



Policy Development and Decision Group (Joint Commissioning Team)

Thursday, 14 December 2017 at 4.00 pm
to be held in Meadfoot Room, Town Hall, Castle Circus, Torquay, TQ1 3DR

Membership

Councillor Mills (Chairman)

Councillor Amil
Councillor Ellery
Councillor Excell
Councillor Haddock

Councillor King
Mayor Oliver
Councillor Parrott
Councillor Stockman

Agenda

1. **Apologies**
To receive apologies for absence.
2. **Disclosure of Interests**
 - (a) To receive declarations of non pecuniary interests in respect of items on this agenda
For reference: Having declared their non pecuniary interest members may remain in the meeting and speak and, vote on the matter in question. A completed disclosure of interests form should be returned to the Clerk before the conclusion of the meeting.
 - (b) To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of items on this agenda

For information relating to this meeting or to request a copy in another format or language please contact:

**Teresa Buckley, Town Hall, Castle Circus, Torquay, TQ1 3DR
(01803) 20702613**

Email: governance.support@torbay.gov.uk

For reference: Where a Member has a disclosable pecuniary interest he/she must leave the meeting during consideration of the item. However, the Member may remain in the meeting to make representations, answer questions or give evidence if the public have a right to do so, but having done so the Member must then immediately leave the meeting, may not vote and must not improperly seek to influence the outcome of the matter. A completed disclosure of interests form should be returned to the Clerk before the conclusion of the meeting.

(Please Note: If Members and Officers wish to seek advice on any potential interests they may have, they should contact Governance Support or Legal Services prior to the meeting.)

3. **Minutes** (Pages 3 - 16)
To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting of the Policy Development and Decision Group (Joint Commissioning Team) held on 6 November 2017.
4. **Urgent Items**
To consider any other items the Chairman decides are urgent.
5. **New Model of Care: Changing the way the Council as Commissioners and the Integrated Care Organisation (ICO) as Providers deliver Adult Social Care: Adult Social Care Eligibility** (Pages 17 - 36)
To consider the submitted report on the above.
6. **Torbay Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2016/17 and Business Plan 2017/18** (Pages 37 - 98)
To consider the submitted report on the above.
7. **Fostering Service Annual Report 2016/17** (Pages 99 - 110)
To consider the submitted report on the Fostering Service Annual Report.
8. **Brunel Academy Relocations Options Appraisal** (Pages 111 - 112)
To consider the submitted report on the above.

(Note: this report contains an exempt appendix which has been circulated separately.)
9. **Children and Young People's Plan Consultation Document** (To Follow)
To consider the submitted report on a review of the Children and Young People's Plan (Policy Framework document).



Policy Development and Decision Group (Joint Commissioning Team)

6 November 2017

-: Present :-

Councillor Mills (Chairman)

The Elected Mayor Oliver and Councillors Amil, Excell, Haddock, King and Parrott

(Also in attendance: Councillors Brooks, Bye, Darling (S), Ellery, Stockman and Stubley)

18. Minutes

The Minutes of the Policy Development and Decision Group (Joint Commissioning Team) meeting held on 9 October 2017 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

19. School Place Planning and Basic Need Grant

Members considered the submitted report which provided an update on current capacity and future capacity needed to ensure the Council is able to deliver its statutory duty to ensure there are sufficient school places in Torbay that are accessible and of good quality. The report provided an accurate position statement that has been reported to the Department for Education (DfE) and described the implications for future capital funding. A copy of an update on free schools was circulated prior to the meeting.

Members noted that due to the methodology used to determine places, which included decommissioned places, there could be a lack of secondary provision which will not receive capital funding in the future.

Members acknowledged the work undertaken by the schools and governing bodies to work with the Council on placing children and increasing their numbers over PAN and creating bulge classes.

Resolved:

- (i) that the school place planning priorities identified in Section 1 of the submitted report be noted;
- (ii) that the level of capital funding expected through Basic Need over the next few years and the implications this may have for resourcing school place planning in the future, as set out in Appendix 2 to the submitted report, be noted; and

- (iii) that a letter be sent to schools and governing bodies thanking them for all their work and support in assisting the Council to place the additional children who have moved into Torbay in 2017 from the Mayor and Director of Children's Services.

(Note 1: during consideration of the item in Minute 19 Councillor Bye declared a non-pecuniary interest as a governor at the Spires.)

(Note 2: Councillor Bye left the meeting after this item.)

20. Sufficiency Strategy

The Policy Development and Decision Group (Joint Commissioning Team) made the following recommendations to the Elected Mayor:

- (i) that the Torbay Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (September 2017) be approved enabling its publication; and
- (ii) that the Policy Development Decision Group (Joint Commissioning Team) receive an update on progress at a future meeting.

The Elected Mayor considered the recommendations of the Policy Development and Decision Group (Joint Commissioning Team) set out above at the meeting and the record of decision, together with further information is attached to these Minutes.

(Note: Councillor Amil left the meeting during discussion of this item.)

21. Healthy Lifestyles Service - proposed contract extension

The Policy Development and Decision Group (Joint Commissioning Team) made the following recommendation to the Elected Mayor:

that the current Healthy Lifestyles Service contract be extended for one year, until 30 March 2019, as per the current contract terms and conditions.

The Elected Mayor considered the recommendation of the Policy Development and Decision Group (Joint Commissioning Team) set out above at the meeting and the record of decision, together with further information is attached to these Minutes.

(Note: Councillor Stublely left the meeting after this item.)

22. Sexual and Reproductive Health and Wellbeing Contract

The Policy Development and Decision Group (Joint Commissioning Team) made the following recommendation to the Elected Mayor:

that the Mayor be recommended to authorise the Director of Public Health, in consultation with the Deputy Mayor and Executive Lead for Health and

Wellbeing, to award the two lots of the Torbay Sexual and Reproductive Health contract to the successful bidder(s).

The Elected Mayor considered the recommendation of the Policy Development and Decision Group (Joint Commissioning Team) set out above at the meeting and the record of decision, together with further information is attached to these Minutes.

23. Procurement of a Needle and Syringe Equipment Supplier for Pharmacy based Needle Exchange Services

The Policy Development and Decision Group (Joint Commissioning Team) made the following recommendations to the Elected Mayor:

- (i) that the Director of Public Health be authorised to procure a supplier of needle and syringe equipment for pharmacy based Needle Exchange Services, through joint procurement exercise with Devon County Council Public Health team; and
- (ii) that the Director of Public Health, in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and the Executive Lead Member for Health and Wellbeing, be given delegated authority to award the successful bidder, on a best value basis, with the offer of the contract on behalf of Torbay Council.

The Elected Mayor considered the recommendations of the Policy Development and Decision Group (Joint Commissioning Team) set out above at the meeting and the record of decision, together with further information is attached to these Minutes.

24. STP Update: Organisational Design Update - next steps for the Accountable Care System in Devon

The Policy Development and Decision Group (Joint Commissioning Team) made the following recommendations to the Elected Mayor:

- (i) that the progress and shape of accountable care systems across wider Devon be noted; and
- (ii) that Torbay Council continues to exercise influence over the emerging shape of Accountable Care Organisations (ACOs) and local health and care partnerships across Devon to support the best outcomes for our communities.

The Elected Mayor considered the recommendations of the Policy Development and Decision Group (Joint Commissioning Team) set out above at the meeting and the record of decision, together with further information is attached to these Minutes.

(Note: Councillor Darling left the meeting during discussion of this item.)

Chairman

Record of Decision

Torbay Childcare Sufficiency Assessment

Decision Taker

The Elected Mayor on 06 November 2017

Decision

- (i) that the Torbay Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (September 2017) be approved enabling its publication; and
- (ii) that the Policy Development Decision Group (Joint Commissioning Team) receive an update on progress at a future meeting.

Reason for the Decision

The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment provides an overview of the local child care market, changes in the supply and demand for places and the actions necessary to ensure these are sufficient, accessible child care places in Torbay.

Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on Friday, 17 November 2017 unless the call-in process is triggered (as set out in Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

Information

The Childcare Act 2006 places a duty on local authorities to secure, so far as is reasonably practicable, sufficient childcare for working parents, or parents who are studying or training for employment, for children aged 0 – 14 years (or up to 18 years for disabled children).

As part of these duties, Torbay Council is required to report annually to Elected Members on the local arrangements to ensure those duties meet and ensure any report is available and accessible for parents.

The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2017 shows that, although there are sufficient places to meet current needs, there are potentially insufficient places to meet future demand, particularly for the extended entitlement for three and four year olds. It is also the case that, whilst overall capacity is sufficient, some localities may experience demand pressures due to the workings of parental preference. An action plan is attached to the sufficiency assessment setting out the actions that will be taken to ensure childcare capacity develops in line with demand.

Following its approval, the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2017 will be published on the Council's website as well as providing the evidence base for the ongoing dialogue with providers, partners and stakeholders on the development of future capacity.

The Elected Mayor considered the recommendations of the Policy Development and Decision Group (Joint Commissioning Team) made on 6 November 2017 and his decision is set out above.

Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision

None

Is this a Key Decision?

No

Does the call-in procedure apply?

Yes

Declarations of interest (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the Standards Committee)

None

Published

9 November 2017

Signed: _____
The Elected Mayor of Torbay

Date: 9 November 2017

Record of Decision

Healthy Lifestyles Service - Proposed Contract Extension

Decision Taker

The Elected Mayor on 06 November 2017

Decision

That the current Healthy Lifestyles Service contract be extended for one year, until 30 March 2019, as per the current contract terms and conditions.

Reason for the Decision

Torbay's healthy lifestyles provision has a contract up to 30 March 2018, with the permission to extend this by one further year. This service will need to be re-procured on the open market in the future to satisfy this legislation.

Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on Friday, 17 November 2017 unless the call-in process is triggered (as set out in Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

Information

Healthy Lifestyles provision in Torbay is provided by Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust. The current contract runs until 30 March 2018, with provision for a further 1 year extension. Taking up the contract extension will enable continued provision whilst a range of options for future provision is explored.

The Department of Health (DoH) Public Health grant is made to Public Health teams situated within Local Authorities to improve the health behaviours of the population. Part of this grant is used to commission healthy lifestyles services so that people who want to quit smoking, lose weight or improve physical activity and mental wellbeing have a source of support to do so.

The Elected Mayor considered the recommendations of the Policy Development and Decision Group made on 6 November 2017 and his decision is set out above.

Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision

Alternative options were set out in the submitted report but not discussed at the meeting.

Is this a Key Decision?

No – Reference Number: I035159

Does the call-in procedure apply?

Yes

Declarations of interest (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the

Standards Committee)

None

Published

9 November 2017

Signed: _____
The Elected Mayor of Torbay

Date: 9 November 2017

Record of Decision

Sexual and Reproductive Health and Wellbeing Contract

Decision Taker

The Elected Mayor on 06 November 2017

Decision

That the Director of Public Health, in consultation with the Deputy Mayor and Executive Lead for Health and Wellbeing, be authorised to award the two lots of the Torbay Sexual and Reproductive Health contract to the successful bidder(s).

Reason for the Decision

To enable the contract to be awarded.

Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on Friday, 17 November 2017 unless the call-in process is triggered (as set out in Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

Information

At 24 July 2017 Policy Development Decision Group (Joint Commissioning Team) (PDDG) meeting the Elected Mayor took a decision that allows Public Health commissioners to undertake a joint procurement exercise with Devon County Council to go to the open market and procure a sexual health service. Sexual health services are a mandated part of the Public Health ring-fenced grant.

The submitted report sought authority for the Director of Public Health to consider the outcome of all bids in the tender process and award the final contract.

The Elected Mayor considered the recommendations of the Policy Development and Decision Group made on 6 November 2017 and his decision is set out above.

Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision

Alternative options were set out in the submitted report but not discussed at the meeting.

Is this a Key Decision?

No

Does the call-in procedure apply?

Yes

Declarations of interest (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the Standards Committee)

None

Published

9 November 2017

Signed: _____
The Elected Mayor of Torbay

Date: 9 November 2017

Record of Decision

Procurement of a Needle and Syringe Equipment Supplier for Pharmacy based Needle Exchange Services

Decision Taker

The Elected Mayor on 06 November 2017

Decision

- (i) that the Director of Public Health be authorised to procure a supplier of needle and syringe equipment for pharmacy based Needle Exchange Services, through joint procurement exercise with Devon County Council Public Health team; and
- (ii) that the Director of Public Health, in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and the Executive Lead Member for Health and Wellbeing, be given delegated authority to award the successful bidder, on a best value basis, with the offer of the contract on behalf of Torbay Council.

Reason for the Decision

To ensure continued provision of needle exchange services.

Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on Friday, 17 November 2017 unless the call-in process is triggered (as set out in Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

Information

Needle Exchange services are a fundamental element of protecting the public's health by preventing HIV, Hepatitis B and C and other blood borne viruses which can occur at epidemic levels when people who use drugs share needles and other drug injecting equipment.

Supply of needle and syringe equipment is a demand-led service which will cost an estimated £80,000 per annum, based on current activity levels. It is proposed that the contract will be procured jointly with Devon County Council to maximise economies of scale, and is expected to be for a three year term, with option to extend for a further one + one years.

The Public Health team has a contract for provision of Needle and Syringe Equipment and collection/disposal of associated waste for Torbay pharmacy "Needle Exchange Services". Provision is currently contracted to Daniels Healthcare Limited, and the contract expires on 30 September 2018. Permission was therefore sought to start the tender process for re-procurement of the contract.

The Elected Mayor considered the recommendations of the Policy Development and Decision Group made on 6 November 2017 and his decision is set out above.

Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision

Alternative options were set out in the submitted report but were not discussed at the meeting.

Is this a Key Decision?

No

Does the call-in procedure apply?

Yes

Declarations of interest (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the Standards Committee)

None

Published

9 November 2017

Signed: _____
The Elected Mayor of Torbay

Date: 9 November 2017

Record of Decision

Sustainability and Transformation Plan Update: Organisational Design Update - next steps for the Accountable Care System in Devon

Decision Taker

The Elected Mayor on 06 November 2017

Decision

- (i) that the progress and shape of accountable care systems across wider Devon be noted; and
- (ii) that Torbay Council continues to exercise influence over the emerging shape of Accountable Care Organisations (ACOs) and local health and care partnerships across Devon to support the best outcomes for our communities.

Reason for the Decision

To continue to influence the future health and care environment.

Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on Friday, 17 November 2017 unless the call-in process is triggered (as set out in Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

Information

Since December 2016, partners across Devon – including all NHS organisations, Local Authorities and Livewell Southwest – have been united in a single ambition and shared purpose to create a clinically, socially and financially sustainable health and care system that will improve health, wellbeing and care of the population we serve, as outlined in the Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) in Devon.

To support the most effective delivery of transformed care and achieve the triple aim of improving quality, lowering costs and enriching patient experience through strong care integration, partners in Devon are planning to evolve the STP by developing an Accountable Care System as part of plans to better integrate health and social care services.

The direction of travel with respect to the Accountable Care System has been endorsed by collaborative board in September 2017.

The Elected Mayor considered the recommendations of the Policy Development and Decision Group made on 6 November 2017 and his decision is set out above.

Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision

None

Is this a Key Decision?

No

Does the call-in procedure apply?

Yes

Declarations of interest (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the Standards Committee)

None

Published

9 November 2017

Signed: _____
The Elected Mayor of Torbay

Date: 9 November 2017



Meeting: Policy Development and Decision Group (Joint Operations Team)

Date: 14 December 2017

Wards Affected: All

Report Title: New Model of Care: Changing the way the Council as Commissioners and the Integrated Care Organisation (ICO) as Providers deliver Adult Social Care: Adult Social Care Eligibility

Is the decision a key decision? No

When does the decision need to be implemented? For Information

Executive Lead Contact Details: Julien Parrot, Executive Lead for Adults and Children, 01803 389624, julien.parrott@torbay.gov.uk

Supporting Officer Contact Details: Judy Grant, 01803 208794
Judy.grant@torbay.gov.uk

1. Proposal and Introduction

- 1.1 The Care Act has changed some of the duties and perspectives in enabling people to access Adult Social Care. This combined with the Councils commitment to a new model of care means an updating of the councils eligibility policy is now needed.
- 1.2 A draft Social Care Eligibility policy is set out at Appendix 1 and the proposal is to submit the revised policy for public consultation. The consultation will take place for 6 weeks from 15th December 2017 ending on 26th January 2018 will be conducted through an online survey. Following the consultation a final report will be presented to the Mayor for decision on the 5th March 2018.
- 1.3 The policy proposes a way of delivering adult social care (ASC) for Torbay through changing the eligibility criteria based on principles contained within the Care Act 2014. The approach the council as commissioners and therefore the ICO as providers intend to adopt is offering people information and advice in the first instance, using an asset based approach which will meet the person's needs by taking into account the range of support on offer from family, friends, voluntary organisations and charities.

2. Reason for Proposal

2.1 Introduction

Under the Care Act 2014, local authorities were given new functions. This is to make sure that people who live in their area:

- Receive services that prevent their care needs from becoming more serious, or delay the impact of their need.
- Can get the information and advice they need to make good decisions about care and support.
- Have a range of provision of high quality, appropriate services to choose from.

2.2 New Model of Care

Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust (The Trust), the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and the Local Authority (LA) have signed up to implement the new model of care that emphasizes wellbeing and prevention, with a focus on using individual and community strengths as well as assets to promote resilience and prevent the need for statutory social care intervention, and to reduce the length of any statutory intervention.

2.3 Context

This means looking after people outside of hospital within their own community with less reliance on bed based care for both hospital and care home beds. The new model is a shift from long term care to short term interventions which will require us to have a different conversation with people.

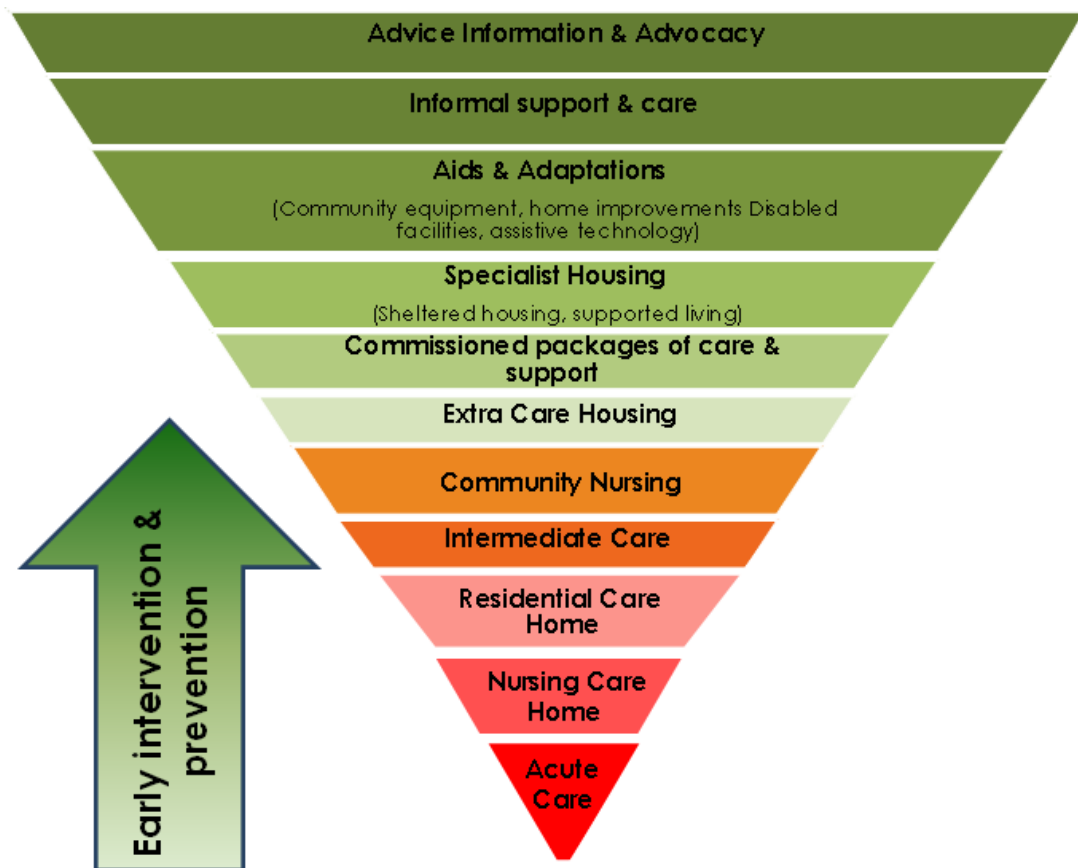
2.4 Changing the way the ICO will deliver ASC

In order to be able to deliver adult social care (ASC) in line with the objectives of the new care model the Council as commissioners and the ICO need to change the way they deliver adult social care in Torbay. The ICO as provider intends to have a conversation that aims to empower people and will become more creative in the way they meet people's needs. When using the new approach the ICO will ensure that all needs are considered, including those currently being met informally whilst working with the adult, carer and their family to identify what matters to them and how this can be met. The ICO will not just focus on need and will consider what people can do for themselves as well as what services can do for them. The ICO will prepare for an assessment by having a number of conversations:

- In the first instance we will offer information and advice to support the person to source their own solutions.
- We will use an asset based approach by working with the person to consider the full, available range of resources which will meet their needs.
- We will consider the person's own strengths and capabilities including what support and help might be available from their wider support network or within the community.

