

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**Tuesday, 16 June 2026 at 10.00 am
in the Council Chamber, Forde House, Brunel Road, Newton Abbot, TQ12 4XX**

Supplement documents

- | | | |
|----|---|---------|
| 10 | Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme
To review the attached updated Committee's work programme. | 3 - 8 |
| 11 | Play Park Improvement Project
EIA attached for information | 9 - 18 |
| 14 | Feedback from the Informal Scrutiny meeting held on 26 May 2026
To receive the notes of the meeting | 19 - 24 |

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Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2025/26 & 2026/27 to December 2026 @ 10 June 2026

Regular items at all formal meetings:

- Executive Forward Plan
- Overview & Scrutiny Forward Plan
- Bi-annual Report from Executive members
- Feedback from representatives on Outside Bodies
- Feedback from Task & Finish/Review Groups as appropriate
- Feedback from Informal Pre-Scrutiny meetings with any recommendations

Date	OS Committee – Formal Regular items plus the following:	OS Pre-Scrutiny – Informal	Other (e.g. Briefings)
16 June 2026 (Crime and Disorder Committee) Ω	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annual Community Safety Partnership Review - Safeguarding - Play Park Improvements Project 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Future High Street Fund Review
14 July 2026		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emergency Planning for Major emergencies - Cyber security failure and ICT Security measures - UK SPF Review (provisional date) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - OS Work Programme Session 26/27. Risk. Performance & customer feedback - Housing Strategy - Affordable Housing Development Pipeline
15 September 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parking Strategy - Voluntary Sector Outputs and Funding (including CCF) - Newton Abbot Masterplan Update - One Teignbridge 2025/26 Q4 Jan – Mar 2026 Performance monitoring and 2026/27 Targets (April 2026 – March 2027) - Social Value Policy (Procurement Officer (PO)) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communications Team - One Teignbridge

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unified Enforcement Policy - Update on the Impact of introducing changes to council tax premiums for empty properties - Scrutiny of 2027/28 Budget assumptions 		
Date	OS Committee – Formal Regular items plus the following:	- OS Pre-Scrutiny – Informal	Other (e.g. Briefings)
13 October 2026		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local Government Review and Forward Financial Planning - Community Infrastructure Funding Update - Crisis & Resilience Fund Review t.b.c. - Equality Action Plan and Code of Practice Update 	
24 November 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One Teignbridge 2025/26 Q1 Performance Monitoring (April – June 2026) - 2026/27 Budget Monitoring (mid-year end Sept 2026) - Teignbridge Playing Pitch Strategy - Scrutiny of draft budget proposals including MTFP and savings for 2027/28 		
Thurs 17 December 2026			
<i>Calendar invitations have been sent for all meetings (including Pre-meetings at 9am) up to and including 17 December 2026</i>			
Topics to be scheduled			
A383 (Ashburton Road, Newton Abbot)	Briefing to be arranged if required		
External funding and Delivery Risk	To be considered in conjunction with Audit Committee responsibilities. Possibly link with CIL item if scope widened to include S106 and other External funding		

Date	OS Committee – Formal Regular items plus the following:	OS Pre-Scrutiny – Informal	Other (e.g. Briefings)
Completed meetings			
15 July 2025		OS Work Programme Session	
15 September 2025			Kerbside Recycling Trial
16 September 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council Strategy Q1 Performance - Modern 25 Update OS Work Programme and Survey 		
14 October 2025		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Housing Strategy Local Government Reorganisation 	
11 November 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MTFP Task Group Report Council Strategy Q2 Performance 		
9 December 2025		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Grid - 25/26 Budget Monitoring Work Plan updating/Review 	
13 January 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proposed 2026/27 Budget - Unauthorised Encampments 	-	
3 February 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Final 2026/27 Budget - Kerbside Recycling Trial 	-	
17 March 2026	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planning - CIL (5 Year Spending Plan) & S106 - Future High Street Fund 	
14 April 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NHS (Health & Dentistry) - Council Strategy Q3 Performance - Carbon Action Plan 1 - Scrutiny Annual Report 	-	
26 May 2026	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Economic Development review (Internal & External) incorporating Cultural Strategy, Rural Digital Connectivity, economic impact of Licencing Fees - Town and Parish Council Charter Review 	

