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26 March 2026

EXECUTIVE

A meeting of the **Executive** will be held on **Tuesday, 7th April, 2026** in the **Council Chamber, Forde House, Brunel Road, Newton Abbot, TQ12 4XX** at **10.00 am**

PHIL SHEARS
Managing Director

Membership:

Councillors Buscombe, Hook, Keeling (Chair), Nuttall, Nutley, Palethorpe (Vice-Chair), Parrott, G Taylor and Williams

Please Note: Filming is permitted during Committee meeting with the exception where there are confidential or exempt items, which may need to be considered in the absence of the press and public. By entering the Council Chamber you are consenting to being filmed.

AGENDA

Part I

Executive Terms of Reference

The Executive's Terms of Reference is attached to the agenda pack for reference.

Public participation and attending meetings

Information pertaining to public participation rules and attending Council and Committee meetings can be found on the following webpage: [Public participation and attending meetings - Teignbridge District Council](#)

1. **Apologies for absence**
2. **Minutes** (Pages 5 - 10)
To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 10th March 2026.
3. **Announcements (if any)**
4. **Declarations of Interest (if any)**

Information pertaining to the Members' Code of Conduct and guidance relating to declaring interests can be found on the following webpage: [Teignbridge District Council – Councillor Conduct](#)

5. **Executive Forward Plan**

To note forthcoming decisions anticipated [on the Executive Forward Plan](#)

6. **Public Questions (if any)**

Members of the Public may ask questions of the Leader or an Executive Member. A maximum period of 15 minutes will be allowed with a maximum of period of three minutes per questioner.

7. **Crisis and Resilience Fund Approach** (Pages 11 - 36)

This report seeks approval to proceed with the implementation of a Crisis and Resilience Fund in Teignbridge. This replaces the existing schemes for Discretionary Housing Payments and the Household Support Fund as of 1 April 2026.

8. **Teignmouth Beach Management Plan** (Pages 37 - 46)

To adopt the Teignmouth Beach Management Plan.

9. **For Information - Individual Executive Member Decisions**

[Executive Member Decisions](#)

If you would like this information in another format, please telephone 01626 361101 or e-mail info@teignbridge.gov.uk

3.4 The Executive

3.4.1 Membership: The Executive consists of the Council's Leader, a Deputy Leader, together with up to eight other Councillors. The Leader is appointed by the Council. The Deputy Leader and up to eight Executive Members are appointed to the Executive by the Leader.

3.4.2 Areas of Work: The Role of the Executive is to carry out all of the Council's functions which are not the responsibility of any other part of the Council, whether by law or under this Constitution.

3.4.3 The Leader: The Leader of the Council is the chair of the Executive. Unless the law or circumstances direct otherwise, the Leader is elected to the position of Leader by the Council for a period of four years at the annual meeting immediately following the local government elections. The Leader will hold office until:

- (a) they resign from the office; or
- (b) they are suspended from being a councillor (although they may resume office at the end of the period of suspension); or
- (c) they are no longer a councillor; or
- (d) they are removed from office by resolution of the Council.

3.4.4 Executive Members: The areas of responsibility of each member of the Executive is determined solely by the Leader who may vary such during their term of office as they considers appropriate. Such members will exercise regular budget monitoring of the resources allocated by the Council for those purposes, monitor performance, strive to deliver the Council's Corporate Objectives, seek to achieve best value in the services for which they are responsible and have regard to the Council's other policies and strategic objectives.

3.4.5 Executive Members shall hold office until:

- (a) they resign from office; or
- (b) they are suspended from being councillors (although they may resume office at the end of the period of suspension); or
- (c) they are no longer councillors; or
- (d) they are removed from the Executive, either individually or collectively by the Leader of the Council.

3.4.6 Executive Decisions: The Leader, after consultation with the other members of the Executive and the Managing Director, will table at every meeting of the Executive a list of what they consider are **key decisions** and once this list has been approved such decisions shall not be taken other than by the full Executive. **Each member of the Executive is authorised to make the following decisions** without a meeting of the Executive. If an Executive Member is absent or otherwise unavailable to act the Leader (or in his absence, the Deputy Leader) may deputise.

- (a) Make any decision other than a key decision which is both within their remit and does not contravene Council approved policy and budget
- (b) Two or more Executive Members may jointly agree to make a decision which is within their collective remits
- (c) Before taking any decision under this delegation, the Executive Member shall, so far as is reasonably practicable, consult any Member whose ward is particularly affected by that decision and shall arrange for a copy of any report which they intend to take into account in coming to a decision to be made available to the Chair of the Overview/Scrutiny Committee and to the local Ward Member(s) if it relates to a local issue
- (d) As soon as is reasonably practicable, complete and sign a form provided by the Democratic Services Manager summarising any such decision they have made together with reference to the relevant report or other information which was taken into account by them.

3.4.7 **Key Decisions:** Unless otherwise provided by law, a key decision means an Executive decision which is likely:

- (a) To result in the local authority incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the local authority's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates. For this purpose significant expenditure or savings shall mean in the case of revenue any contract or proposal with an annual payment of more than £100,000; and in the case of capital, any project with a value in excess of £250,000; or
- (b) To be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the opinion of the relevant Director or the Managing Director. A decision taker may only make a key decision in accordance with the requirements of the Executive Procedure Rules set out in this Constitution.

3.4.8 **Notification of Key Decisions (whether individual or full Executive decisions)**

- (a) Once made, the decision will be notified to all Members of the Council within 2 clear working days.
- (b) The notice will bear the date on which it is published and will specify that the decision(s) which it records will come into force 5 working days after that date unless it is 'called in'. (Please see Section 8(b) for the Call in Procedure).

EXECUTIVE**10 MARCH 2026****Present:**

Councillors Buscombe, Hook, Keeling (Chair), Nuttall, Nutley, Palethorpe (Deputy Leader), Parrott, G Taylor and Williams

Members in Attendance:

Councillors Bullivant, Clarence, Cox and MacGregor

Officers in Attendance:

Charlie Fisher, Democratic Services Manager and Monitoring Officer
Tammy Hayes, Housing Solutions Lead
Michelle Luscombe, Head of Strategy and Partnerships
Christopher Morgan, Assistant Democratic Services Officer
Phil Shears, Managing Director
James Teed, Head of Leisure

10. MINUTES

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Keeling and SECONDED by Councillor Palethorpe and

RESOLVED

that the minutes of the previous meeting on Tuesday 10th March 2026 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS (IF ANY)

Councillor Williams made two announcements pertaining to the work at Osbourne Park to deter unauthorised encampments and the sufficiency of a local fuel supply to ensure that the Council's waste and recycling vehicles are able to operate.

12. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (IF ANY)

None received.

13. FEEDBACK FROM THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - TEIGNMOUTH LIDO CALL IN

The Chair used his discretion to move the agenda item up the order. The Executive considered the recommendation from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee from its meeting on Tuesday 3rd March 2026.

On Tuesday 10th February 2026, the Executive decided:

1. Not open the Teignmouth Lido site in 2026 and deliver a budget saving of £74k
2. Declare the Teignmouth Lido asset surplus to Council requirements and dispose of the freehold interest, as described in the title plan at Appendix C, on the open market, without setting restrictions as to future use.
3. The results of all bids be brought back to the September Executive meeting for consideration.

The first decision to not open for the 2026 season was called in by Councillors and discussed at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Tuesday 3rd March 2026. The Committee recommended that:

1. The Executive decision to not open the Teignmouth Lido site in 2026 is reconsidered and reversed.
2. The Executive works together with the local community and willing community groups to explore other solutions for how the Lido site can be operated in 2026, and details for any proposals to be submitted is given by the Executive in due course.

In coming to a final decision, the Executive should consider an Equality Impact Assessment and assessment of the economic and health impact of their decision.

The Executive considered the recommendation and an addendum paper prepared for the meeting highlighting the points raised in the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting.

