

Thursday, 30 May 2024

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

A meeting of **Overview and Scrutiny Board** will be held on

Monday, 10 June 2024

commencing at **5.30 pm**

The meeting will be held in the Banking Hall, Castle Circus entrance on the left corner of the Town Hall, Castle Circus, Torquay, TQ1 3DR

Members of the Committee

Councillor Brook

Councillor Carter

Councillor Cowell

Councillor Fellows

Councillor Fox

Councillor Long

Councillor Strang

Councillor Twelves

Councillor Virdee

A Healthy, Happy and Prosperous Torbay

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, Town Hall, Castle Circus, Torquay, TQ1 3DR

Email: governance.support@torbay.gov.uk - www.torbay.gov.uk

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD AGENDA

1. **Election of Chairman/woman**
To elect a Chairman/woman for the meeting.
2. **Apologies**
To receive apologies for absence, including notifications of any changes to the membership of the Board.
3. **Minutes** (Pages 3 - 8)
To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 8 May 2024.
4. **Declarations of Interest**
 - a) To receive declarations of non pecuniary interests in respect of items on this agenda

For reference: Having declared their non pecuniary interest members may remain in the meeting and speak and, vote on the matter in question. A completed disclosure of interests form should be returned to the Clerk before the conclusion of the meeting.
 - b) To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of items on this agenda

For reference: Where a Member has a disclosable pecuniary interest he/she must leave the meeting during consideration of the item. However, the Member may remain in the meeting to make representations, answer questions or give evidence if the public have a right to do so, but having done so the Member must then immediately leave the meeting, may not vote and must not improperly seek to influence the outcome of the matter. A completed disclosure of interests form should be returned to the Clerk before the conclusion of the meeting.

(Please Note: If Members and Officers wish to seek advice on any potential interests they may have, they should contact Governance Support or Legal Services prior to the meeting.)
5. **Urgent Items**
To consider any other items that the Chairman/woman decides are urgent.
6. **Call-In of Cabinet's Decision on Next Steps Properties at Ryan Place** (Pages 9 - 20)
To consider a Call-In of Cabinet's Decision on Next Steps Properties at Ryan Place.

Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Board

8 May 2024

-: Present :-

Councillor Steve Darling (Chairman)

Councillors Cowell, Fellows, Law, Long, Maddison, Strang, Tolchard and Twelves (Vice-Chair)

(Also in attendance: Councillors Bye, George Darling, Chris Lewis and David Thomas)

57. Apologies

Members observed a minute's silence as a mark of respect in memory of Councillor Patrick Joyce who was a member of the Overview and Scrutiny Board and had sadly passed away on 12 April 2024.

It was reported that, in accordance with the wishes of the Liberal Democrat Group and Conservative Group, the membership of the Board had been amended to include Councillors Maddison and Tolchard in place of the Liberal Democrat vacancy and Councillor Brook respectively.

58. Minutes

Subject to the deletion of the following sentence from paragraph 7 of minute 52, the minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 10 April 2024 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman:

"Members acknowledged that the improved communication and engagement with Councillors and the community around the plans for the new Rifles Gardens demonstrated that improvements had been made."

59. Annual Review of Key Performance Indicators for the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Local Area Strategy

The Board reviewed the submitted report and heard evidence from the Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Director of Children's Services, Head of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), Divisional Director of Safeguarding, Deputy Director of Commissioning Out of Hospital NHS Devon and Play Torbay in respect on the annual review of the Key Performance Indicators for the SEND Local Area Strategy.

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services thanked the Scrutiny Lead for Children's Services for representing him at a recent review meeting in Bristol.

The Board asked a number of questions in relation to how dysfunctional services had been over a number of years; why more progress had not been made against the Written Statement of Action and five priority areas from the SEND Strategy, particularly around the 'becoming an adult' section; the lack of detail around performance; what was the joint vision for health, education and social care; if the graduated response was working, why was there an increase in exclusions, suspensions, absence rates and meetings with the Youth Justice Board for children with SEND; SEND was a national issue what conversations/lobbying was happening with the Government; were all Partners on the same page and supporting the direction of travel; what impact was there on children who were elected home educated or not attending school in terms of their education, social and emotional wellbeing; and have the reasons for elected home education been explored and what action was being taken to address parents' concerns.

It was highlighted that the vision was SEND was everyone's business and that partners (including the community and voluntary sector), Councillors, parents, Carers and young people all had an important role in making improvements to the support for all children and young people regardless of if they have SEND. The Local Area Partnership acknowledged that they had not made the progress they had wanted to in addressing the findings from the Inspection in November 2021 and the Written Statement of Action and would be inspected under a new framework in the next six months. It was likely that the Local Area Partnership would be judged between Outcome 2 and Outcome 3.