Notes:

- All Topics have been reviewed and either added to the Programme or removed as they will be covered by the Portfolio Holders in their Bi-Annual reports, delegated to the MTFP Review Group or via other reports
- Any potential new topics must be agreed by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee following submission of a completed proposal form sent to Democratic Services [Cllrs OS agenda item proposal form.docx](#)

2027 Calendar Year [Not in Calendars – except Democratic services & Council Chamber]. May be subject to Shadow arrangements for the new authority

Date	OS Committee – Formal Regular items plus the following:	OS Pre-Scrutiny – Informal	Other (e.g. Briefings)
12 January 2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2027/28 Budget feedback from public consultation, update from finance settlement, adjustments arising from budget monitoring Q3 end December - One Teignbridge 2025/26 Q2 Performance Monitoring (July - September 2026) 		
06 March 2027		-	
13 April 2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One Teignbridge 2025/26 Q3 Performance Monitoring (October – December 2026) - Carbon Action Plan 1 		
25 May 2027		- Planning Performance & Delivery Monitoring report	
15 June 2027 (Crime and Disorder Committee)	- Annual Community Safety Partnership Review		
13 July 2027		-	- OS Work Programme Session 27/28 (if required)
14 September 2027	- <i>One Teignbridge 2026/27 Q4 (Jan – Mar 2027) Performance monitoring</i>		

	<i>and 2027/28 Targets (April 2027 – March 2028) t.b.a.</i> - Voluntary Sector Outputs and funding (including CCF)		
Date	OS Committee – Formal Regular items plus the following:	- OS Pre-Scrutiny – Informal	Other (e.g. Briefings)
12 October 2027		-	
23 November 2027	- <i>One Teignbridge 2026/27 Q1 (Apr – June 2027) Performance monitoring t.b.a.</i> - 2027/28 Budget Monitoring		
Thurs 16 December 2027		-	

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Equality Impact Assessment

Assessment of: One Teignbridge Council Strategy, 2025-2030	Teignbridge Play Parks Improvement Programme
<input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Strategy <input type="checkbox"/> Function <input type="checkbox"/> Service <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other - Project	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Already exists / review <input type="checkbox"/> Changing
Directorate: Place	Assessment carried out by: Sammi Early
Service Area: Strategy and Partnerships	Job Role: Strategic Infrastructure and Growth Officer
Version / Date of Sign Off by Director: Draft / May 2026	

Step 1: What do we want to do?

This assessment should be started at the beginning of the process by someone with a good knowledge of the proposal and service area, and sufficient influence over the proposal. It is good practice to take a team approach to completing the equality impact assessment. Please contact the Policy Officer early for advice.

1.1 What are the aims and objectives/purpose of this proposal?

Briefly explain the purpose of the proposal and why it is needed. Describe who it is aimed at and the intended aims / outcomes. Where known also summarise the key actions you plan to undertake. Please use plain English, avoiding jargon and acronyms. Equality Impact Assessments are viewed by a wide range of people including decision-makers and the wider public.

The proposal is to deliver a district wide programme of improvements to Council owned play parks that are most in need of investment.

It aims to improve the quality, safety, accessibility and inclusivity of play provision for children, young people, families and local communities, using available Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy funding within the timescales attached to those funds.

Parks will be prioritised using evidence on condition, local need, accessibility, anti-social behaviour and gaps in provision, with works delivered either through direct investment, asset transfer arrangements or other agreed delivery routes.

1.2 Who will the proposal have the potential to affect?

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Service users	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The wider community	<input type="checkbox"/> Teignbridge workforce
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1.3 Will the proposal have an equality impact?