At the invitation of the Chair, Councillors Cox, Clarence, MacGregor and Bullivant spoke to the item on a range of points including:

- Their reflections on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting and the view of local people in the meeting.
- Their support for the Lido being opened in 2026 either by a community group or by the Council.
- Personal anecdotes regarding their own use of the Lido and the local history of the Lido.
- Recognising the financial pressures on the Council.

The Head of Leisure commented on the highlighted areas of discussion from the Overview and Scrutiny meeting and gave a verbal update, summarising the addendum paper.

The Managing Director highlighted the financial pressures facing the Council in that the Council had set a budget with £1m taken from reserves and had not set a balanced budget for 7 consecutive years.

Councillors Palethorpe, Keeling, G Taylor and Hook spoke as part of the debate, highlighting:

- The strength of the community feeling for the Lido.
- Support for the recommendations proposed to open the Lido in the summer of 2026 by the Council.
- The financial pressures on the Council and the Modern 25 Programme.
- The longer-term ambition to ensure a community group operates the Lido and ensuring a positive working relationship with any Group who operates the Lido.
- Ensuring that the opening of the Lido is advertised and marketed to attract users.
- The future of assets considering Local Government Reorganisation.
- The tensions on decision makers that they must balance in making decisions.
- Linking the Lido to the One Teignbridge Strategy and the upcoming Active Wellbeing Strategy.
- The previous investment for decarbonisation works at the Lido.
- The quality of local bathing waters.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Palethorpe and **SECONDED** by Councillor G Taylor and

RESOLVED

That the Executive:

1. Notes the recommendation of Overview & Scrutiny to reconsider the decision not to open Teignmouth Lido in 2026.
2. Agrees to the ambition of opening Teignmouth Lido in the 2026 season, subject to any necessary maintenance and repair works to the site and the recruitment of staff.
3. Instructs officers to seek legal advice regarding procurement and Asset of Community Value (ACV) compliance.
4. Agrees that any proposal for community operation must:
 - A) follow a transparent and fair process.
 - B) comply with the Localism Act 2011.
 - C) comply with the Procurement Act 2023.
5. Notes that no binding commitment to transfer, lease or exclusive operation shall be entered into until legal and procurement compliance is confirmed.

At this juncture the meeting was adjourned to allow for Members of the Public to leave the public gallery.

Councillor Keeling left the meeting and Councillor Palethorpe assumed the Chair of the Meeting.

14. EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN

The Executive Forward Plan was noted.

15. PUBLIC QUESTIONS (IF ANY)

One question was received from Ms Nicola Hamblin, Clerk to Shaldon Parish Council, regarding Shaldon Beach and a written response was given by the Executive Member for Environment, Climate and Sustainability.

16. DEVON HOME CHOICE POLICY

The Executive considered a report to seek approval for the policy change to Devon Home Choice, the Social Housing Register for Teignbridge and Devon local authorities. The report was also appended by an Equality Impact Assessment.

Councillor Buscombe introduced the item and the recommendation.

Councillor G Taylor spoke to this item regarding the positive elements of the proposals and the Housing Needs Lead gave an overview of the positive impacts of the pilot.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Buscombe and **SECONDED** by Councillor Williams and

RESOLVED

The Executive approve the policy decision to offer an additional preference on the housing register for households seeking to downsize large family homes.

17. LOCAL PLAN TIMETABLE - LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

The Executive considered a report to seek approval to commence work on a new Local Plan for Teignbridge and agree a timetable and budget for the project.

Councillor MacGregor spoke to this item regarding the new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and in support of an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (now known as a National Landscape) for the Teign Estuary. The Head of Strategy and Policy gave a verbal response, pointing out the relevant section of the report (2.4.3).

Councillor G Taylor presented the report and gave an overview of the recommendations proposed, highlighting the Council's imminent new Local Plan, Government Housing targets and the requirements within the timetable. Councillor Taylor highlighted the Council had applied to the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) for additional funding, but the outcome was not confirmed at the time of the meeting. This funding was to meet some of the £105,000 budget needed for this work.

Councillors Parrott and Palethorpe spoke to this item, highlighting the wider context of budget pressures on the Council, support of the Local Plan Working

Group to provide cross-party support and in support of the recommendations proposed.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor G Taylor and **SECONDED** by Councillor Williams and

RESOLVED

That the Executive:

1. Commence preparation of the Teignbridge Local Plan 2029–2044, prioritising actions to address the shortfall in housing provision created by the updated standard method calculations.
2. Agree the Local Development Scheme as set out in Appendix 1 to come into effect on 20 March 2026.
3. Agree a budget of £105,000 for year one of the project (2026/27).
4. Reconvene the Local Plan Working Group as per the Terms of Reference set out in Appendix 2.

18. FOR INFORMATION - INDIVIDUAL EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISIONS

Noted.

The meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 10.54 am.

Chairman

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**Teignbridge District Council
Executive
7th April 2026
Part i**

Crisis and Resilience Fund

Purpose of Report

This report seeks approval to proceed with the implementation of a Crisis and Resilience Fund in Teignbridge. This replaces the existing schemes for Discretionary Housing Payments and the Household Support Fund as of 1 April 2026.

To facilitate the expedited launch of this scheme, delegated authority is required to the Head of Housing and Housing Needs Lead to develop the delivery plan and operational arrangements for the scheme.

Recommendation(s)

The Committee RESOLVES to:

- (1) Implement the Teignbridge Crisis and Resilience Fund as soon as it is reasonably practicable to do so.
- (2) Approve the implementation approach set out in Appendix 1
- (3) Delegate authority to the Head of Housing and the Housing Needs Lead, in consultation with the Executive Member for Housing and Homelessness, to create and develop the required crisis and resilience fund arrangements in accordance with the Government's guidance and to implement the scheme; and to prepare a CaRF Delivery Plan for submission to government as required in July 2026.
- (4) That a report on the initial period of implementation of the scheme is provided to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee within six months

Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. The funding for the Crisis and Resilience fund is being provided by Government via Devon County Council and the reasonable costs of administering the scheme will be met from this funding. Further financial considerations concerning the use of the are outlined in the relevant section below.

Legal or Governance Implications

There are no direct legal or governance implications arising from this report. The Council will need to comply with the Government guidance in its administration of the fund. The main relevant considerations are outlined in the relevant section below.

Risk Assessment

There is a short timetable to establish the fund and have it available to support

residents and there is a risk that its introduction is delayed. Intensive preparation is underway to minimise any delay in the fund being available. There is a risk that the arrangements are not sufficiently well developed or robust at the time the scheme goes live. To mitigate this risk there will be a short period of internal testing before the online application form is launched.

Housing Needs Lead
Email: tammy.hayes@teignbridge.gov.uk

Environmental/ Climate Change Implications

There are no direct implications. The resilience support will, where appropriate, provide referral of applicants to suitable advice to manage their energy usage and costs to support their future financial resilience.

Name/Title of person giving advice
Email: @teignbridge.gov.uk

Report Author

Housing Needs Lead
Email: tammy.hayes@teignbridge.gov.uk

Executive Member

Councillor Richard Buscombe, Executive Member for Housing and Homelessness

Appendices/Background Papers

Appendix 1 - Crisis and Resilience Fund - Implementation Approach
Appendix 2 – Crisis and Resilience Fund – Equality Impact Assessment

EIA Attached Yes

1. Introduction/Background

2. Background

The Household Support Fund (HSF) and Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP) end on 31st March 2026. From 1st April 2026, the Crisis and Resilience Fund (CaRF) replaces both schemes and will operate until 31st March 2029.

CaRF is designed to support low-income households who encounter a financial shock, where this is sudden, related to an unexpected expense or drop in income. Local Authorities are responsible for the implementation of the CaRF which has the following components:

- Housing Payments
- Crisis Payments
- Resilience Services
- Community Co-ordination

The primary objective of CaRF is to provide local resilience to enable individuals and communities to better deal with financial difficulties in the long-term, reducing crisis need.

The funding is made by the Government to Devon County Council. DCC’s Cabinet met on 11th March 2026 and received a report which set out the county-wide measures to be implemented under this scheme and the devolvement of funding to district councils for the remainder of the scheme.

