

# A Greener Way for Our Bay - Consultation Report

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## Executive Summary

From 30 November 2023 to 31 March 2024, Torbay Climate Partnership (TCP) ran its consultation on the 'Greener Way For Our Bay Framework and Action Plan.' This is the TCP's plan to accelerate local action to tackle climate change and to make homes more energy efficient, protect the natural environment, support businesses to become more sustainable, and make sustainable and public transport (like walking, cycling and taking the bus) more accessible and affordable.

The TCP used a wide range of methods to engage with local people and to ensure there was a representative response.

There were three main surveys, a short version, for those that agreed with the proposal, a longer version and one for those who disagreed with the proposals put forward. The long version of the survey was available both online and as a paper version in libraries.

In addition, Tonic Creatives were commissioned to run a series of interactive engagement activities with local groups between December 2023 and March 2024.

## Results

From the Torbay Climate Partnership surveys, there were 606 responses in total. Of these responses, 185 people completed the long survey online, 17 did the paper version of the long survey that was available in libraries and other venues; 295 did the short survey online, and 109 did the 'Disagree' survey.

Across all three surveys, a total of 70% of respondents said they were either concerned or very concerned about climate change.

In terms of the ten priorities outlined in A Greener Way for Our Bay, the overall survey responses were:

- 75% agreed we should help more people live and work in homes and buildings that are energy efficient.
- 75% agreed we should make sustainable and public transport more accessible and affordable.
- 75% agreed we should ensure that roads and paths are safer and more accessible for cyclists and walkers.
- 77% said we should reduce waste and increase recycling.
- 79% said we should enjoy and protect our marine and natural environment.
- 76% said we should help green our businesses and create new jobs with the environment at their heart.
- 74% agreed we should ensure the community is at the heart of local action.
- 76% agreed we should monitor progress and set up initiatives that celebrate success.
- 76% agreed we should help everyone understand why change is needed and how sustainable choices make a difference.
- 74% of respondents agreed we should work with nature and the local community to prepare for a changing climate.

Tonic Creatives also provided a separate report based on feedback from the series of engagement events they held between December 2023 and March 2024. Tonic engaged with 1263 people, including 1063 face to face engagements. Based on that feedback, 96% of the people Tonic engaged with were supportive of the overall plan. Of these 32% felt that protecting the natural environment & green spaces was a priority.

The 4% who were not as supportive didn't necessarily disagree with the plan but felt climate issues should not be prioritised over other important community issues such as tackling poverty, crime, antisocial behaviour and social inequality.

Tonic Creatives used a 'Marble Run' to ask participants to vote for their top three issues. As a result of this exercise, 19% of respondents said protection of marine and natural environment should be the top priority for the climate plan; 15% said we should prioritise reducing waste and increasing recycling; and 13% said we should help more people live and work in homes and buildings that are safer and more accessible for cyclists and walkers.

At the end of each survey there was a question to allow respondents the opportunity to write down any comments they had in addition to the set questions of the survey. Responses received included the need to listen to residents, communicate clearly, and to be transparent about our plans and the need to ensure those in most need and in fuel poverty are supported to make changes over time. There were also a significant volume of comments relating to active travel and encouraging more cycling, and the need to make public transport more affordable and accessible.

As well as these themed comments there were a variety of comments both in favour of the Greener Way for Our Bay Framework and Action Plan, and also against it, with some questioning the existence of man-made climate change altogether. Clearly many of these opposed to it are in the responses to the 'disagree' survey but some negative comments and responses were also in both the other surveys. Similarly, we did also have supportive comments in the 'disagree' survey. We have included the broad themes of these comments later in this report and you can see more detail in the appendices.

## Analysis and actions taken

The results show:

Torbay is concerned about climate change and there is broad support for the Greener Way for The Bay Framework and Action Plan and its ten priorities (and associated actions).

Based on the comments received a number of changes will be made to the Greener Way For Our Bay Framework and Action Plan. These include:

- Add a new action to the plan to ensure that all local campaigns are reached by many more people
- Add a range of new community based actions on local food
- Add a monitoring progress section back into the plan to promote accountability and transparency.
- Made explicit references to who's document the Greener Way for our Bay is and how the Torbay Climate Partnership works so that people can be assured that, where funding is available, it will be sought across the public and private sectors and central government to support the transition
- Passed all comments on to the transport department at Torbay Council so they can be fed into the development considerations of the new Local Transport Plan (being drafted in 2024)
- Invite a representative of a 'Torbay on the Move' to join the Torbay Climate Partnership
- Invite a representative of a community cycling group to join the Torbay Climate Partnership
- Feed comments into the development considerations of the upcoming Nature Plan
- South West Water to be invited onto the TCP to explore ways to increase water saving advice as part of the Action Plan
- Add a new action to explore with partner Exter Community Energy options for solar panel buying schemes in Torbay (links with comment on making Torbay a solar eco resort)

- Add a new action for the Torbay Bus Partnership to spend £7m to upgrade and improve buses across Torbay
- Add a new action for Torbay Council to spend just under £1m on installing Electric Vehicle charging points across Torbay Council
- Add new action for Torbay Communities – Imagine This Environment Group to lead a Climate Action Fund bid to increase climate action and training in young people and their communities
- A child friendly version of the Ten Things has been composed
- To continue to deliver these actions and help address ‘ableist’ concerns, invited a representative of ‘Healthwise’ to join the Torbay Climate Partnership

## Introduction

Members of the Torbay Climate Partnership wanted to consult on a new Framework and Action Plan for tackling climate change, and a new approach was needed to improve engagement on these emerging plans.

