinet member for Regeneration, Tourism & Housing.

Director/Assistant Director Contact Details: Alan Denby, Director of Economic Strategy, 01803 20867, alan.denby@tda.uk.net

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The attached document is a draft of the proposed post COVID-19 economic plan. It is work in progress and should be treated by the overview and scrutiny board as such and is presented here to seek views, challenge and to help identify gaps.
- 1.2 It is not the complete nor the final version that is intended for presentation to Cabinet on the 16th of June. Cabinet has been briefed that there will likely be a requirement for further iterations over the summer as the impact of the pandemic and the associated response on our economy becomes clearer.

2. Reason for Proposal

- 2.1 The plan is required to set out an appropriate response to the extraordinary challenges that will face the local economy as a consequence of the pandemic and the associated response.
- 2.2 The plan sets out the high-level issues which we understand will present for the local economy which will include increased levels of unemployment, business failure and challenges to cancel income in various ways.
- 2.3 An action plan is included and sets out three different phases of work and five different themes. The three phases are;
 - response – crisis management, signposting, planning
 - recovery – measures to regain lost momentum and restart activity
 - reposition – designed to move the area past its historic levels of performance

- 2.4 Reposition is a key tenet of the plan is that we must move past our pre-Covid economic performance to do better for the community.
- 2.5 The themes include town centres, culture, visit Academy, wealth building and growth. There is not currently a theme specifically for skills however the improvement of skill levels and development of a clearer skills progression route especially for adults in our community will be extremely important and views from the board on whether skills should be a separate theme would be welcomed.
- 2.6 In developing the plan discussions have taken place and are ongoing with Colleagues in Torbay Council, business representatives and wider community representatives including Torbay community development trust and local spark to ensure that this is as broadly a Torbay plan as possible.
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3. Recommendation(s) / Proposed Decision

- (i) The Board to consider the draft Post Covid Plan and make any recommendations to the Cabinet.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Draft Post Covid Plan