For the period 1st April 2026 to 31st March 2028 (the first two years of the three-year allocation) TDC will receive the funding for the Housing Payment component of CaRF. This replaces the current direct award of DHP funding. From year 3 onwards (1st April 2028 to 31st March 2029), unitary and county councils that continue to operate (subject to LGR), will receive this funding.

Past allocation and awards

The table below shows the DHP and HSF funding received and payments made from 2023/4 – 2025/26.

	DHP applications	Funding Received	Funding Awarded	HSF applications	Funding Received	Funding Awarded
2025/26	334 to date	£163,919.00	£156,377 to date	605 to date	£87,503.00	On target
2024/25	322	£163,919.00	£167,922.00	408	£60,023.51	£60,023.51
2023/24	372	£163,919.00	£161,247.00	HSF 5 436 HSF 4 483	£42,402.28 £121,151.18	£42,402.28 £121,151.18

Note: 25/26 position as at mid-March 2026

Housing Payments

The provisions for Housing payments will closely replicate existing DHP guidelines and will adopt a phased transition over the 3-year period.

The new Housing Payments will provide financial support towards housing costs and is paid by Teignbridge District Council when the Council is satisfied that an applicant requires further financial assistance with housing costs. These payments can be made to claimants who are entitled to either:

- Housing Benefit (HB); or
- Universal Credit (UC) housing element (this includes Shared Ownership properties which carry a rental liability); and
- have a rental liability; and
- require further financial assistance with housing costs.

Crisis and Resilience Non-Housing Payments

The Non-Housing Payments element of CaRF which replaces the Household Support Fund has the following elements:

- Crisis payments to those in immediate difficulty – The Council will operate an open application process providing for rapid assessment and award
- Resilience Servicest – working with individuals to help stabilise their future financial position to help to avoid future crisis. It is envisaged that the Council will provide this support directy and also through working with a number of community partners
- Community Coordination – To strengthen support within the community to build financial resilience. The Council will work with community partners to develop local capacity and support arrangements.

Teignbridge District Council will be expected to operate an open application process for support all year round through the devolved funding. This will replicate a similar online form and support via the telephone to make applications which has operated for the Household Support Fund.

An initial implementation plan has been created, informed by Government guidance, and this is at Appendix 1. This will require establishing internal operational arrangements and processes and entering into arrangements with external voluntary and community sector organisations with development and finalisation of these delegated to relevant officers. This is a new fund and its implementation will evolve as approaches are tested and learning is gained.

The Council will establish arrangements and staffing resources to administer the crisis payments and provide resilience support funded through the scheme. Applications for financial support through the CaRF application will be assessed and whilst seeking to support with immediate crisis payments will offer additional support to tackle the root causes of financial difficulties. The reasonable costs of administering the scheme will be met from the CaRF funding.

CaRF will require routine reporting of expenditure to DCC and DWP, in a similar way as for DHP and HSF processes. The detail of exact reporting is yet to be fully defined but will be done so within the guidelines of the grant and in collaboration with Devon County Council and other Devon Local Authorities.

2 Implications, Risk Management and Climate Change Impact

Financial

The CRF is a new consolidated revenue grant that will be delivered through the Local Government Finance Settlement from the financial year ending (FYE) March 2027. The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government is providing funding to Authorities under Section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003, to administer the Fund. Authorities have discretion on exactly how this funding is used within the scope set out in the Government guidance and the Grant Determination Letter.

All applications will be recorded on our IT systems and be subject to monitoring and audit requirements. We will monitor the scheme monthly to ensure that expenditure is within budget and is correctly profiled throughout the financial year.

All payments must be made in accordance with the guidance issued by the DWP. Failure to adhere to the guidance may result in Teignbridge District Council needing to refund any misspent funds to DWP.

Fraud Risks

Teignbridge District Council is committed to the fight against fraud in all its forms. A customer who tries to fraudulently claim CaRF by falsely declaring their circumstances, providing a false statement or evidence in support of their application, may have committed an offence under the theft act 1968 or the fraud act 2006.

Where the service suspects that such a fraud may have occurred, the matter will be investigated as appropriate, and this may lead to criminal proceedings being instigated. The new scheme is required to offer a “cash first” approach which may increase the risk of fraudulent applications. CaRF procedures will be developed with support from Audit to mitigate the risks of fraudulent applications.

3.1 Legal or Governance

The CRF Grant Conditions are contained within the Guidance. The Guidance provides the following key provisions that the Council needs to be aware of:

- **Clawback/repayment - paragraph 130 of the Guidance:** If the recipient Authority fails to comply with any of the conditions set out in this guidance or the Grant Determination, or if any overpayment is made under this grant, or any amount is paid in error, or any unspent funding at the end of Year 3 is not returned, the Minister may reduce, suspend or withhold grant payments, or require the repayment of the whole or any part of the CRF grant monies paid, as may be determined by the Minister and notified in writing to the recipient Authority. The list below contains examples of a breach of the grant conditions:
 - Inappropriate use of funding or no evidence of funding having been spent on the specified purpose.
 - Failure to submit one or more of the documents as specified in the CRF Grant Determination.
- **Audit - paragraph 130 of the Guidance:** DWP retain the right to undertake audits at any time, should it be considered appropriate and necessary.
- **Fraud – paragraph 149 of the Guidance:** The Authority must maintain a sound system of internal governance and financial controls in relation to the grant. If the Authority has any grounds for suspecting financial irregularity in the use of any grant paid under the determination, it must notify DWP immediately, explain what steps are being taken to investigate the suspicion and keep DWP informed about the progress of the investigation. For these purposes ‘financial irregularity’ includes fraud or other impropriety, mismanagement and the use of the grant for purposes other than those for which it was provided.

- Subsidy Control – paragraph 152 of the Guidance: The Fund should not be used for any economic undertaking. Whichever way the Authority uses the funding, including work in partnership with others, all Subsidy rules (previously State Aid) issues should be considered. Check whether the ‘de minimis’ regulation exception applies. We will also follow Government procurement procedures where relevant.
- Reporting and Management Information (MI) – paragraph 177 of the Guidance: Authorities must comply with DWP’s reporting and MI requirements. This includes submitting an annual delivery plan and providing MI returns on a six-monthly basis.

Public Sector Equality Duty

In accordance with the Public Sector Equality Duty, DWP has had due regard to the potential equalities impacts of this grant. Under the Equality Act 2010, all public authorities must comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty. For the purposes of this grant and the distribution of funding, the Council must have due regard to the need to:

- put an end to unlawful behaviour that is banned by the Equality Act 2010, including discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- advance equal opportunities between people who have a protected characteristic and those who do not
- foster good relations between people who have a protected characteristic and those who do not

When developing local delivery frameworks, people must not be disadvantaged or treated unfairly. The Council must also consider the public sector equality act when developing delivery frameworks which may impact those with protected characteristics.

An Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken for the policy and further equality impact assessments will be undertaken when developing the resilience framework.

Housing Payments may only be made under Housing Benefit regulations and in accordance with case law. This does not prevent Crisis Payments being made available, where appropriate, if ineligible for Housing Payment.

3.1.6 Environmental/Climate Change Impact

CaRF is aimed primarily at tackling the root causes of financial hardship and energy costs may be a contributing factor. Assessments of applications will have regard to these costs and support households to receive energy advice and support. This will not only potentially support long-term financial resilience but also support in reducing energy costs and usage including repairs to boilers, etc.

4. Alternative Options

The Executive may choose to not approve the proposed approach. This will result in a delay in the Council being able to open the scheme for applications and for payments to be made until such time that an approach can be agreed. It should be noted that households currently receiving Free School Meals during school holidays are expected to cease receiving these payments and to the operation of the scheme, may directly impact households with children that are in financial difficulty. Teignbridge has around 5000 children in receipt of free school meals.