Although there has been ongoing consultation and engagement over the past three years, including the Torbay Council Community Conference in 2021, a series of themed Climate events across the summer of 2022 with key stakeholders and members of the public, a Business Questionnaire and an initial Torbay Climate Emergency Action Plan consultation which ran from December 2022 to March 2023, partners wanted to ask Torbay residents for their input into their latest plans the ‘Greener Way For Our Bay Framework and Action Plan’.

Tonic Creatives were also brought in to help with outreach engagement to ensure the TCP got a representative response from the community.

The TCP also recognised from the first attempt at consultation that as well as the more general engagement work needed, some more specific and targeted work was needed to bring on board key audiences such as local businesses and schools/children and young people.

In addition the Greener Way For Our Bay reflects priorities outlined in the Council’s Community and Corporate Plan including:

- Working in partnership we will continue to address the climate emergency so as to create a sustainable future
- Protect and enhance our lived, built and natural environments, including our green spaces
- Sustainable transport use
- People have better transport and digital connections to jobs and amenities.
- Improve transport links to and within Torbay.

## How the consultation was carried out (Methodology)

The ‘Greener Way For Our Bay’ consultation was launched on 30 November 2023 and ran until 31 March 2024.

There were three main surveys, a short version, a longer version and one for those who disagreed with the proposals put forward. The long version of the survey was available both online and as a paper version in libraries.

In addition, Tonic Creatives were commissioned to run a series of interactive engagement activities with local groups between December 2023 and March 2024.

## Newsletter

The consultation was promoted through a number of the Council's Govdelivery newsletters, including One Torbay residents newsletter (Subscriber numbers vary but the highest number of subscribers during the consultation was 11,611 and the consultation was featured in five separate editions of One Torbay), the Members Briefing for councillors (they were sent one at the start of the consultation and one towards the end) and the Torbay Council Staff News (two editions) and in total across nine of these newsletters, there was 27131 unique opens, and they generated 353 visits to the A Greener Way For Our Bay webpages.

## Press releases

Torbay Council issued three press releases on behalf of Torbay Climate Partnership during the consultation, one in November, another in February, and a final one in March.

You can access the press releases via our website here:

<https://www.torbay.gov.uk/news/pr9032/> <https://www.torbay.gov.uk/news/pr9066/>

<https://www.torbay.gov.uk/news/pr9087/>

The press releases were covered in a number of other local outlets including:

Torbay Weekly: <https://www.torbayweekly.co.uk/news/home/1369860/have-your-say-on-a-new-green-masterplan-for-english-riviera.html>

Brixham Town Council website: <https://www.brixhamtowncouncil.gov.uk/2023/12/a-greener-way-for-our-bay-have-your-say/>

Brixham Chamber of Commerce website: <https://brixhamchamber.co.uk/a-greener-way-for-our-bay-have-your-say/>

South Devon College website: <https://www.southdevon.ac.uk/news/2024/01/12/a-greener-way-for-our-bay/>

## Social media channels

On Facebook there were a total of 40 posts throughout the consultation by a range of partners, with 11 posts by Torbay Council and other partners sharing the consultation multiple times. Here is a list of all the partners who shared the consultation on Facebook:

South Devon College

Brixham Town Council

Churston Library

Libraries Unlimited

Torbay Communities

Youth Hub Torbay

We Are South Devon

Orchard Forest School

Devon Climate Emergency

Tonic Creatives

Torbay Council's Facebook posts were shared 9 times and generated 16 visits to the A Greener Way For Our Bay website.

There were a number of comments on Torbay Council's Facebook posts in relation to the consultation, and here are the main themes:

Theme	Number of comments
Do something about litter	7
Greenwashing/box ticking	4
Criticism of the survey itself	4
Waste of money	4
Stop cutting down trees	4
All talk, no action	3

In addition to Facebook, the consultation was promoted via the Council's other social media channels including NextDoor, Twitter and LinkedIn.

Tonic Creatives held a series of targeted events throughout the consultation to ensure there was engagement with a wide range of demographics. Events included:

- Go Green week event at South Devon College, talking to students and staff
- Joint event with Taleblazers at Treacle Valley Campsite
- Interactive event at Lucky 7 Club
- Joint consultation event with Torbay Pride
- Valentine's Day Swim and consultation event with wild swimmers at Goodrington Sands
- Joint consultation event with Groundwork South and South Devon College
- Future Proof consultation event at Paignton Library
- Consultation event with Orchard Forest School and Weird Sticks CIC
- Joint consultation event with Indigos Goes Green Play and Ecology Centre

## Consultation responses

Across all of the Greener Way For Our Bay surveys there were 295 positive responses, 109 negative, and 202 long responses. In addition to the surveys there were four group submissions to the consultation. These came from Devon County Council, Torbay Labour Party, The National Grid and the Seven Concerned Citizens. The results are detailed below.

Tonic Creatives engagement work – Total of 1263 engagements, including 1063 face to face engagements.

96% of the people Tonic engaged with were supportive of the overall plan. Of these, 32% said natural environment and green spaces was the highest priority.

The 4% who were not as supportive didn't necessarily disagree with the plan but felt climate issues should not be prioritised over other important community issues such as tackling poverty, crime, antisocial behaviour and social inequality.