Could the proposal affect access levels of representation or participation in a service, or does it have the potential to change e.g., quality of life: health, education, or standard of living etc.?

If 'No' explain why you are sure there will be no equality impact, then skip steps 2-4 and request review by your manager.

If 'Yes' complete the rest of this assessment.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Yes. The proposal affects access to safe, inclusive and good quality play parks, and therefore has the potential to affect how different groups benefit from local provision. It is likely to have positive impacts for children and young people, disabled users, parents and carers, and communities in higher-need areas. Risks include uneven investment because of limited funding, inconsistent accessibility if inclusive design is not built in from the outset, and temporary loss of access while works are taking place.

Step 2: What information do we have?

2.1 What data or evidence is there which tells us who is, or could be affected?

Please use this section to demonstrate an understanding of who could be affected by the proposal. Include general population data where appropriate, and information about people who will be affected with particular reference to protected and other relevant characteristics (listed in 2.2).

Use one row for each evidence source and say which characteristic(s) it relates to. You can include a mix of qualitative and quantitative data - from national research, local data or previous consultations and engagement activities.

Outline whether there are any over or under representation of equality groups within your service - don't forget to benchmark to local population where appropriate.

For workforce / management of change proposals you will need to look at the diversity of the affected team(s) using available evidence such as the employee profile data. Identify any under/over-representation compared with Teignbridge's economically active citizens for age, disability, ethnicity, gender-reassignment, religion/belief and sexual orientation.

Data / Evidence Source <i>[Include a reference where known]</i>	Summary of what this tells us
Play park condition assessments and site data	This shows which parks have ageing equipment, safety concerns, poor quality play offer and accessibility issues. It helps identify where children and families may currently experience lower quality or less safe provision.
Deprivation indicators, ward population data and mapping of play provision	This helps identify communities where there are more children, higher levels of deprivation and poorer access to nearby provision. It supports a needs-based approach to prioritisation.
Information on anti-social behaviour hotspots, local knowledge from officers, and engagement with town and parish councils	This provides information about how parks are used, perceived safety, local priorities and whether transfers or locally led improvements may be suitable. It also helps identify where there is a need to improve surveillance.

2.2 Do you currently monitor relevant activity by the following protected characteristics?

<input type="checkbox"/> Age	<input type="checkbox"/> Disability	<input type="checkbox"/> Gender Reassignment
<input type="checkbox"/> Marriage and Civil Partnership	<input type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy/Maternity	<input type="checkbox"/> Race
<input type="checkbox"/> Religion or Belief	<input type="checkbox"/> Sex	<input type="checkbox"/> Sexual Orientation

2.3 Are there any gaps in the evidence base?

Where there are gaps in the evidence, or you don't have enough information about some equality groups, include an equality action to find out in section 4.2 below. This doesn't mean that you can't complete the assessment without the information, but you need to follow up the action and if necessary, review the assessment later. If you are unable to fill in the gaps, please state this clearly with a justification.

For workforce related proposals all relevant information on characteristics may need to be sought from HR (e.g., pregnancy/maternity). For smaller teams diversity data may be redacted. A high proportion of not known/not disclosed may require action to address and identify the information needed.

There are gaps in detailed evidence about how some groups currently use individual play parks, particularly disabled users, carers and people affected by transport. There is also limited site specific evidence on the experience of some protected groups beyond the available condition and demographic data. These gaps do not prevent the assessment being completed, but they should be addressed through targeted engagement as priority sites and designs are developed.

2.4 How have you involved communities and groups that could be affected?

You will nearly always need to involve and consult with internal and external stakeholders during your assessment. The extent of the engagement will depend on the nature of the proposal or change. This should usually include individuals and groups representing different relevant protected characteristics. Please include details of any completed engagement and consultation and how representative this has been of Teignbridge's diverse communities.

Include the main findings of any engagement and consultation in Section 2.1 above.

If you are managing a workforce change process or restructure, please refer to HR for advice on how to consult and engage with employees. Relevant stakeholders for engagement about workforce changes may include e.g., staff-led groups, trades unions as well as affected staff.

