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21 JAN 2026

**Torbay Local Labour Government Forum Meeting
at 2, Oxford Lane Brixham TQ5 8PP**

Secretary: [REDACTED]

19 JANUARY 2026

Amanda Barlow
The monitoring officer.
Torbay council

Dear Ms Barlow,

LOCAL PLAN UPDATE 2025-REGULATION 18 CONSULTATION

I am writing to make a formal complaint against Torbay Council and to ask you ,as monitoring officer, to intervene in this current consultation process.

We do not believe this document is fit for purpose in as much as it fails to acknowledge and adhere to the Government's housebuilding mandatory targets. As such it appears to be a serious abuse of the Planning process and not competent to be regarded as part of that process. It is also failing in its duty to be open and honest with Council Tax payers.

Equally the document demonstrates the Council is continuing to ignore its statutory duty to provide a sufficient supply of sites to meet the housing needs of the area. This became manifest when the Council declined to contest the planning appeal in respect of the Inglewood development. It became even clearer last spring when the planning inspector approved an appeal at Copythorne Road Brixham and indicated there was a high demand for housing in Torbay and the Council had consistently failed to meet its five year housing allocation targets. This has led to a situation whereby the function of the Council Planning department has been usurped by a process of 'developer led development'.

The council now appears to offer the local community a continuity of this process for the next plan period. That cannot be a proper use of its statutory planning responsibilities.

It would appear that in part the Council has been emboldened by the likelihood it will disappear into a larger geographical area in the next two years-therby passing the problem to its successors. Again that cannot be a proper use of power. Indeed we are aware that a neighbouring council

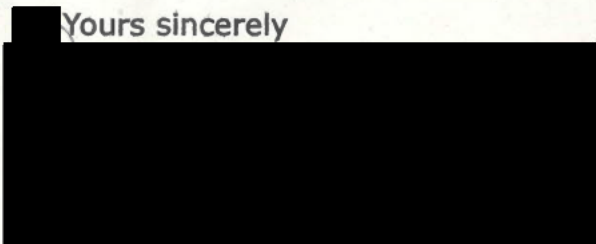
has already commented that Torbay is using local government reorganisation to offload its planning responsibilities.

Failure in statutory duty is clearly a very serious matter for Councillors and Executive officers. Deliberate efforts to flout that responsibility is likely to be viewed as much more significant.

It is not too late to remedy this situation by withdrawing the current consultation, and starting again on the basis of the Government planning framework.

I would be grateful if you could acknowledge this letter

Yours sincerely

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the signature and name of the sender.