Marble run exercise – Participants voting in the marble run were asked to vote for their top three issues. 19% of respondents said protection of marine and natural environment should be the top priority for the climate plan. 15% said we should prioritise reducing waste and increasing recycling; and 13% said we should help more people live and work in homes and buildings that are safer and more accessible for cyclists and walkers. Appendix 1 - 4 summarises the work undertaken and the full results.

## Responses to individual survey questions

This next sections of this report outlines the results of the questions asked within the survey.

Because there were three different surveys (one of which has 50 questions) we have summarised the key findings in this report, the full reports (redacted to remove any personal information) are included in the appendices. For this reason, a selection of the questions asked are included in this section of the report, mainly around attitudes to climate change, what people value most about Torbay, and then whether they agree or disagree with the ten key priorities and actions outlined in the Greener Way for Our Bay Framework and Action Plan.

There is also a separate appendix showing the combined responses across the three surveys.

There is also a separate report from Tonic Creatives about findings from their engagement activities.

## How concerned are you about climate change

All surveys asked:

- How concerned are you about climate change?

A summary of the results is below.

Question	Amalgamated result (across the three surveys)	Response from long survey	Response from short survey	Response from 'Disagree' survey
How concerned are you about climate change?	Very concerned – 40% Concerned – 30% Don't know – 5% Not concerned – 10% Not at all concerned – 5% Other – 10%	Very concerned – 54% Concerned – 26% Don't know – 4% Not concerned – 8% Not at all concerned – 6%	Very concerned – 40% Concerned – 39% Don't know – 6% Not concerned – 6% Not at all concerned – 7%	Very concerned – 24% Concerned – 18% Don't know – 7% Not concerned – 49%

## What do you value about Torbay

All surveys asked

- What do you value about Torbay?

A summary of the results is below:

Question	Amalgamated result (across the three surveys)	Response from long survey	Response from short survey	Response from 'Disagree' survey
What do you value about Torbay?	N/A	Our natural environment including beaches, parks, the sea and our coastline – 83%	Our natural environment including beaches, parks, the sea and our coastline – 60%	Our natural environment including beaches, parks, the sea and our coastline – 34%
		<p>Our built environment, including town centres and quality places for people to live and work – 5%</p> <p>Our local communities and networks – 4%</p> <p>Leisure facilities that can be enjoyed by both residents and visitors – 3%</p> <p>Our rich cultural history – 2%</p> <p>Educational opportunities that encourage young people to stay in the Bay – 1%.</p>	<p>Our built environment, including town centres and quality places for people to live and work – 8% Our local communities and networks – 4%</p> <p>Leisure facilities that can be enjoyed by both residents and visitors – 13%</p> <p>Our rich cultural history – 0%</p> <p>Educational opportunities that encourage young people to stay in the Bay – 8%</p>	<p>Our built environment, including town centres and quality places for people to live and work – 8% Our local communities and networks – 15%</p> <p>Leisure facilities that can be enjoyed by both residents and visitors – 18%</p> <p>Our rich cultural history – 16%</p> <p>Educational opportunities that encourage young people to stay in the Bay – 6%</p>

## Levels of support for the 10 key actions outlined in the A Greener Way for Our Bay Framework and Action Plan

All surveys asked a series of questions about the 10 key priorities and their actions proposed in the Framework and Action Plan.

To simplify things for the purpose of this report, we have summarised where people either agree or strongly agree as 'Agree' and where people have responded that they either disagree or strongly



disagree as 'Disagree'. The full detailed responses from the individual surveys are included in the separate reports for each survey in the appendices.

In addition, in the long survey, headline actions were broken down into a number of specific actions. However, the table below shows the combined responses for each action area, across all three surveys.

Question	Responses
Do you agree we should: Help more people live and work in homes and buildings that are energy efficient.	Agree – 75% Don't know – 3% Disagree – 22%
Do you agree we should: Make sustainable transport and public transport more accessible and affordable.	Agree – 75% Don't know – 3% Disagree – 22%
Do you agree we should: Ensure that roads and paths are safer and more accessible for cyclists and walkers	Agree – 75% Don't Know – 3% Disagree – 22%
Do you agree we should: Reduce waste and increase recycling.	Agree – 77% Don't know – 3% Disagree – 20%
Do you agree we should: Enjoy and protect our marine and natural environment.	Agree – 79% Don't know – 2% Disagree – 19%
Do you agree we should: Help green our local businesses and create new jobs with the environment at heart.	Agree – 76% Don't know – 3% Disagree – 21%
Do you agree we should: Ensure the community is at the heart of local action.	Agree – 74% Don't know – 5% Disagree – 21%
Do you agree we should: Monitor progress and set up initiatives that celebrate success.	Agree – 76% Don't know – 3% Disagree – 21%
Do you agree we should: Help everyone understand why change is needed and how sustainable choices will make a difference.	Agree – 76% Don't know 3% Disagree - 21%

<p>Do you agree we should: Work with nature and the local community to prepare for a changing climate.</p>	<p>Agree – 74% Don't know – 4% Disagree – 22%</p>
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## What issues do you care about? and Tell us any additional thoughts you have?

All surveys asked:

- What issues do you care about? The issues you think society needs to address, whether in Torbay the UK or globally.
- Finally, please use this space to tell us any additional thoughts you have on the Greener Way for our Bay.