The programme has been informed by officer work on play park condition, funding availability and site priorities, together with discussions with town and parish councils and community safety partners. This has helped identify where investment is most needed and where local context, including safety and community use, should inform decisions.

2.5 How will engagement with stakeholders continue?

Explain how you will continue to engage with stakeholders throughout the course of planning and delivery. Please describe where more engagement and consultation is required and set out how you intend to undertake it. Include any targeted work to seek the views of under-represented groups. If you do not intend to undertake it, please set out your justification. You can ask the Consultation Officer for help in targeting particular groups.

Engagement with elected members, town and parish councils, residents, police and other community-based groups/representatives will be required as part of the allocation of funds and delivery of refurbishment schemes. To date, no specific or targeted engagement has taken place.

It is proposed that we contact the ward member and town/parish councils of the 10 settlements where TDC own parks (Ashburton, Buckfastleigh, Chudleigh, Dawlish, Exminster, Heathfield, Kingsteignton, Newton Abbot, Starcross and Teignmouth) following approval of the project at Full Council in July. The town and parish councils will be given details of the project and, where they are amenable, will be asked to lead on engagement with their communities to understand issues with existing provision and preferences for future provision. The Local Authority will provide templates and frameworks for consultation. Feedback and data will be used to inform the scoring matrix and final proposals.

Step 3: Who might the proposal impact?

Analysis of impacts must be rigorous. Please demonstrate your analysis of any impacts of the proposal in this section, referring to evidence you have gathered above, and the characteristics protected by the Equality Act 2010. Also include details of existing issues for particular groups that you are aware of and are seeking to address or mitigate through this proposal.

3.1 Does the proposal have any potentially adverse impacts on people on the basis of their protected or other relevant characteristics?

Consider sub-categories (different kinds of disability, ethnic background etc.) and how people with combined characteristics (e.g., young women) might have particular needs or experience particular kinds of disadvantage.

Where mitigations indicate a follow-on action, include this in the 'Action Plan' Section 4.2 below.

GENERAL COMMENTS (highlight any potential issues that might impact **all or many groups**)

The programme should have mainly positive impacts if play parks are prioritised transparently and designed inclusively. Key equality risk include uneven investment due to limited funding, temporary loss of access during delivery and inconsistent accessibility if user needs are not reflected.

These risks will be mitigated through a clear, evidence based weighted scoring matrix, that incorporates: park condition, deprivation levels, population within 400m and 800m, and existing provision within these distances to target areas of greatest need. Further mitigation includes inclusive design standards, targeted engagement and careful phasing of works to minimise disruption.

PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS

Age: Young People	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	Children, young people and families should benefit most through safer, higher quality and more attractive play parks. Improved provision can support play, physical activity and social interaction. A risk remains that some areas may not see improvements in the early phases if they are not prioritised for funding.
Mitigations:	Target parks with the greatest need and include age-appropriate equipment and play opportunities in project briefs.
Age: Older People	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

Potential impacts:	Older people will benefit where play parks are accessible and provide spaces and facilities for all ages. Parks provide opportunities for light physical activity as well as support mental wellbeing through access to green space. Older people may benefit indirectly where play parks are easier to access and should include places to sit and supervise children.
Mitigations:	Include seating where possible. Smooth, step-free paths Clear layouts (making them more usable and inclusive for dementia friendly design)
Disability	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	Disabled users may benefit where play parks include accessible entrances, appropriate surfacing, inclusive equipment, seating and clear routes through the site. Risks arise if accessibility is not built into schemes from the outset or if works temporarily remove access to one of the few usable local parks.
Mitigations:	Include accessibility and inclusive design requirements in project briefs and seek input from disabled users, parents and carers where possible.
Sex	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	Parks are not inherently unequal for men and women but how they are designed and managed can change that in practice. Women and girls may feel less safe using the space, particularly at certain times or locations. This can lead to reduced use, even if the facility is technically "available to all and therefore creates a practical (indirect) disproportionate impact, despite no formal design restriction.
Mitigations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design for clear sightlines and open layouts • Avoid hidden or enclosed spaces • Provide appropriate lighting (where relevant) • Ensure good maintenance and quick response to ASB • Engage women, girls, and carers in design stages
Sexual orientation	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	No specific disproportionate impact has been identified on the basis of race. However, if engagement and communication are not inclusive there is a risk that the needs or views of some communities may be less visible in prioritisation and design decisions.
Mitigations:	
Pregnancy / Maternity	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	The impact on individuals with the protected characteristic of pregnancy and maternity is considered to be low but potentially indirect. While play parks are not specifically designed for this group, they are frequently used by parents and carers of young children, including those who are pregnant or on maternity leave.