3. Proposed Decision

- 3.1 To approve the approach to implement the change in delivery we will need to introduce a new eligibility criteria and a statutory sector assessment process that focuses on short term wellbeing, early help and prevention (the green segments in the triangle below) as well as the acute and more intensive provision (in red), and action plan.



We will signpost people to voluntary and community services in the first instance and the aim is to:

- Maximise health, well-being and independence of people.
- Ensure that people can find out information and be signposted to local services.
- Ensure people can access community and local services to support them in their own homes.
- Ensure co-ordinated assessment of peoples' needs.
- Provide appropriate housing support and adaptations to enable people to stay in their own homes.
- Provide community services to support people in their own homes with a reduction in overall adult social care cost.
- Care for complex patients and those receiving rehabilitation.
- Ensure that people are only in hospital when they need to be there.

4. ACTION PLAN

4.1 Aim

To deliver the new model of care the Council need to update the eligibility policy and the ICO will need to undertake an assessment that focuses on short term wellbeing, early help and prevention, as well as acute and more intensive provision.

Objective	Action	Deadline
Implement new eligibility policy and assessment process to underpin the new model of care.		
Develop new eligibility policy.	Consultation with public /staff	December 2017 – 6 weeks
Redesign assessment process.	Engage with Providers (Face v8), My Support Broker (MSB) and Social Work staff. Produce options appraisal.	Oct 2017 – January 2018
Redesign budget/spend controls. Currently using a resource allocation system (RAS) that is not fit for purpose.	Task and finish group to include finance and social work leads/managers.	End of January 2018
Training for all social work staff	Events/1:1/ Group	Oct 2017 –April 2018

5 Recommendation

5.1 That the Deputy Mayor be recommended to approve the new Eligibility Policy set out at Appendix 1 to be submitted for public consultation.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Eligibility Policy

Background Documents

The following documents/files were used to compile this report:

- Care Act 2014
- New Model of Care.

Section 1: Background Information

1. What is the proposal / issue?

Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust (The Trust), the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and the Local Authority (LA) have signed up to implement the new model of care that emphasises wellbeing and prevention, with a focus on using individual and community strengths as well as assets to promote resilience and prevent the need for statutory social care intervention, and to reduce the length of any statutory intervention.

In order to be able to deliver adult social care (ASC) in line with the objectives of the new care model we need to change the way we deliver adult social care in Torbay. We intend to have a conversation that aims to empower people and we will become more creative in the way we meet their needs. When using the new approach we will ensure that all needs are considered, including those currently being met informally whilst working with the adult, carer and their family to identify what matters to them and how this can be met. We will not just focus on need and will consider what people can do for themselves as well as what services can do for them.

2. What is the current situation?

Currently where an individual meets the eligibility criteria they will be offered a service to meet their identified needs.

The majority of eligible individuals are in receipt of domiciliary care or residential/nursing care.

Once eligible and in receipt of a service the Trust will undertake a review of an individuals' needs on an annual basis.

We have signed up to the new model of care which means looking after people outside of hospital within their own community with less reliance on bed based care for both hospital and care home beds. The new model is a shift from long term care to short term interventions which will require us to have a different conversation with people.

3. What options have been considered?

No.	Proposal	Benefit	Risk	Cost	Mitigation
1	Do Nothing	No disruption to existing service users.	Demand on domiciliary care and residential will increase.	Increase demand with no extra money identified.	

	2	Change the way we deliver ASC by having a different conversation .	Focus on supporting people to realise their own strengths including the strengths and assets around them in their communities such as family, friends, neighbours and charities. Targeting resources on those who need it most.	Disruption for existing service users. Lack of family, friends, neighbours and charities.	Help to manage demand more efficiently targeting resources to those most in need.	Gradual implementation over a 2 year period. Existing service users supported to access alternative solutions that are right for them. Community Builders. Wellbeing co-ordinators. Engagement with local charities.
4.	<p>How does this proposal support the ambitions, principles and delivery of the Corporate Plan?</p> <p>Changing the way we deliver ASC will ensure that we use our resources to best effect by reducing demand through prevention and continuing to have a joined up approach with our local charities. This approach will enable people to live in their own homes / communities for longer.</p>					
5.	<p>How does this proposal contribute towards the Council's responsibilities as corporate parents?</p> <p>The aim of this proposal is to focus on interventions that will promote healthy behaviour and lifestyle choices by ensuring that people are signposted to a range of accessible information and advice in the first instance.</p> <p>The impact of this proposal will be to work closer with communities and local charities to improve community resilience.</p>					

6.	<p>How does this proposal tackle deprivation?</p> <p>This proposal will target limited resources to best effect by focusing on those people who have the greatest need and are most vulnerable.</p> <p>The proposal will also help us to provide for and target the right kind of help and support to enable people to address their wellbeing, health and Social care needs.</p>
7.	<p>Who will be affected by this proposal and who do you need to consult with?</p> <p>Adults aged 18years + will be affected by this proposal. For existing service users this could have a negative impact however this would be mitigated by a gradual implementation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholders: • Existing service users. • New service users. • Carers. • Age UK. • Community Development Trust. • Mears Domiciliary Care
8.	<p>How will you propose to consult?</p> <p>Web based surveys.</p>
<p>Section 2: Implications and Impact Assessment</p>	
9.	<p>What are the financial and legal implications?</p> <p>No financial implications. Compliant with care act 2014.</p>
10.	<p>What are the risks?</p> <p>If this proposal is not implemented the risk is that demand on traditional services will increase and will impact upon the implementation of the new model of care. No development of community based services.</p>

11.	<p>Public Services Value (Social Value) Act 2012</p> <p>N/A</p>
12.	<p>What evidence / data / research have you gathered in relation to this proposal?</p> <p>JSNA MPS</p>
13.	<p>What are key findings from the consultation you have carried out?</p> <p>This section will be completed following the initial consultation exercise which is scheduled to end 26th January 2017.</p>
14.	<p>Amendments to Proposal / Mitigating Actions</p> <p>Not applicable. This section will be completed following the consultation proposed for 15th December – 26th January 2018.</p>

Equality Impacts

13	Identify the potential positive and negative impacts on specific groups			
		Positive Impact	Negative Impact & Mitigating Actions	Neutral Impact
	Older or younger people	Focus on supporting people to realise their own strengths including the strengths and assets around them in their communities such as family, friends, neighbours and charities. Supported to access alternative solutions that are right for them.	Disruption for existing service users. Gradual implementation over a 2 year period.	Social care staff would require training however no differential impact.
	People with caring Responsibilities	Supported to access alternative solutions that are right for them.	Disruption for existing service users. Gradual implementation over a 2 year period.	Social care staff would require training however no differential impact.
	People with a disability	Focus on supporting people to realise their own strengths including the strengths and assets around them in their communities such as family, friends, neighbours and charities. Supported to access alternative solutions that are right for them.	Disruption for existing service users. Gradual implementation over a 2 year period.	Social care staff would require training however no differential impact.
	Women or men	Focus on supporting people to realise their own strengths including the strengths and assets around them in their	Disruption for existing service users. Gradual implementation over a 2 year period.	Social care staff would require training however no differential impact.

	<p>communities such as family, friends, neighbours and charities.</p> <p>Supported to access alternative solutions that are right for them.</p>		
<p>People who are black or from a minority ethnic background (BME) <i>(Please note Gypsies / Roma are within this community)</i></p>	<p>Focus on supporting people to realise their own strengths including the strengths and assets around them in their communities such as family, friends, neighbours and charities.</p> <p>Supported to access alternative solutions that are right for them.</p>	<p>Disruption for existing service users.</p> <p>Gradual implementation over a 2 year period.</p>	<p>Social care staff would require training however no differential impact.</p>
<p>Religion or belief (including lack of belief)</p>	<p>Focus on supporting people to realise their own strengths including the strengths and assets around them in their communities such as family, friends, neighbours and charities.</p> <p>Supported to access alternative solutions that are right for them.</p>	<p>Disruption for existing service users.</p> <p>Gradual implementation over a 2 year period.</p>	<p>Social care staff would require training however no differential impact.</p>
<p>People who are lesbian, gay or bisexual</p>	<p>Focus on supporting people to realise their own strengths including the strengths and assets around them in their communities such as family, friends, neighbours and charities.</p> <p>Supported to access alternative solutions that are right for them.</p>	<p>Disruption for existing service users.</p> <p>Gradual implementation over a 2 year period.</p>	<p>Social care staff would require training however no differential impact.</p>

People who are transgendered	Focus on supporting people to realise their own strengths including the strengths and assets around them in their communities such as family, friends, neighbours and charities. Supported to access alternative solutions that are right for them.	Disruption for existing service users. Gradual implementation over a 2 year period.	Social care staff would require training however no differential impact.
People who are in a marriage or civil partnership	Focus on supporting people to realise their own strengths including the strengths and assets around them in their communities such as family, friends, neighbours and charities. Supported to access alternative solutions that are right for them.	Disruption for existing service users. Gradual implementation over a 2 year period.	Social care staff would require training however no differential impact.
Women who are pregnant / on maternity leave	N/A		
Socio-economic impacts (Including impact on child poverty issues and deprivation)	N/A		
Public Health impacts (How will your proposal impact on the general health of the population of Torbay)	N/A		

14	Cumulative Impacts – Council wide (proposed changes elsewhere which might worsen the impacts identified above)	N/A
15	Cumulative Impacts – Other public services (proposed changes elsewhere which might worsen the impacts identified above)	N/A

Appendix 1

Torbay Council

Logo

Eligibility Policy

DRAFT Vs 1

For adults with care and support needs and their carers

Eligibility Policy For adults with care and support needs and their carers	Reference:
	Version:
	Issue date:
	Reviewed:
	Review date:

Document Control

Author:	All ASC Service staff Torbay Council Residents	
Policy Lead:		
Produced by:		
Ratified by:		
Target audience:		
Policy to be read alongside:	Care and Support Statutory Guidance 2014 Financial & Eligibility Assessment Policy Relevant operational strengths-based practice guidance	
Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA):	Date undertaken	
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Introduction

This policy has been developed to set out the social care assessment practice in the context of *Getting it right for every adult, their family and their carers*.

Torbay & South Devon NHS Foundation trust (TSDHFT) Adult Social Care is changing the way it works to develop a 'new approach', it has been re-shaping its model of care (Post the Care Act 2014) to utilise a more strengths based approach. This means working together with people to find out what they want to achieve and the best way to do this, supporting people to use their strengths and those of their family, friends and community. The aim is to enable people to achieve their goals, reach their full potential and reduce reliance upon traditional services to maximise the use of community resources

This change in the way we work is essential to help us get better at supporting people to achieve all these things:

- Choice
- Independence
- Being in control of their lives
- Having fulfilling lives – family, friends, work, leisure
- Promoting their strengths, to be the best they can be

The Care Act 2014 sets out the individual aspects of wellbeing or outcomes and places a duty on local authorities to promote wellbeing when carrying out any of their care and support functions. They must

- use the same national level of care and support needs to assess what help they can give you
- use the national eligibility criteria to determine your eligible needs
- focus on the best outcomes for you

Furthermore, the Care Act 2014 states that the eligibility threshold is based on identifying how a person's needs affect their ability to achieve relevant outcomes, and how this impacts on their wellbeing. This relates both to adults who may need care and support and their carers.

Wellbeing is a broad concept, and it is described as relating to the following areas:

- personal dignity (including treatment of the individual with respect);
- physical and mental health and emotional wellbeing;
- protection from abuse and neglect;
- control by the individual over day-to-day life (including over care and support that is provided and the way it is provided);
- social and economic wellbeing;
- domestic, family and personal wellbeing;
- participation in work, education, training or recreation;
- suitability of living accommodation;
- the individual's contribution to society.

Legal Framework

The national eligibility threshold for adults with care and support needs and their carers is set out in the Care Act 2014 and the Care and Support (Eligibility Criteria) Regulations 2014.

Scope of policy

This policy applies to our approach to care and support involving adults, who are ordinarily resident in Torbay, and are over the age of 18 (and their carers) to include those that are eligible for care and support under the Care Act 2014. It also applies to young people supported by Children's Services when planning for their transition to adult care and support services after they reach the age of 18.

In deciding whether the early provision of information, advice or preventative services would delay a person from developing needs which then go on to meet the eligibility criteria or whether longer term care and support might be needed, we will work alongside the person needing care or with their carer and family where appropriate, to think more broadly about what support might be available in the local community or through support networks to meet the needs of the individual and support the outcomes they want to achieve.

Principles of the policy

In Torbay & South Devon we are changing the conversation to empower people and become more creative in the way we meet their needs and will ensure that all needs are considered, including those currently being met informally whilst working with the adult, carer and their family to identify what matters and how best this can be met.

We will not just focus on need and will consider what people can do for themselves as well as what services can do for them. We will prepare for an assessment by having a number of conversations:

Conversation 1: "How can we connect you to the things that will help you get on with your life?"

- What would you like to achieve?

Conversation 2: "What do we need to do to ensure you are safe and have control over things that are important to you?"

- What are your concerns and risks to your independence?
- What has already been tried to help you with your independence

Conversation 3: "How can we help you use your resources to support you?"

- What is your current support networks including family friends and the community?
- Who or what else do you think might help you to regain and/maintain independence?

These conversations could be initially over the phone, or in a place convenient to you.

How we will work with you

Torbay Council and Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust have a responsibility to fund or commission agencies that reduce or delay the risk of people needing care and support, provide information and advice as well as a duty to ensure that all eligible care and support needs are appropriately met. This will involve considering a range of factors including:

- Understanding what each person's goals are and what they need in order to achieve them.
- Action available to each person to reduce the need for assistance (self-help).
- Access to and availability of universal services and community resources such as funded voluntary sector services, housing related support and community groups (considering what is available that could prevent, meet or reduce the needs that are not eligible).
- The contribution willingly made by family carers and informal support.
- The contribution of Reablement and Intermediate Care Services (reducing or removing the need for long-term care and support).

The purpose is to ensure the advice, information and provision of adequate support (as outlined above) meets the eligible social care and support needs and achieves the desired and agreed outcomes at best value.

Once we have discussed what solutions are best for you we will help you to make plans to achieve your goals, we may signpost you to other services which are not commissioned and provided by us. If those solutions do not work we will then undertake an assessment against the national eligibility criteria. The eligibility threshold is based on identifying how a person's needs affect their ability to achieve relevant outcomes, and how this impacts on their wellbeing.

The Eligibility Regulations list ten outcomes that should be considered when determining a person's eligibility for care and support. They are broad life areas where people might experience difficulty in achieving the personal outcomes they want.

You will have eligible needs if you meet all of the following:

Adult care and support needs:

- You have care and support needs as a result of a physical or mental condition
- Because of those needs, you cannot achieve two or more specified outcomes
- As a result, there is a significant impact on your wellbeing

The outcomes include dressing, maintaining personal relationships, and working.

We will use our specialist skills in different ways to visualise situations from the conversations to help signpost and resolve issues in the most timely and effective way. As stated above, we may signpost you to other services if we agree they can meet your eligible needs.

It may also be that you do not need support permanently, rather a short term offer of help while you recover. We will always focus our support on getting you better so you don't need long term support.

Carers

The Trust has a commitment to proactively support and work in partnership with Carers, in order to achieve the best outcomes for both the Carers and the people for whom they care. The Trust is particularly mindful of Carers aged under 25, and aware that caring roles can begin at a very young age.

Carers should always be involved in the assessment and care planning of the person for whom they care, so long as the person agrees. However, they must also be offered a conversation in their own right as a Carer, either with the person they care for or on their own.

This conversation, based on the same principles highlighted above, should include a discussion about the caring role and the impact it has on the Carer's life. It should not be assumed that they wish to continue in their caring role, either now or in the future. Often a Carer may say that nothing else is required, other than the support to the person they care for. However, there is a wide range of general community-based support and also 'Universal Services' for Carers to support them in their role, which may prevent eligible needs arising. These include Carers Register, Carers Education Courses, and peer support. Carers do not have to have a formal Carers Assessment to access these services, but the Carers Assessment is a useful conversation to see what may be helpful both now and in planning for the future.

There are services for Carers aged 5-18, aged 16-25 and Carers of people with Mental Health conditions that may be able to offer specialist support.

Some Carers may benefit from targeted support if they meet national eligibility criteria.

Carer support needs:

- You have care and support needs as a result of providing necessary care for an adult
- Because of providing care your physical or mental health is at risk or at risk of deteriorating or you cannot achieve any of the [specified outcomes](#)
- As a result, there is a significant impact on your wellbeing

Fluctuating needs

Adults and carers with fluctuating needs may have needs which are not apparent prior to or at the time of the assessment, but may have arisen in the past and are likely to arise again in the future. Therefore, in discussing solutions we will consider the individual needs over an appropriate period of time to ensure that all of the needs have been accounted for when the eligibility is being determined. Where fluctuating needs are apparent, this will also be factored into assessment and the care plan, detailing the steps we will take.

Needs not covered by Adult Social Care

Assessments and reviews may identify non-eligible needs that other agencies are responsible for meeting, including housing and health services. These include:

- NHS responsibilities for meeting Continuing Health Care needs
- Nursing care as set out in Section 49 of the Health and Social Care Act 2001
- Intermediate healthcare
- Supporting People
- Disabled Facilities Grants

Torbay & South Devon Adult Social Care is able to commission and or provide a range of rehabilitation, prevention, reablement and treatment services from other agencies that are not subject to current eligibility criteria.

If you have savings that exceed more than the national threshold we are unlikely to be able to help you pay for support, but will assess you and offer advice. (This financial limit does not apply if we agree aids or equipment could help you).