The Executive may decline to delegate responsibility for the development of resilience services to the Head of Housing and Housing Needs Lead. As part of a test and learn approach to building community resilience in collaboration with voluntary and community groups, we would not be able to respond in an agile way. Each agreement with individual and collective community groups will need to be referred to committee as individual reports for sign off, delaying mobilisation. Devon County Council are yet to define their specific actions and have delegated authority to develop and test these, and the Council would be less able to align with their approach as it develops.

The Executive may choose to not directly administer the CaRF in full, (housing payments must be made by TDC) with the option of seeking an alternative Devon Local Authority to deliver on behalf of TDC or to outsource the delivery of this function through procurement. This would impact on the ability of the Council to offer a one front door approach to local financial support and resilience support and would significantly delay the launch of the scheme. There has been no current suggestion within Devon Districts to administer the scheme on behalf of other districts given the need to build genuinely local support networks in communities.

Conclusion

The Executive is asked to approve the recommendations set out above, which are to:

- (1) Implement the Teignbridge Crisis and Resilience Fund as soon as it is reasonably practicable to do so.
- (2) Approve the implementation approach set out in Appendix 1
- (3) Delegate authority to the Head of Housing and the Housing Needs Lead, in consultation with the Executive Member for Housing and Homelessness, to create and develop the required crisis and resilience fund arrangements in accordance with the Government's guidance and to implement the scheme; and to prepare a CaRF Delivery Plan for submission to government as required in July 2026.
- (4) That a report on the initial period of implementation of the scheme is provided to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee within six months

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Teignbridge Crisis and Resilience Fund – Implementation Approach

1. Background

The Government have announced the Crisis and Resilience Fund (CaRF) will be available to local authorities from 1st April 2026. This scheme is to support low-income households who encounter a financial shock and to support activity and services that builds individual and communities financial resilience. This scheme will be operational until 31st March 2029. It is important to note, this scheme is not a direct replacement for Household Support Fund which ends 31st March 2026 but supports a shift in direction to a more targeted support rather than broad support interventions.

CaRF includes specified funding for housing support, which replaces the current Discretionary Housing Payments (DHPs) administered by District Councils. District Councils will continue to administer the Housing Support element of CaRF for 2026- 27 and 2027-28, merging with the rest of the CaRF in 2028-29. Plans to merge will need to be developed and implemented prior to 2028-29.

The fund has been made available to local authorities (LAs) in England primarily to:

- support low-income households who encounter a financial shock (a sudden, unexpected expense or drop in income) and,
- support activity that builds individual and community financial resilience
- and to bolster the local-level support landscape.

There are 3 key outcomes this funding will be used to achieve:

Outcome 1: Provision of effective crisis support through delivery of effective crisis support which is intended to prevent the occurrence or escalation of individuals' crises. By offering timely, needs-based assistance to those with low incomes facing financial shocks, Authorities can reduce the risk of crisis need. This includes the provision of financial support towards housing needs, to those who face a shortfall in meeting their housing costs.

Outcome 2: Improving individuals' financial resilience by strengthening financial resilience among individuals, empowering residents to better manage financial shocks and mitigate the occurrence, recurrence and escalation of crises.

CaRF requires related and competent wraparound advice and support to build household financial resilience (capacity and capability); moving them to a more sustainable financial footing. Financial wraparound resilience services need to be provided responsibly, by accredited, competent, qualified resources, such as those legally defined to provide local welfare provision, such as district councils and

/or others accredited/authorised to do so competently such as Citizens Advice Devon and others in the VCSE sector.

Outcome 3: Bolstering the local-level support landscape through a joined-up, visible local support network is key to the CaRF's approach to build financial resilience. This includes strengthening resilience networks within local communities, that in turn boost the financial resilience of individuals in these communities.

This coordination will enable a suitable range of resilience services to exist within a local area and ensure there are clear referral pathways between them and the necessary support. Through effective joined-up approach of local support services, Authorities expect those seeking crisis support to be appropriately referred to services that build their individual financial resilience. This is a transformational opportunity to improve the information and advice network, where no door is the wrong door to providing the help and resilience support households require; with a tell it once ethos. This will help to prevent crises arising through early intervention.

Authorities must allocate the CRF funding across the following CRF components:

- Crisis Payment: Providing support to those in crisis
- Housing Payment: Providing financial support towards housing needs, to those who face a shortfall in meeting their housing costs
- Resilience Services: Funding for services delivered by Authorities or external providers to improve financial resilience
- Community Coordination: Investment in activities that connect and enhance the local support landscape

In line with the CaRF guidance, Teignbridge District Council will adopt the following principles to deliver the scheme:

- person-centred to ensure that people's preferences, needs and values stay central to professional decisions, providing support that is respectful to them
- needs-based to recognise the varied circumstances that individuals may experience, seeking to meet underlying needs, not just crisis symptoms
- holistic integrated support that helps the individual and their households, by the Council considering the wide range of services and actions they have access to
- encompass a no wrong door approach to connect individuals to the right service and support through warm referrals, regardless of their point of contact
- adopting a trauma informed approach when working with people and families in crisis through the six principles of trauma-informed practice: safety, trust, choice, collaboration, empowerment and cultural consideration

2. Introduction

Devon County Council have been allocated 8.4 million for delivery of the Crisis and Resilience Fund. At the time of this policy, it has yet to be determined the district allocations from this funding. The Council's approach will be updated once this information is available.

Crisis Payment: Providing support to those in crisis

Teignbridge District Council will offer an open application process throughout this scheme. This will be available online through our website. For households without digital access, support to complete the online form will be available from Customer Support and a range of partners across the district, including voluntary and charitable organisations, housing providers and support services and will accept applications made by third parties with consent from the applicant.

2.1 Eligibility

- any applicant aged 16 or over and;
- resident in Teignbridge and;
- unable to access alternative funding or solution and;
- is in financial hardship as a result financial shock or reduction in income and;
- if applying more than once for financial support has been supported through resilience advice and support or now willing to access support.

CaRF is intended to meet occasional/short term needs and is not intended to provide an alternative source of repeat or regular income.

Whilst repeat applications will be assessed on a case-by-case basis, applicants will be offered resilience services to tackle the root causes of the financial hardship. These may include money and debt advice services or other community support.

Households who have no recourse to public funds will not usually be eligible for Crisis Payments, however an application may be assessed on case-by-case basis to establish what the needs are and any duties that may owed where a safeguarding concern or care and welfare need is presented. This may include referral to other services, such as Social Care.

2.3 Applications

All applications will be assessed in a person-centred trauma informed way. We will request evidence of the applicants' circumstances to fully assess the reasons for crisis and inform of resilience support available to the applicant as part of the application. The evidence requested may vary depending on the reasons the household need assistance, but are likely to include:

- Proof of ID
- Proof of National Insurance Number
- Bank statements for the last 3 months for all accounts held by the adults in the household
- Proof of address
- Any supporting evidence

Whilst we aim to provide assistance with ease to customers to access, it is necessary to ensure that we are administering public funds correctly. If applicants' are struggling to provide any evidence, support will be offered to help obtain this information and only evidence that is necessary to process a payment will be sought.

2.4 Assessment

Households will need to demonstrate they are on a "low income". There is no requirement to be on welfare benefits to be eligible.

