

**Meeting:** [Cabinet](#) **Date:** [18 March 2025](#)

**Wards affected:** [All](#)

**Report Title:** [Local Government Association Adult Social Care Preparation for Assurance Peer Challenge](#)

**When does the decision need to be implemented?** [Not applicable.](#)

**Cabinet Member Contact Details:** [Cllr Hayley Tranter, Cabinet Member for Adult and Community Services, Public Health and Inequalities, Hayley.Tranter@Torbay.gov.uk](#)

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## 1. Purpose of Report

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- 1.1 In June 2024 Torbay council invited the Local Government Association to undertake a Peer Challenge on Adult Social Care Preparation for Assurance.
- 1.2 In November the feedback report (Appendix 1) and action plan were discussed at the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board, with the agreement to provide updates quarterly going forward.
- 1.3 This paper presents the action plan from that process, with progress to date.

## 2. Reason for Proposal and its benefits

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- 2.1 The Peer Review Action Plan outlines the key areas of improvement identified during the Torbay Council Adult Social Care Preparation for Assurance Peer Challenge.
- 2.2 The progression of the action plan will assist us in improving the experiences of Torbay Residents and for us to deliver our vision of a healthy, happy and prosperous Torbay.

## 3. Recommendation(s) / Proposed Decision

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- 1 That the Torbay Council Adult Social Care Preparation for Assurance Peer Challenge action plan be approved as set out in Appendix 2 to the submitted report.

### Appendices

Appendix 1: LGA Peer Challenge on Adult Social Care Preparation for Assurance

Appendix 2: Adult Social Care Assurance Peer Challenge Action Plan

# Supporting Information

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## 1. Introduction

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- 1.1 In June 2024 Torbay Council invited the Local Government Association to undertake a Peer Challenge on Adult Social Care Preparation for Assurance.
- 1.2 In November the feedback report and action plan were discussed at Overview and Scrutiny Sub Board, with the agreement to provide updates quarterly going forward.
- 1.3 This paper presents the action plan progress.

## 2. Options under consideration

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- 2.1 Not to accept the LGA Peer Challenge on Adult Social Care Preparation for Assurance and resulting action plan – this is not recommended as implementation of the action plan will enable the Adult Social Care and the Council to continue to improve. Alternative or additional actions could be proposed.

## 3. Financial Opportunities and Implications

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- 3.1 None

## 4. Legal Implications

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- 4.1 Accountability for Adult Social Care in Torbay remains with Torbay Council (The Council), by law. The Council has chosen to delegate responsibility for the operational delivery of key aspects of the adult social care function to Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust (The Trust). That delegated responsibility is overseen by a Section 75 agreement (Section 8.1 to 8.7), the detail is articulated via a Memorandum of Understanding, set alongside the finance agreement established between the Council, the Trust, and NHS Devon Integrated Commissioning Board.
- 4.2 This Peer Challenge included services from both The Council and The Trust as well as Community and Independent Care providers.

## 5. Engagement and Consultation

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- 5.1 None.

## 6. Procurement Implications

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- 6.1 None

## 7. Protecting our naturally inspiring Bay and tackling Climate Change

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7.1 None

## 8. Associated Risks

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- 8.1 Whilst overwhelmingly positive, the Peer Challenge Report identifies areas of weakness that, if not addressed, will potentially continue to have an adverse impact on the experiences of people with Adult Social Care needs.
- 8.2 The Peer Challenge Report and its recommendations will be considered by the Care Quality Commission when undertaking inspection of Adult Social Care in Torbay.

## 9. Equality Impact Assessment

Protected characteristics under the Equality Act and groups with increased vulnerability	Data and insight	Equality considerations (including any adverse impacts)	Mitigation activities	Responsible department and timeframe for implementing mitigation activities
Age	<p>18 per cent of Torbay residents are under 18 years old.</p> <p>55 per cent of Torbay residents are aged between 18 to 64 years old.</p> <p>27 per cent of Torbay residents are aged 65 and older.</p>	<p>There is no decision required in his report, therefore no equality considerations are identified. Equalities issues are raised in the report which will be addressed in detail in the action plan</p>	<p>The Peer Challenge Action Plan will address the equalities issues identified in the report.</p>	<p>Adults and Communities</p>
Carers	<p>At the time of the 2021 census there were 14,900 unpaid carers in Torbay. 5,185 of these provided 50 hours or more of care.</p>	<p>There is no decision required in his report, therefore no equality considerations are identified. Equalities issues are raised in the report which will be addressed in detail in the action plan</p>	<p>The Peer Challenge Action Plan will address the equalities issues identified in the report.</p>	<p>Adults and Communities</p>
Disability	<p>In the 2021 Census, 23.8% of Torbay residents answered that their day-to-day activities were limited a little or a lot by a physical or mental health condition or illness.</p>	<p>There is no decision required in his report, therefore no equality considerations are identified. Equalities issues are raised in the report which will be addressed in detail in the action plan</p>	<p>The Peer Challenge Action Plan will address the equalities issues identified in the report.</p>	<p>Adults and Communities</p>