	Consideration should therefore be given to appropriate seating, accessible pathways for prams etc, rest areas and safe environments to ensure that facilities are inclusive and usable. With these in place, no significant disproportionate negative impact is anticipated.
Mitigations:	Include seating and accessibility for prams etc where possible.
Gender reassignment	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	No specific disproportionate impact has been identified on the basis of race. However, if engagement and communication are not inclusive there is a risk that the needs or views of some communities may be less visible in prioritisation and design decisions.
Mitigations:	
Race	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	No specific disproportionate impact has been identified on the basis of race. However, if engagement and communication are not inclusive there is a risk that the needs or views of some communities may be less visible in prioritisation and design decisions.
Mitigations:	Use inclusive engagement methods.
Religion or Belief	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	
Mitigations:	
Marriage & civil partnership	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	
Mitigations:	

OTHER RELEVANT CHARACTERISTICS

Socio-Economic (deprivation)	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	The proposal should benefit higher need communities by improving free local play parks in areas where provision is poorer or outdated. Better local facilities can help reduce inequality in access to outdoor play and wellbeing benefits. Some communities may still feel disadvantaged if they are not prioritised for investment in early phases.

Mitigations:	Use clear, evidence-based criteria and explain decisions.
Other group(s) <i>Please add additional rows below to detail the impact for other relevant groups as appropriate e.g., Asylums and Refugees; Rural/Urban Communities, Homelessness, Digital Exclusion, Access to Transport</i>	
Rural Communities	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	Individuals in rural areas may experience reduced access to play facilities due to distance, limited transport options, and lower density of provision. While no direct adverse impact is identified, it is important to consider accessibility and distribution to ensure rural communities are not disadvantaged.
Mitigations:	Consider the geographic spread of provision, accessibility for rural residents, and ongoing monitoring to ensure rural communities are not disproportionately disadvantaged.
Digital Exclusion	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	There may be an impact if information about proposals, closures or completed works is only shared online, as some residents may not see it or may be less able to respond.
Mitigations:	Use online and non-digital communication.
Access to transport	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	Improving local play parks may reduce the need for some families to travel further for suitable provision. However, some areas may still have limited access if nearby parks are not prioritised in early phases or if transport barriers affect access to alternative sites during works.
Mitigations:	Consider provision gaps as well as condition when prioritising.

3.2 Does the proposal create any benefits for people on the basis of their protected or other relevant characteristics?

Outline any potential benefits of the proposal and how they can be maximised. Identify how the proposal will support our Public Sector Equality Duty to:

- ✓ Eliminate unlawful discrimination for a protected group.
- ✓ Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who don't.
- ✓ Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who don't.

The proposal should improve access to safer, more inclusive play parks, particularly for children, disabled users and higher need communities. It can help reduce inequality in access to free local recreation, support healthier communities and improve the quality of shared public spaces. These benefits will be strongest where inclusive design, clear prioritisation and targeted engagement are applied consistently.

Step 4: Impact

4.1 How has the equality impact assessment informed or changed the proposal?

What are the main conclusions of this assessment? Use this section to provide an overview of your findings. This content should be used as a summary in reports, where this full assessment is included as an appendix.