Financial shock may be defined as a sudden or unexpected expenditure or reduction in income that is causing financial hardship. The scheme will also consider payments to prevent a household from entering crisis. Some examples include:

- disasters - these will normally be unforeseen and result in significant damage to, or loss of, possessions or property, such as a serious flood or fire, gas explosion or a chemical leak
- accident, health emergency or mental health crisis, leading to unplanned spending or incurring increased expenses
- when an applicant is experiencing domestic abuse and leaving an abusive relationship/partner and needs immediate help, such as moving into an unfurnished property and needing help with furniture and appliances
- breakage of an essential item, for example a boiler, medical equipment or white goods
- when the applicant has a short-term gap in regular income, for example, due to redundancy or a significant change in working pattern

2.5 Eligible Expenditure.

There is no prescriptive list specifying eligible expenditure for Crisis Payments; it is at the Authority's discretion to determine appropriate support by taking a person-centred, needs-based approach. However, it may include awarding a Crisis Payment to support:

- food
- water including for drinking, washing, cooking, as well as for sanitary purposes and sewerage
- housing costs (where the applicant is ineligible for housing payments within the Crisis and Resilience Fund)

- period and hygiene products such as soap and toothpaste
- energy for any form of fuel that is used for the purpose of domestic heating, cooking or lighting, including oil or portable gas cylinders
- clothing including uniform, warm winter clothing and shoes
- essential furniture and appliances such as beds and bedding, washing machines, window coverings and carpets, fridge-freezers and ovens
- essential transport-related costs such as repairing a car, buying a bicycle or bus pass or paying for fuel
- digital and connectivity essentials such as broadband or phone bills

2.6 Savings/Assets

When assessing an applicant's need for financial support and any appropriate referrals, we will take account of the resources available to the applicant and their household, including savings or other assets. Where an applicant cannot immediately access these assets but can demonstrate that they are actively taking steps to release them, interim support through CaRF may still be considered appropriate.

To encourage households to build financial resilience, we aim to support long-term financial management rather than discourage saving. Therefore, we will disregard savings up to **£3,000** when assessing eligibility. This ensures that applicants are not penalised for maintaining modest savings or deterred from saving in the future.

Savings over £500 will be considered but may be disregarded further if there are specific reasons to do so. Examples may include:

1. an applicant may need a car for work and has saved for emergency car repairs. If they are applying for crisis support for a reason other than car repairs or transport costs, it may be considered reasonable to hold this level of savings to ensure financial resilience in the future and protect the opportunity to remain employed.
2. Savings towards rent in advance and deposit so that they can move to more affordable or settled accommodation which would improve their overall financial and housing stability

2.7 Telephone Assessment

Once an application has been made online the applicant will be contacted by our team to discuss the application.

This is an opportunity for the applicant to share their circumstances in more detail and allows us to better understand the needs they may have. Our team will discuss the reasons for submitting an application,

go through the income and expenditure and may make recommendations on how to build financial resilience longer term or utilise their income more effectively. This may include:

- Referrals to money and debt advice / budgeting advice
- Income maximisation – benefits check to see if they may be able to claim for any other benefits
- Options to move to more affordable accommodation
- Support to increase income through employment or training
- Opportunities within local voluntary and community organisations for additional local support
- Referrals to energy advice
- Referral to Housing Solutions if they may be at risk of homelessness and need housing advice

All referrals will only be made in agreement with the applicant and a decision to not accept further advice and support will not prevent a crisis payment being made.

Applications made by trusted partners, such as Citizens Advice, Community and Voluntary Sector who have received specific training on the scheme will be considered warm referrals. Providing all the necessary evidence is provided, an assessment will be completed without the need to contact the applicant wherever possible. If further information is required, we will contact the organisation who completed the referral.

2.8 Awards

Crisis Payments will have a number of potential options that can be offered to the applicant. These include:

- Post Office voucher which can be exchanged for cash
- Supermarket/High Street Vouchers which can be used to buy food and other smaller essentials such as kettles, cutlery, microwaves
- Payment against a debt – this could be a direct payment of an energy bill, mobile phone bill or council tax arrears
- Purchasing goods on their behalf such as white goods, essential furniture such as beds, sofa etc

The amount awarded will be dependent on the needs of each case. However it is not intended in the scheme to make high level awards but to support the applicant out of immediate financial hardship and offer referrals to enable the household to build their own financial resilience for the future.

As a guideline, we anticipate payments between £50- £500 per application dependent on the needs of the applicant, their financial position, their current circumstances and the size of their household.

2.9 Repeat Applications

Crisis Payments are intended to meet a short-term one-off need as a result of financial shock. Therefore, it is not intended that repeat applications will be awarded.

Each application will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Where a repeat application is made and the applicant has followed the advice and assistance provided by the district council (and/or other agencies to which they were referred in the original application), then a further award may be considered.

Where an applicant has declined further support to build financial resilience, or address the root causes for financial hardship, then a further application may not be awarded.

2.10 Declined Awards

Where an applicant applies for a Crisis Payment but it has been declined, the reasons for doing so are likely to include:

- having no defined crisis beyond a low income
- applying for funds for items, debts or services that are not essential
- have funds available to them to provide for their needs
- are not resident in Teignbridge
- have applied previously and failed to follow advice provided to them and unwilling to do so on a repeat application
- there are alternative schemes available for the purpose of their needs i.e. financial support for prepayment meters from Citizens Advice, Housing payment element through CaRF

We will not therefore make a crisis payment award. We will however work with the applicant to identify alternative support where appropriate.

2.11 Notification of Award Decision

All applicants will be notified in writing of the outcome of their application. This will include an explanation of any reason/s why an award has not been made and how to submit a request to review this decision

2.12 Review of Decision

An applicant has the right to request a review of the decision made for a Crisis Payment within 21 days of the decision being issued. A review request must be made in writing either by email to housingoptions@teignbridge.gov.uk or letter to Housing Needs Lead, Teignbridge District Council, Forde House, Brunel Road, Newton Abbot, TQ12 4XX.

A senior officer not involved with the original decision making, will review the application and evidence provided by the applicant to establish if there has been any maladministration on the application within 56 days of receiving the review request. A response to the review will be made in writing to the applicant.

Any award is at the discretion of the local authority but we will ensure any decision is subject to the principles of fairness, reasonableness and lawfulness.

A decision on a CaRF award does not carry a right of appeal to a Social Security Tribunal. The route of judicial review is available, and a complaint may be made to the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman if there is an allegation of maladministration or service failure.

3. Housing Payments

Housing Payments have replaced Discretionary Housing Payments. They will be administered in the same manner as Discretionary Housing Payments and are subject to the same legislation.

An application for a Housing Payment may be made if the applicant is in receipt of:

- housing benefit or;
- housing element of Universal Credit and need more financial support with housing costs

Housing Payments can support with housing costs including those affected by:

- the benefit cap
- spare room subsidy in the social housing sector (bedroom tax)
- local housing allowance rates

Housing Payments may cover costs such as:

- a rent shortfall
- rent deposits, rent in advance and/or removal costs if you have been assessed as homeless or threatened with homelessness by Teignbridge Housing Solutions team or are moving to more affordable housing or downsizing a social housing property

Review of a Decision

If the applicant disagrees with a decision, they may ask for us to look at the decision again. The request can be made in writing or by an email, sent to revandbens@teignbridge.gov.uk within one month of the date of the decision being challenged.

The claimant will be notified of any review outcome in writing, including reasons, as soon as is reasonably practical.

A decision on a Housing Payment does not carry a right of appeal to a Social Security Tribunal. The route of judicial review is available; and a complaint may be made to the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman if there is an allegation of maladministration

4. Resilience Services

As part of the core strands of the Crisis and Resilience Fund, Devon County Council will be coordinating a county wide approach to improving financial resilience. Wraparound resilience services will need to meet a range of resilience outcomes, such as:

- Increased savings

- Reduction in priority debt
- Reduced need for emergency food parcels
- Reduced experiences of material deprivation
- Maximising individual's income
- Decreased repeat crisis support applications
- Increased quality and accessible advice

They will be funding additional financial support through money and debt advice across the county from the CaRF funding across Devon. They will also be funding work through the Devon Community Foundation similar to the previous Household Support Fund work in relation to food, fuel and VCSE Schemes.

Teignbridge District Council will be working towards delivering wraparound support both in house through specially trained advisors to support in the application process, income maximisation and general advice and support, warm referrals to existing services such as debt and money advice and seeking to develop community based wraparound services through the Voluntary and Community Sector.

We will undertake proactive work towards identifying cohorts using data we hold to identify households who may be in financial difficulties and would benefit from additional advice and support. We have identified a number of households currently experiencing difficulties maintaining council tax payments and so will be looking to make contact with these households to offer additional support.

Other areas may include those who have overpayments of housing benefit, subject to the benefit cap or have other debts with the local authority.

