

## **Record of Officer Decision**

### **Torbay Road Public Realm and Highway Layout**

#### **Decision Taker and Date Decision Taken:**

Director of Pride in Place on 27 March 2024.

#### **Summary of Matter or Issue Requiring Decision:**

To determine the final arrangement of the public realm and highway layout to enable delivery of the Future High Street Fund project, following informal discussions with the Council Leadership Group and Cabinet Members, who subsequently held discussions with the Ward Councillors.

#### **Decision Taken:**

That the final scheme for Torbay Road will be based on the original Future High Street Fund scheme, with no permanent full or partial pedestrianisation of Torbay Road and reinstating the highway arrangement as it was before the trials.

#### **Summary of Reason(s) for Decision Taken:**

The Future High Street Fund programme agreed with Government includes a public realm project for Torbay Road. The original bid envisaged improvements to the street scene however there have been three trial arrangements of the revised highway layout to understand how the final scheme will work.

#### **Summary of Alternatives or Options considered and rejected and Background Papers:**

In summary, the three trial schemes provided alternative options as indicated below;

##### **Trial 1 - Full Pedestrianisation of the whole of Torbay Road**

This trial saw the entirety of Torbay Road pedestrianised with Station Square also pedestrianised up to the junction with Hyde Road.

##### **Trial 2 – Partial Pedestrianisation**

This first amendment to the trial tested pedestrianisation of the western section from and including Station Square to the Queens Road / Garfield Road Junction. Access to all vehicles at the eastern section one-way from the seafront to the Queens Road / Garfield Road Junction.

##### **Trial 3 – Enhanced / widened footway and access to all vehicles.**

The second amended trial had the whole of Torbay Road opened-up, allowing access to all vehicles based on a one-way access from Hyde Road to the Queens Road / Garfield Road junction, and access from the seafront to the Queens Road / Garfield Road junction.

Although there have been indications of support from the community there has been sustained opposition to pedestrianisation from businesses operating on Torbay Road throughout the process.

Further detail on the trial options is set out in Appendix 1; Future High Street Fund - Torbay

Road pedestrianisation trial summary.

**Details of any conflict of interest and dispensation granted to the Officer taking the decision or by any Member of the Council in delegating responsibility for any specific express delegation:**

None

**Implementation:**

This decision will be implemented immediately.

A copy of this decision and any supporting documentation considered by the Officer taking this decision may also be available for inspection by the public at the Council's offices or posted upon payment of any copying and postage charges. Any member of the public wishing to take up either of these options is asked to please ring (01803) 207087 or email [governance.support@torbay.gov.uk](mailto:governance.support@torbay.gov.uk)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Director of Pride in Place)