There had been difficulties bringing some Education System Leaders together on the journey due to the fragmented structure of the School System but that this was starting to improve with them joining some of the Priority Action Groups. Parents were saying that they get a different approach from one school to another and there needs to be more consistency across the whole education system. Roadshows were being held at schools to speak to parents, Carers and young people but it was highlighted that some of the schools had multiple entrances and that the Roadshows could be missing lots of people due to this. It was agreed that this would be reviewed to ensure engagement with as many people as possible. Support was being provided to schools to encourage them to take early intervention when children identified as having additional needs and early steps meetings were now being held before statutory assessment requests to review the support and appropriate action to be taken to support the child's needs. This was welcomed as previously parents thought the only way to be heard and get support for their children was through an Education and Health Care Plan.

Ongoing work was being undertaken with the Local Area, Local Government Association, Department for Education, Local Members of Parliament, Ofsted, and regional partners/colleagues to raise awareness of the issues impacting Torbay, which was also raised in Parliament in January as well as concerns over future funding and sustainability for the Family Hubs, as well as sharing good practice.

Members acknowledged the progress made against the five priority areas highlighted in the report, with small improvements being seen by some children, parents and Carers but that notable changes would take time to embed. More work was required at pace in order to embed cultural change and inclusion, consistency of practice and improved governance and commissioning.

The Board felt that more could be done to promote the work of the Family Hubs and the support available for families with children with additional needs.

Resolved (unanimously):

1. that the outcome of the work with the Local Government Association Advisors be reported to the Board in November together with an analysis of the 500 home elected young people to understand the reasons why and if there are any children missing from the list of home educated or attending school and what action is being taken to identify and support these young people and their families;
2. that the Director of Children's Services be requested to put together information to assist all Councillors to enable them to be encouraged to engage with schools in their areas including considering becoming school governors and to promote the SEND Strategy and work of the Family Hubs; and
3. that the Cabinet be recommended:
 1. to explore further support around transition and consistency around schools including early years to primary phase, as well as primary to secondary and secondary to further education;
 2. to work with the voluntary and community sector to see what support they can provide to children and young people with SEND to help hear the voice of the excluded and home educated young persons; and
 3. to continue to lobby Government on the long term sustainability and funding of the Family Hubs who provide vital support to children and their families.

60. Update on the Implementation of the Review of Planning Services Fit for the Future

The Board considered a report which provided an update on the Planning, Housing and Climate Emergency Service of the Future Project and the response to the Councillor Call for Action on Planning Enforcement. The Cabinet Member for Place Development and Economic Growth advised that the Council had tried to bring in additional staff but this had not resulted in reducing the backlog of Planning Enforcement cases (500 which had been impacted by Covid-19 and unable to be significantly reduced) and that the Director of Pride in Place was looking to find a solution looking at a system-wide approach and reviewing how the Council manages enforcements and complaints with a new Enforcement Policy and complaints form being developed which would prioritise the action being taken on enforcement cases.

Councillor George Darling provided a verbal update on his concerns around public perception and the lack of enforcement undermining the Planning Service. He raised concerns around capacity; comparisons to national data; failure to deal with the backlog of cases; how Torbay compared to Plymouth City Council on enforcement; and concern around a revised Enforcement Policy and new complaints form and if they would dilute the process. A statement was read out on behalf of Mr Carl Taylor which highlighted concerns and provided an example of an enforcement case and Mr Nigel Goodman (Maidencombe Residents Association) provided verbal evidence in respect of concerns around Planning Enforcement and the impact that lack of enforcement had on the community.

The Board asked a number of questions in relation to how the funding for Planning compared to other local authorities; how many enforcement cases had been reported in 2023 and 2024 and had resulted in issuing an Enforcement Notice; what was the rationale around the new Enforcement Policy and would that weaken or simplify the process; what improvements would be made and when will residents notice the impact of the work around enforcement; if a person phones up to say someone has cut down a tree with a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) on it how would that be dealt with under the new system; was the blocker a lack of capacity in the Enforcement Team or Legal Team; what action had been taken to address the five recommendations from the Board on 6 September 2023; were there any enforcement cases that were out of time to deal with that could be taken off the list; what was the reason that some of the green completed actions in the Improvement Plan were marked as yellow; how have service users been involved in the new Enforcement Policy; the data in the Improvement Plan was hard to read, what assurance could be given that the Planning Service had turned a corner; what was the baseline and benchmarking data from the start of the project; Planning was an area of great concern and interest from the public, what consideration had been given to creating a Continuous Improvement Board similar to the one for Children's Services; the lack of suitable data and benchmarking in the report; accessibility and relevant data on the Council's website; and a lot of focus was being put on high priority cases was there a risk that those in the middle would get missed through the prioritisation process.