5. Community Coordination:

TDC in collaboration with Devon County Council will invest in activities that connect and enhance the local support landscape.

This will include a programme to provide “Advice First Aid” training to all VCSE organisations to support residents access advice and support. This will further enable a one front door approach and warm referrals that will limit the repetition for customers explaining their circumstances and needs. A referral process will be embedded across services to facilitate getting the right help to the person in a timely manner in a trauma informed way.

“Help Hubs” will be available for areas who express an interest in holding one in their parish/ward offering a one off drop in service for residents to obtain support to get assistance with their financial needs. These will be developed to join existing hub models such as community centre events already in place so services are joining existing well attended events locally.

We will also be setting up a Test and Learn model for rural/coastal accessibility of Crisis and Resilience support and financial assistance to better understand how we can help those in rural areas who do not apply as readily for assistance.

Equality Impact Assessment



Assessment Of: Crisis and Resilience Fund	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Strategy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Function <input type="checkbox"/> Service <input type="checkbox"/> Other [please state]	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Already exists / review <input type="checkbox"/> Changing
Directorate:	Assessment carried out by: Tammy Hayes
Service Area: Housing	Job Role: Housing Needs Lead
Version / Date Of Sign Off By Director:	

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 purpose of this Equality Analysis is to assess the impact of the new Crisis and Resilience Fund implementation approach. The Crisis and Resilience Fund (CaRF) replaces Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP) and the Household Support Fund (HSF) from 1 April 2026. Teignbridge District Council will deliver Housing Payments, Crisis Payments, Resilience Services and Community Co-ordination to support low-income households experiencing financial shock and build long-term resilience.

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 [please select]
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This scheme is designed to offer an opportunity to provide crisis payments to residents that have had a financial shock and provide resilience wraparound support to enable households to build their future financial resilience.

Cost of Living pressures are more likely to impact:

- Low-income households of all ages/composition,
- Household containing a child/children/young people
- Households of pensionable age, on low incomes - especially the case now for those not eligible for Pension Credit and therefore the means tested Winter Fuel Payment.
- Households in receipt of Housing Benefit only, and who may not be eligible for any additional Government support.
- Households containing people with physical disabilities, who may use more energy in relation to their disability or tools/equipment required to support them in their daily lives, e.g. charging machinery, maintaining a defined room temperature.

We know that single parent households with children, single income households (with one source of income – many carers of people of adult age may fall into this category), households of Asian, black and other ethnic minorities, homeless, gypsy and travellers as well as those with mental health issues may be disproportionately impacted by the Cost of Living crisis

This scheme aims to support opportunities to improve quality of life, health, income and standard of living for households who are on a low income and impacted by a financial shock which may be a sudden and unpredicted expenditure or loss of income.

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, religion/belief and sexual orientation.

Data / Evidence Source <i>[Include a reference where known]</i>	Summary of what this tells us
Household Support Fund	<p>HSF has been delivered by TDC since 2021 and offered financial support for households in hardship.</p> <p>Data from HSF has been reported to Government and DCC to support the development of the guidance for CaRF</p>

Data / Evidence Source <i>[Include a reference where known]</i>	Summary of what this tells us
	Our local data for latest round of HSF demonstrates 50% of all applications are from social housing tenants, 99% are in receipt of welfare benefits. 67% have children and 29% are in receipt of disability benefits.
DWP Evaluation of Household Support Fund	The vast majority of HSF4 recipients (98%) reported at least one positive benefit from their award, the nature and duration of which depended on the type of award(s) received and the circumstances of the household. The most commonly reported benefits included helping afford food and groceries (78%), energy and utility bills (60%), keeping homes warm in cold weather (58%), and helping avoid having to borrow money (61%). Many recipients also cited additional benefits, including improved personal and household wellbeing, reduced stress and anxiety, enhanced personal confidence and increased levels of pride. Just under one third (32%) felt more confident of being better able to manage their household finances in the future. The duration of the benefits reported varied from a few days (for example, amongst households receiving food vouchers for the school holidays) to a few months or more (for example, amongst those receiving advice on household finances).

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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Age	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disability	<input type="checkbox"/> Gender Reassignment
<input type="checkbox"/> Marriage and Civil Partnership	<input checked="" 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.

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CaRF is a new scheme. Whilst it is being brought in after HSF ends, it is a new approach and therefore data from HSF can only partly inform the approach. HSF had direct payments built in, including support for Free School Meals during school holidays and payments made to older persons on certain benefits without the need for an application.

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.

Both Devon County Council and TDC have sought input from VCSE organisations to support the delivery of the new scheme. This is a test and learn approach to delivery over the next 3 years and we intend to continue to collaborate to develop the scheme continuously throughout the next 3 years to ensure we meet the current needs, but also emerging needs of residents.

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.

Ongoing cross district collaboration with DCC will continue at least monthly for the first 6 months of the scheme. TDC will be working directly with accredited advice and debt/money services and the wider community and voluntary sector to deliver the scheme. This will include stakeholder events and one to one meetings.

We will also be continuing with customer feedback to understand how customers are finding the scheme and what improvements could be made within the guidance.

We will take a proactive approach to reaching some cohorts of residents that may be more at risk of financial hardship, or indeed, known to us as having difficulty in maintaining payments owed to the council to see if additional support can assist them. This may include households struggling to pay for council tax, have housing benefit overpayments or are reliant on oil source heating who may be facing higher pressures due to global events.

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)	
There are no identified adverse impact on protected groups. The open application process enables all residents to apply for support and to be assessed on a case by case basis.	
PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS	
Age: Young People	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	Young people are often on lower incomes. Care experienced young people may be particularly at risk from cost of living related pressures.
Mitigations:	Direct proactive support and awareness raising with Care experienced young people will be undertaken through our current partnerships and with DCC Leaving Care teams to ensure they are represented in applications where needed.
Age: Older People	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	This new scheme does not allow for direct payment awards without an assessment process. As such, we need to ensure older persons are able to access online forms and newsletters or identify other means to ensure they are aware of the support and assistance that is available.
Mitigations:	Staff Training and awareness raising with all partners including community groups, older person specific accommodation, registered housing providers, support services, NHS provisions (GPs/social prescribers) and offering telephone support to apply on behalf of the applicant for any one digitally excluded or unable to use online services due to disability or other special reason
Disability	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	Households with disabilities may be more likely to be experiencing cost of living pressures. This may be higher than average use of energy in order to keep homes warmer.
Mitigations:	Applications will ask for the applicant to identify if they have a disability and a direct call to the applicant (or referral agency) will take place to understand how their disability is being impacted so we can apply full regard to their application
Sex	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	With Free School Meals over school holidays ending, women are more likely to be impacted by cost of living pressures as more women have dependent children
Mitigations:	Early notification to advise of the changes to those impacted is being arranged by DCC and how to obtain support through local authority crisis payments routes.
Sexual orientation	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	
Mitigations:	
Pregnancy / Maternity	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	
Mitigations:	
Gender reassignment	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Potential impacts:	
Mitigations:	
Race	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	Asian, Black and other ethnic minority communities who are not accessing support through other channels may be less likely to access support through the fund.
Mitigations:	Awareness training through community groups to help identify those most in need of assistance through the fund.
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:	CaRF guidance stipulates applicants must be considered to be on a low income. This is not intended to only be households on benefits but is likely to form the majority of successful applications.
Mitigations:	We will be offering a case-by-case assessment on all applications. The protected characteristics whilst considered, are secondary to the financial shock and financial position of the applicant in terms of eligibility and award. There is no blanket policy on the award type or amount for any application. Low income will be based on DWP reports of low income nationally.
Other group(s) 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	
Potential impacts:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traveller, Gypsy and Roma communities and / or • Homeless people and those in temporary or insecure housing and / or • Households suffering ill-health which has a direct impact on household income and an ability to meet food and energy bills
Mitigations:	We will work with the VCSE to ensure awareness and support is available to apply and receive support. Direct support will be offered via housing options and support services for any homeless households to apply

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 decisions to provide CaRF financial support to a household being made on the household's financial situation. A household's attributes, such as those in this section, are not taken into account in deciding whether to provide CaRF assistance, as decisions are made on the households financial situation, the financial shock being faced and opportunity to improve matters on a case by case basis. Resilience support to access services will be available for any household eligible to apply for CaRF and tailored to their needs.