If you have identified any significant negative impacts which cannot be mitigated, provide a justification showing how the proposal is proportionate, necessary and appropriate despite this.

Summary of significant negative impacts and how they can be mitigated or justified:

Prioritising CIL for play park investment means there is reduced flexibility in the use of CIL funding, potentially delaying or displacing other infrastructure projects. There is also a risk of uneven investment outcomes, as some parks may receive limited or no funding, which could lead to perceptions of unfairness between communities.

Where parks remain in Council ownership, maintenance and inspection costs will continue, and delivery of the programme places additional pressure on staff capacity, potentially diverting resources from other priorities. Asset transfers may reduce long-term costs but could create additional burdens for town and parish councils, depending on their capacity and willingness to take on assets.

Delivery will involve temporary disruption, including park closures during refurbishment, and may raise community expectations for further improvements beyond what available funding can support.

Summary of positive impacts / opportunities to promote the Public Sector Equality Duty:

Overall, the programme is expected to deliver significant community and organisational benefits. It will improve the quality, safety and accessibility of play parks, addressing ageing infrastructure and gaps in provision across the district. This is intended to support healthier lifestyles and improved wellbeing, particularly for children and families, while also contributing to wider place-making and reducing inequalities. This supports the wider Public Sector Equality Duty by helping reduce inequality in access to free local facilities and by improving shared public spaces used by different groups.

A key benefit is the effective use of developer contributions, ensuring Section 106 funding is spent within required deadlines and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding is deployed strategically. This avoids the risk of funds being returned and maximises investment in local infrastructure.

4.2 Action Plan

Use this section to set out any actions you have identified to improve data, mitigate issues, or maximise opportunities etc. If an action is to meet the needs of a particular protected group, please specify this.

Improvement / action required	Responsible Officer	Timescale
Prepare a consultation and engagement plan for the project.	Strategic Infrastructure and Growth Team in consultation with Strategy and Policy Officer	By 1 July 2026.
Include accessibility and inclusive design requirements in project briefs for priority play park improvements.	Strategic Infrastructure and Growth Team / Assets Team	Before design and procurement
Review equality impacts after the first phase of delivery, including whether completed works have improved access and whether investment is reaching higher need areas.	Project Lead / Service Manager	Within 12 months of first works completing

4.3 How will the impact of your proposal and actions be measured?

How will you know if have been successful? Once the activity has been implemented this equality impact assessment should be periodically reviewed to make sure your changes have been effective, and your approach is still appropriate. Include the timescale for review in your action plan above.

Impact	Measured by
Improved health and wellbeing outcomes	Feedback from residents gathered through an annual survey and / or other engagement activities
Inclusive and accessible facilities	Number of play parks that are accessible with some inclusive design feature. User feedback from people with disabilities and other protected groups through annual survey and / or other engagement activities

Step 5: Review & Sign-Off

EIAs should only be marked as reviewed when they provide sufficient information for decision-makers on the equalities impact of the proposal. Please seek review and feedback from management before requesting it to be signed off. All working drafts of EIAs and final signed-off EIAs should be saved in G:\GLOBAL\EIA. Once signed-off please add the details to the 'EIA Register' of all council EIAs saved in the same directory.

Reviewed by Service Manager: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Michelle Luscombe	Strategic Leadership Team Sign-Off Neil Blaney, Director of Place
Date: 21.05.26	Date: 10.6.2026

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MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting: Informal Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting
 Date and time: Tuesday 26 May 2026 at 10am
 Place: Council Chamber, Forde House, Newton Abbot.

Attendees:

Overview and Scrutiny Committee Members: Cllrs Bullivant (Chair), MacGregor, C Parker, Rollason, Ryan, Swain, J Taylor and Thorne (Vice-Chair).

Executive Members present: Councillors Buscombe, Hook, Keeling, Nutley and Sanders

Other Members: Councillors Atkins and Hayes.