Members were informed that the reason for the new Enforcement Policy and complaints form was to ensure that they were fit for purpose and reflected new legislation and policy, taking into account relevant prioritisation of resources and how and when we communicate with the public/applicants/agents etc. in order to make the best use of officer's time. This would look at the point of a complainant and help determine if and how to investigate and inform the most suitable pathway to an appropriate outcome. It would ensure a more place focussed approach and Planning Officers have visited areas such as The Strand and Debenhams to help understand their role in place shaping and redevelopment. Planning Officers were also working with other Teams e.g. Legal Services, Highways Team, the Tree Officer in SWISCo to ensure a co-ordinated approach to dealing with enforcement issues. Consultation was being carried out with the Agent's Forum and Neighbourhood Forum with the Council's Inclusion Officer involved in this work.

The Board was advised that a sustainable solution for enforcement needed to be put in place, starting with the new Enforcement Policy and complaints form in order to

determine the correct level and type of resource to address the backlog and manage new cases. Extra resource had been trialled and not worked and therefore this new approach was being developed to inform any future resource requests.

Members were advised of the consistent improvements across a range of performance indicators for the Planning, Housing and Climate Emergency Services over the last six months particularly around development management, but that they were not yet consistent enough to close the Project. This included a co-ordinated approach and one which was forward looking at issues based on data and quality of decision making. It was proposed that the Project would be closed in June and that the continued work and monitoring would be part of the business and normal for the service. The Director of Pride in Place gave assurance that it was appropriate for the Project to end in June as sufficient progress had been made against the objectives of the Project in order for performance to be monitored through the normal governance channels, including via Overview and Scrutiny, and regular meetings were held with the Director of Pride in Place and senior Planning Colleagues as well as with the Cabinet Member for Place Development and Economic Growth to ensure that they are aware of any issues and could instruct action as appropriate.

Members raised concern that there was no written data produced for the regular update meetings with officers and the Portfolio Holder and the Cabinet Member for Place Development and Economic Growth agreed to work closely with the Chairwoman of the Planning Committee to find a way to monitor Planning performance on a regular basis.

It was noted that a briefing would be provided to all Councillors in July on the Planning Service for the Future.

Resolved (unanimously):

1. that the Director of Pride in Place provide a written response to the Board on:
 - a. the mechanism requested at the meeting held on 6 September 2023 'to ensure that there is a suitable mechanism in place for case officers to update Ward Councillors on appropriate applications in their ward';
 - b. how many enforcements have been triggered in 2023 and 2024 and how many of them had been finalised;
 - c. how does the funding of Torbay Council's Planning Service compare to other similar local authorities and if we are average or higher;
 - d. what percentage of the Planning Budget is the £35,000 overspend;
2. that future reports to the Board include clear comparison data to help them understand how Torbay Council's performance compares against other similar local authorities;
3. that the Director of Pride in Place be recommended to review options to include relevant key performance data on the Council's website to help to provide

assurance to those who have an interest in planning as well as ensuring the information around CIL and Section 106 is updated;

4. that the Director of Pride in Place be requested to establish a target for enforcement cases so that this can be included in future performance reports to monitor delivery against; and
5. that an update on the conclusion of the Planning, Housing and Climate Emergency Service of the Future be presented a future meeting together with details of the new draft Enforcement Policy.

61. Review of Council Procurement Policies and Food and Music Festival

The Board received the report of the Review of Council Procurement Policies and Food and Music Festival Review Panel as set out in the submitted report.

Resolved (unanimously:)

1. that the report on the Review of Council Procurement Policies and Food and Music Festival be approved and submitted to the Cabinet on 11 June 2024;
2. that the revised Procurement Policies be presented to the main Overview and Scrutiny Board prior to their approval; and
3. that an update be given to all Councillors on the changes to Procurement once the new Legislation is in place.

Chairman

Call-In of Cabinet's Decision on Next Steps Properties at Ryan Place

Reasons for Call-In:

1. At the Cabinet meeting whilst assurances were sought that lessons had been learned from this programme, the Cabinet failed to outline what lessons had been learned and how the council in undertaking similar projects would avoid the challenges caused by this one.
2. The Council needed to get permission from Homes England to put the Ryan Place properties on the market. How have we enhanced our relationships with Homes England in light of the above?

