

**Teignbridge District Council  
Overview and Scrutiny Committee  
Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2026  
Part I and II**

**Call In of Teignmouth Lido Decision**

**Purpose of Report**

To provide a report relating to the Call in of the Executive decision on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2026 relating to Teignmouth Lido: Not open the Teignmouth Lido site in 2026 and deliver a budget saving of £74k.

**Recommendation(s)**

The Committee should make a recommendation to the Executive that:

1. The decision will not be challenged and that it will be implemented in accordance with the Executive's original decision, or
2. A different course of action should be taken and considered with any available supporting evidence, or
3. The matter should be referred to Full Council if it is a matter of significance for the whole district (this will only apply in exceptional circumstances).

**Financial Implications**

See section 2 below, please also refer to 3.1 of the original Executive report.

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**Legal Implications**

No additional comments arising from this report, please refer to 3.2 of the original Executive report.

The Committee is undertaking its statutory right to review or 'call in' the decisions of the Executive as per the Local Government Act 2000 and make recommendations to the Executive. The Committee's recommendations are not binding on the Executive.

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**Risk Assessment**

No additional comments arising from this report, please refer to 3.3 of the original Executive report.

**Environmental/ Climate Change Implications**

No additional comments arising from this report, please refer to 3.4 of the original

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## Report Author

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## Executive Member

Cllr John Nutley - Executive Member for Leisure, Recreation, Resorts and Tourism.

Cllr David Palethorpe - Deputy Leader & Executive Member for Economy, Estates and Major Projects

### 1. Introduction/Background

At its meeting on [Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2026](#), the Executive considered a report on the options appraisal of the Teignmouth Lido to determine whether it is possible to improve its financial viability, to review alternative uses and seek approval to dispose of the freehold interest.

At the meeting, the Executive made a decision to:

- 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 full Minute of the Executive 10 February 2026 is appended)*

Subsequently and in line with legal and constitutional requirements, Recommendation 1 was 'called in' to allow the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to review the decision.

The decision was called in by Councillor Macgregor, supported by Councillors Bradford, Horner, P Parker, J Taylor and Radford. The reasons given for the call in are as follows:

1. "£74,000 was set aside to cover the losses expected this year
2. That keeping the Lido closed this year ignores its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year
3. That keeping the Lido closed damages the prospects for a successful community bid by hamstringing the use and setting back any growth in numbers using it
4. That keeping it closed potentially damages the economy of Teignmouth during a time of economic uncertainty
5. That despite keeping it closed, there are still costs likely to exceed £45,000
6. Lastly, that keeping it closed potentially reduces interest to those just wishing to redevelop rather than offer swimming facilities for residents and tourists."

An additional call-in request was received by Councillor Clarence, the reasons are given as follows: “The reason for the call in is because the proposed budget due for debate on the 26 February this year appears to allow for this expense”.

In accordance with Section 8B of the Constitution, a report has been prepared as a result of the call in. Section 8B states that Overview and Scrutiny will consider a call in at the next available meeting, however due to the time critical nature of the decision, a special meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has been arranged.

## 2. Response to the reasons for the Call in

- **£74,000 was set aside to cover the losses expected this year and the proposed budget due for debate on the 26 February this year appears to allow for this expense.**

Budget has been kept in the 2026/27 revenue budget for operating the service (the Lido) for another year because the Council had not yet determined to close it. It would have been presumptive to assume a decision of Council that had not taken place.

£74k will not be available to reduce the take from reserves or reallocate to other services should the service continue for another year.

- **That keeping the Lido closed this year ignores its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year**

Whilst the point is recognised, it was not a consideration in making the decision.

- **That keeping the Lido closed damages the prospects for a successful community bid by hamstringing the use and setting back any growth in numbers using it.**

There has not been any substantial evidence behind this reason for which a response can be offered. The ambition is that the future of the Lido is that it is transferred to a community group. Any group have 6 months to bid for the site.

- **That keeping it closed potentially damages the economy of Teignmouth during a time of economic uncertainty**

There has not been any substantial evidence behind this reason for which a response can be offered.

- **That despite keeping it closed, there are still costs likely to exceed £45,000**

Costs if the Lido remains closed are forecasted to be c.£36k. It would be cautionary to note that a property maintenance assessment would be required to consider any necessary works for opening the Lido, as would a recruitment schedule to assess if the necessary staffing levels could be achieved. Either consideration may have the potential to now reduce or preclude any suggested opening period.

- **Lastly, that keeping it closed potentially reduces interest to those just wishing to redevelop rather than offer swimming facilities for residents and tourists.**

There has not been any substantial evidence behind this reason for which a response can be offered.

### **3. Conclusion**

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to provide a response to the Executive that either the decision will not be challenged and that it supports the implementation of Executive's original decision, or the Committee is recommending a different course of action should be taken.