The focus in this new fund on developing resilience has the potential to be of assistance to those groups with Protected Characteristics who are more likely to be on lower-incomes or face financial shocks and hardship.

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:

Online application forms may have negative impact for those unable to access online services. To mitigate against this, proactive work will be undertaken with Town and Parish Councils in rural areas, VCSE training and support to assist people to apply or to apply on their behalf and over the telephone applications for vulnerable applicants unable to complete online forms will be made available.

Additional support will be offered to support these groups to provide relevant documents, evidence and to ensure full access to wraparound support based on their needs.

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

As a test and learn approach is required for CaRF, EIA reviews will be more frequent in order to continue to develop the learning and utilise ongoing stakeholder and resident feedback to help inform these as the scheme progresses.

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
The EIA will be reviewed ahead of implementation of the scheme to ensure it is reflective of ongoing consultation with stakeholders	Tammy Hayes	May 2026

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.

Through data collection and analysis of those applying for assistance and the outcome of their applications.

Through periodic review of the EIA and the Council's approach in order to introduce additional mitigations where there are adverse impacts that have not been addressed.

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 'Corporate Register' of all council EIAs saved in the same directory.

Reviewed by Service Manager: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Instead was reviewed by:	Strategic Leadership Team Sign-Off: Amanda Pujol
Date: 13.03.2026	Date: 25-3-26

Version 1 – March 2021

Teignbridge District Council
Executive Committee
7th April 2026
Part i

Teignmouth Beach Management Plan

Purpose of Report

To adopt the Teignmouth Beach Management Plan.

Recommendation(s)

The Committee RESOLVES to:

- (1) Adopt the Teignmouth Beach Management Plan; and
- (2) To work with the Environment Agency to progress the business case, national funding applications and design options to implement a range of measures to enhance coastal defence structures and management measures to mitigate coastal risks at Teignmouth and Shaldon, as set out in the Beach Management Plan

Financial Implications

There are no specific financial implications arising from the report. The BMP provides the evidence / requirement for future works which are likely to be in partnership with other agencies, requiring significant national FCERM funding and would be subject to a further report.

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Legal or Governance Implications

There are no specific legal implications arising from the report. The BMP provides the evidence / requirement for future works which are likely to be in partnership with other agencies and would be subject to a further report.

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Risk Assessment

There is a reputational risk if TDC does not adopt an externally funded scientific report which is a key requirement to instigate the next step in a process to defend homes and infrastructure.

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Environmental/ Climate Change Implications

Embodied carbon aspects will be explored in subsequent developmental stages.

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Appendices/Background Papers

1. [Teignmouth and Shaldon Beach Management Plan_FINAL_With Appendices.pdf](#)

EIA Attached No

Report Detail

1. Introduction/Background

1.1 The management of coastal flood and erosion risk along the Teignmouth coast is guided by the South Devon and Dorset Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) policies adopted in 2011. For the Teignmouth Beach Management Plan (BMP) area, these policies are to “Hold the Line” for the next 100 years. The SMP has recently been revisited and refreshed with the local policies remaining Hold the Line.

1.2 The 2026 Teignmouth Beach Management Plan (BMP) has reviewed and reconsidered the short and medium term strategic approaches to managing this dynamic coast and associated flooding and erosion risk.

1.3 The production of a BMP is recognised as the key evidence process stage in the development of a suite of coastal defence measures, commensurate with the identified flooding and erosion risks, and the development of a business case and an application for national Flood Defence Grant in Aid (FDGiA) public funding required to construct any such measures.

The BMP does not in itself guarantee funding from an oversubscribed competitive national allocation. The production of a BMP, to national guidance and standards, is however considered as virtually a pre-requisite to the successful development of a coastal defence scheme, including securing FDGiA.

1.4 The BMP has been led by the Council with the Environment Agency (EA) as a key partner. For the development and construction of a new coastal defence scheme the EA (as the owner of the majority of the defence assets – sea wall, groynes etc) will likely be the lead agency with the Council being the principal partner.

The BMP was undertaken by Jacobs Consulting in collaboration with Coastal Marine Applied Research (CMAR).

1.5 The BMP and associated appendices, as presented, have helped to:

- Better understand the coastal processes operating along the BMP frontage and the potential causes for beach lowering at Shaldon, Back Beach and Teignmouth.
- Provide an up-to-date assessment of the condition of the current defences, and better understand the potential flood risk damages in the BMP area.
- Better understand the influence that The Point breakwater has on shoreline change and the implications that this has for flood and coastal management across the BMP frontage.
- Determine what the implications of different management options can have on shoreline dynamics.
- Assess and test the implications of the current dredge and disposal regime, and make recommendations for future change.

2. BMP

2.1 The study area covered by the BMP is shown in Figure 1

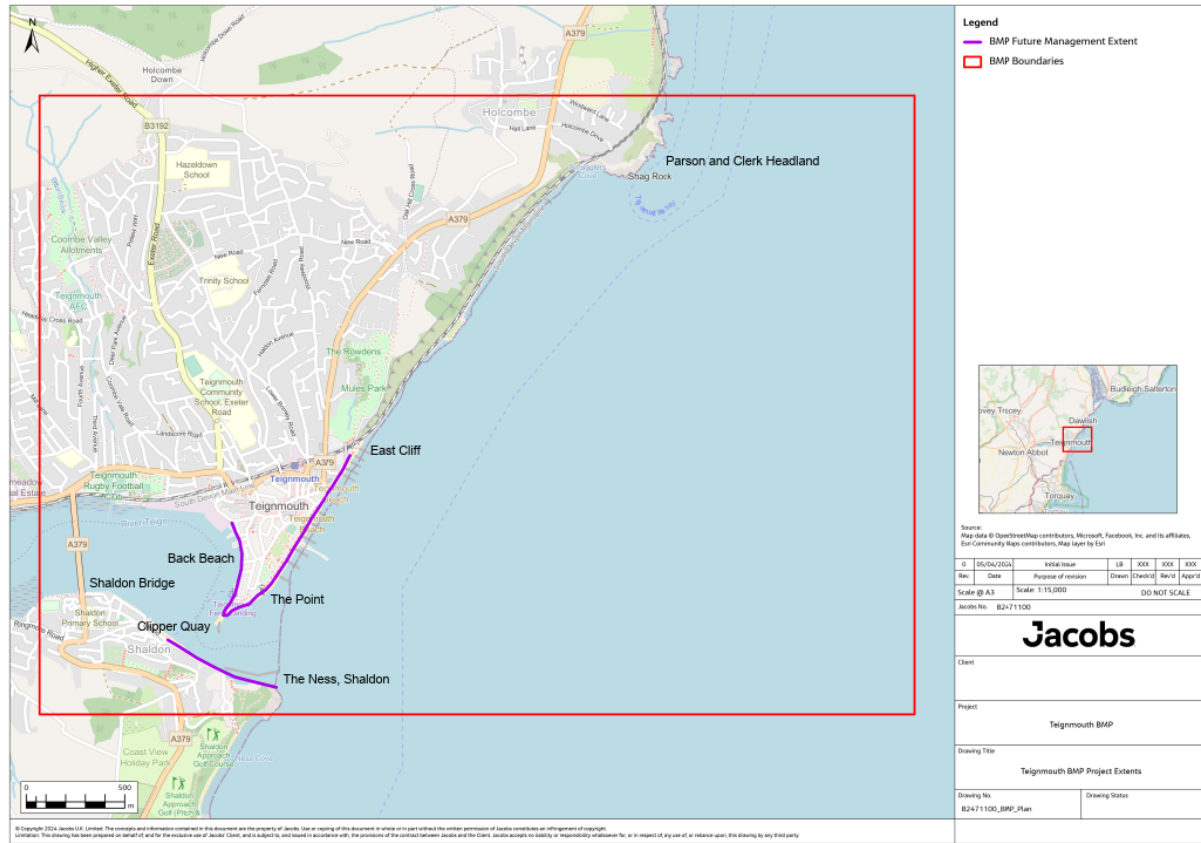


Figure 1.