Process and Options Available for Call-In:

3. The call-in promoter will present their reasons for call-in as set out in the submitted paper.
4. The Cabinet Member(s) will provide a verbal response to the issues raised.
5. The Overview and Scrutiny Board will discuss the issues raised and then has the following options available:
 - A. **Take no further action.** The original decision will take effect from the date of the meeting of the committee.
 - B. **Refer the decision back to the decision maker for reconsideration, setting out in writing the nature of the committee's concerns.** Within a further ten working days, the decision maker will resolve to either:
 - (i) confirm the decision without modification; or
 - (ii) confirm the decision with modification; or
 - (iii) rescind the decision.

If the decision maker does none of the above within ten working days, the decision shall be deemed to have been rescinded.
 - C. **In exceptional circumstances, refer the matter to the Council for scrutiny, giving reasons for why the matter is being referred to Council.** Upon such request, the proper officer shall arrange a meeting of the Council within 20 working days (excluding the day of receipt or the day of the meeting) or as soon thereafter, as is reasonably practicable, unless:

- (i) a normal Council meeting is scheduled within 30 working days (excluding the day of receipt or the day of the meeting) in which case the matter shall be referred to that meeting; or
- (ii) if a normal Council meeting is not scheduled within 30 working days and the decision-maker confirms to the proper officer that he/she is content for the matter to be referred to the next normal Council meeting.

At the Council meeting, if the Council does not object to the decision, no further action is necessary and the decision will be effective from the date of the Council meeting.

Provided the decision has been made in accordance with the Policy Framework and the Budget, the Council has no power to amend the decision but may refer any decision to which it objects back to the decision maker together with the Council's views on that decision and the Subsequent Action referred to in Option B shall apply.

Proposer: Councillor Long

Seconder: Councillor Fox

The notice was also signed by Councillors Carter, Steve Darling and Virdee

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Report to Cabinet

Appendix 2 – Cabinet Record of Decision

Meeting: [Cabinet](#) **Date:** [14 May 2024](#)

Wards affected: St Marychurch

Report Title: Next Steps Properties at Ryan Place

When does the decision need to be implemented? [Upon conclusion of the call-in Period](#)

Cabinet Member Contact Details: [Councillor Tyerman, Cabinet Member for Housing and Finance, alan.tyerman@torbay.gov.uk](#)

Director Contact Details: [Anne-Marie Bond, Chief Executive, anne-marie.bond@torbay.gov.uk](#)

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 To seek Cabinet approval to dispose of two properties at Ryan Place, both of which would be disposed of in excess of the £50,000 limit set out in the Officer Scheme of Delegation.

2. Reason for Proposal and its benefits

2.1 The reason for the proposal is to dispose of the properties when they next become available, in order to acquire alternative more appropriate locations which will provide Next Steps residents the opportunity to succeed whilst minimising impact upon others.

2.2 Cabinet are required to make the decision to dispose of the properties as the Officer Scheme of Delegation only permits officers to dispose of properties that are under £50,000.

3. Recommendation(s) / Proposed Decision

1. That the two properties owned by Torbay Council at Ryan Place, 62 St Marychurch Road, Torquay be disposed of as soon as the properties become vacant; and
2. That the Chief Executive be given delegated authority to use the money from the sales of the two properties at Ryan Place to purchase new properties for Next Steps accommodation, in compliance with the original grant criteria.

Supporting Information

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Council were successful in obtaining Government Grant through the Next Steps Accommodation Programme (NSAP), through which 14 properties were acquired. The overall objective of NSAP is to reduce rough sleeping, with a focus on the successful resettlement and recovery of those who have a long and/or repeat history of rough sleeping or are at risk of the same. Tenancies under the scheme are for a maximum of two years.
- 1.2 The delivery of the programme in Torbay has seen some great successes, providing tenants with the stability and support (provided by Bournemouth Churches Housing Association) to enable them to successfully move into fully independent housing. However, the two properties at Ryan Place have resulted in significant impact upon other residents, and despite the introduction of a Sensitive Letting Policy, that impact is still felt. As such it is proposed to dispose of these two properties as soon as they become vacant, replacing them with properties elsewhere.

2. Options under consideration

- 2.1 The Council could continue to provide Next Steps accommodation at Ryan Place, however the level of impact on other residents at Ryan Place would remain significant and it would not provide Next Steps residents with an environment in which they will have the best opportunity of achieving stability to enable them to successfully move into fully independent housing. Whilst measures to lessen the impact on other residents at Ryan Place have been adopted through the introduction of a sensitive letting policy, this has not significantly altered the impact on the other residents.
- 2.2. In light of this, it is considered that the most appropriate option is to dispose of the two properties and acquire accommodation elsewhere.