Other legal duties

Our assessment of your eligibility will also pay due regard to our legal duties under the following acts:

- Mental Health Act 1983
- Mental Capacity Act (Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards) 2005
- *(And any other relevant statutory duties)*

References and related information

- Care Act 2014
- Department of Health Care and Support (Eligibility Criteria) Regulations 2015
- SCIE Eligibility Quick Guide

Contact Information

Enter details



Meeting: Policy Development and Decision Group (Joint Commissioning Team)

Date: 14 December 2017

Wards Affected: All

Report Title: Torbay Safeguarding Children Board (TSCB) Annual Report 2016-17 and Business Plan 2017-18

Is the decision a key decision? No

When does the decision need to be implemented? As soon as possible

Executive Lead Contact Details: Julien Parrott, Executive Lead for Adults and Children, julien.parrott@torbay.gov.uk

Supporting Officer Contact Details: Andy Dempsey, Director of Children's Services, 01803 208949, andy.dempsey@torbay.gov.uk

1. Proposal and Introduction

1.1 Torbay Safeguarding Children Board (TSCB) is the key strategic mechanism through which local agencies co-operate to promote and safeguard the welfare of children and young people. The core objectives and key functions of a Safeguarding Board are set out respectively within Section 14(1) of the Children Action 2004 and Local Safeguarding Children Board Regulations 2006. In broad terms these require the TSCB:

- To co-ordinate what is done at a local level by agencies/individuals to safeguard children and young people.
- To ensure the effectiveness of what is done.

1.2 The work of the Safeguarding Board is informed by a range of partner performance data, needs assessments and the learning from any Serious Case Reviews or unexpected child deaths. This in turn supports a cycle of monitoring/review, planning and delivery in order to sustain and develop local arrangements to safeguard children and young people in Torbay.

1.3 The TSCB Annual Report (2016-17) attached at Appendix 1, looks back on the work of the Board over the past year whilst the TSCB Business Plan (2017-18) attached at Appendix 2 sets out the priorities for the current year. In addition to

their consideration by Elected Members at PDDG, both documents will be subject to final approval by the TSCB at its meeting on 14th December, 2017.

2. Reason for Proposal

- 2.1 Torbay Safeguarding Children Board (TSCB) was judged inadequate by Ofsted in January 2016 as part of the single inspection that also judged Children's Services inadequate. In coming to that conclusion, Ofsted raised particular concerns at the weakness in the business planning cycle, the absence of regular reporting against an exhaustive performance framework and the failure to hold partners to account in tackling issues such as neglect and weaknesses in Early Help provision.
- 2.2 A new independent chair, Ian Ansell, was appointed in April, 2016, to lead the Board's response to Ofsted's findings and ensure it delivers its core assurance function. This has involved working with the DfE Commissioner, John Coughlan, appointed in May, 2016, to oversee improvement activity on behalf of the Minister for Children and Families and the Children's Improvement Board convened by the Commissioner to co-ordinate the work to address the deficits identified by Ofsted.
- 2.3 The TSCB Annual Report (2016-17) attached at Appendix 1 provides an overview of progress from 1st April, 2016 to 31st March, 2017 which has been a period of development and consolidation for the Board. Key achievements include:
- Embedding the cycle of business of planning, delivery, monitoring and review.
 - Developing and implementing a comprehensive data set.
 - Overseeing the development and launch of local Neglect and Early Help Strategies.
 - Overseeing a Section 11 audit across local partners, with agency action plans in place to address areas for development.
- 2.4 The Children and Social Work Act 2017, building on the findings of the Wood Review, provided the opportunity for 'designated safeguarding partners' (local authority, clinical commissioning group and police) to develop new local safeguarding arrangements. In light of the Commissioner's recent recommendation that Torbay Children's Services to enter a contractual partnership with Plymouth it is not proposed to commence any significant changes to local safeguarding arrangements at this stage.
- 2.5 The TSCB Business Plan (2017-18) sets out the agenda for the current year underpinned by the two key priorities:
- To promote the welfare of children and young people who are vulnerable to above.
 - Responding to new legislation and joint inspection criteria to ensure the Board fulfils its statutory duties.

- 2.6 The TSCB Business Plan is supported by a detailed action plan setting out how local agencies will work together to deliver the overarching priorities which have been agreed by local partners. A particular emphasis within the action plan is to ensure the Board is receiving regular data and updates on safeguarding performance and the impact on outcomes for children and young people from the recently updated Neglect and Early Help Strategies.

3. Recommendation(s) / Proposed Decision

- 3.1 That the Deputy Mayor be recommended to approve the Torbay Safeguarding Children Board (TSCB) Annual Report 2016-17 (Appendix 1) and Business Plan 2017-18 (Appendix 2).

Appendices

Appendix 1: TSCB Annual Report 2016-17

Appendix 2: TSCB Business Plan 2017-18



TSCB Annual Report

2016-2017

Version: 0.4

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility

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Foreword by Independent Chair



2016/17 has been a period of development and consolidation for the TSCB. Throughout the year the TSCB continued to make steady progress in responding to Ofsted's findings by ensuring it delivers its core assurance functions. The cycle of planning, delivery and review is now more embedded and effective contributions were made by member agencies to the drafting and implementation of new strategies relating to Early Help and Neglect.

A close working relationship has been maintained with the Children's Improvement Board, chaired by the Children's Commissioner, John Coughlan CBE. This is providing for multi-agency oversight of Children's Services and other agencies in delivering key elements to the Improvement Plan.

However, there is still a lot that remains to be done. The Performance Framework agreed by the TSCB has to be subject to regular and exhaustive reporting with appropriate interpretation and commentary to enable the Board to clearly identify and quantify the safeguarding performance issues within Torbay.

I am confident that the strong working relationships between partner agencies will continue to drive improvements in the work to ensure children are protected across Torbay during 2017/18.

Ian Ansell
Independent Chair

Lead Member



An effective LSCB is crucial in ensuring that local arrangements to safeguard children across a range of agencies are robust. 2016/17 was a year in which the focus had been on ensuring that the deficits identified by Ofsted were advanced and that the Board could fill its key role in overseeing the evidence of local multi-agency safeguarding arrangements.

As the Independent Chair noted, improvement is underway but not yet complete. As the Executive Lead for Adults and Children's Services, I see the role to play not just for our services but in working with a full range of TSCB partners to challenge and support them around their particular contributions.

Our aim must be to get to a level of effectiveness that can enable the Department for Education Commissioner to be confident that the TSCB can fully discharge its role and enable the Children's Improvement Board to be stepped down as soon as practicable.

Julien Parrott
Executive Lead Adults and Children

1 Essential Information

Authorship:

Alex Stuckey TSCB Practice Manager, Nick Hollins TSCB Business Manager and Ian Ansell Independent Chair of the TSCB

Approval Process:

Presented to the TSCB Board, Torbay Council Senior Leadership Team, Policy Development and Decision Group: and Full Council

Date of publication – 14th December 2017

This report covers the period 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017 and reflects the structures that were in place up to the end of March 2017.

Contact: tscb@torbay.gov.uk

More information: www.torbaysafeguarding.org.uk

Statutory and legislative context for LSCBs

The Torbay Safeguarding Children Board (TSCB) is the key statutory mechanism for agreeing how local organisations cooperate to safeguard and promote the welfare of children within Torbay. Governed by the statutory guidance in *Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015* and the *Local Safeguarding Board (LSCB) Regulations 2006*, the TSCB comprises senior leaders from a range of different organisations.

The core objectives of the Board are set out in section 14(1) of the Children Act 2004 as follows:

- to co-ordinate what is done by each person or body represented on the Board for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area of the authority; and
- to ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for that purpose

Regulation 5 of the Local Safeguarding Children Board Regulations 2006 sets out the functions of the Board in order to fulfil those responsibilities, these include:

- Developing policies and procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children
- Communicating to local people and organisations the need to safeguard children, raising their awareness of how this can be done and encouraging them to do so
- Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of safeguarding work by TSCB members individually and collectively and agreeing ways in which this can improve
- Participating in the planning of services for children and young people in Torbay
- Undertaking Serious Case Reviews and advising Board members on lessons to be learned and actions to be taken

- Implementing an effective and co-ordinated response by Board members to the unexpected death of a child

The full Terms of Reference for the TSCB can be found at www.torbaysafeguarding.org.uk

2 Governance and Accountability Arrangements

The TSCB is required to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of what is done by the authority and partners individually and collectively to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The TSCB undertakes this task through its business plan and subgroups.

The full Board has continued to meet four times per year and was supported by a smaller Delivery Group which meets six times a year.

The diagram attached as Appendix 1 outlines the structure of the TSCB and its associated subgroups and Peninsula working groups in March 2016.

The Board is supported by a Board Manager and two Coordinators which are responsible for both co-ordinating the work of the Board and its Subgroups and ensuring that the TSCB is supported in making informed decisions. The business unit employs an Independent Chair.

2.1 Partnership and Accountability Arrangements

The TSCB has an Independent Chair who is directly accountable to the Chief Executive Officer of Torbay Council and works closely with the Director of Children's Services and other agency strategic leads. The Lead Member for Adults and Children is the Councillor elected locally. One of Councillor Parrott's responsibilities is for making sure that the local authority fulfils its legal responsibilities to safeguard children and young people.

Designated Health Professionals sit on the Board and Subgroups and take a strategic and professional lead on all aspects of health service contributions to safeguarding children.

The Health and Wellbeing Board provides a forum where key leaders from the health and care system work together to improve the health and wellbeing of their local population and reduce health inequalities. Health and Wellbeing Board members collaborate to understand their local community's needs, agree priorities and encourage commissioners to work in a more joined-up way. A Protocol has been drafted to address the relationship with this board and the TSCB.

The Police and Crime Commissioner's role is to hold the Chief Constable to account in relation to policing priorities. A representative of the Commissioner's office sits on the Board.

Torbay does not have a Children's Trust arrangement to develop and promote integrated front line delivery of services to safeguard children unlike many other local authorities but has plans in place to re-establish this through a Strategic Commissioning Group.

3 The Board

3.1 The Independent Chair

The Independent Chair of the TSCB is Ian Ansell. Supported by a Board Manager and two co-ordinators, the Chair is tasked with ensuring the Board fulfils its statutory objectives and functions. Key to this is the facilitation of a working culture of transparency, challenge and improvement across all partners with regards to their safeguarding arrangements.

The TSCB is required to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of what is done by the authority and partners individually and collectively to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The TSCB undertakes this task through its business plan and subgroups.

The Chair is accountable to the Chief Executive of Torbay Council and has met frequently with the Chief Executive throughout 2016/17. The Director of Children's Services and Lead Member for Adults and Children for Torbay also continued to work closely with the Chair on related Safeguarding challenges, including implementation of the recommendations from OFSTED following their 2015 inspection.

Whilst unable to direct organisations, the TSCB does have the power to influence and hold agencies to account for their role in Safeguarding. This influence can relate to matters of governance as well as impact directly on the welfare of children and young people.



Ian Ansell contributed to work across the Peninsula this year, taking over the role as Chair of the Peninsula Online Safety Group. Ian also represents the four Peninsula Chairs on the Devon and Cornwall MAPPA Strategic Management Board

3.2 Torbay Council

Torbay Council is responsible for establishing a Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) in its area and for ensuring that it is run effectively. The Council's Chief Executive has responsibility for this. The Lead Member for Children in Torbay has the responsibility for making sure Torbay Council fulfils its legal responsibility to safeguard children and young people.



The Independent Chair has had regular face to face meetings with the Chief Executive of Torbay Council and with the Director of Children's Services to steer and support the ongoing work of the Board. The Chief Executive has undertaken an appraisal process with the Independent Chair. The Lead Member for Adults and Children has attended the Board meetings and supported specific areas of partnership work such as the development of the Neglect Strategy and Early Help development work

3.3 Partner Agencies

All partner agencies across Torbay are committed to ensuring the effective operation of TSCB. This is supported by the terms of reference that defines the fundamental principles through which the TSCB is governed. Members of the Board hold strategic positions within their organisations and are able to speak with authority, commit to matters of policy and hold their organisation to account.



This year the partnership commenced a comprehensive review of Early Help in Torbay in response to feedback from the OFSTED inspection in late 2015. Partners from across the statutory and non-statutory sector engaged fully in this piece of work, leading on areas of work, and contributing to a number of task and finish processes around specific pieces of work which will culminate in a Torbay wide launch event in July 2017.

3.4 Designated Professionals

The Designated Doctor and Nurse take a strategic and professional lead on all aspects of the health service contribution to safeguarding children. Designated professionals are a vital source of professional advice. Across the range of TSCB activities, these designated roles have continued to demonstrate their value in 2016/17.



Both the Designated Doctor and Nurse sit on the Serious Case Review Subgroup and full Board. The Designated Doctor is co-leading on a management review of bruising in non-mobile babies which will take place in 2017, resulting from a serious case review referral. The Designated Nurse currently chairs the Quality Assurance Subgroup which leads on the Multi-Agency Case Audits and Section 11 and 157 175 school audits. The Designated Nurse has also contributed significantly to other areas of work for the Board this year, including the development of Early Help work.

3.5 Relationship with Other Boards

There is a clear expectation that LSCBs are highly influential strategic arrangements that directly influence and improve performance in the care and protection of children. There is also a clear expectation that this is achieved through robust arrangements with key strategic bodies across the partnership. During 2016/17 engagement continued with the Torbay Safeguarding Adults Board, the Health and Wellbeing Board, the Community Safety Partnership and the MAPPA Strategic Management Board.

The TSCB has also continued to work closely with the Peninsula Safeguarding Children Boards of Plymouth, Devon and Cornwall on specific areas of work and Child Death arrangements.

























This year, the four Peninsula Safeguarding Children Boards delivered a peninsula wide CSE awareness campaign in partnership. The TSCB also supported the review of the Domestic Abuse strategy and held a joint Adults and Children Safeguarding Board to identify shared priorities and identify opportunities for joint working. The Adult Safeguarding Board have contributed to case audits and the review of Early Help.

3.6 Lay Members

TSCB has two Lay members who play an important role challenging, supporting and holding partners to account in the way they meet their safeguarding duties. One of our Lay Members also sits on a number of subgroups including the Voluntary, Community and Faith group and the Training and Development Subgroup, making important contributions to these areas.

3.7 Board Attendance

The Board met four times during 2016/17 in addition to a business planning full day and half day session. A list of current Board Members is set out at the back of this report. The attendance rates by agency for 2016/17 to the four full meetings are set out below. The  represents how many seats are held by each organisation.

Organisation	Number of seats	% attendance
Independent Chair		100%
Torbay Children's Services	   	100%
Devon and Cornwall Police		100%
Office of the Police Crime and Commissioner, Devon and Cornwall		100%
Public Health		75%
South Devon and Torbay Clinical Commissioning Group	  	75%
Devon Partnership Trust		0%
Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust		50%
Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service		50%
South Western Ambulance Service Trust		0%
Torbay Primary School Representative		100%
Torbay Secondary Head Representative		0%
Voluntary Sector Representatives	 	75%
Torbay Further Education Representative		100%
Careers South West		25%

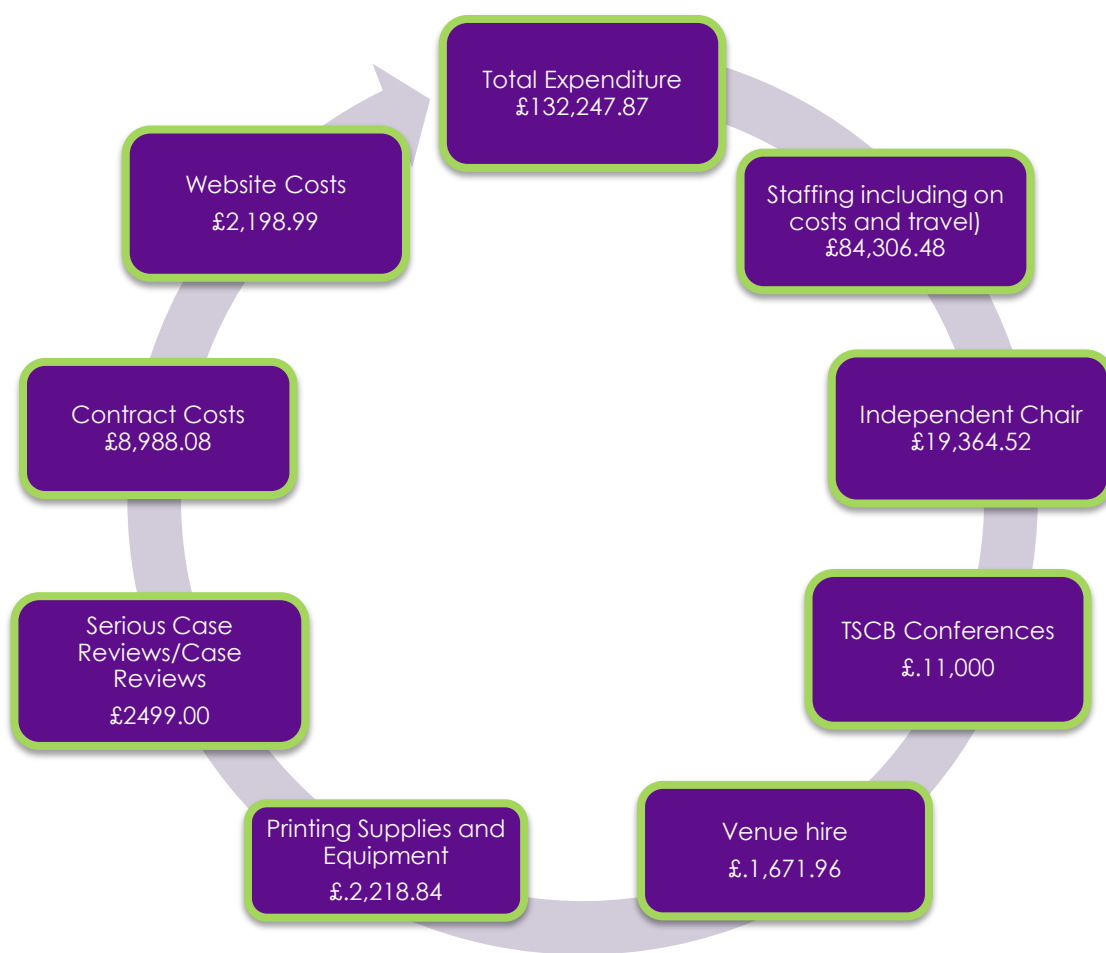
Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service	♀	0%
National Probation Service	♀	50%
Devon, Dorset and Cornwall Community Rehabilitation Company	♀	25%
Lay Members	♀ ♂	75%



4 Financial Arrangements

4.1 The Board

Partner agencies continued to contribute to the TSCB's budget for 2016/17, in addition to providing a range of resources such as staff time and free venues for meetings and training. Contributions totalled £131,789.34, with Torbay Children's Services contributing 65% of the total agency funding. £3,543.00 was rolled over from the previous year to cover planned costs around development of the TSCB website. There was an overall budget shortfall of 4.51% this year. There were funding reductions in 2016/17 from the National Probation Service and Community Rehabilitation Company. This meant that the TSCB had to review spending and make reductions where possible. The TSCB met this through accessing alternative training and meeting venues at a lower or no cost, and reviewing additional meeting and office costs. The TSCB also commissioned an internal management review this year which was funded out of the Serious Case Review budget.



The TSCB saved £2500 from accessing free meeting venues in 2016/17

4.2 Training

Each year partner agencies are asked to complete a training needs analysis which determines how many multi-agency training courses are required. The costs associated with Training in 2016-17 came to £46,513.73. Partners contribute to the costs based on the number of places they purchase.