### Methodology

Unlike the results above, the results to these questions are in the form of free text and people can write anything they want. To understand these results, all individual responses to both questions were reviewed and categorised into themes. To ensure that these themes were truly representative of what people were saying, themes were not decided in advance, they were created from the data. This meant that to begin with, there were lots of themes. Using this method, the most popular themes from the responses emerge. The number of responses to a theme was then added up to create a numeric value that can be used to show the results. For accuracy, prior to this publication, themes have been re-checked for consistency.

## Results – What issues do you care about?

All surveys asked:

- What issues do you care about?

The most common themes to emerge were:

1. 32% - Environmental Issues, including climate change, protecting the natural environment, and taking action on these.
2. 13% - Issues of social equity, such as homelessness, inequality, the housing crisis and poverty
3. 9% - Improving and maintaining our towns and roads and keeping them clean

## Results – Tell us any additional thoughts you have on the Greener Way For Our Bay Framework and Action Plan

All surveys asked:

- Tell us any additional thoughts you have on the Greener Way For Our Bay Framework and Action Plan

The most common themes that emerged fell into three broad categories:

1. 42% were supportive of things that were already in the plan
2. 17% were making suggestions about things that they felt were missing from the plan
3. 41% were concerns about the plan, such as not enough is being done to tackle climate change or that climate change is a natural event and the plan is not needed

These three categories of responses were further broken down into themes to show more detail about what people had to say. Below are the most common themes within each of these three categories.

### Results - Support Category

Comments were placed in the support category if they were endorsing or suggesting things that were already in the Greener Way for Our Bay Framework and Action Plan. The top ten most popular support themes were:

1. The plan needs more communication/exposure/buy in (72)
2. Just financial support needed (54)
3. Prioritise cycling and walking (52)
4. Improve public transport (50)
5. Look after our blue and green environment (47)
6. General support for the plan (46)
7. Support for energy saving in buildings especially new builds (29)
8. Systemic planning required (23)
9. Increase and promote recycling (23)
10. Develop or increase communal Green Spaces (20)

### Results - Suggestion Category

Comments were placed in the suggestion category if they were endorsing or suggesting things that were not currently covered in the Greener Way for Our Bay Framework and Action Plan.

Overall there were less of these comments. The top five most popular suggestions were:

1. To deal with litter and clean up the area (33)
2. To tackle environmental pollution (29)
3. To stop building, especially on green spaces (23)
4. To focus on the town centre (22)
5. To improve traffic flow, roads and parking (19)

### Results - Concerns Category

Comments were placed in the concerns category if they were raising an issue that people were worried about in relation to the Greener Way for our Bay Framework and Action Plan. The top ten most common themes in the concern category were:

1. Doubt in the plan and the council/governments commitment (90)
2. Climate Change is natural (60)
3. Not enough action is being taken (58)
4. A request that we examine/follow the science (44)
5. Cost Concerns (38)
6. Climate Change is a hoax (34)
7. Concerns about electric vehicles (32)
8. CO2 is needed by plants (27)
9. Th plan is a waste of money (26)
10. Freedom Concerns (21)

Detailed responses to each of these themes can be found in the appendix 5.

## Other responses received

The Greener Way for Our Bay Framework and Action Plan consultation also received responses from four organisations:

- Devon County Council
- Torbay Labour Party
- The National Grid
- Seven Concerned Citizens

These responses were added into the thematic analysis for the question “Tell us any additional thoughts you have on the Greener Way For Our Bay Framework and Action Plan”

#### Devon County Council

This response was supportive of the GWFOB FAP:

‘On behalf of Devon County Council, I would like to express our support for the Greener Way for our Bay Framework and Action Plan. We welcome that the Torbay Climate Partnership, including Torbay Council, recognises the significance of climate change and the need to respond, as does Devon County Council within the priorities of its Strategic Plan.’

“The ten priorities set out within A Greener Way for Our Bay are well aligned with the Devon Carbon Plan and the Devon, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Climate Adaptation Strategy, as are the actions set out to deliver these priorities in the Action Plan. We look forward to working with Torbay to help bring about the benefits for residents and businesses outlined in the Framework and Action Plan, such as reducing fuel and utility bills, insulating houses and allowing green and marine spaces to thrive.”

#### Torbay Labour party

The Torbay Labour Party were supportive of the GWFOB FAP but wanted to see more action.

“While we commend this document and cannot take issue with the overall objectives in the framework, many ideas will be of little or no local effect without a clear commitment to prioritise resources and delivery in the Council’s budgeting process.”

“By way of example, and unlike other local authorities, Torbay has failed to promote Local Energy Plans.”

“We feel the Council should now begin to prepare a robust plan and provide leadership on Community Energy.”

