Mini-Resorts – Briefing Paper

As a result of the Council having to explore new ways of working within budget restrictions, the terminology “Mini-Resort” and the meaning behind it has been under consideration for some time.

The Mini Resort concept is now in a position where it can be rolled out to five sites across the Bay on a trial basis. The sites that are to be included are :-

- Oddicombe Beach
- Torre Abbey Sands
- Preston Beach
- Broadsands Beach
- Breakwater Beach

The Beach and Coastline team, within Business Services, have been working with “anchor” tenants to agree on a list of services they are willing to provide in return for allowing them the opportunity to hire out the Deckchairs/Beach Furniture and retain the income. This trial will allow for a service provision to remain on the beaches, without Council staff being present, whilst ensuring the Council stays within budget.

Set out below is a list of the services that these “anchor” tenants have indicated they are happy to perform on the Council's behalf and on a partnership basis.

Services Provided:

- Hire of deckchairs and beach furniture
- Erect relevant safety flags
- Provide a lost child service to include “tag your kid” wrist band
- Provision of first aid (Wherever possible if a trained (First Aid at Work) attendant on site
- In the event of emergency to contact the relevant emergency service and act as a liaison
- Report any damage noticed on site
- Ensure dog control orders are enforced and inform dog wardens of persistent offenders
- Provide public information

- Monitor and report antisocial behaviour
- Report criminal damage and vandalism to the relevant Torbay Council Officer
- Litter picking will be conducted on an ad hoc basis
- Wherever possible comply with Blue Flag and Seaside award criteria
- Assist with the control of parking on the promenade and greens – where practical intervene or provide details of persistent offenders to relevant Council officers
- Assist with complaint resolution – where possible resolve or direct to the relevant Council officer
- Ensure beach furniture is in a clean and usable condition for the public
- Daily checking of public rescue equipment (PRE) i.e. lifebuoy and rope and report any vandalism or loss to the relevant Council officer
- Lost property facility to be carried out in line with Torbay Council Beach and Lost property protocol

This Mini-Resort trial will see some of our key seafront tenants working in partnership with the Council and the Beach and Coastline Team will be offering every support they can to the tenant to make this work for the public. Also, there will be clear signage available on site to state this partnership and the signs will include contact numbers for beach hut users. A member of the Beach and Coastline Team will be available seven days a week from 08:30 – 17:00. These beaches will also have regular inspections from a member of the Council's Beach Team to ensure everything is in order and the 'Mini-Resort' trial is working as it should be. As well as monitoring the trial throughout the season a review will be undertaken at the end of the summer.

This Mini-Resort trial is scheduled to take place from this coming Friday, 1st July 2016 running through to the first Sunday in September (4th September 2016).

1st July 2016