

Commercial Services and Transformation

Executive Lead: The Elected Mayor

Responsible Officer: Vacant

Budgets Held Centrally

There are a number of budgets which are held centrally these include:

- Pension deficit which is the annual cash payment Council is required to make to the Local Government Pension Scheme pension fund in relation to past employees, and
- Pension enhancements which are the ongoing costs of historic awards of discretionary pensions including the Council's contribution to Devon County Council's pre 1998 awards

Corporate Management includes subscriptions such as the Local Government Association.

Bereavement Services

This service was externalised in 2008 to Westerleigh Group who now manage the Cemeteries and Crematorium service under a 25 year lease and management agreement.

Building Control

The Building Control statutory service is a cost recovery fee earning service which sets charges to recover the actual costs for carrying out the main building regulation function. Through a variety of legislation, the service administers and enforces a framework of national technical standards covering the design, construction, extension, adaptation and use of all types of buildings frequented by people. These standards also include provisions for: structural stability, fire protection, means of escape in case of fire, drainage, sound insulation, and ventilation.

Building Control is a statutory service, which regulates the built environment. This includes the health, safety, welfare and convenience of persons in and around buildings, the provision of access and facilities for persons with disabilities and the conservation of fuel and energy.

Concessionary Fares

Torbay Council operates a concessionary travel scheme under powers given to the Council as a Travel Concession Authority (TCA) that are primarily contained within the Transport Act 1985, the Transport Act 2000, the Travel Concession (Eligibility) Act 2002, and the Concessionary Bus Travel Act 2007. These are national, statutory schemes.

The scheme provides a travel facility for persons of or above a certain age or who have a long term or permanent disability which affects their ability to get around. This facility lets them travel freely on services starting between 9:30 and 23:00 during weekdays, or all day on weekends and public holidays, on participating services. A negotiated cost per trip is paid to the operators by the council each month based on the number of trips taken.

Financial Services and Internal Audit -

Financial Services is responsible for the co-ordination and planning of the Council's budget, financial statements, financial advice, creditor payments and cashiers. Services include – Closure of Accounts including production of statement of accounts; Budget and Resource Planning and Preparation; Budget Monitoring for Services; Treasury Management; Capital Planning- resourcing and monitoring; Technical Advice and Major Project work; submission of Statutory Returns and Grant Claims; Provision of brought back service to Schools and Financial Systems. The Council's internal audit function is provided by the Devon Audit Partnership, a joint service with Devon County and Plymouth City Councils.

Grant Income and Contingencies

This area of the budget contains a number of cross cutting Council budgets including contingencies for service pressures and social care and number of grants.

Management and Support

This section of the budget covers management and support across a number of front line services. Included in this team are analytical staff that complete the statutory returns for the department. The concessionary fares officer also sits within this team

Registration of Births, Death and Marriages

This service is responsible for the registration of birth and deaths and the officiation of marriages in accordance with the statutory requirements.

Transformation

The Transformation Programme is made up of projects which will transform the way the council delivers services whilst providing best value for money and improving outcomes for its communities.

Treasury Management

This area of the budget reflects the costs of borrowing to support capital expenditure, both interest paid and repayment of principal (Minimum Revenue Provision), interest earned on cash balances, principal and interest costs of PFI projects offset by PFI Credits from government, treasury charges including bank charges and other income from services for supported borrowing, investment properties and bank charges.