

**QUESTION BY MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC**

<b>Question submitted by:</b> Dave Curno
<b>To the Cabinet Member or Chair for:</b> Leader of the Council Cllr Tudor Evans
<b>To be asked at the next (Council, Cabinet or Planning Committee) Meeting:</b> Full Council <b>Date:</b> 18/09/23
<b>Question (to be no longer than 50 words):</b>  PCC confirmed it would seek peer advice from another Council when considering the Armada Way TPO application and that it had approached another Council. PCC's reply to a FOI request FS-case-541381192 indicates this was not in fact done. Who made the decision not to request recommendations from another Council?
<b>Will you be attending the meeting in person to ask your question?</b> tbc
<b>Response:</b> ( for completion by City Council officers and Cabinet Members / Chairs)  Thank you for your latest question on Armada Way.  The previous FOI was answered factually when we responded: <i>'that Plymouth City Council did not request or receive any recommendation from another Local Authority in respect of the TPO request for Armada Way'</i> .  In response to a complaint to the Council's Monitoring Officer about a potential conflict of interest between officers dealing with the Armada Way project and those assessing the TPO request, it was agreed by the Strategic Director for Place and the Monitoring Officer that the TPO should be subject to independent assessment. The Strategic Director for Place did contact a number of Local Authorities to discuss the process for conducting an independent TPO assessment. At no time did the Strategic Director request or receive their review or recommendation on the merits of the armada Way TPO case.  The Strategic Director for Place delegated the decision making powers in respect of assessing the request for a TPO to the Head of Development Management. The Head of Development Management appointed an independent Tree Consultant - JK Tree Consultancy - to carry out the

TPO assessment and make a recommendation for the consideration of the Head of Development Management.

It is common practice for Council's to seek advice from independent and appropriately qualified chartered consultants. Therefore, no one made a decision not to request recommendations from other authorities.