Summary of Delivery 2016/17

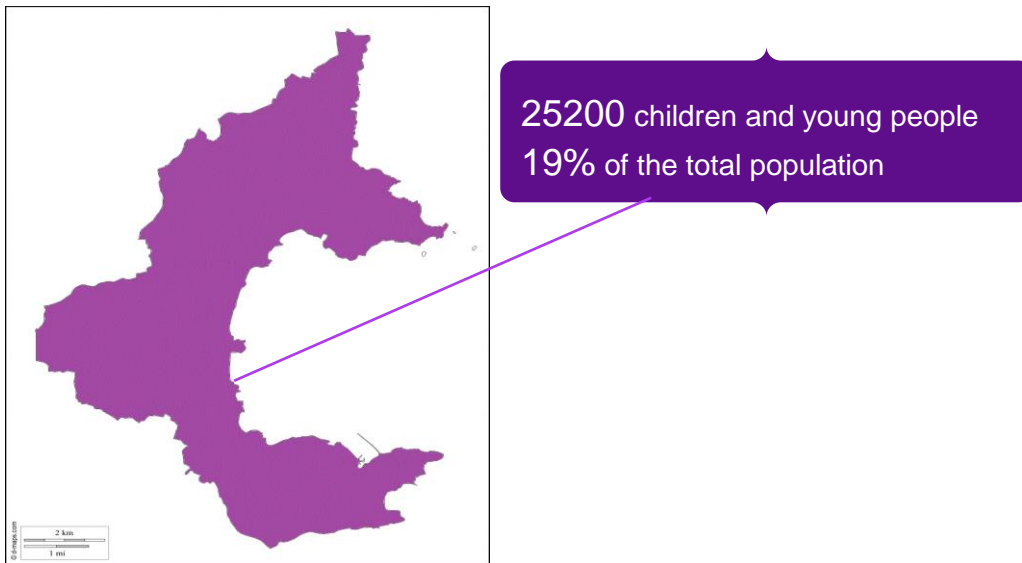
During 2016-2017; TSCB provided 44 training courses (of which 4 were half-day courses). 6 courses were cancelled and are not included in the above figure.

The following topics were provided:

- Topic**
- Safeguarding Children Foundation
 - Safeguarding Children Refresher
 - Signs of Safety – Education
 - Signs of Safety – Advance
 - Introduction to Signs of Safety
 - FEMA
 - Emotional Abuse & Developing Resilience
 - CSE
 - Neglect & Graded Care Profile
 - Safeguarding Children with Disabilities
 - Reflective Supervision in Safeguarding
 - Child Sexual Abuse

5 Local Background and Context

5.1 Demographics



Torbay is located within the South West region of England. It consists of 24 square miles of land spanning the towns of Torquay, Paignton and Brixham, which together occupy an east-facing natural harbour by the English Channel.

The index of multiple deprivation identifies Torbay as the most deprived local authority area in the South West, and within the top 20% most deprived local authorities across England. 42,000 people resident in Torbay, a third of the population, live in areas within the top 20% most deprived in England.

Levels of child poverty in Torbay are relatively high, with the latest estimates (2014) suggesting that 23% of all children in Torbay are in poverty, this compares to 20% across England

There are pockets of severe deprivation and inequalities within Torbay. These pockets tend to be communities that experience poorer outcomes such as poorer educational attainment, poorer socioeconomic status, lower earnings and the lowest life expectancy.

8.1% of children come from minority ethnic groups, which is much lower than the national average of 28.6%. The largest minority ethnic group of children and young people in Torbay are recorded as 'any other white background'

5.1% of children in primary schools have English as an additional language which is lower than the national average of 19.4%. For secondary school children it is slightly lower at 4.1% where the national average is 15%

Domestic abuse is a significant feature in Torbay as detailed above and this alone accounts for around 40% of cases held across all levels of thresholds of the Child's Journey. Domestic Abuse rates in Torbay are very high at 431 per 10K; the highest rates across the Devon and Cornwall Police Force area. In

2016/17 there were 1030 reported incidents of domestic abuse reported where a child/children were present. The number of recorded crimes on under 18 year olds is also high. The rate of sexual offences across age ranges in Torbay is double the national average and is the highest in the Peninsula.

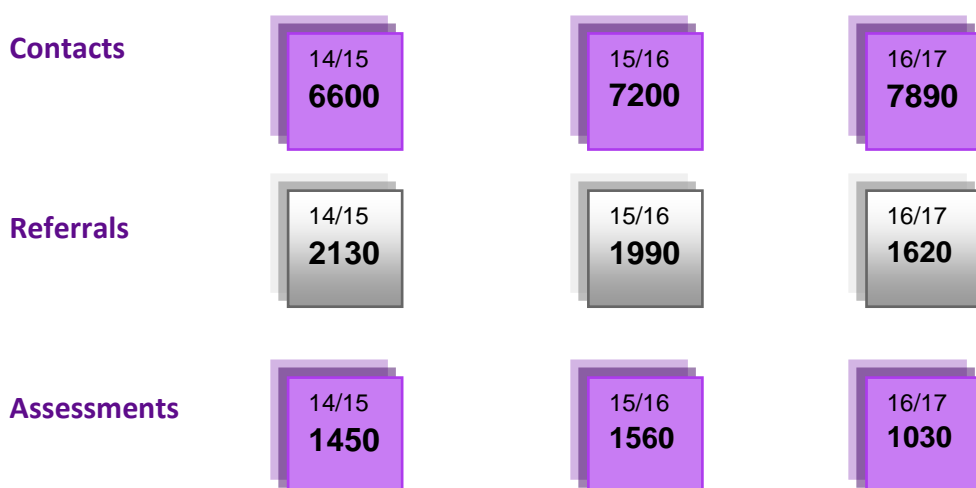
Academic attainment is slightly above the regional and England averages with 58.2% of pupils achieving >5 A* - C GCSEs or equivalent compared to 57.7% regionally and 52.3% England average. The numbers of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) is not significant in relation to national figures at 3.8%.

National research shows that 8.9 - 10.8% of 4-5 year olds, and 16-19% of 10-11 year olds in Torbay are classed as obese¹. The rate of alcohol-specific hospital stays among those under 18 has reduced from the previous year at 61.5 (per 100,000), however remains worse than the average for England. This represents 15 stays per year. Levels of smoking at time of delivery are worse than the England average. Hospital admissions across adults and children for self-harm and alcohol related harm are significantly higher than the England average, as are the numbers for opiate and/or crack use.

In addition, Torbay is an outlier in a number of other national and statistical neighbour indicators. The number of care applications rose from 22.2 in 2014/15 to 22.6 in 2016/17 (per 10,000 children) in comparison with 12.5 nationally. Nearly twice the number of section 47 investigations undertaken compared to our statistical neighbours. Just over 110 children per 10,000 of the population are looked after compared to 60 England average. The number of young people in a CAMHS Tier 4 provision is high.

The number of pupils with SEN statements is the second highest in the country at 4.4 % with the national average being 2.8% and increasing numbers of children subject to Child Protection Plans.

5.2 Contacts, Referrals and Assessments



The levels of contacts are indicative of the levels of demand within the community and a reflection of the confidence and readiness of the public and partners having to identify children about whom they are concerned.

¹ House of Commons Briefing Paper 3336 20th January 2017

This year saw the creation of a single point of entry via the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) which enables more accurate screening and signposting for lower tier cases, and timely progression of referrals where the threshold for a statutory social work assessment is reached. This has simplified how colleagues and the public from across Torbay can raise concerns regarding children. More information on this is outlined in the Progress sections.

Whilst the numbers of children and families reportedly receiving Early Help in Torbay appears good, there has been a long-standing lack of clarity and evidence as to the impact of these interventions. This has impacted on the tendency of social care staff to actively step cases down into Early Help. Partners have also had concerns regarding their role in leading early help cases. In response, Early Help and what the offer is for families will be relaunched in early 2017/18.

Children’s Services in Torbay recorded 1620 referrals which was just over 18.5% less than last year.

Year	Total number of referrals	Torbay per 10K	Statistical neighbour per 10k	National average per 10k
13/14	2750	1104	715	573
14/15	2130	851	644	548
15/16	1990	789	771	532
16/17	1620	643	Not available	Not available

Over the last 4 years referrals have continued to fall and is now much closer to benchmarks. The profile of partners notifying Children Services is also generally in line with that seen nationally. In 2016/17 the Police, Schools / Academies and Health accounted for 55% of the total number of referrals deemed to meet thresholds. The reduction in the number of referrals is linked to the successful operation of the MASH and the ongoing and consistent engagement of partner agencies, most notably Police and Health colleagues.

Further work around understanding thresholds of intervention for Children’s Services and the Child’s Journey document will form part of the plan of work for the TSCB for 17/18.

During 2016/17 further improvements were made to create one front door and thereby remove the requirements on partners to complete different paper work and engage in different processes to raise concerns about children.

The number of children in need assessments has also continued to fall and is now just below comparator authority levels. This trend is a reflection of the delivery of the MASH which is helping to better ensure that the right cases go on to assessment.

The relative number of section 47 investigations is currently 36% higher than the latest set of available benchmarks. However, practice compliance on the timeliness of these investigations actually improved in 2016/17 compared to the previous year. Timeliness of reviews were also good.

5.3 Children on Child Protection Plans

Following a child protection enquiry, where concerns of significant harm are substantiated and the child is judged to be suffering, or likely to suffer significant harm, social workers and their managers should convene an Initial Child Protection Conference (ICPC). An ICPC brings together family members (and children/young people where appropriate) with supporters, advocates and professionals to analyse information and plan how best to safeguard and promote the welfare of the child/young person. If the ICPC considers that the child/young person is at a continuing risk of significant harm, they will be made the subject of a Child Protection Plan (CPP).

Children who have CPP are considered to be in need of protection from either neglect, physical, sexual or emotional abuse or a combination of one or more of these. The CPP details the main areas of concern, what action will be taken to reduce those concerns and by whom, and how professionals, the family and the child or young person (where appropriate) will know when progress is being made.

Number of children on plans

Year	Total number	Torbay per 10K	Statistical neighbour per 10k	National average per 10k
14/15	151	60	55	43
15/16	133	53	52	43
16/17	215	85	Not available	Not available

Child Protection by category

Year	Torbay 2015/16	Torbay 2016/17	Statistical neighbour 2015/16	National average 2015/16
Emotional abuse	54.1%	49.5%	26%	35.3%
Neglect	33.3%	38.3%	46.9%	46%
Physical abuse	8.9%	4.7%	5.9%	8.3%
Sexual abuse	3.7%	7.8%	5.1%	4.7%
Multiple	Not used in Torbay Council	Not used in Torbay Council	15.2%	5.6%

Length of plans (% of all those that cease in year)

Year	Torbay 2015/16	Torbay 2016/17	Statistical neighbour 2015/16	National average 2015/16
0-3 months	33%	15%	24%	20%
3-6 months	15%	30%	12%	11%
6-12 months	36%	44%	41%	41%
1-2 years	15%	11%	20%	25%
Over 2 years	1%	1%	3%	4%

Children on plans for a second or subsequent time

Year	Total number of referrals	Statistical neighbour per 10k	National average per 10k
13/14	12.9%	16.8%	15.8%
14/15	16.7%	17.4%	16.6%
15/16	23.1%	19.7%	17.9%
16/17	23.4%	Not available	Not available

Children who are at immediate risk of significant harm are on plans. 2016/17 saw the number on plans rise significantly. The reasons for this are linked to a number of factors that relate to practice across Torbay. In the first instance Child Protection rose in response to a check on the application of threshold for investigations. This led to an increased number of children being subject to investigation. Another factor is the high degree of confidence expressed by partners in the protection process. Work is underway to ensure that the use of Child Protection is balanced with other approaches to help address risks to children.

Evidence of the changing profile of Child Protection can also be seen in the relatively short time some plans are in place compared to benchmarks. In 2016/17 saw only a small number of children on plans for more than 2 years and these were linked to complex legal cases.

The rise in Child Protection did lead to a rise in those coming on to a plan for a second time. However, the majority of the increase related to children who had never been on a plan before. Emotional abuse and Neglect accounted for nearly 90% of children on plans. Case auditing and reviews have identified that Emotional abuse is most often linked to families where Domestic Abuse has occurred.

5.4 Children Looked After

A child or young person who is 'looked after' is in the care of the Local Authority. The local authority only seeks the court decision to move a child from their family once all other possibilities are explored for protecting them.

As at 31st March 2017, Torbay was responsible for looking after 284 children and young people. A year prior to this the total number of children being looked after was 279. At end of March 2017, 17% of the children looked after are under 4 years old, 22% are between 5-9, 45% were aged 10 to 15 and 18% were over 16 years old.

5.5 Placement Stability, Type and Location

Children looked after generally enjoy long term stable placements in Torbay. For example, the number of children experiencing 3 or more placement moves is low compared to benchmarks. Where possible and appropriate, family based placements are sought for children looked after. In Torbay 77% of children looked after were cared for within family settings. However, a small proportion, 13% of children are looked after in residential care.

Local placements are sought for children so that they can remain close to the community in which they had lived. However, a longstanding short fall in the amount of local specialist types of provision means that 23% of children are placed more than 20 miles from Torbay.

5.6 Private Fostering

Private Fostering is where parents make their own arrangements for the care of their children who are under 16 years old to live away from home with someone other than a parent or close relative. The local authority must be notified of these arrangements if they last for 28 days or more. For the year ending 31 March 2017, notifications were received in respect of 236 Private Fostering arrangements which is a 3% increase on last year. This high number is in relation to the number of language schools based in the Torbay area. The number of notifications in relation to local young people was broadly the same as last year.

Approximately 94% of all privately fostered young people in Torbay were from overseas studying to improve their English. Most of the host families recruited by the various schools and organisations are white British. This year 52% were seen within statutory timescales representing a considerable improvement on the previous year which was 26%.

5.7 Children with Disabilities

The need to safeguard disabled children and provide effective support to children and their families is a priority both nationally and locally. The Children and Families Act 2014 brought significant changes to support service provision for disabled children.

Research has found that disabled children are four times more likely to be abused and neglected than non-disabled children, are more likely to experience multiple types and occurrences of abuse and have a prevalence rate of 20% for experiencing physical abuse, 14% sexual violence, 18% emotional abuse and 9.5% for neglect. Disabled children have additional needs and face both additional and specific risks and barriers to their protection including:

- Attitudes and assumptions such as a reluctance to believe that disabled children are abused, minimising the impact of abuse and attributing indicators of abuse to a child's impairment without an exploration of possible causes or reasons underlying these;
- Barriers to the provision of support services;
- Impairment related factors such as dependency on carers for personal assistance, impaired capacity to resist/avoid abuse, communication impairments and an inability to understand what is happening or seek help;
- Skills gaps such as an inability to communicate with the disabled child and respond to their individual needs in a child protection context, inappropriate application of thresholds'

(NWG on Safeguarding Disabled Children (2016) Safeguarding Disabled Children in England NSPCC)

Safeguarding disabled children was the subject of a multi-agency case audit completed by the Quality Assurance Sub-Group of the TSCB. The findings of the audit demonstrated that children with disabilities receive a good service overall:

"It is encouraging that in the six cases audited no significant concerns were identified and there was a focus on ensuring the needs of the child were met. All of the cases discussed appeared to be rightly

managed by the appropriate teams, given the nature and range of disabilities experienced. Many professionals strived to offer a responsive service in line with “Think Family” and their commitment to providing this, in difficult circumstances, should not be overlooked.”

5.8 Domestic Violence and Abuse

Protecting children and young people from domestic violence and abuse is a priority for the TSCB. This year the Board worked with the Community Safety Partnership to influence a renewed focus on children and young people within this area of work. Further detail is provided within the progress section of this report.

Key figures for Torbay reflect the scale of this issue:

- **1030** Domestic Abuse incidents where children/young person present during 2016/17;
- **33%** of all social work assessments completed in 2016/17 identified domestic abuse as an issue within family;
- **147** children started on a plan under the category of emotional abuse. This category is most closely associated with the harm caused by Domestic Abuse.



Health practitioners attended the Best Practice Forum to share an example of good practice in working with a victim of domestic abuse. Practitioners shared how they facilitated contact for the victim with supportive services, by providing a safe place and time for this to take place without putting the victim at risk/increasing suspicion by the perpetrator. The example showed great initiative and creativity by practitioners, and led to a successful outcome for the victim. Their presentation was well received and very powerful.

5.9 Children and Young People at risk of Exploitation

This year saw a change in focus for the TSCB in relation to children and young people at risk of exploitation. The Child Sexual Exploitation subgroup widened its’ remit to become the Missing, Exploited and Trafficked Subgroup in recognition of the complexity of issues facing our children and young people. The group now focuses on radicalisation, modern slavery, trafficking and missing children in addition to those at risk of/experiencing sexual exploitation.

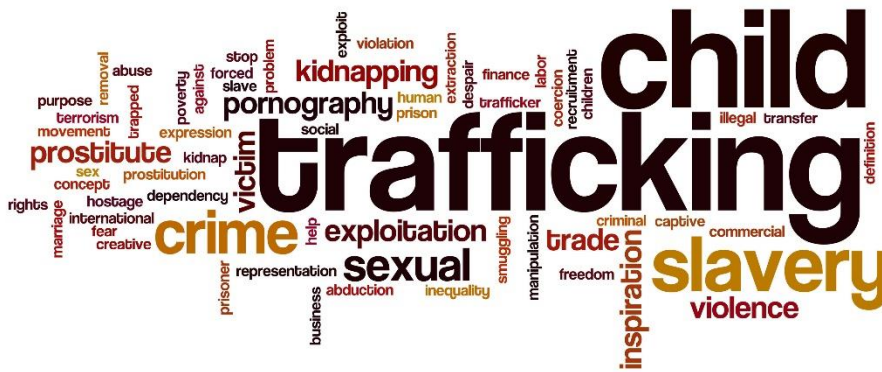
The Board now has access to a range of domestic abuse data within its' agreed dataset which includes information on recorded incidents of domestic abuse where children and young people are present, and data on children subject to statutory intervention as a result of domestic abuse. The Board has also commissioned a thematic audit of domestic abuse to take place during 2017 which will provide further analysis of the effectiveness of services in tackling this issue, particularly in relation to the impact on children and young people.

The Board commissioned a Best Practice Forum in 16/17 to raise awareness of domestic abuse, which was well attended by all partners.

Priority 3 – Ensure a coordinated multi-agency approach and response to complex safeguarding issues including; Missing, Exploited and Trafficked children and young people, High Risk Adolescents, Radicalisation and the PREVENT agenda

Set out below are some of the achievements made by the MET Sub- Group across 2016/17:

- The remit of the subgroup changed from CSE to MET in June 2016. The remit expanded to include trafficked young people, high risk adolescents, FGM, radicalisation and the PREVENT agenda.



- FGM online training module has been launched and promoted across the partnership via the TSCB Newsletter.
- The MACSE Terms of Reference have been reviewed and agreed by the subgroup.
- The MET subgroup and Training Subgroup commissioned Chelsea’s Choice training to all year 8 and 9 secondary school students across Torbay during CSE Awareness Week in March 2016. This was funded by an underspend in the TSCB Training Budget for 2015-16. This event was supported by the CSE Champions to ensure the wellbeing of the students following the event.
- The MET subgroup approved the Torbay Children’s Services Missing Practice Standards in November 2016.
- The TSCB funded 81 places on a CSE Masterclass conference held on 23rd March 2017. This included delegates from across the partnership including Torbay Children’s Service, Devon

Sport	4
How I feel	3
Health	3
Relationships	3
My money	3
My care plan	1
Everything	1
My social worker	1
Memes on Facebook	1
A game I played	1
Family contact	1

Proud	2
Annoyed	2
Frustrated	2
Pleased	2
Overjoyed	2
Ignored	1
Loved	1
Hurt	1
Mega happy and excited	1
Alone	1
I was sad earlier	1
This things weird	1
Amazing	1

What is not good in life?	
School	9
Friends	3
Someone else	3
Where I live	3
My grandad	2
Nothing	2
Contact	2
Health	2
Never happy	1
Brother	1
Clubs	1
Ummm (custom)	1
Nothing	1
Not seeing my dogs	1
Someone in my class	1

How are you feeling?	
Happy	27
Ok	17
Calm	14
Excited	9
Enthusiastic	7
Unhappy	6
Unsure	6
Angry	6
Anxious	6
Hopeful	5
Confused	4
Bored	3
Thankful	3

A mapping exercise also undertaken to establish which methods were being used in Children's Services to engage children and families and to capture their feedback, complaints and views. Heads of Service were asked to ensure representatives provided feedback about user participation and feedback in the following teams:

- Adoption
- Fostering
- Early Help: FIT, IFSS
- Safeguarding and Supporting Families
- CLA Team
- Disability Team
- MASH
- Single assessment team
- IYSS
- Independent Reviewing Unit
- Family Group Conference Service

Respondents were asked to comment on the type of engagement, how often it was done, where it was recorded and how it was used.