3. Financial Opportunities and Implications

- 3.1 The monies received from the disposal of the two properties will be reinvested into new Next Steps properties elsewhere in Torbay, with the consent of Homes England. The aim of this will be to ensure that the costs of the new properties are equal to the amount received from the disposal of the Ryan Place properties, therefore the financial implications will be minimal.

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 The properties will only be disposed of once the properties become vacant with all legislation regarding tenants and landlords being followed for existing tenants.

- 4.2 The disposal of and acquisition of the new properties will be subject to the appropriate due diligence for property transactions.

5. Engagement and Consultation

- 5.1 Both residents and Members have been calling for the Council to dispose of the two properties at Ryan Place for some time. Therefore, further wider engagement and consultation is not proposed.

6. Procurement Implications

- 6.1 None, as the properties will be disposed of via the open market.

7. Protecting our naturally inspiring Bay and tackling Climate Change

- 7.1 Not applicable.

8. Associated Risks

- 8.1 There is a risk that Homes England will not permit the monies to be transferred to other properties, however early discussions in this regard have been positively received and therefore it is believed that this risk is minimal.
- 8.2 Care will need to be taken in identifying appropriate locations for the replacement properties to ensure that the Ryan Place situation is repeated.

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.		
Veterans	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 serviced in the UK armed forces.	There is no differential impact.		
Additional considerations				
Socio-economic impacts (Including impacts on child poverty and deprivation)		The Next Steps properties provide a positive opportunity for those who have a long and/or repeat history of rough sleeping or are at risk of the same.		
Public Health impacts (Including impacts on the general health of		The Next Steps properties provide a positive opportunity for individuals to achieve the stability required to		

the population of Torbay)		successfully transition to fully independent accommodation, with the well documented public health benefits for those who are able to successfully retain accommodation.		
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.	The Next Steps properties could be used to provide care experienced young people with accommodation if they are considered to be at risk of rough sleeping.		

10. Cumulative Council Impact

- 10.1 Without the use of the Next Steps properties, greater number of individuals could be rough sleeping in Torbay, requiring support from the Homelessness Outreach team and from Housing Options.

11. Cumulative Community Impacts

- 11.1 Without the use of the Next Steps properties, greater number of individuals could be rough sleeping in Torbay with the resultant community impact.

Record of Decisions

Next Steps Properties at Ryan Place

Decision Taker

Cabinet on 14 May 2024.

Decision

1. That the two properties owned by Torbay Council at Ryan Place, 62 St Marychurch Road, Torquay be disposed of as soon as the properties become vacant; and
2. That the Chief Executive be given delegated authority to use the money from the sales of the two properties at Ryan Place to purchase new properties for Next Steps accommodation, in compliance with the original grant criteria.

Reason for the Decision

The reason for the proposal is to dispose of the properties when they next become available, in order to acquire alternative more appropriate locations which will provide Next Steps residents the opportunity to succeed whilst minimising impact upon others.

Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 28 May 2024 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in the Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

Information

The Council were successful in obtaining Government Grant through the Next Steps Accommodation Programme (NSAP), through which 14 properties were acquired. The overall objective of NSAP is to reduce rough sleeping, with a focus on the successful resettlement and recovery of those who have a long and/or repeat history of rough sleeping or are at risk of the same. Tenancies under the scheme are for a maximum of two years.

The delivery of the programme in Torbay has seen some great successes, providing tenants with the stability and support (provided by Bournemouth Churches Housing Association) to enable them to successfully move into fully independent housing. However, the two properties at Ryan Place have resulted in significant impact upon other residents, and despite the introduction of a Sensitive Letting Policy, that impact is still felt. As such it is proposed to dispose of these two properties as soon as they become vacant, replacing them with properties elsewhere.

At the meeting Councillor Tyerman proposed and David Thomas seconded a motion that was unanimously approved by the Cabinet, as set out above.

Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision

The Council could continue to provide Next Steps accommodation at Ryan Place, however the level of impact on other residents at Ryan Place would remain significant and it would not provide Next Steps residents with an environment in which they will have the best opportunity of achieving stability to enable them to successfully move into fully independent housing. Whilst

measures to lessen the impact on other residents at Ryan Place have been adopted through the introduction of a sensitive letting policy, this has not significantly altered the impact on the other residents.

In light of this, it is considered that the most appropriate option is to dispose of the two properties and acquire accommodation elsewhere.

Is this a Key Decision?

No

Does the call-in procedure apply?

Yes

Declarations of interest (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the Standards Committee)

None

Published

17 May 2024

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Leader of Torbay Council on behalf of the Cabinet