Gender reassignment	In the 2021 Census, 0.4% of Torbay's community answered that their gender identity was not the same as their sex registered at birth. This proportion is similar to the Southwest and is lower than England.	There is no decision required in his report, therefore no equality considerations are identified. Equalities issues are raised in the report which will be addressed in detail in the action plan	The Peer Challenge Action Plan will address the equalities issues identified in the report.	Adults and Communities
Marriage and civil partnership	Of those Torbay residents aged 16 and over at the time of 2021 Census, 44.2% of people were married or in a registered civil partnership.	There is no decision required in his report, therefore no equality considerations are identified. Equalities issues are raised in the report which will be addressed in detail in the action plan	The Peer Challenge Action Plan will address the equalities issues identified in the report.	
Pregnancy and maternity	Over the period 2010 to 2021, the rate of live births (as a proportion of females aged 15 to 44) has been slightly but significantly higher in Torbay (average of 63.7 per 1,000) than England (60.2) and the South West (58.4). There has been a notable fall in the numbers of live births since the middle of the last decade across all geographical areas.	There is no decision required in his report, therefore no equality considerations are identified. Equalities issues are raised in the report which will be addressed in detail in the action plan	The Peer Challenge Action Plan will address the equalities issues identified in the report.	
Race	In the 2021 Census, 96.1% of Torbay residents described their ethnicity as white. This is a higher proportion than the South West and England. Black, Asian and minority ethnic individuals are more likely to live in areas of Torbay	There is no decision required in his report, therefore no equality considerations are identified. Equalities issues are raised in the report which will be addressed in detail in the action plan	The Peer Challenge Action Plan will address the equalities issues identified in the report.	

	classified as being amongst the 20% most deprived areas in England.			
Religion and belief	64.8% of Torbay residents who stated that they have a religion in the 2021 census.	There is no decision required in his report, therefore no equality considerations are identified. Equalities issues are raised in the report which will be addressed in detail in the action plan	The Peer Challenge Action Plan will address the equalities issues identified in the report.	
Sex	51.3% of Torbay's population are female and 48.7% are male	There is no decision required in his report, therefore no equality considerations are identified. Equalities issues are raised in the report which will be addressed in detail in the action plan	The Peer Challenge Action Plan will address the equalities issues identified in the report.	
Sexual orientation	In the 2021 Census, 3.4% of those in Torbay aged over 16 identified their sexuality as either Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or, used another term to describe their sexual orientation.	There is no decision required in his report, therefore no equality considerations are identified. Equalities issues are raised in the report which will be addressed in detail in the action plan	The Peer Challenge Action Plan will address the equalities issues identified in the report.	
Armed Forces Community	In 2021, 3.8% of residents in England reported that they had previously served in the UK armed forces. In Torbay, 5.9 per cent of the population have previously served in the UK armed forces.	There is no decision required in his report, therefore no equality considerations are identified. Equalities issues are raised in the report which will be addressed in detail in the action plan	The Peer Challenge Action Plan will address the equalities issues identified in the report.	
<b>Additional considerations</b>				

Socio-economic impacts (Including impacts on child poverty and deprivation)		There is no decision required in his report, therefore no equality considerations are identified. Equalities issues are raised in the report which will be addressed in detail in the action plan	The Peer Challenge Action Plan will address the equalities issues identified in the report.	
Public Health impacts (Including impacts on the general health of the population of Torbay)		There is no decision required in his report, therefore no equality considerations are identified. Equalities issues are raised in the report which will be addressed in detail in the action plan	The Peer Challenge Action Plan will address the equalities issues identified in the report.	
Human Rights impacts		There is no decision required in his report, therefore no equality considerations are identified. Equalities issues are raised in the report which will be addressed in detail in the action plan	The Peer Challenge Action Plan will address the equalities issues identified in the report.	
Child Friendly	Torbay Council is a Child Friendly Council, and all staff and Councillors are Corporate Parents and have a responsibility towards cared for and care experienced children and young people.	There is no decision required in his report, therefore no equality considerations are identified. Equalities issues are raised in the report which will be addressed in detail in the action plan	The Peer Challenge Action Plan will address the equalities issues identified in the report.	

## 10. Cumulative Council Impact

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10.1 Not applicable

## 11. Cumulative Community Impacts

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11.1 Not applicable