Nine different types of engagement were identified that are used to involve children, young people and their families and capture their views.

- Observation of children and young people
- Indirect contact and use of technology
- Methods to encourage participation
- Direct work with children and young people
- Direct meetings with families
- Group Work
- Assessment
- Feedback regarding services
- TSCB Multi Agency Case Audits (MACA)



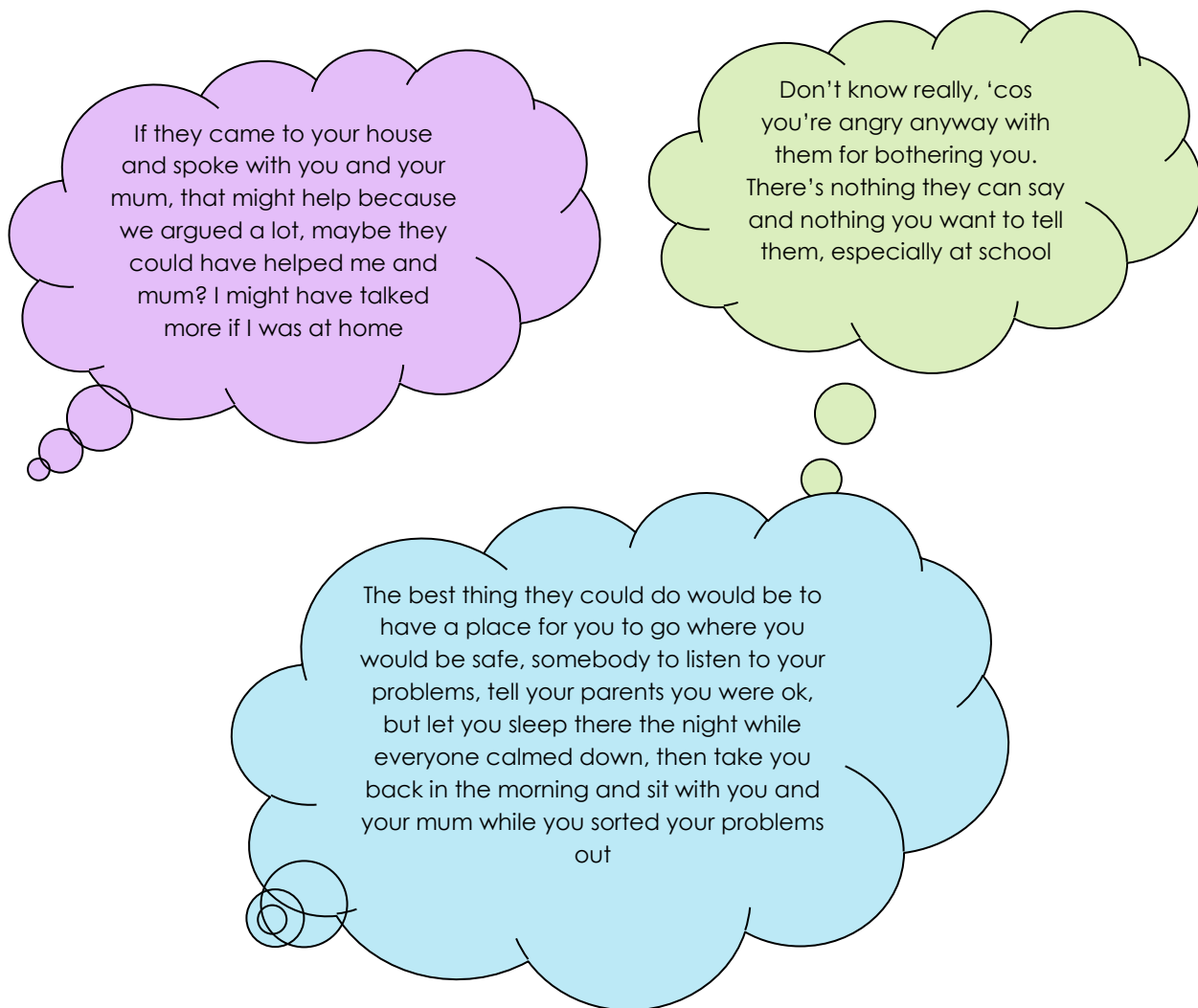
The Child's Voice

TSCB partners have a strong ethos of engagement with children and young people, ensuring they are seen, heard and helped. Practitioners from all agencies gather the views of children and young people on a daily basis, from a home visit by a social worker to comments made to a teacher in the classroom. The roll out of the Signs of Safety model across the partnership has made a significant difference to practice, with the views, worries and wishes of children and young people playing a central role in the development of plans. Recruitment of the current Independent Chair included meeting a panel of young people who had an opportunity to develop their own questions and contribute to the process.

7.1.1 The child's voice in multi-agency case audits

As part of a recent multi-agency case audit on missing episodes, a focus group took place with 3 young people who had recently gone missing. The young people were asked about their understanding of what responsibilities services had when children/young people go missing, what happened when they returned home, what could be done to make the return home interviews better, what would a good experience look like, what were their worries for themselves/other children and young people going missing and what was it like to live in Torbay.

Some of the responses are outlined below:



One school had worked particularly hard to support a young person whose missing episodes were increasing and she was presenting as dishevelled in appearance at school. Police had a good relationship with this young person who was happy to share information and talk to them. School records clearly articulated the young person and her wishes and aspirations, and often undertook the Return Home Interviews when the young person did not want to engage with Checkpoint

7.2.1 Section 11 Auditing

The Section 11 Audit is the TSCB's primary audit to examine the safeguarding arrangements within agencies and provides the Board with reassurance that agencies are doing what they can to ensure the safety and welfare of children and young people.

Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 places a statutory duty on key agencies and bodies to make arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. On an annual basis, the TSCB undertakes an audit of statutory, commissioned and voluntary sector organisations to establish reassurance that they are compliant with these expected safeguarding standards. In 2016 the TSCB

introduced an additional layer of scrutiny by adding in panel discussions with organisations about their Section 11 returns.



The TSCB received a total of 14 completed audits out of 15 requested and 13 statutory, voluntary and commissioned services attended the scrutiny panels

7.2.2 Section 11 Findings

There was a positive completion rate of the audits and attendance at the panels and many organisations reported the process as a positive experience. The main themes from the audits were:

- How do we ensure that learning and guidance from training, audits and serious case reviews is embedded into practice?
- Roles of commissioners – although not frontline, how do commissioners hold providers to account, transfer learning and ensure safeguarding assurance is built into tendering processes;
- What management oversight is there of the levels and quality of referrals and of complaint processes;
- An increased focus on children with disabilities was an area that a number of partners identified as needing more work
- The ability to use IT systems to extract key data.

Following on from the returns and panels, each organisation has an individual action plan and have been asked to provide an update on progress against these plans quarterly.

7.2.3 Section 157/175

Sections 157 and 175 of the Education Act 2002 place a statutory duty on independent and maintained schools to make arrangements to ensure that in discharging their functions, they have regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and that any services they contract out to others are provided having regard to that need.

In fulfilling its statutory objectives under Section 14 of the Children Act 2004, the Torbay Safeguarding Children Board (TSCB) is required to ensure that schools are meeting these duties effectively.

Historically, schools have engaged well in this work with the Local Authority. The TSCB has reviewed this process this year which will now be overseen by the Quality Assurance Subgroup. This is a significant step forward which will ensure closer oversight and scrutiny by all partners. The toolkit has also been reviewed in partnership with schools to ensure it covers all appropriate areas of safeguarding. This is a two year process with full audits being undertaken in year 1 and a review audit in year 2.

Priorities going forward:

- Encouraging all independent, maintained and language schools to participate fully in the 157 175 audit;
- Ensuring there is robust scrutiny of all the completed audits and regular scrutiny and oversight of progress against agreed actions for both the Section 11 and 157 175 processes.

7.2.4 Multi-Agency Case Audits

This year the Quality Assurance Subgroup led on three multi-agency case audits, looking at practice in relation to Children with Disabilities, Best Practice and Children Missing from Home and Care.

The case audits are undertaken by members of the Quality Assurance on analysis undertaken by practitioners and their line managers, feedback from children and young people and their families and other groups as appropriate. For example, the missing audit included conversations with a wider group of children and young people, and staff from services commissioned to deliver services in relation to missing children and young people.

From each audit, an action plan is developed which underpins the ongoing work of the Quality Assurance Subgroup, which includes commissioning work by other relevant groups.

Strengths identified:

- Evidence of good communication between the lead professional and all the relevant agencies.
- Good evidence of a “Think Family” approach being adopted and it taking account of all the known concerns and considerations.
- good planning, evidence and recording, for the transition from children’s’ disability services to adult services, with reference to all the professionals and agencies involved
- Evidence of agencies across the partnership working well together to support families
- Good engagement with children using a range of tools to capture their views and experience, often resulting in children “jumping off the page
- A multi-agency approach to engineering an opportunity for a woman to be seen alone to support a disclosure of domestic abuse
- Tenacity of early years providers to obtain safeguarding information from previous nursery provision
- Early years provision describing very good communication between the core group to improve outcomes for children
- Good evidence of the use of Signs of Safety
- Timely referrals to allow support services to be put in place for a child who was self-harming
- Use of weight charts to support referral into Children’s Social Care
- School working effectively to empower a child to talk about their emotions
- Where workers remained consistent in the cases audited, there was some excellent work done both in terms of single agency requirements and partner agency working

- One school had worked particularly hard to support a young person whose missing episodes were increasing. Specific action taken included; allocating a welfare officer, identifying a designated attendance spot in school, monitoring attendance with a specific protocol for this young person, working with mum and police/school nurse, adapting the curriculum to meet the young person's needs and being part of the safety plan for the young person. Police had a good relationship with this young person who was happy to share information and talk to them. School records clearly articulated the young person and her wishes and aspirations, and often undertook the Return Home Interviews when the young person did not want to engage with another service
- Clear evidence of police responding promptly to a young person's disclosure of domestic abuse at home, this was escalated to children's social care with a positive outcome for the young person.
- There was an excellent example of the Early Help process supporting a young person known to go missing, and where required support was escalated to a single assessment.
- There was evidence to demonstrate that the police worked over and above practice standards supporting one young person very effectively after one missing episode, where the young person upon being taken home stated they would run again – the police visited later to check on the young person. This resulted in police taking robust action to secure a conviction against one individual known to harbour and posing a risk to young people going missing, who young people had been found with.
- A senior leader within a school who had retired contacted the Head of the Virtual School and asked if she could continue to do some work with a particular young person known to go missing whom she had built a good relationship with
- The use of Equine therapy to support young people who have emotional and behavioural difficulties, including attachment issues
- In cases where young people had become "Looked After", there was a notable improvement in the outcomes for those young people, with improved attendance at school and engagement with support services.
- Information regarding regular places that young people are known to go to is shared by the police at Missing and Child Sexual Exploitation meetings. This has resulted in improved responses to missing episodes, where "known places" are checked first

Actions arising from this year's case audits:

- To seek assurance that the CIN process is being followed appropriately and the CIN plans are seeking to make improvements in outcomes for our children and young people.
- To seek assurance that where supervised contact arrangements are in place, vulnerabilities of those being considered to "supervise" are taken into account
- Social Workers and Paediatricians to be reminded that it is not the role of the Paediatrician to undertake one off assessments on children to provide evidence of neglect
- To seek assurance that the process of supervision includes scrutiny of record keeping and monitoring of the progress of any plans in place
- To seek assurance that staff within Children's Social Care are trained in using the SMART approach within their record keeping and care planning

- To seek assurance that Children's Social Care and Adult Mental Health services are working together to ensure that where there are concerns about an adult having a severe or complex mental health issue or a learning disability, which meets the threshold for a service that;
 - an appropriate intervention or assessment is implemented that identifies their needs and ensures they are met; and
 - allows the diagnosis to inform the plan for the child/ren and their family;
- Schools to be made aware of the resources available for children and young people experiencing low level emotional health needs where the threshold for CAMHS intervention is not met.
- Social Workers to be reminded that where there is a planned piece of intervention for a child, meetings to monitor the progress of that intervention should be organised in a way that allows the key professionals to attend
- All practitioners must ensure that the inbox details they give in order to receive minutes from Child Protection/Child in Need meetings (whether it be a generic or individual inbox) are regularly accessed and cover in place if on leave
- In future audits, there must be representation from all agencies reflected in the audit
- Seek assurance that where appropriate, reunification is considered for all children entering into the care system, and that an appropriate plan is in place that encompasses the emotional support required by children who are removed from their parent/s / primary care giver

Through the Quality Assurance Sub- Group, the audit process was also updated this year to include a greater focus on the views of children and young people and their families, and the inclusion of specialist workers to ensure the audits remain focussed on practice within the subject area and not just general practice.

Planning is already underway for the 17/18 case audits which will again see a shift towards the Joint Targeted Area Inspection approach, with Terms of Reference already drawn up for a thematic Domestic Abuse audit which will take place in summer 2017.

7.2.5 Case Reviews

Local Safeguarding Children Boards have a statutory responsibility to undertake Serious Case Reviews in specified circumstances, which are set out in the Local Safeguarding Children Boards Regulations 2006.

Regulation 5 sets out the circumstances in which the Board should undertake a serious case review and advise the authority and their Board partners on lessons to be learned. Serious cases are defined as:

- Cases where the abuse or neglect of a child is known or suspected; and
- Either the child has died, or the child has been seriously harmed and there is cause for concern as to the way in which the authority, their Board partners or other relevant persons have worked together to safeguard the child.

Serious case reviews should be undertaken by an independent person with involvement of all the agencies involved with the case, and should be published by the Safeguarding Children Board.

Cases meeting the criteria are referred to the Serious Case Review Subgroup, to assess whether they meet the criteria for a serious case review. Cases that don't meet this criteria but where there may be valuable learning for agencies, are sometimes reviewed in a different way with the learning shared with local partners but not published.

- During 2016/17, the Serious Case Review Subgroup met on eight occasions with two cases being formally considered for a serious case review.
- The Chair decided not to initiate any Serious Case Reviews but did commission two Management Reviews. Both reviews remain in progress.
- One management review was concluded following a referral in 2015/16 (C53).

Board Members are kept informed about the progress of both Serious Case reviews and Management Reviews and the all reports together with any recommendations are considered in depth at Board Meetings.

7.2.6 C53 - Management Review

This review was completed in 2016/17 following referral in 2015/16 due to concerns regarding unexplained marks to the child's body. The marks were later attributed to a medical condition however there were some concerns regarding multi-agency working and as such, an independent management review was undertaken. The following summary sets out the key areas of learning identified and actions to be taken by the TSCB:

7.2.7 Key Learning – C53

Consideration of safeguarding issues alongside normal age and developmental factors in assessing injuries to young children

- Importance of how we resolve differing medical opinions so that we have a common understanding of the diagnosis and how this influences a view about safeguarding
- Importance of effective policies and procedures in relation to;
 - communication,
 - repeat presentations at emergency department,
 - location and nature of injuries in relation to age of child,
 - escalation and de-escalation of cases
 - the involvement of partner agencies within this decision making
- Importance of the quality of decision making, management oversight and sharing of information with other agencies

7.2.7 Actions – C53

- Action plan developed and monitored by the SCR subgroup with actions from previous reviews marked as completed when appropriate to do so.

7.2 8 External Learning

The TSCB is a learning organisation and is constantly looking outwards to identify relevant learning opportunities that may help assist it's' role of coordinating and ensuring the effectiveness of the safeguarding systems across Torbay. Over 2016/17 a number of national reviews and inspection reports were considered by the TSCB, with Board members reflecting on their relevance to local safeguarding arrangements.

Some of these included:

- Good Childhood Report 2016 (The Children's Society)
- We have the right to be safe: protecting disabled children from abuse (NSPCC)
- National case review repository (NSPCC)
- The Brooke Serious Case Review into CSE (Bristol LSCB)
- Operation Erle (Peterborough LSCB)
- Joint targeted area inspections: framework and guidance (OFSTED)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (DfE)
- The Prevent Duty: Departmental advice for schools and childcare providers (DfE)
- Unknown Children: Destined for disadvantage? (OFSTED)

7.3 Performance Data

The TSCB agreed a partnership dataset this year in response to the recommendations from the 2015 OFSTED inspection. Data was available from Quarter 3 which enabled the TSCB to start to effectively scrutinise patterns and trends in performance and hold agencies to account where appropriate. Examples of challenge arising from the data are set out below:



Number of children and young people detained in custody overnight: high numbers were noted from the early data provided and challenged within the Board meetings. A working group was established under the governance of the Youth Justice Forum which looked individually at any young person detained in accordance with a concordat which addresses young people being detained overnight by the Police. This resulted in proactive work with custody sergeants to improve awareness and promote greater communication with children's social care in appropriate cases.



Declining trend force wide in domestic abuse incidents where a child is present: There has been a steadily declining trend over the previous 12 months which was noted. A separate piece of work is being undertaken to analyse this trend to ascertain what the reasons behind this may be, which will be monitored by the TSCB.



Rising trend in sexual offences where the offender is identified as a young person; a specific piece of work was commissioned to analyse the individual cases and will be reported into the MET Subgroup during 2017/18 identifying any wider partnership activity that may be required.

8 Child Death Overview Panel

The Peninsula Safeguarding Children Boards (Devon, Torbay, Plymouth and Cornwall) commission a Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) which enables the Boards to carry out their statutory functions in relation to child deaths. The CDOP review all child deaths and are required to categorise the preventability of a death by considering whether any factors may have contributed to the death of the child, and if so, whether any of these factors could be 'modified' to reduce the risk of future deaths. Of the deaths reviewed in 2016/17 from across the peninsula, 18% were considered to be modifiable which is lower than the national figure of 24% from 2015/16.

CDOP facts and figures 2016/17:

- 44 deaths of Torbay children and young people reviewed since 2012
- Figures show a sustained reduction in deaths of Torbay children and young people in 2015/16 and 2016/17 from previous years
- 6 deaths reviewed in 2016/17
- 39% of deaths across the peninsula were unexpected

8.1 CDOP impact 2016/17 – improving child safety, child welfare and the CDOP process

Safe Sleeping CDOP wrote to the Directors of Public Health and The Lullaby Trust to seek reassurance regarding some of the messages being given to parents and carers about safe sleeping. The Board through the Serious Case Review Sub- Group is continuing to progress the issues with partners.

Palliative Care CDOP raised concerns regarding the quality and consistency of end of life care for children and young people and their families. CDOP requested a review of commissioning across the peninsula. The Board passed this issue to the South Devon and Torbay Clinical Commissioning Group.

Health and Safety CDOP noted a number of cases where there were modifiable Health and Safety concerns and contacted the appropriate bodies to request a review of policies and guidance and awareness raising activity.

Children and Young People's mental health CDOP contributed to a national inquiry regarding children and young people's mental health and the role for education in improving emotional resilience. Once published, the findings will be considered by CDOP and appropriate actions identified.