Officers in attendance:

- Charlie Fisher, Democratic Services Manager and Monitoring Officer
- Kay Fice, Scrutiny Officer
- Trish Corns, Principal Democratic Services Officer
- Christopher Morgan, Assistant Democratic Services Officer
- Neil Blaney, Director of Place
- Michelle Luscombe, Head of Strategy and Partnerships
- Allie Clark, Senior Strategic Infrastructure and Growth Officer
- Andrea Furness, Licencing Manager
- Tom Pearce, Principal Strategy and Policy Officer (Strategy and Partnerships)

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

The Chair welcomed all of those in attendance to the meeting

Apologies were received from Councillors Major, Steemson and Williams

2. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Senior Strategic Infrastructure and Growth Officer presented on Economic Development in Teignbridge and took questions and observations throughout.



Economic
Development Informa

Comments/questions/observations made included:

Slide 2: Strengthening Town Centres through Partnership and Planning

- Re Town Centre managers: what is in it for the Towns? The roles are developed based on what the Towns want. Often from a commercial property background, Events management, could be responsible for security and safety.
- Town Councils can identify their own Unique selling Point and promote their Town in the local area and wider afield for business interest
- If enough support and common themes Towns could share a manager.

- Teignbridge District Council are a facilitator – have we asked what they want from Teignbridge? Covered by the One Teignbridge Strategy
- The Local Plan covers all except Dartmoor National Park Towns
- Regarding advertising – that used to happen working closely for example with Visit South Devon.

- **Slide 3: Investing in Employment Space**

- Teignbridge's experience is that there is a demand for businesses wanting to invest in the area e.g. Bowa relocated to Kingskerswell from Ashburton into purpose built premises
- The space behind Aldi in Newton Abbot has been identified as an 'opportunity area' for commercial although there is a SWW drainage issue.
- Estuary Court is a success story as all trade units pre-let with no empty spaces
- Development of land at Drumbridges has an issue with National Grid and is probably 6 years away.
- Collett Way, received gap funding through the Regional Development Agency. Funding is prioritised towards Exeter not Teignbridge.
- All employment sites identified in the local plan are being contacted.

Slide 4: From allocation to Delivery; The Employment Land Pipeline

- The team is aware of the demand but many landowners are not willing to sell .
- Infrastructure: National Grid is prioritising residential developments over industrial.
- Could alternative energy sources be explored for the Arnold White (Drumbridges) site?

Slide 5: Culture Strategy; Identifying a Gap and Opportunity

- Cllr Jackie Hook is a member of the Arts Board led by Elaine Gill which has been responsible for installing the mural in Market Square, Newton Abbot for example.
- There is no dedicated officer resource for culture and arts at the Council.
- The cultural element of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund of £300k was the most oversubscribed grant fund.
- Developing the strategy from 'bottom up' not just 'top down'
- It was recognised that coastal towns have particular issues but towns have the opportunity to engage with visit South Devon at a cost of £250
- Ideas include historic information about Teignbridge e.g. Bricks and links to a museum trail and the Brunel Trail.

Slide 6: Rural Digital Connectivity

- The original Connecting Devon and Somerset (CDS) investment can no longer be delivered as planned.
- The planned investment of £250,000 is still available but no suitable projects have been identified as deliverable that would provide meaningful impact or represent value for money.
- Cllr Nuttall is Teignbridge representative on the Board.
- Members would find a map from CDS listing the coverage across Teignbridge Towns and Parishes helpful – to be requested.

3. LICENCING

The Licencing Manager described the roles and responsibilities of the Licencing service.