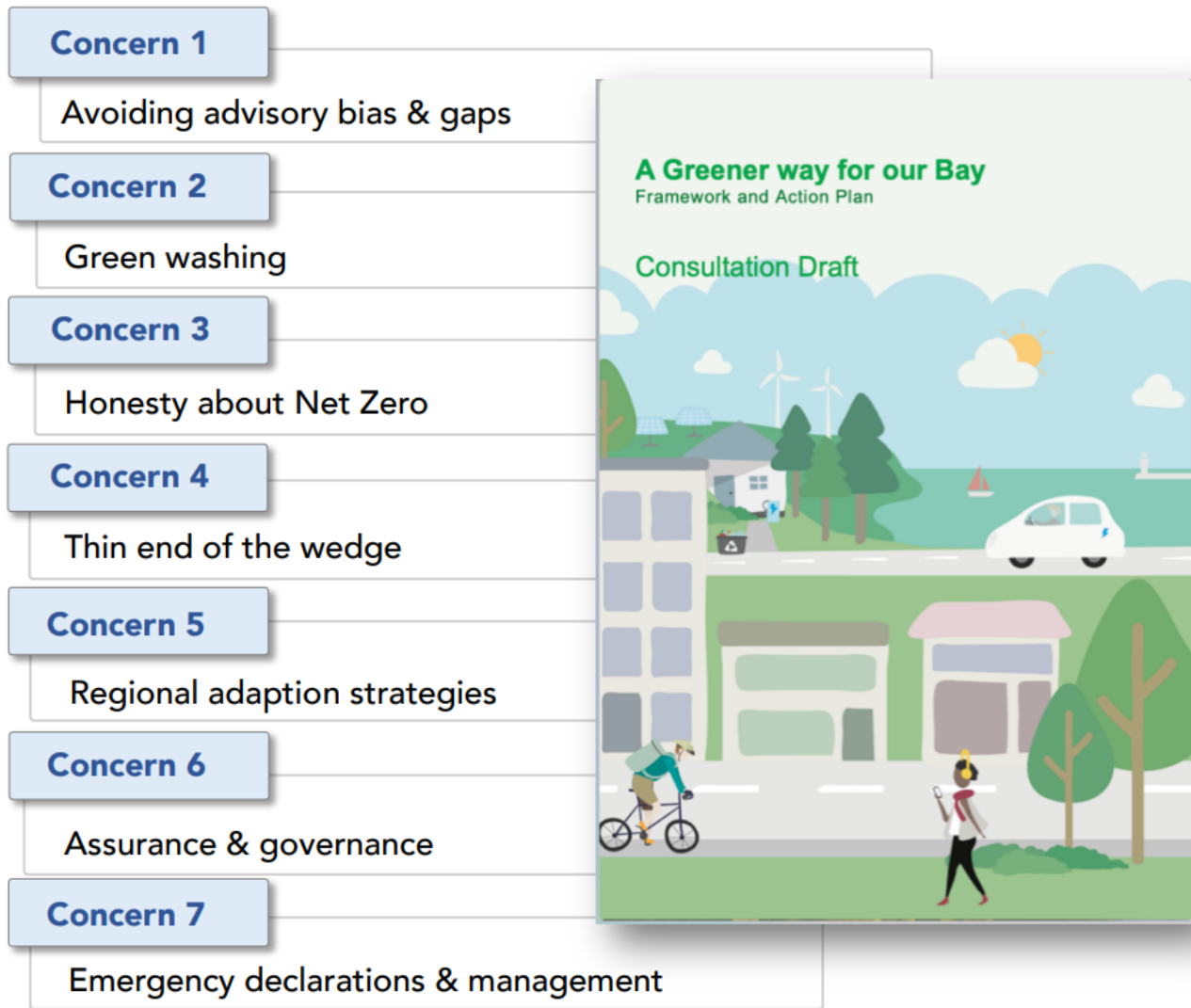
#### The National Grid

The National Grid were also supportive of the GWFOB FAP but they requested specific amendments to Priority Action 8 - By 2027 Torbay Council to work with key energy stakeholders including those representing energy distribution on developing an local energy plan to ensure Torbay’s energy system is ready for a low carbon future.

#### The Seven Concerned Citizens

A response was received from the Seven Concerned Citizens. A summary of their concerns is below.

# Seven key concerns & contents



Their full report and presentation can be seen [here](#)

What Three words would you use to describe your best version of Torbay

All three surveys asked:

- What three words would you use to describe your best version of the Torbay of 2050?

From these responses a word cloud was created. A word cloud is a visual tool that shows the most common words in a text, with more frequent words appearing larger. They are helpful for quickly identifying key themes or topics.



As can be seen from the above, ‘Clean’, ‘Green’, ‘More’, ‘Safe’ and ‘Sustainable’ were the most popular comments for the best visions for Torbay.

## Tonic Results

Appendix 1 outlines the comprehensive engagement and consultation carried out by Tonic Creative. A summary of the results is below.

- Tonic Creatives engagement work included 1263 engagements and 1063 face to face engagements.
- 96% of the people Tonic engaged with were supportive of the overall plan. Of these, 32% said natural environment and green spaces actions was their highest priority within the plans.
- The 4% who were not as supportive didn’t necessarily disagree with the plan but felt climate issues should not be prioritised over other important community issues such as tackling poverty, crime, antisocial behaviour and social inequality.
- In addition, an interactive marble run exercise was used throughout all engagements. Participants voting in the marble run were asked to vote for their top three issues within the Action Plan. 19% of respondents said protection of marine and natural environment should be the top priority. 15% said we should prioritise reducing waste and increasing recycling; and 13% said we should help more people live and work in homes and buildings that are safer and more accessible for cyclists and walkers. Appendix 1 summarises the work undertaken and the full results.