8.2 Themes and Recommendations for the TSCB

CDOP have identified the following themes which the TSCB will need to consider in the ongoing work of the TSCB during 2017/18:

- The majority of childhood deaths nationally continue to occur in the less than 1 year age group. Studies that have explored sudden infant deaths and deaths for which the cause remained unascertained after a full investigation, have identified key risk factors which remain unchanged:
 - Smoking and alcohol use
 - Parental mental health
 - Hazardous sleeping environments
 - Gender
 - Birth Weight
 - Maternal Age
 - Socioeconomic classification
- In previous CDOP reports, the under 5s and under 1s as a group have been highlighted for consideration. CDOP recommends working with Early Years workers to deliver safe sleeping and safety initiatives that safeguard children.
- Another group of deaths reflected in the modifiable category are suicides. Notable factors identified in previous studies have included poor mental health within the family, bullying, suicidal ideation and deprivation.
- As outlined above, there are ongoing concerns regarding the provision and configuration of palliative care across the South West.

9 Training and Development

The TSCB continues to be confident that single and multi-agency training is of high quality is valued by participants and is helping contribute towards positive outcomes for children and young people.

The training opportunities offered by the TSCB are designed to meet the diverse needs of staff at different levels across the wide range of organisations that work with children and young people, or their family members. The multi-agency training and Best Practice Forums are led by the Training subgroup, and focuses on areas of practice prioritised by the Board, with learning from local and national serious case reviews and case audits being fully integrated into the training material.

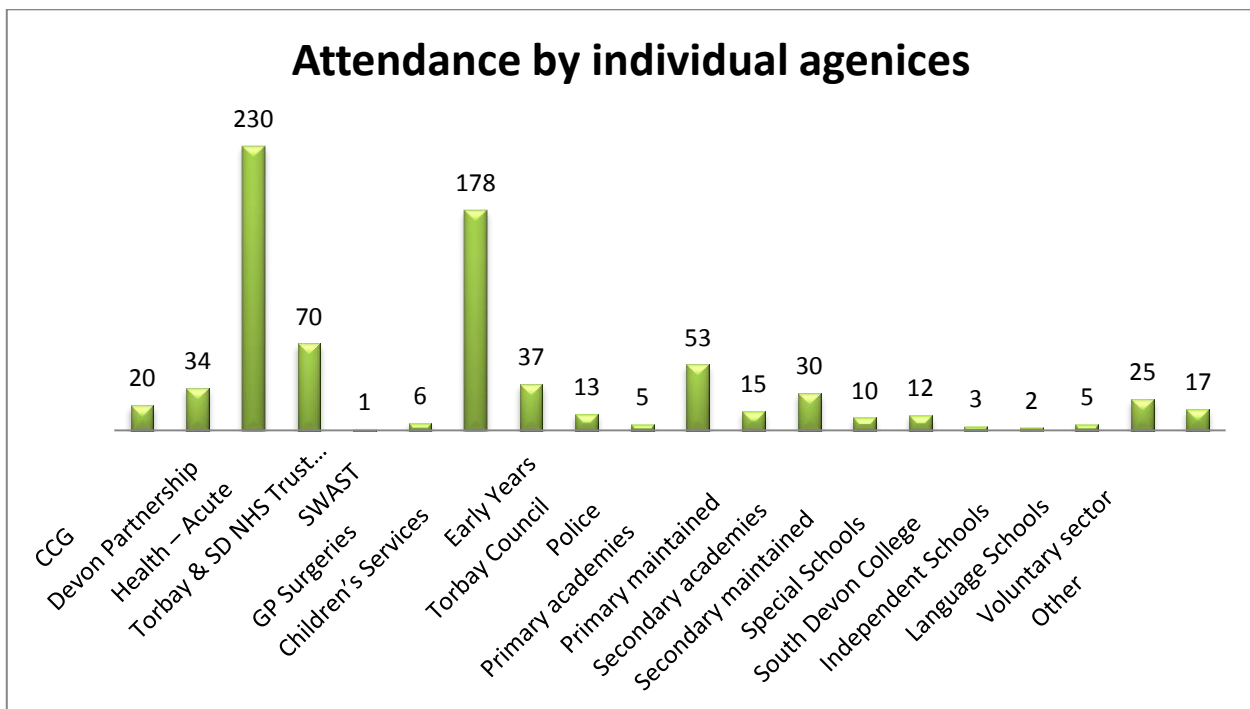
9.1 TSCB Multi-Agency Training Programme Summary 2016/17

During 2016-2017; TSCB provided 44 training courses (of which 4 were half-day courses). 6 courses were cancelled and are not included in the above figure.

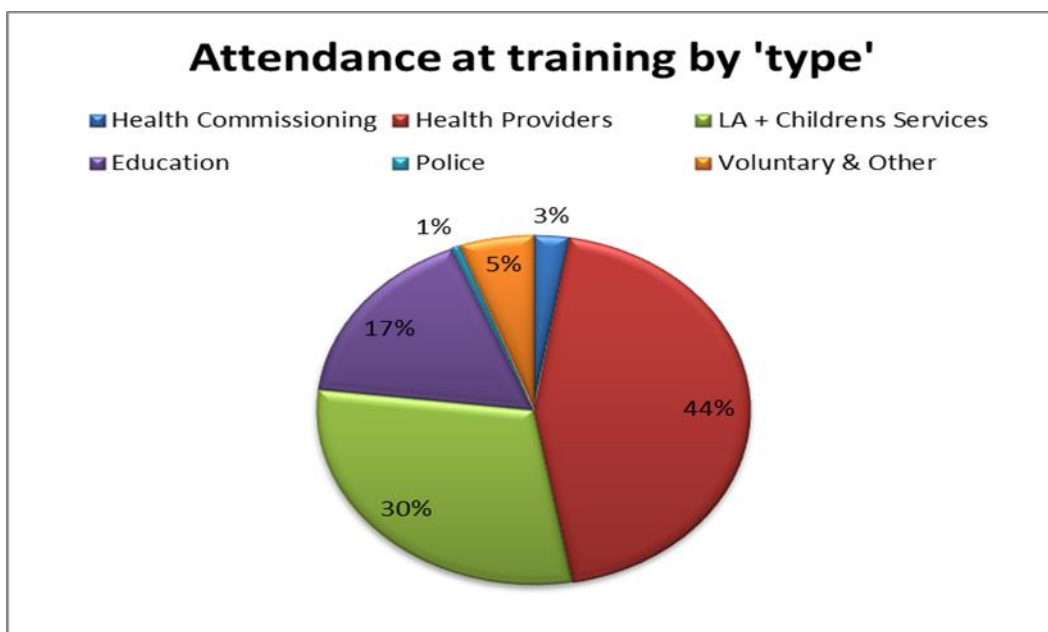
The following topics were provided:

Topic	No. Attending
Safeguarding Children Foundation	395
Safeguarding Children Refresher	165
Signs of Safety – Education	15
Signs of Safety – Advance	23
Introduction to Signs of Safety	47
Families Experiencing Multiple Adversities	23
Emotional Abuse & Developing Resilience	27
Child Sexual Exploitation	51
Neglect & Graded Care Profile	17
Safeguarding Children with Disabilities	5
Reflective Supervision in Safeguarding	7
Child Sexual Abuse	10
Total Attending:	785

9.2 Agency Attendance at TSCB Multi-Agency Training



This reveals that 47% of all attendance is by health professionals, 30% from the Local Authority (Children's Services, Early Help Services and other County Council employees) and 17% by Education. Only 1% of available training places are utilised by Police.



10 Allegations Against People that Work with Children

The role of the LADO is set out in statutory guidance (Working Together to Safeguard Children, 2015). The statutory guidance requires local authorities to have a particular officer or a team of officers to be involved in the management and oversight of allegations against people who work with children and that this officer or team of officers are sufficiently qualified and experienced to fulfil this role effectively.

The role of the LADO

The LADO's key role is to:

- provide advice/guidance to employers or voluntary organisations;
- liaise with the police and other agencies, including Ofsted and professional bodies;
- monitor the progress of referrals to ensure that they are dealt with as quickly as possible, consistent with a thorough and fair process;
- provide oversight of the investigative process through to its conclusion;
- chair Allegation Management Meetings and establish an agreed outcome of the LADO investigation;
- liaise with other local authority LADOs where there are cross-boundary issues;
- collect strategic data and maintain a confidential database in relation to allegations; and
- attend the Voluntary, Faith and Community Sector Reference Group of the Torbay Safeguarding Children Board.

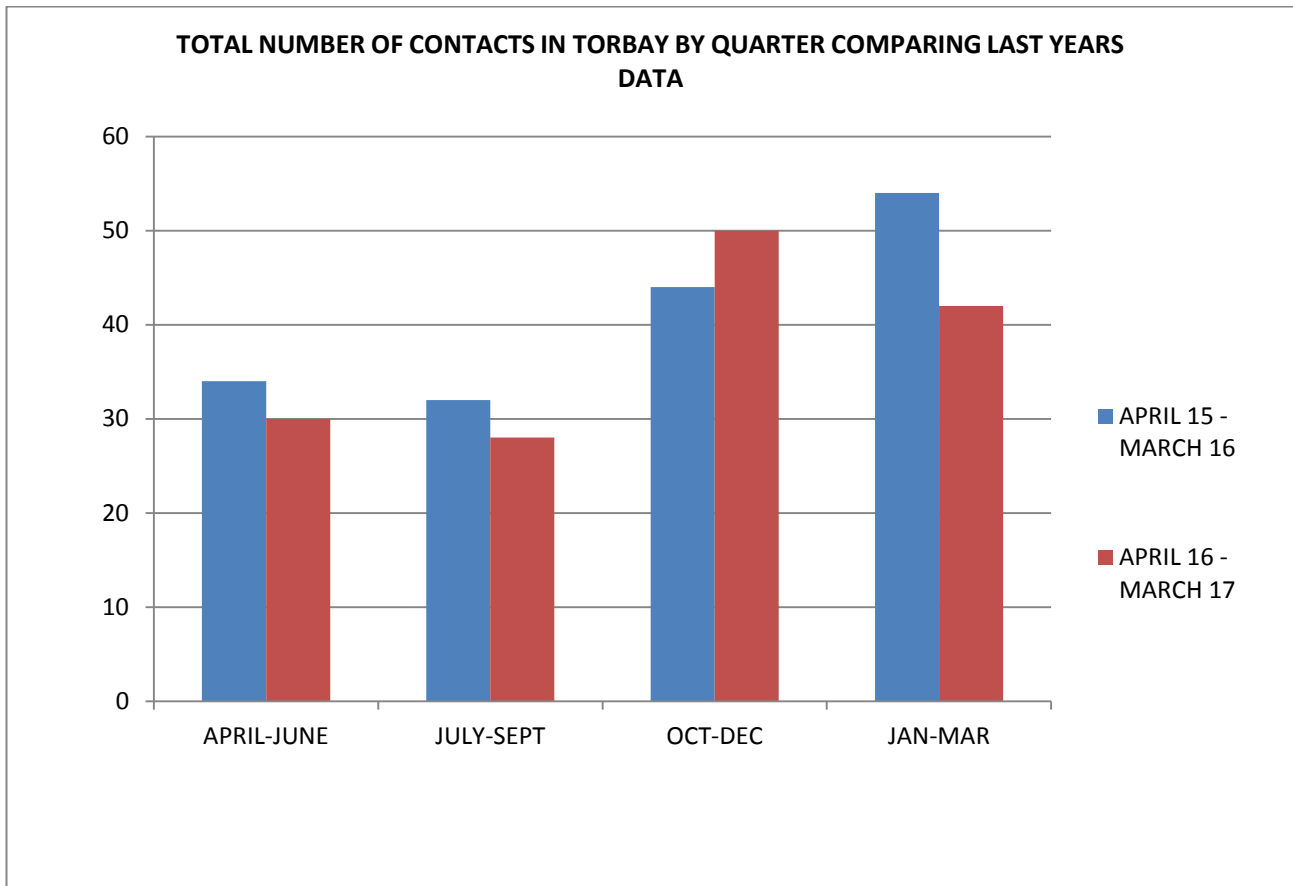
Statutory guidance places a clear responsibility on organisations to report to the LADO within one day where it is alleged that a person working with children has:

- behaved in a way that has harmed, or may have harmed a child;
- possibly committed a criminal offence against, or related to a child; or
- behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates they may pose a risk of harm to children.

Referrals often do not result in an Allegations Management Meeting but instead advice and support is offered by the LADO in terms of disciplinary matters, health and safety measures or identified training needs.

There have been 150 contacts in Torbay between April 2016 and the end of March 2017. This is a slight decrease from the previous reporting year where there were 164 contacts in Torbay.

The system for recording contacts changed mid-way through the year, from a spreadsheet maintained by Business Support to all contacts being recorded on Children's Services electronic case recording system (PARIS).



There were 46 Allegation Management Meetings held this year, 37 new cases and 9 reconvened meetings. This is a decrease from the previous reporting year where there were a total of 59 Allegation Management Meetings.

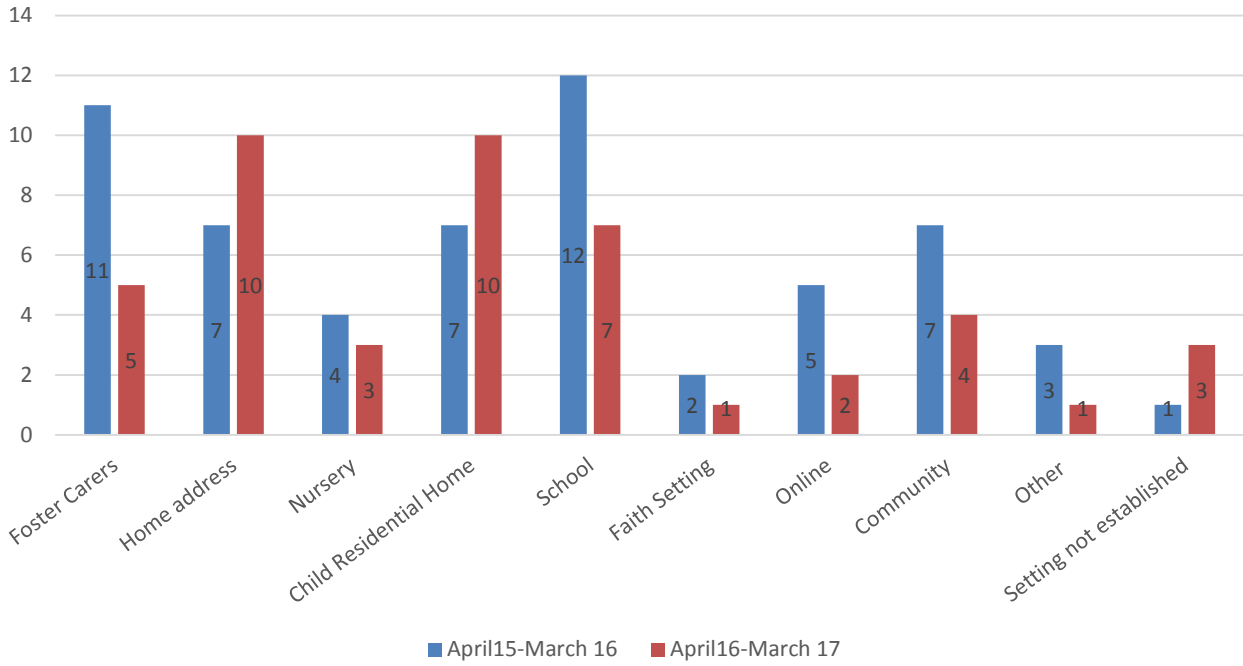
Allegation Management Meetings are held where allegations are such that they may require a multi-agency response and involve both Children’s Services and the Police (generally the Child Abuse Investigation Team) alongside the employer (named Designated Safeguarding Officer) and often a Human Resources Advisor.

The meetings draw together three possible strands of enquiries; the police in relation to possible criminal matters; Children’s Services in relation to the needs of any child or young person and the employer in relation to disciplinary and employment matters, including support to the adult about whom the allegations pertain.

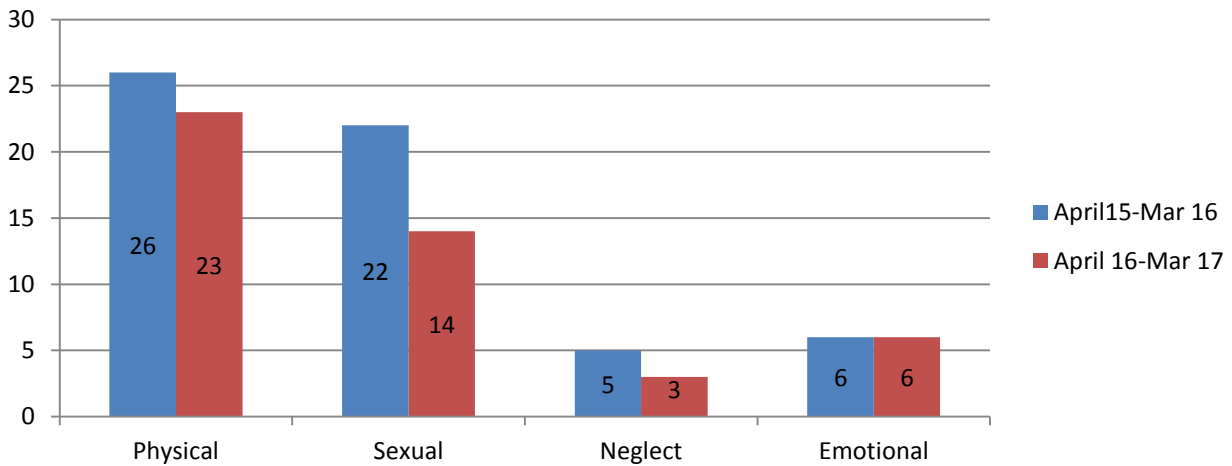
If an allegation does not require Police or Children’s Services involvement the LADO will support the organisation to investigate, following their own internal procedures and can advise regarding disciplinary, training and policy matters.

All contacts are checked on the LADO database / PARIS for any previous involvement and if there is a specific child identified Business Support will check the child’s electronic file to ascertain if they are known to Children’s Services. There are a high number of requests for support and advice which the LADO will scrutinise even if they do not meet the formal thresholds for intervention.

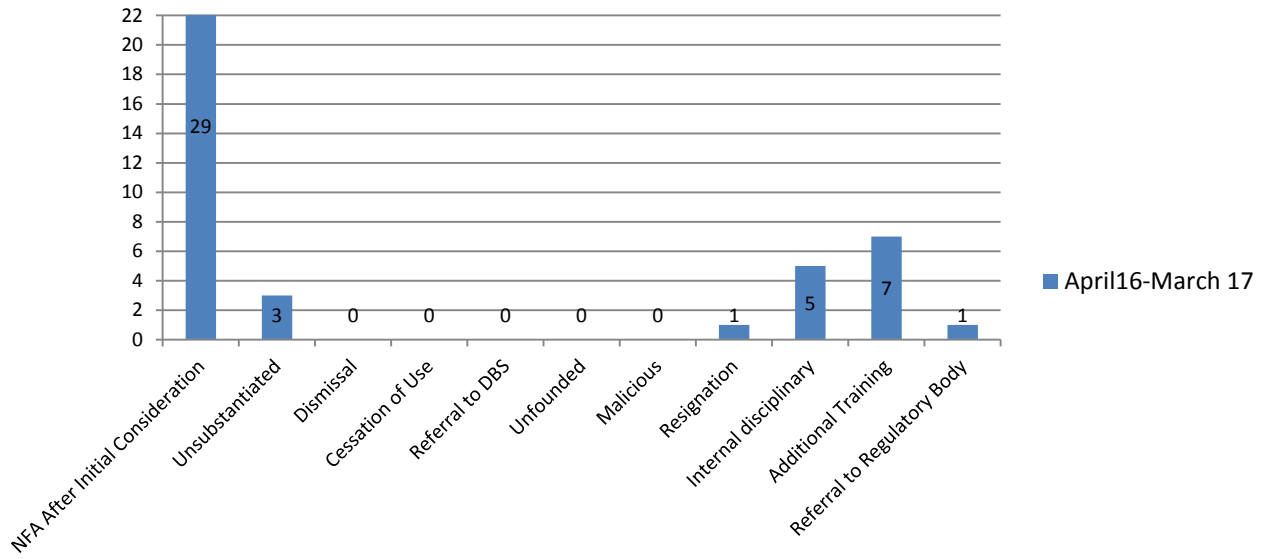
SETTING SUBJECT OF ALLEGATION



CATEGORIES OF ABUSE



Outcomes of allegation meeting



11 Going Forward - 2017 to 2018

There is clearly a significant amount of work to do to make the improvements identified by Ofsted. It is critical that Partners are able to work far more collaboratively in Torbay to make the necessary changes in services and the way that we work together to improve services for children and young people. We need to be able to measure and monitor services, challenge each other and hold each other to account to ensure improvements are sustained.