2.2 Coastal Processes

2.2.1 Analysis of wave data, direction and power, indicates that there has been relative reduction in easterly driven waves, including storm events, from the 1950's and declining further from the 1990's. Such that the wave data between 2010 and 2024 easterlies shows that only 33% of wave power came from the east whereas 67% is now coming from a southerly direction.

2.2.2 This change in principal direction is observed in the lowering of the beach levels along the southern end of the coastal frontage at Teignmouth and at Shaldon.

2.3 Teignmouth

2.3.1 Sediment that is mobilised by a southerly wave regime is driven north along Teignmouth beach from the Point Spit, past the lighthouse and pier to accrete in

front of the Pavilions, Eastcliff and further north towards Sprey Point and Holcombe. Figure 2.

2.3.2 A relative reduction in the power and frequency of easterly/NE wave regimes results in less of the material being transported south to replenish the beach south of the Pavilions which appears to be the pivot point around which the beach is rotating. Historically the pivot point was thought to be around Sprey Point, between Teignmouth and Holcombe.

2.3.3 Accretion is also evident on the western (estuarine) side of the Point breakwater / training wall principally derived from material being washed over the structure during high energy events and a rollback of the spit into the estuary commensurate with a change in the wave direction regime.

2.4 Shaldon

2.4.1 The beach is exhibiting a lowering of levels towards the eastern end of Marine Parade.

2.4.2 The Figure does not yet include quality assured data from the latest set of storms, but field observations indicate a continuing trend of beach lowering at Teignmouth and Shaldon, and a further movement westward of the Point Spit.



Figure 2.

LiDAR difference plots showing beach elevation change for the period 2007–2024 along the Teignmouth open coast. A red colour indicates net loss of material and a blue colour indicates net gain of material.

2.5 Coastal defence assets

2.5.1 As part of the BMP and a parallel study the current defences were assessed for condition with most being fair to good, however the residual life of the main (predominately EA owned) sea wall is reduced in areas where the beach is lowering and exposing the toe of the structure, potentially threatening the structure. It is suggested that works will be required to stabilise the defence.

2.5.2 There are thirteen wooden groynes in an array along the seafront (10 being EA assets and 3 being Council assets) which are in poor condition and have either failed or are at risk of failing. It is recommended that a new groyne field, possibly with a revised height, frequency and length, will be required.

2.5.3 A healthy and sustainable beach in front of a hard engineered structure can form part of the overall defence by absorbing some of the wave energy before it impacts on the coast. Where the beach is being lowered it is proposed that consideration be given to the beneficial re-use of material dredged to maintain a shipping channel, to be placed near shore in the areas most denuded, especially south of the pivot point between the Pavilions and the Pier. Sediments are dynamic and will be re-mobilised by wave energies, but placement of additional material (coarse grain sands and small gravel) will help protect the base of the seawall particularly if sediment transport vectors can be slowed with the creation of a new groyne array.

Further summary details of existing structures and anticipated works is presented in table 1.

Location	Existing Structures / Proposed Structures	Measure Detail / Implementation (SoP=Standard of Protection)
Teignmouth Open Coast	Existing seawall (masonry wall - south, concrete recurve wall, concrete wall, masonry clad concrete wall - north).	Raise the height of the seawall to achieve current levels of overtopping in year 100. If existing wall not suitable for raising consider set-back wall or construct new wall.
Teignmouth Open Coast	Existing sheet piles.	Repair and maintain the existing toe piles as they reach the end of their RL, replace sheet piles as they fail due to corrosion with same standard of service (i.e. same length / thickness).
Teignmouth Open Coast	New toe protection works along existing sheet piled toe (gabions, timber cribwork, rock armour, sheet piles)	Construct new toe protection at the bottom of the existing wall (below the bottom step) along the entire length of the Teignmouth Open Coast seawall removing reliance on beach to reduce risk from scour and undermining.
Teignmouth Open Coast	New timber groynes.	Construct a new and improved groyne field that will retain a higher beach. e.g. by adjusting groyne length/height/spacing.
The Point	The Point breakwater	Upgrade existing structure along same alignment so that it is as effective in year 100 as it is today (e.g. by extending length and/or raising).

Teignmouth Back Beach	"Existing flood defences (Concrete flood walls, masonry flood walls, masonry property walls, masonry property walls with glazing, rendered property walls, engineered high-ground, flood gates x8, demountable flood board x1).	Raise the height of existing flood defences to achieve current levels of overtopping in year 100. Existing flood warning services continue."
Teignmouth Back Beach		Construct new toe protection at the bottom of the existing wall (below the bottom step) along the entire length of the Teignmouth Back Beach seawall removing reliance on beach to prevent undermining. Proposed structure extents designed to provide existing SoP against undermining (provided by the existing beach) in year 100.
Shaldon	Existing Flood Warning Direct (FWD) (EA, 2010)	Raise the height of the seawall to achieve current levels of overtopping in year 100. If existing wall not suitable for raising, construct new wall.
Shaldon	Existing Automated telephone flood warning service"	Construct new toe protection at the bottom of the existing wall removing reliance on beach to prevent undermining. Proposed structure extents designed to provide existing SoP against undermining (provided by the existing beach) in year 100.

Table 1. Preferred options for BMP Frontage

3. Alternative Options

3.1 Do nothing / maintain current defence heights and standards of protection

3.1.1 The current measured trends of changes to wave regimes, beach lowering and increasing structural risks to existing defences will continue, and be further amplified by climate change, both sea level rise and potentially more

relevant by an increase in the frequency and severity of storm events. Likely effects will include;

- Beaches will continue to get lower and narrower, particularly:
 - the southern end of Teignmouth seafront (between the pier and the lighthouse/Point); and
 - the eastern end of Shaldon beach.
- In some places, beaches are expected to become partly or fully underwater at most states of the tide in future, i.e. little, or no, low tide beach.
- Flood and erosion risk will increase for nearby homes, businesses, roads and public spaces as beaches lose their ability to act as a natural buffer against waves and storms.
- Existing sea walls and flood defences will become more exposed as beach levels drop in front of them, increasing the likelihood of damage or failure during storms.
- Emergency repairs will become more likely, rather than planned, orderly works. These are typically more disruptive, more expensive, and less effective.
- Public access, recreation and tourism value may decline in localised sections of the beach as beaches become steeper, smaller, or inaccessible at many states of the tide.
- Climate change impacts will accelerate the problem. Rising sea levels and more frequent severe storms will worsen erosion and flooding where no action is taken.
- Although beach levels fluctuate seasonally and from year to year, the net trend is that some areas covered by the BMP the beaches will not “naturally recover” on their own, particularly in the most vulnerable areas.

3.1.2 The Present Value damages (even assuming current defence heights are maintained) would be estimated to be in the region of £2.7 million for Shaldon and £53.3 million for Teignmouth

3.1.3 Do nothing, or continue to maintain at current levels, are not recommended as viable options.

4. Conclusion

4.1 The BMP, and associated technical, modelling, policy, environmental and economic appendices, demonstrates the need for a timely and comprehensive suite of engineered actions to be undertaken to enhance the current defence structures protecting the built areas of Teignmouth and Shaldon vulnerable from coastal flooding or erosion risk. The BMP concurs with the policies of the adopted SMP.

4.2 The adoption of the BMP is seen as the principal evidence document and a key requirement in the development of a final design, the securing of the variety of licenses/permissions, production of a full costed business case and the securing of national funding required to progress the implementation of a coastal defence scheme covering Shaldon and Teignmouth. The scheme is likely to be led by the Environment Agency with the Council being fully engaged as a key Partner and asset owner. The Committee will be kept updated as any scheme develops.

4.3 The Executive Committee is recommended to adopt the Beach Management Plan.