The report also included a number of comments. These have been summarised in Appendix 6. A summary is below:

- People felt strongly about clean beaches and the marine environment
- Need for accessible, affordable and reliable public transport
- Better town planning strategy
- Address poverty, homelessness and safety

- Improve recycling
- Distrust of the Council
- Transparent and consistent communications in a non-technical tone
- Widespread use of solar power and make Torbay an eco-resort
- Maximise support for those in fuel poverty
- Improve electric charging facilities
- Improve walking and cycling routes
- Avoid 'ableist' focus ( i.e. make active travel options available for all)
- Great concern for littering
- Plant more trees
- Business support
- Funding
- Make climate action a priority for young people

## Analysis and actions taken

This section of the report

1)takes the results to the responses to all questions asked in the surveys and provides some analysis

2)Outlines the TCP's response to the results

3)Provides a summary of the actions taken by the TCP in light of these results. Including any amendments to be made to the Greener Way For Our Bay Framework and Action Plan.

## How concerned are you about Climate Change?

All surveys asked:

- How concerned are you about Climate Change?

Question	Amalgamated result (across the three surveys)	Response from long survey	Response from short survey	Response from 'Disagree' survey
How concerned are you about climate change?	Very concerned – 40% Concerned – 30% Don't know – 5% Not concerned – 10% Not at all concerned – 5% Other – 10%	Very concerned – 54% Concerned – 26% Don't know – 4% Not concerned – 8% Not at all concerned – 6%	Very concerned – 40% Concerned – 39% Don't know – 6% Not concerned – 6% Not at all concerned – 7%	Very concerned – 24% Concerned – 18% Don't know – 7% Not concerned – 49%

### Analysis

The above results show 70% of all responses were either Concerned or Very Concerned.

### TCP Response

Given over 70% are concerned, the TCP believe this supports the need for the Greener Way For Our Bay Framework and Action Plan.

## Action taken

Given the high levels of concern expressed, this supports the need for the Greener Way For Our Bay Framework and Action Plan. No further action required.

## What do you value about Torbay?

All surveys asked

- What do you value about Torbay?

A summary of the results is below:

Question	Amalgamated result (across the three surveys)	Response from long survey	Response from short survey	Response from 'Disagree' survey
What do you value about Torbay?	N/A	Our natural environment including beaches, parks, the sea and our coastline – 83%	Our natural environment including beaches, parks, the sea and our coastline – 60%	Our natural environment including beaches, parks, the sea and our coastline – 34%
		<p>Our built environment, including town centres and quality places for people to live and work – 5%</p> <p>Our local communities and networks – 4%</p> <p>Leisure facilities that can be enjoyed by both residents and visitors – 3%</p> <p>Our rich cultural history – 2%</p> <p>Educational opportunities that encourage young people to stay in the Bay – 1%.</p>	<p>Our built environment, including town centres and quality places for people to live and work – 8%</p> <p>Our local communities and networks – 4%</p> <p>Leisure facilities that can be enjoyed by both residents and visitors – 13%</p> <p>Our rich cultural history – 0%</p> <p>Educational opportunities that encourage young people to stay in the Bay – 8%</p>	<p>Our built environment, including town centres and quality places for people to live and work – 8%</p> <p>Our local communities and networks – 15%</p> <p>Leisure facilities that can be enjoyed by both residents and visitors – 18%</p> <p>Our rich cultural history – 16%</p> <p>Educational opportunities that encourage young people to stay in the Bay – 6%</p>

## Analysis

The above results show that the “Our natural environment including beaches, parks, the sea and our coastline” was the most popular thing valued in Torbay.



## TCP Response

This further supports the need for the Greener Way For Our Bay Framework and Action Plan which will help protect our natural environment.

## Action taken

No further action required.

## Levels of support for the 10 key actions outlined in the A Greener Way for Our Bay Framework and Action Plan

All surveys asked a series of questions about the 10 key actions proposed in the Framework and Action Plan.

Question	Responses
Do you agree we should: Help more people live and work in homes and buildings that are energy efficient.	Agree – 75% Don't know – 3% Disagree – 22%
Do you agree we should: Make sustainable transport and public transport more accessible and affordable.	Agree – 75% Don't know – 3% Disagree – 22%
Do you agree we should: Ensure that roads and paths are safer and more accessible for cyclist and walkers	Agree – 75% Don't Know – 3% Disagree – 22%
Do you agree we should: Reduce waste and increase recycling.	Agree – 77% Don't know – 3% Disagree – 20%
Do you agree we should: Enjoy and protect our marine and natural environment.	Agree – 79% Don't know – 2% Disagree – 19%
Do you agree we should: Help green our local businesses and create new jobs with the environment at heart.	Agree – 76% Don't know – 3% Disagree – 21%
Do you agree we should: Ensure the community is at the heart of local action.	Agree – 74% Don't know – 5% Disagree – 21%
Do you agree we should: Monitor progress and set up initiatives that celebrate success.	Agree – 76% Don't know – 3% Disagree – 21%

Do you agree we should: Help everyone understand why change is needed and how sustainable choices will make a difference.	Agree – 76% Don't know 3% Disagree - 21%
Do you agree we should: Work with nature and the local community to prepare for a changing climate.	Agree – 74% Don't know – 4% Disagree – 22%

#### Analysis

The above shows that between 74% - 79% of responses agreed with the 10 things within the Greener Way For Our Bay Framework and Action Plan.

#### TCP response

This shows support for all the ten things covered within the Greener Way For Our Bay Framework and Action Plan.

#### Action Taken

No action required as there is high-levels of support for all 10 things within the Greener Way For Our Bay Framework and Action Plan.

### What issues do you care about?

All surveys asked:

- What issues do you care about?