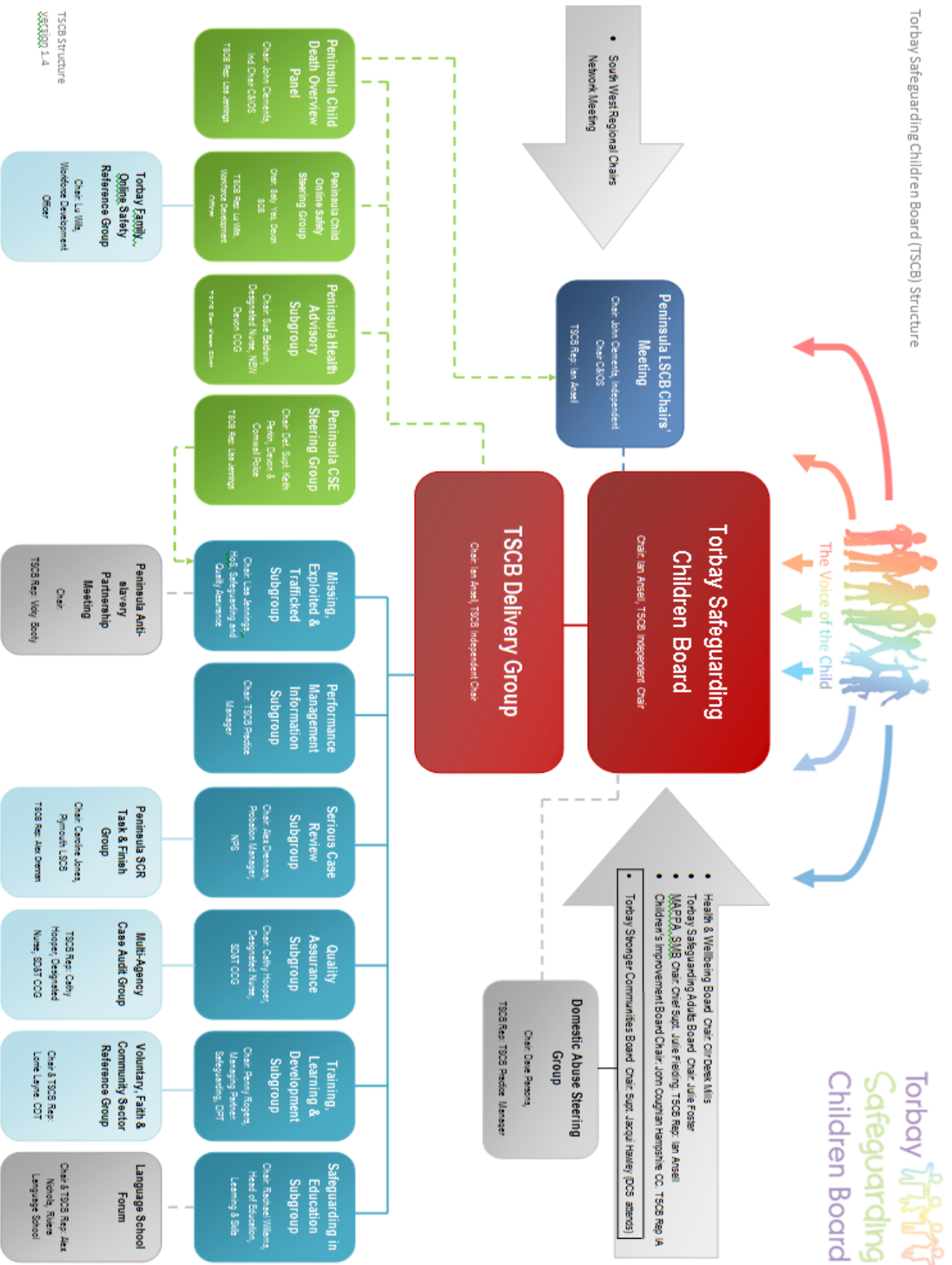
We need to know that what we do really does impact positively on our children's futures and we can only do that together.

The TSCB will need to agree a robust Business Plan for next year and the priorities agreed will have to be driven by the Ofsted Inspection report paying particular attention to the following:

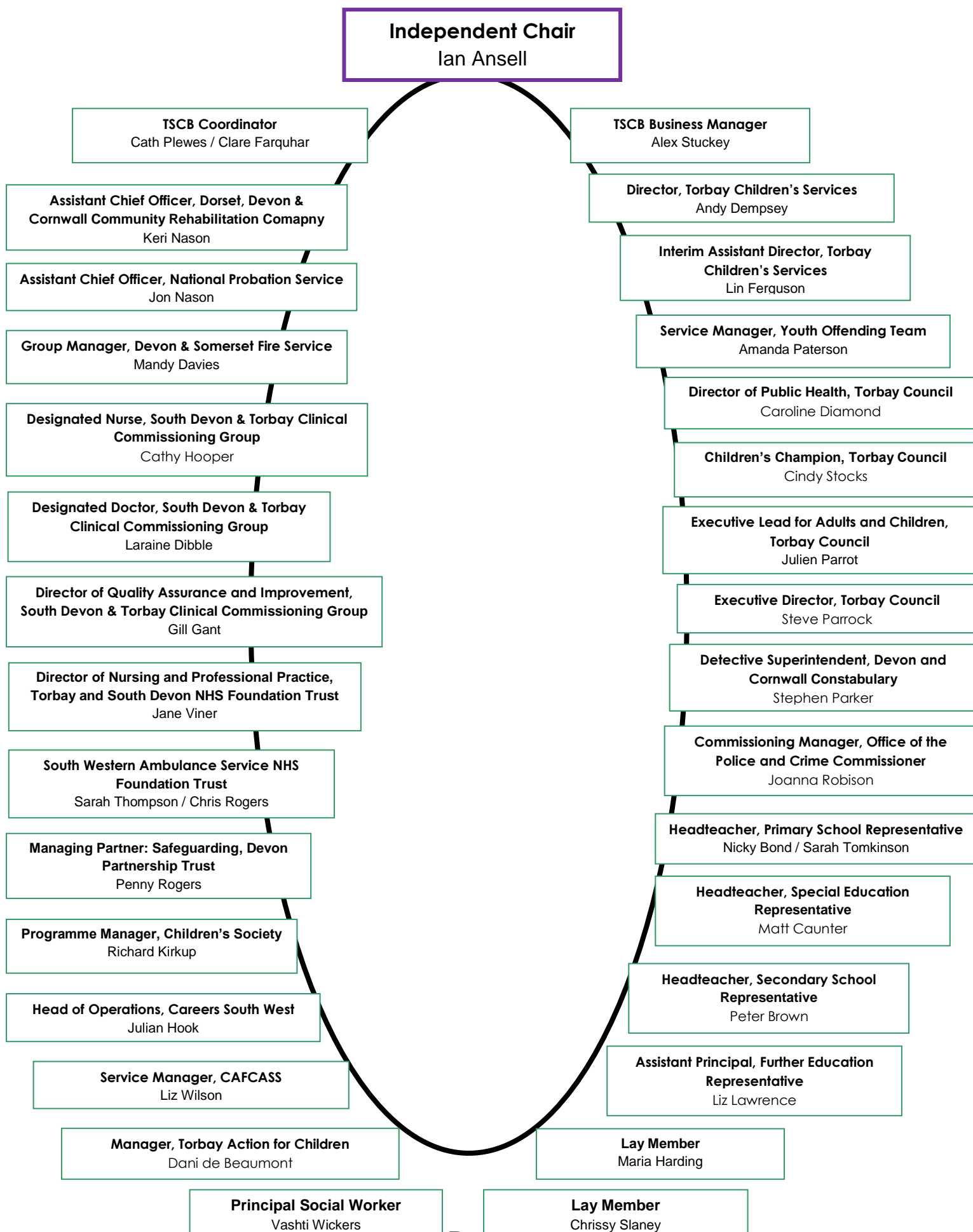
- Board Data Set.
- Child's Voice.
- Early Help.
- Thresholds.
- Domestic Abuse Services.
- Neglect.

Appendix 1: Board Governance Structure

Torbay Safeguarding Children Board (TSCB) Structure



Appendix 2: TSCB Membership as at March 2017



TSCB Business Plan 2017-18

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Version 1

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility

Torbay Council Children's Services ■ Police ■ Health ■ Careers South West
Youth Offending Team ■ Probation ■ CAFCASS ■ Safer Communities ■ Fire Service
Schools ■ Community & Voluntary Sector

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Action plan	7

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1 Chair's foreword

Throughout 2016/17 the Board concentrated upon addressing the inadequate areas highlighted following the Ofsted Inspection conducted in November 2015. The partner agencies have worked together to make significant progress on a number of themes including:

- Drafting and publishing a new Neglect strategy
- Reviewing and refreshing the Early Help strategy and associated processes
- Agreeing and collating information against a new performance data framework and
- Completion of a revised Section 11 audit process

The priorities and work plan for 2017/18, will continue to underpin the improvements made by the Board and provide a large degree of continuity building upon work commenced in the past twelve months.

Following on from the recommendations of the Wood Review, the Children and Social Work Act 2017, has given the designated safeguarding partners' for a Local Authority area (the Local Authority, Clinical commissioning Group and police) the opportunity to agree new local safeguarding arrangements. Subject to the continued improvements in Local Children's Social Services and the operation of the TSCB, these new opportunities will be explored during 2017/18. This will involve continued engagement with the Children's Improvement board to agree transition arrangements back to the sole oversight of the TSCB.

2 Our Purpose

The Torbay Safeguarding Children Board (TSCB) is the key statutory mechanism for agreeing how local organisations cooperate to safeguard and promote the welfare of children within Torbay.

The core objectives of the Board are set out in section 14(1) of the Children Act 2004 as follows:

- to co-ordinate what is done by each person or body represented on the Board for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area of the authority; and
- to ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for that purpose

Regulation 5 of the Local Safeguarding Children Board Regulations 2006 sets out the functions of the Board in order to fulfil those responsibilities, these include:

- Developing policies and procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children
- Communicating to local people and organisations the need to safeguard children, raising their awareness of how this can be done and encouraging them to do so
- Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of safeguarding work by TSCB members individually and collectively and agreeing ways in which this can improve
- Participating in the planning of services for children and young people in Torbay
- Undertaking Serious Case Reviews and advising Board members on lessons to be learned and actions to be taken
- Implementing an effective and co-ordinated response by Board members to the unexpected death of a child

3 Priorities

The TSCB has agreed to focus on the following priorities in light of the ongoing improvement journey following on from the Children's Services Ofsted Inspection in October 2015 and taking into account the following:

- The 2016/17 Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- Torbay Organised Crime Local Profiles and associated guidance for Modern Day Slavery, Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation
- Torbay Strategies on Alcohol, Drugs and Domestic Abuse

- The findings of Serious Case Reviews and Inspections - local, regional and national.
- Findings of Torbay multi and single agency audit activity including the Multi-Agency Case Audits, Section 11 audits and Section 157/175 audits, training and development work
- The Wood report and Children and Social Work Act 2017

The TSCB Structure was redesigned in 2016/2017 to ensure a more streamlined working model to better facilitate Partners attendance at the right level to the most appropriate Board Meetings. The TSCB has taken a lead role working closely with the Children's Improvement Board to raise standards of service delivery and quality assurance of partnership work in the priority areas.

The format of the Business Plan is designed to enable implementation and monitoring of actions in a clear and concise way. Progress against this plan will be reviewed and monitored by the TSCB Delivery Group, with Chairs of the relevant subgroups reporting on progress against their actions to this group. Where necessary and appropriate the Delivery Group will highlight areas of concern and good practice to the full TSCB Board meetings for further action.

Our priorities for 2017/18 are:

P1 To promote the welfare of children and young people who are vulnerable to abuse

P2 Responding to new legislation and Joint Inspection criteria to ensure the Board fulfils its' statutory duties

4 Cross Cutting Themes

The cross cutting themes are specific areas of concern for the TSCB. These are areas that have been highlighted across a number of areas such as Serious Case Reviews, audits and inspections. The themes should underpin all Safeguarding activity across the partnership and be the 'Golden Threads' of how partners in Torbay work with Children and Young People and their families.

Assurance work by the Board will focus on these themes and partners will be expected to report against them within reporting mechanisms.

Board members will need to ensure that in delivering each of the two TSCB priorities, that there is evidence that each of the cross cutting themes identified below have been fully taken into consideration when providing services for children, young people and their families

- CC1** Children's and young people's voices are heard and influence decision making, service development and practice
- CC2** 'Think Family' approach is used in all work with Children and Young People and their families.
- CC3** Early help is embedded and effective, including partnerships with voluntary, faith and community groups where appropriate.
- CC4** Lessons are identified and learned from National and Local Serious Case Reviews (SCRs), Independent Management Reviews, Multi Agency Case Audits (MACA) and monitoring of the implementation of recommendations takes place.
- CC5** Signs of Safety approaches are fully embedded into work with Children and Young People and their families
- CC6** Safeguarding training is attended and learning is reviewed and embedded into practice

CC7 The Thresholds for Torbay are fully embedded and understood

5 Action Plan

Priority 1: To promote the welfare of children and young people who are vulnerable to abuse					
	Aim/objective	Action Required	Time Scale	Owner/Subgroup Responsible	Outcome and Impact Measure
1.1	1.1 To ensure safeguarding of children subject to neglect through embedding the Multi-agency Neglect Strategy in service delivery.	To audit and hold Board members to account for how the neglect strategy is embedded within their organisations	September 2017	All Board Members	Plans are in place where neglect is an issue and appropriate action is being / has been taken.
		To gather and assess local data to benchmark the prevalence of neglect and to monitor the impact of the new strategy upon that baseline	March 2018	Chair of the Performance Management Subgroup	
		To review the content of the Graded Care Profile and clarify how the Profile is used to deliver the Strategy	March 2018	DCS	
		Monitor and evaluate the quality of practice to safeguard children.	Mar 2018	Chair of QA Subgroup	

1.2	To ensure safeguarding of children subject to domestic abuse	To gather and assess local data to benchmark the prevalence of domestic abuse involving children and to monitor the impact of services upon that baseline.	Mar 2018	Chair of the Performance Management Subgroup	<p>Partner agencies provide the agreed data set to the TSCB to demonstrate the positive impact of intervention of the service provided.</p> <p>Information and intelligence is shared proactively across the partnership to improve the protection of children, increase the rate of prosecution and drive the development of domestic abuse services.</p>
		To review the Domestic Abuse Strategy and Delivery Plan for Torbay	January 2018	TSCB Independent Chair	
		To engage with service commissioners to influence and test service delivery to children.	Mar 2018	Director of Public Health	
		To monitor and oversee the implementation and impact of Operation Encompass within Torbay	Mar 2018	Chair of Education Subgroup	
		To require an end of year audit report from service commissioners to parents and carer in relation to substance misuse and mental health services	Mar 2018	TSCB Business Manager	
1.3	To test the efficacy and fitness of services for missing, exploited and trafficked children in Torbay	To gather and assess local data to benchmark the prevalence of missing, exploited and trafficked children and to monitor the impact of	Mar 2018	Chair of MET Subgroup	The Board data set to include relevant information on missing, exploited and trafficked children and young people, high risk adolescents and those at risk of radicalisation.

		services upon that baseline			Information and intelligence is shared proactively across the partnership to improve the protection of children and increase the rate of prosecution.
		To engage with the CSE National Working Group (NWG) and to ensure that any relevant learning is highlighted for consideration locally.	Mar 2018	Chair of MET Subgroup	Appropriate levels of use of preventative orders and powers.
		To explore ways to ensure that the appropriate use of Legal Orders is maximised	Mar 2018	Chair of MET Subgroup	
1.4	To ensure safeguarding of children subject to Early and targeted Help services in Torbay.	Embed the Multi-Agency Early Help Strategy to ensure that there is a shared understanding of Early Help in Torbay.	September 2017	TSCB Independent Chair/ Early Help Steering Group	The TSCB Data set includes relevant information on Early Help activity to monitor progress and subsequent destinations and consequential demand on statutory children's services.
		To monitor and receive quarterly reports on the application of thresholds underpinning the 'Child's Journey'.	Mar 2018	TSCB Board Manager	Children, young people and their families receive effective and timely Early and Targeted Help services.
		To ensure that all Early help Pathways are clearly defined, understood and fully embedded into practice.	Jan 2018	DCS and Asst Director Safeguarding.	The thresholds underpinning the 'Child's Journey' are understood and applied appropriately by all partners.
		To complete a multiagency case audit	Mar 2018	Chair of QA Subgroup	

		(MACA) of Early and Targeted Help cases			
1.5	To ensure safeguarding of children subject to sexual abuse in Torbay	To gather and assess local data to benchmark the prevalence of sexual abuse in Torbay and to monitor the impact of services upon that baseline.	Mar 2018	Chair of the Performance Management Subgroup	Clear baseline established for the prevalence of child sexual abuse in Torbay that is widely understood. The number of children subject to child protection plans. The number of Criminal Justice interventions in cases involving child sexual abuse.
		To ensure staff of partner agencies are suitably trained and skilled to complete GMAP assessments and inform criminal justice processes	Mar 2018	Chair of QA Subgroup	Information and intelligence is shared proactively across the partnership to improve the protection of children, increase the rate of prosecution and drive the development of sexual abuse services.
		To revisit the recommendations from Operation Mansfield to ensure policies, processes and practice have fully embedded the learning identified	Mar 2018	TSCB Independent Chair	
1.6	To ensure safeguarding of children with disabilities in Torbay	To gather and assess local data to benchmark activity to safeguard children with disabilities and to monitor the impact of services upon that baseline	Mar 2018	Chair of Performance Management Subgroup	Relevant partner agencies provide the agreed data set to the TSCB to demonstrate the positive impact of the service provided.

		To review the practice of other Children Safeguarding Boards nationally to determine how they gain assurance that the additional needs of children with disabilities when being safeguarded are adequately met/ Also to establish the definitions of disabilities being used and from where data is obtained.	Jan 2018	TSCB Board Manager	
1.7	To ensure safeguarding of children who are Looked After Children in Torbay	To monitor and receive quarterly reports on arrangements to safeguard Looked After Children in Torbay	Mar 2018	Director of Children's Services	Relevant partner agencies provide the agreed data set to the TSCB to demonstrate the positive impact of the service provided.
1.8	To ensure safeguarding of children who require, or whose parents and carers require, services to sustain their mental wellbeing.	To receive and consider an annual summary report from the commissioner of children and adults substance misuse and mental health services, to include the numbers in services (including returns to service), waiting times for service and the outcomes achieved.	Mar 2018	TSCB Board Manager	Relevant partner agencies provide the agreed data set to the TSCB to demonstrate the positive impact of the service provided.