- Licensing is a statutory function, and the Council is required by law to administer and enforce a wide range of licensing regimes. The service seeks not only to ensure legal compliance, but also to support applicants and businesses through the process. Officers provide free pre-application advice and guidance wherever possible
- The service manages a variety of licence applications, each of which must be considered against the relevant legislation, statutory guidance and Council policies. The application is determined under either delegated officer powers or, where appropriate, by the Licensing and Regulatory Sub-Committee. In addition to processing applications, the service also responds to concerns regarding potentially unlicensed premises or activities.
- Fees are governed by a combination of statutory and locally set arrangements. Some fees are prescribed in law, while others are determined locally. Where fees are set by the Council, these are subject to the appropriate advertising and consultation requirements before being approved by Full Council. In considering fees, the Council has sought to take a proportionate approach and increases have been resisted in some areas, such as Gambling Act licensing, where the scope for proactive enforcement activity is limited.
- Complaints can be submitted through the Council's online complaints form, and all credible reports are assessed and, where necessary, investigated. This work can be resource-intensive, particularly where businesses are non-compliant, as these often require significant officer time to resolve.
- The Council applies a graduated and proportionate approach to enforcement, seeking wherever possible to secure compliance through advice, engagement and staged intervention before escalating to formal action when necessary. This reflects both good regulatory practice and the need to use limited resources effectively.
- Looking ahead, the service is also preparing for the impact of forthcoming legislative changes, including new requirements relating to vapes and tobacco. These changes are expected to generate additional workload and place further demands on officer capacity.

At the end of the presentation, a number of questions were asked including:

- Clarification that Housing deals with HMO Licences.
- In terms of the charges are there any areas where we could increase fees? The statutory fees are where the fees are lower than should be charged based on the work
- £500 was charged for Pavement licences based on the amount of work involved
- Discussions regarding linking licensing fees (amongst other things) to the Council's and Town and Parishes overall aims of economic development and how they balance.
- Is there any scope for charging varying fees for Pavement Licences depending on the table numbers/size of the area occupied (written response below).

Under the current pavement licence regime (Business & Planning Act 2020 as made permanent in 2024), it is a flat application fee, not based on the number of tables/chairs.

The legislation provides:

- *The national framework caps fees at £500 for a new licence and £350 for renewals.*
- *This structure is intentionally simple, standardised and applies regardless of the amount of furniture proposed.*

I could not find any current example of a council charging on the number of tables/chairs within this regime. Pavement Licenses are for 2 years.

The Chair thanked Officers for their attendance and contributions.

4. TOWN & PARISH CHARTER

The Charter itself was circulated with the Agenda for Committee members and the Principal Strategy and Policy Officer appraised Members of the presentation (below) and took questions and responded to observations.



Town and Parish
Charter Update for O.

These included:

- The tone of the document could suggest that Towns and Parishes were 'talked to' rather than consulted and set out a 'wish list'.
- Members would like to see the list of who to contact in the authority.
- Implementation of the document needs to emphasise the importance of Teignbridge Councillors being a conduit between the Council and Towns & Parishes
- Officers are increasing communication with clerks and it was felt that members should be included in this communication, particularly the monthly emails
- Need to break down 'them & us' barrier and improve working relationships.
- Officers confirmed that they were working with DALC with regard to developing Clusters where appropriate.

The Scrutiny Officer appraised Members through the summary feedback from the survey undertaken with Towns and Parishes (circulated with the Agenda for Committee members) and the key points were taken on board:

- If repeated, to be clear on questions e.g. Attendance
- Will the charter deliver what the Towns & Parishes want?
- Suggest that respondents are identifiable.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the points raised by Overview & Scrutiny members would be reflected in the report to be considered by Executive in July.

The Chair thanked Officers for their attendance and contributions.

5. TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR) FOR A FUTURE REVIEW

It was considered by Members that their initial questions and queries had been resolved and there was no current desire for a future spotlight review or task group into the main topic areas discussed.

There was a need for officers to ensure that Licencing, Economy and Planning are joined up to ensure that changes in one do not adversely affect or impact on the others.

6. NEXT MEETINGS AND CLOSE

The Chair highlighted the next meetings of the Committee and closed the meeting:

- Mandatory Overview & Scrutiny Training – 4 June 2026
- Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 16 June 2026
- Informal Overview and Scrutiny – 14 July 2026

The meeting started at 10:00am and ended at approximately 12:30pm.

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