The most common themes to emerge were:

1. 32% - Environmental Issues, including climate change, protecting the natural environment, and taking action on these.
2. 13% - Issues of social equity, such as homelessness, inequality, the housing crisis and poverty
3. 9% - Improving and maintaining our towns and roads and keeping them clean

#### Analysis

The above shows that the most common responses were environmental issues including climate change and taking action.

#### TCP response

This shows support for the Greener Way For Our Bay Framework and Action Plan which will help address a range of environmental issues like climate change and protecting the Environment.

#### Action Taken

No action required

### Tell us any additional thoughts you have on the Greener Way For Our Bay Framework and Action Plan

All surveys asked:

- Tell us any additional thoughts you have on the Greener Way For Our Bay Framework and Action Plan

#### Support, Suggestions and Concerned Category

As seen above, there was a range of comments received to this question in all surveys.

Appendix 5 provides the full details of this analysis and all the TCPs responses and actions taken to amend the Greener Way For Our Bay Framework and Action Plan.

A summary of the actions taken and amendments made to the Greener Way For Our Bay Framework and Action Plan based on the responses received is below:

- Added a new action to the plan to ensure that all local campaigns are reached by many more people
- Added a range of new community based actions on local food and young person focussed climate action programmes
- Added a monitoring progress section back into the plan to promote accountability and transparency
- Made explicit references to who's document the Greener Way for our Bay is and how the Torbay Climate Partnership works so that people can be assured that where funding is available it will be sought across the public and private sectors and central government-
- Passed all comments on to the transport department at Torbay Council so they can be fed into the development considerations of the Local Transport Plan
- To continue to deliver these actions and help address safety concerns, invited a representative of 'Torbay on the Move' to join the Torbay Climate Partnership
- Invited a representative of a community cycling group to join the Torbay Climate Partnership
- To continue to deliver these actions and help address 'ableist' concerns, invited a representative of 'Healthwise' to join the Torbay Climate Partnership
- All relevant comments will be fed into the development considerations of the upcoming Nature Plan
- South West Water to be invited onto the TCP to explore ways to increase water saving advice as part of the Action Plan
- A child friendly version of the Ten Things has been composed

## Other responses received

The Greener Way for Our Bay Framework and Action Plan consultation also received responses from four organisations:

- Devon County Council
- Torbay Labour Party
- The National Grid
- Seven Concerned Citizens

These responses have been included in the thematic analysis for the question "Tell us any additional thoughts you have on the Greener Way For Our Bay Framework and Action Plan"

### Devon County Council

#### Analysis

Not required as the letter is supportive of the Greener Way For Our Bay Framework and Action Plan.

#### TCP Response

Thank you for your support.

#### Action Taken

No action required as the letter is supportive.

## Torbay Labour Party

### Analysis

The letter is supportive and proposes more local energy action and financial commitment. Both are addressed in the Action Plan including the development of a local area energy plan.

### TCP Response

Thank you for the support, your suggestions particularly in relation to Community Energy Plans have been taken into consideration.

### Action Taken

No action is required as the letter is supportive and proposes more action and financial commitment which are included as actions in the Action Plan.

## National Grid

### Analysis

Not required as the letter is supportive and proposed only a minor change to priority action 8.

### TCP Response

Thank you for the support and amendments as suggested will be made to the Greener Way For Our Bay Framework and Action Plan.

### Action Taken

Amended Priority Action 8 - By 2027 Torbay Council to work with key energy stakeholders including those representing energy distribution on developing an local energy plan to ensure Torbay's energy system is ready for a low carbon future.

## Seven Concerned Citizens

Given the level of detail in the response received, please see Appendix 7 for TCP's detailed response and any actions taken to amend the Greener Way For Our Bay.

It is important to note that prior to this response received on the Greener Way For Our Bay, the TCP have made a series of amendments to their plans (previously the Torbay Climate Emergency Action Plan) as follows:

- Amended the title of the document in a bid to try and alleviate concerns about the title climate emergency being alarmist
- In light of concerns about speed, affordability/costs and speed of transition, the 2030 carbon neutral target has been amended to now be in line with national targets. This is to avoid any additional costs by moving faster than central government and without their financial support. We appreciate this does not fully cover all concerns raised by the Group. As a Council we need to be mindful of all our residents' concerns, and other members of the public hold alternative opinions.
- In light of concerns about transparency, the GWFOB FAP includes more on the TCP's role and how the Framework and Action Plan will be monitored.
- Concerns about limitation on movement and freedoms, especially concerns about 15 minute neighbourhoods were clarified publicly. There are a range of actions in this plan that are about improving and offering a range of low emission ways to travel. It is not restricting the freedom to travel about Torbay. A full statement is available here [Clarification on climate flyers and meeting - Torbay Council](#) The actions in the latest plan are about improving choice for residents.

However, based on the latest responses received from this group, the TCP will not be making any further changes to the Greener Way For Our Bay and will continue with their work to tackle climate change locally. The reasons are outlined in Appendix 7.

## What Three words would you use to describe your best version of Torbay

In all three surveys the TCP also asked

- What Three words would you use to describe your best version of Torbay

As can be seen from the above word cloud, 'Clean', 'Green', 'More', 'Safe', 'Sustainable' and 'Thriving' were the most popular comments for the best visions for Torbay.

Action taken

No action required as the Greener Way For Our Bay Framework and Action Plan will support creating this vision for Torbay.

