

Finance Team	Ian Rowswell involved in the report and approved by Malcolm Coe	11/11/24	Few tracked changes made

Meeting: Harbour Committee **Date:** 2 December 2024

Wards affected: All Wards in Torbay

Report Title: Proposed Harbour Budget 2025/26 and Schedule of Fees and Charges

When does the decision need to be implemented?

Cabinet Member Contact Details: Councillor Chris Lewis, Cabinet Member for Place Development and Economic Growth, Chris.Lewis@torbay.gov.uk

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1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report updates the Committee on the overall budgetary position for Tor Bay Harbour Authority as at end September 2024 compared against the budget approved on 4th December 2023.

2. Reason for Proposal and its benefits

- 2.1 As a standing agenda item, this quarterly report is presented to each Committee meeting to enable appropriate oversight over spend against budget. It will help to understand spending pressures and mitigating actions in order to manage spend and maintain reserves at appropriate levels.

3. Recommendation(s) / Proposed Decision

- 3.1 The Committee is asked to note:
- i. the latest revenue outturn projections and adjustments to the Reserve (Appendix 1);
 - ii. the projected level of the harbour reserves by end of 2024/25;
 - iii. the Head of Tor Bay Harbour Authority's' use of delegated powers to make decisions in relation to the harbour budget;
 - iv. the Head of Tor Bay Harbour Authority's' use of delegated powers to waive certain harbour charges (not exercised in the year to date)

Appendices

Appendix 1: Harbour Revenue Account 2024-25 – at end of September 2024

DfT Ports Good Governance Guidance - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/good-governance-guidance-for-ports>

Supporting Information

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The 2024/25 Tor Bay Harbour Authority budget was approved by the Council in February 2024. This is the second monitoring report for the 2024/25 financial year covering the period up to the end of September 2024.

2. Options under consideration

- 2.1 Appendix 1 to this report provides the Harbour revenue account statement with projected outturns and associated notes.

3. Financial Opportunities and Implications

- 3.1 Expenditure on critical repairs & maintenance is likely to exceed the budget and further costs have been incurred on empty leased units. User charges are expected to be below target. Fish toll levels are generally as expected and are projected to meet the income budget. Windfall income is expected from higher than anticipated marina rentals from previous years.
- 3.2 The harbour revenue account is projected to make a deficit at year end of £79k, in line with the forecast at quarter 1. This is a slightly improved position on the budgeted deficit of £109k.
- 3.3 The Harbour Reserve balance at the start of the year was £1,310k but is expected to fall back to £1,068k by year end due to the following spend.

Commitments from Reserve	£k
Projected Outturn Deficit in 24/25	79
Interest received	(40)
Planned contribution from reserves	100
Brixham Town Pontoon fendering	40
Brixham Offices Fire Alarm	63

Total	242
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3.4 The Harbour's outstanding borrowing liability is as follows:

Capital Scheme	Amount Borrowed	Start of Repayments	Principal outstanding 01/04/24	Principal outstanding 31/03/25
Town Dock (Torquay Harbour)	£1,140,000	2008/09	£292,508	£273,007
Town Dock (Torquay Harbour) - replacement	£1,201,000	2024/25	£1,201,000	£1,132,797
Haldon Pier (Torquay Harbour)	£1,200,000	2010/11	£688,639	£638,767
Brixham Harbour New Fish Quay Development	£4,750,000	2011/12	£3,305,224	£3,171,404
Torquay Inner Harbour pontoons (Inner Dock)	£800,000	2014/15	£581,012	£553,226
Brixham Harbour Jetty	£840,000	2020/21	£795,809	£783,850
TOTAL			£6,864,192	6,553,051

3.5 The Harbour's aged debt position is set out below. The outstanding Harbour Charges debt largely reflects payment of user charges by instalments and the overall figure should continue to reduce throughout the year.

	Corporate Debtor System		Harbour charges	
	<60 days	>60 days	<60 days	>60 days
Debt outstanding	£71k	£264k	£19k	£110k
Bad debt provision	£61k			

4. Legal Implications

4.1 There are no legal implications that arise from this report.

5. Engagement and Consultation

5.1 The service continues to listen to feedback from:

- Harbour users and liaison forums
- Committee members
- Fishing industry leaders

6. Procurement Implications

6.1 Not applicable.

7. Protecting our naturally inspiring Bay and tackling Climate Change

7.1 Not applicable.

8. Associated Risks

- 8.1 If there continues to be withdrawals from Harbour reserves without any top ups, we will see reserves reduce over the coming years to an unacceptable level. Further work is required throughout 2025/26 to review expenditure and income budgets to provide confidence on financial sustainability.
- 8.2 There is a risk of further predicted expenditure relating to repairs and maintenance, which could impact further on the draw from reserves
- 8.3 If quayside facilities and services do not remain aligned with user need/requirements then there is a risk that income will decline.

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>	There is no differential impact		
Carers	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.	There is no differential impact		
Disability	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.	There is no differential impact		
Gender reassignment	In the 2021 Census, 0.4% of Torbay's community	There is no differential impact		

	<p>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.</p>			
Marriage and civil partnership	<p>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.</p>	<p>There is no differential impact</p>		
Pregnancy and maternity	<p>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.</p>	<p>There is no differential impact</p>		
Race	<p>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 classified as being amongst the 20% most deprived areas in England.</p>	<p>There is no differential impact</p>		

Religion and belief	64.8% of Torbay residents who stated that they have a religion in the 2021 census.	There is no differential impact		
Sex	51.3% of Torbay's population are female and 48.7% are male	There is no differential impact		
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 differential impact		
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 differential impact		
Socio-economic impacts (Including impacts on child poverty and deprivation)		There is no differential impact		
Public Health impacts (Including impacts on the general health of		There is no differential impact		

the population of Torbay)				
Human Rights impacts		There is no differential impact		
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 differential impact		

10. Cumulative Council Impact

10.1 Not applicable.

11. Cumulative Community Impacts

11.1 Not applicable.