## Tonic report analysis and actions taken

96% of the people Tonic engaged with were supportive of the overall plan. Of these, 32% said natural environment and green spaces actions was their highest priority within the plans. The 4% who were not as supportive didn't necessarily disagree with the plan but felt climate issues should not be prioritised over other important community issues such as tackling poverty, crime, antisocial behaviour and social inequality

Analysis

96% of responses supported the plan

TCP response

Given this level of support no further actions to amend the Greener Way For Our Bay is required.

Actions Taken

None required

A range of comments were made in the report. Appendix 6 summarises the main comments, the TCP's response to them and any actions taken to amend the Greener Way For Our Bay Framework and Action Plan. A summary of the actions to be taken to amend the Greener Way For Our Bay Framework and action Plan is below:

- Outline clearly the governance and reporting processes and monitoring arrangements
- Add a new action - TCP to explore with partner Exeter Community Energy options for solar panel buying schemes in Torbay (links with comment on making Torbay a solar eco resort)
- Add a new action - Torbay Bus Partnership spending £7m to upgrade and improve buses across Torbay
- Add a new action – Torbay Council to spend just under £1m on installing Electric Vehicle charging points across Torbay Council
- TCP to explore increasing sustainable and accessible transport partners in the Partnership so they can explore actions within this Action Plan to make sure actions are accessible for all abilities
- Add new action: Torbay Communities to lead a Climate Action Fund bid to increase climate action and training in young people and their communities
- New child friendly 10 things will be produced to help Young people understand the Framework and Action Plan.

## Demographics of who took part

The full breakdown of demographics in each survey is included below, but overall across the Torbay Climate Partnership's surveys, there were 289 female respondents and 283 male respondents, with 35 respondents preferring not to say their gender identity. The survey also reflected Torbay's ethnic make up with the vast majority of respondents (542) identifying as White British, with the next biggest group (24) identifying as mixed race.

As with many of our consultations there was a large number (311) in the over 55 categories, though there were 112 respondents across all the surveys who were in the 24 or under groups, so this is an improvement on previous surveys. Of those 112, a total of 81 in that age group were responding to the short survey. This suggests the shorter survey format is preferred by this age group, and it is also worth noting that one of the pieces of feedback Tonic Creatives had through their engagement work was that some of the children and young people that participated in the consultation found some of the descriptions /actions in the plan difficult to understand.

This is something we should bear in mind for future consultations particularly if we want to engage younger people, with an example quote being: "Many of the children didn't understand some of the concepts of community and greening businesses, monitoring progress and having community at the heart of action."

In terms of the Tonic events, 39% of those taking part were families and mixed age groups, 25% were Torbay residents aged 18 plus, 25% were Torbay residents under the age of 18, and 11% were Torbay businesses.

Which of the following options best describes how you think of your gender identity? Tick one only

### Short survey

Type of survey	Female	Male	In another way	Prefer not to say
Short survey	147	142	0	10
Long survey	104	86	0	9
'Disagree' survey	38	55	0	16

Which of the following age groups applies to you? Tick one only Long survey

0-15	16-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 plus
8	22	9	18	27	62	58	13

Short survey

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0-15	16-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 plus
52	29	12	33	43	49	58	0

'Disagree' survey

0-15	16-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 plus
0	1	5	8	24	31	33	7

Which of the following describes your ethnic background? Pick one only

Long survey

White	Mixed ethnicity	Asian or Asian British	Black or Black British	Chinese	Other ethnic group
181	6	0	0	0	2

Short survey

White	Mixed ethnicity	Asian or Asian British	Black or Black British	Chinese	Other ethnic group
277	10	3	4	3	0

'Disagree' survey

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White	Mixed ethnicity	Asian or Asian British	Black or Black British	Chinese	Other ethnic group
84	8	1	4	1	0



Employment Status - Tick one only

Long survey

Working fulltime in Torbay	Working fulltime elsewhere in Devon	Working parttime elsewhere in Devon	Selfemployed – full - or parttime	Student	Looking after Family/Home
39	11	7	21	7	1
Temporary Sick	Long-Term Sick	Retired	Unemployed	Other	
0	9	73	0	2	

Short survey

Working fulltime in Torbay	Working fulltime elsewhere in Devon	Working parttime elsewhere in Devon	Selfemployed – full - or parttime	Student	Looking after Family/Home
61	21	7	28	75	2
Temporary Sick	Long-Term Sick	Retired	Unemployed	Other	
2	5	78	8	7	

'Disagree' survey

Working fulltime in Torbay	Working fulltime elsewhere in Devon	Working parttime elsewhere in Devon	Selfemployed – full - or parttime	Student	Looking after Family/Home
14	10	6	32	1	3
Temporary Sick	Long-Term Sick	Retired	Unemployed	Other	
0	3	30	2	0	

Do you consider yourself to be disabled in any way? Tick one only

Long survey

Yes	No
34	166

Short survey

Yes	No
39	259

'Disagree' survey

Yes	No
21	88

If you answered "Yes", please tell us how it affects you. Tick as many as apply

Long survey

It affects my mobility	It affects my vision	It affects my hearing	It affects me in another way
19	3	2	13

Short survey

It affects my mobility	It affects my vision	It affects my hearing	It affects me in another way
24	7	7	0

'Disagree' survey

It affects my mobility	It affects my vision	It affects my hearing	It affects me in another way
16	4	4	0