Priority 2: Responding to new legislation and Joint Inspection criteria to ensure the Board fulfils its statutory duties

	Aim/objective	Action Required	Time Scale	Owner/Subgroup Responsible	Outcome and Impact Measure
2.1	To ensure that the business planning processes of the TSCB are timely and efficient.	The Business Plan to be regularly updated and reports submitted on a quarterly basis.	Each business quarter.	TSCB Practice Manager	
		For Serious Case Review and Management Reviews to be completed in accordance with agreed timescales.	Quarterly reporting.	Chair of the SCR Subgroup	
		For each Board member agency to ensure engagement with and representation on appropriate subgroups.	March 2018	Board Members.	
		To link the case audit schedule with the published JTAI timetable.	October 2017	Chair of the Quality Assurance Subgroup / Independent Chair.	
2.2	To develop the TSCB Performance Framework in order to provide an ability	Board members to provide performance reports in accordance with agreed timescales.	Quarterly reporting.	Board Members.	

	to hold members to account and provide assurance.				
2.3	2.3 To develop an assurance framework / risk register for the TSCB	Establish a business process for an assurance framework to be developed and maintained.	December 2017	TSCB Practice Manager	
		Establish a business process for a risk register to be developed and maintained.	December 2017	TSCB Practice Manager	
2.4	Ensure that the work of the Board is influenced by the needs of children and young people in Torbay.	To review the Section 157 175 and Section 11 information relating to member agencies and gathering of information from children / parents and carers.	End November 2017	TSCB Practice Manager	All work undertaken by the Board is underpinned by clear evidence of issues that affect children and young people in Torbay. The Data set includes both quantitative and qualitative information on the needs of children and young people in Torbay.
		Children's social services to host an event to gather information regarding the lived experience of children in Torbay.	End November 2017	Andy Dempsey, Director of Children's Services	



Meeting: Policy, Development and Decision Group (Joint Commissioning Team)

Date: 14 December 2017

Wards Affected: All

Report Title: Fostering Service Annual Report 2016/17

Is the decision a key decision? No

When does the decision need to be implemented? As soon as possible

Executive Lead Contact Details: Julien Parrott, Executive Lead for Adults and Children, julien.parrott@torbay.gov.uk

Supporting Officer Contact Details: Andy Dempsey, Director of Children's Services, 01803 208949, andy.dempsey@torbay.gov.uk

1. Proposal and Introduction

- 1.1 The requirements placed on the Fostering Service are set out in the Fostering Service Regulations (2011), National Minimum Standards (2011) and Care Planning, Placement and Case Review Regulations 2010 (amended). A key part of those requirements is to ensure that the senior leadership and elected members receive regular reports on the service, including resources, performance and outcomes for children and young people.
- 1.2 The report attached at Appendix 1 provides an overview of the Fostering Service for the period 1st April, 2016 – 31st March, 2017.

2. Reason for Proposal

2.1 The Fostering Service is an important component within the Council's Corporate Parenting arrangements for those children who became looked after. It is responsible for:

- Recruitment and assessment of foster carers;
- Support, supervision and training of foster carers including family and friend carers (connected carers) and family to family carers (specific to disabled children and their families)

- Ensuring provision of safe and supportive foster placements which are local for children looked after, providing opportunity to keep siblings together where assessed as being in their best interests
- Promoting placement stability and performance planning
- Private Fostering – where non family members are providing care under a private arrangement

2.2 2016-2017 has been a year of transition and development in response to the Ofsted Inspection published in January 2016. Although the proportion of children looked after in foster care placements has remained broadly in line with other authorities, this masked an ongoing decline in the number of new foster carers being recruited since 2014. Alongside this, foster carers reported that they felt disengaged due to a lack of regular communication with the Council.

2.3 Commencing in November 2016, and meeting on a quarterly basis, a Foster Carers' Forum has now been established bringing together the Head of Service and Team Manager with foster carers. As a result of the increasing trust and confidence, foster carers are more willing to offer placements rather than holding vacancies.

2.4 A further area of progress during 2016/17 was the review of the recruitment and marketing strategy in order to address the decline in numbers experienced over recent years. Initial indications are that the number of new foster carers will increase over 2017/18 and will be reported in the annual report for that year. This is also an important component within the Children's Services Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) which seeks to maximise the use of in-house foster carer providers in the best interests of children and efficiency.

2.5 2016/2017 also involved ongoing support from Hampshire colleagues as the DfE appointed improvement partner, with a particular focus on improving practice, recording and analysis. A further area of development is to ensure performance data, currently compiled manually within the service, is fully integrated within the PARIS case management system to enhance senior management oversight and enables earlier intervention when problems emerge.

2.6 The 2016/17 Report also highlights the key areas for development for the current year which aims to consolidate and enhance the progress to date:

- Maintaining positive relationships with foster carers to ensure participation in Practice and Service Improvement
- Driving forward an energetic recruitment campaign to attract prospective foster carers to Torbay Council's Fostering service
- Developing foster carer support groups (to include specific groups for connected carers and family to family), training for foster carers
- Developing systems to ensure data capture is improved and informs service development and reports for the service going forward

- Developing the foster carers' training programme to increase online resources
- Reviewing and developing the foster carers' annual review process

3. Recommendation(s) / Proposed Decision

- 3.1 That the Deputy Mayor be recommended to approve the Annual Fostering Report 2016/17 set out at Appendix 1 to the submitted report.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Annual Fostering Report 2016/17

Fostering Services Annual Report



Introduction

This is a report of the Fostering Service and covers the period of April 2016 –March 2017. It is noted that a report was last submitted in December 2016 as an interim position statement at that time.

It is acknowledged that a report was due to be published in April 2016 to bring reporting in line with an annual framework. The delay in submission of this report has been due to the need for a continued period of intensive self-evaluation and peer review, supported by our commissioner colleagues from Hampshire. Time has been productively used and focused upon service and practice development.

As outlined within the December 2016 report early indications of the service review process had already identified the requirement of significant change, development and practice improvements.

This report will address the roles and functions of the Fostering Service and update on the progress being made in relation to the improvement journey.

As stated within the December 2016 report development of key indicators for data reports to be produced from the PARIS system was required. Whilst there has been some progress made in this area it is not yet complete, therefore the ability to provide comprehensive data remains difficult in this report.

It is anticipated that this will have progressed sufficiently for the annual report of April 2017 - March 2018 to give a statistical base to evidence the progress made within the Fostering Service.

It is proposed moving forward that the Annual Report for Fostering will be finalised in April and published in May each year.

Role of the Fostering Service

The Fostering Service continues to develop and improve practice to meet the needs of Children looked after in Torbay in line with the requirements of national guidance and fostering standards.

It is responsible for:

- Recruitment and assessment of foster carers;
- Support, supervision and training of foster carers including family and friend carers (connected carers) and family to family carers (specific to disabled children and their families)
- Ensuring provision of safe and supportive foster placements which are local for children looked after, providing opportunity to keep siblings together where assessed as being in their best interests
- Promoting placement stability and permanence planning
- Private Fostering

The Fostering Service provides a range of placements with foster carers with a varied skill and experience base. There are a range of placements offered including respite and short term breaks which includes Family to Family households specialising in offering support to children with disabilities and their families; placements with foster carers who have particular experience and skills in transition to permanence through adoption, return home or placement with family; placements providing permanence through long term fostering, providing a family based modal of care to support children and young people through to independence and beyond.

There are also family and friends who are presenting for assessment as connected carers to look after children in their extended family or social network.

All foster carers are supervised and supported by social workers within the fostering team and this includes all connected carers who are afforded opportunity to engage in training and support alongside other foster carers.

It is an aim of the service to develop a more focused approach to offering support and training to connected carers moving forward in response to feedback from connected carers.

The overall aim of the Fostering Service is to provide a range of high quality, safe and aspirational foster placements that meet the needs of Torbay children looked after.

The priorities of the Fostering Service are to ensure that:

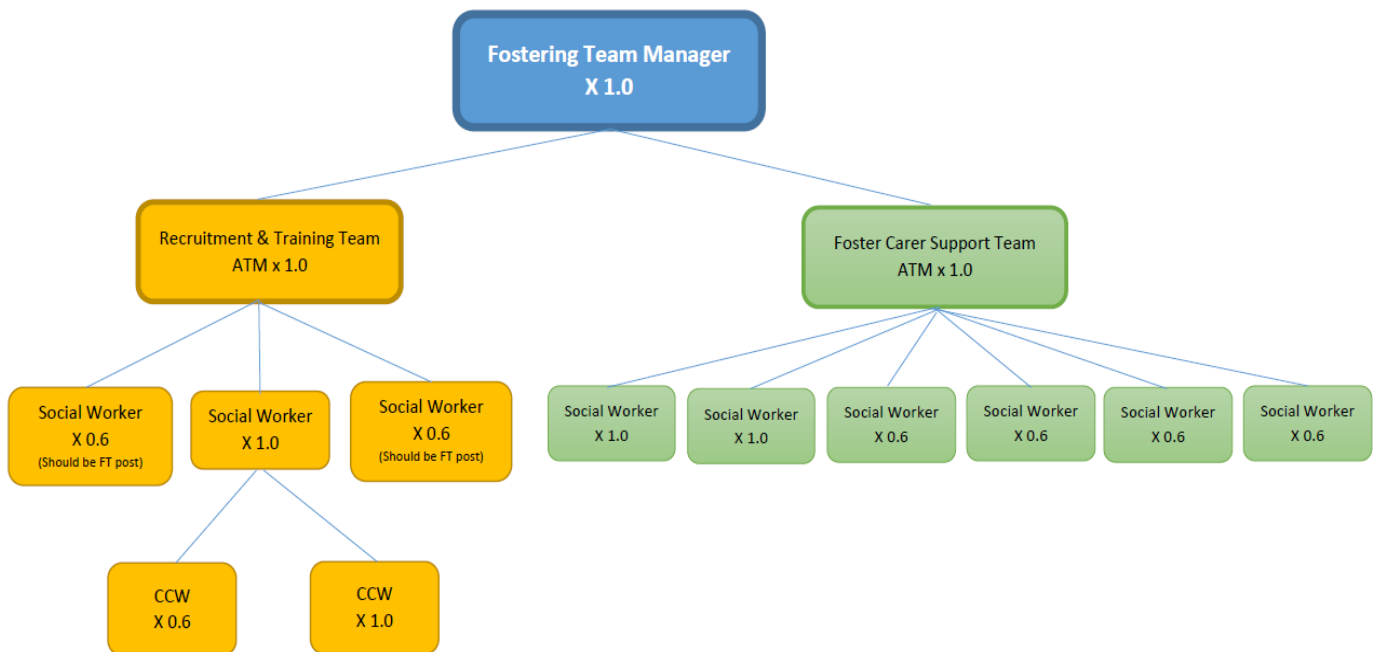
- All children who come into care have an experience of safe, secure and consistent care
- All children experience a safe place within which they can play, grow and thrive, being supported to reach their full potential.

- Ensure the holistic needs of any child are addressed and supported through health, education and social development enhancing opportunity to develop resilience and achieve.
- Support early Permanence for children in care and ensure that children who cannot safely remain at home are offered a permanent family base without delay

The Fostering Service includes responsibility for Privately Fostered Children and young people in Torbay in line with The Children (Private Arrangements for Fostering) Regulations 2015 and National Minimum Standards.

Service Structure

Torbay’s Fostering Service is managed under the Head of Service for Specialist Services, with responsibility as the Ofsted registered fostering manager. There is an operational Team Manager with responsibility for this service.



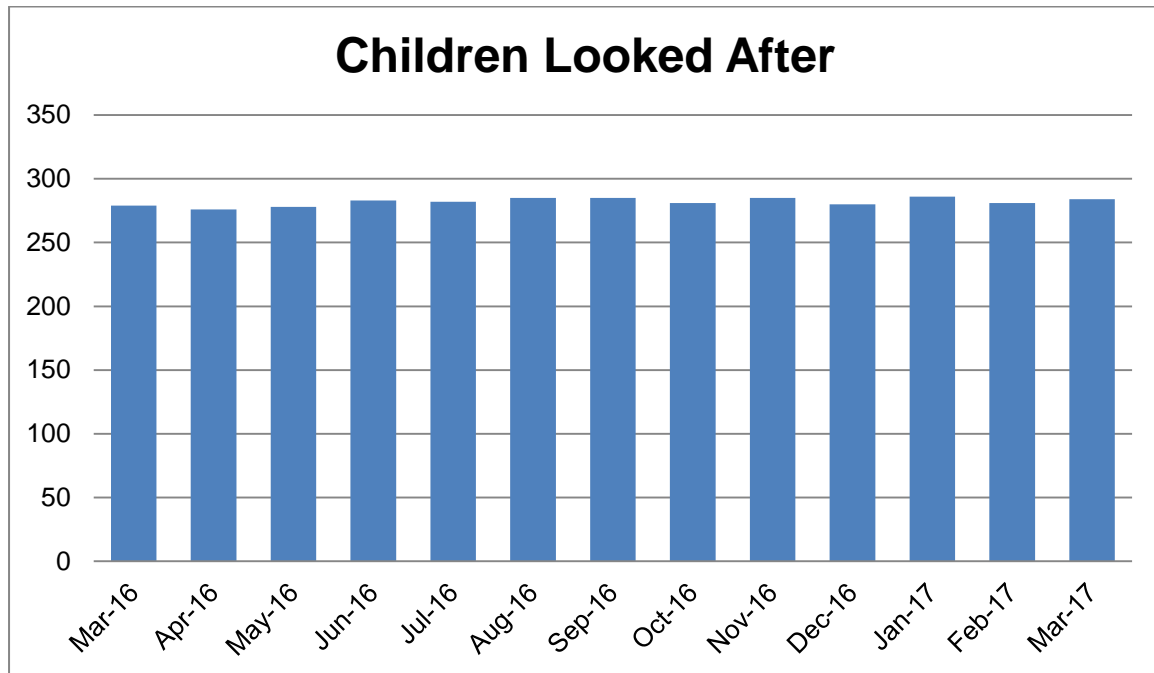
The team of social workers and CCW’s have roles and responsibilities within the service focusing upon recruitment and assessment, and/or supervising and supporting foster carers.

There are two Assistant Team managers who have defined areas of responsibility and who offer supervision and line management to staff within the team.

The Team Manager has the responsibility for the overall service, including the quality assurance of reports to the fostering panel linking with the agency advisor.

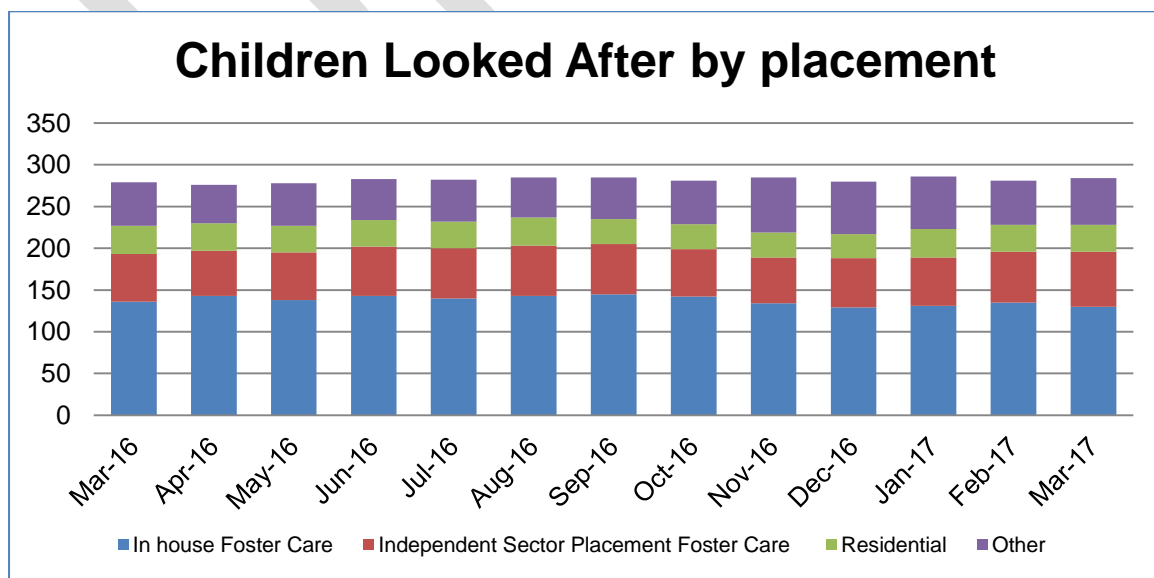
Children Looked After

The number of children looked after at the end of March 2017 was 284. This figure has remained relatively stable over the last 2 years. During 2016/17, children looked after were at the highest in January 2017 when they rose to 286. Over the year, the number of children looked after rose by just under 2% compared to 6.6% amongst comparable authorities.



There was a 4% fall in the number of children placed within in house fostering placements over 2016/17 which contributed to a rise in the use of independent fostering placements during this period.

At the end of 2016/17, 76% of all children looked after were in foster placements which is in line with similar authorities. Of these children, 67% were in in-house foster care.



Key: Other =Secure units, children's homes and semi-independent living accommodation

Recruitment Performance

The number of enquiries received for fostering in the period 2016-2017 shows a continuation of decline. The number of approvals in the period is considerably lower than previous years.

There would be a slight increase to this figure if it were to include connected carers, this only being 3

Performance in relation to the conversion rate of the enquiries to approval has declined year on year.

Years	Number of enquiries	Approvals	Conversion
2014- 2015	118	29	24
2015- 2016	65	10	15
2016- 2017	42	3	7

Numbers of Foster Carers:

It is evident that the recruitment numbers of carers has been declining year on year since 2014-2015. The marketing strategy of that time which was the implementation of one pay rate of £400 per child proved successful, with a high increase of carers moving across from Independent Fostering Agencies.

Following this the recruitment strategy and marketing was marketed as specific to requiring carers for much older children and decisions were made to defer any assessments for carers who wished to support younger children.

Whilst this was sustainable and appropriate for a short period it is recognised that delay in a review of the marketing strategy resulted in continued decline in interest for Torbay Fostering service.

As noted in the report of December 2016, following a review of sufficiency Torbay adopted a new skills based fostering allowance as of May 2016. The period following this was a difficult time with a loss of confidence in our existing foster carers. It was recognised that part of this was the result of concerns relating to the revised Foster Carer Agreement. Work was undertaken to resolve all issues and amendments made to assure foster carers their voice had been heard.

Data to support accurate reporting of a breakdown of households is not available for this report however this will be rectified for the 2017 - 2018 report.

The Interim Team Manager has focused work on ensuring due process, that is reviewed through the Fostering panel, has been followed where there have been concerns raised relating to foster carers ability to maintain the expected minimum standards.

It can be reported that as part of the review of the service there has been a focus on ensuring foster carers have maintained their registration and have been supported to review their skill base.

This has been effective in supporting some households to increase their registration to accommodate more children however this has also supported the de registration of foster carers who no longer meet minimum standards.

Foster Carer quarterly Forums led by the Head of Service and Interim Team Manager, with Director and Assistant Director participation, commenced in November 2016. These meetings have continued and progressed positively with a high attendance rate from foster carers.

These meetings have been instrumental in improving the relationships between the Fostering Service and foster carers. As a result of the increasing trust and positive working relationships we are beginning to see an increase in foster carers confidence in offering placements to Torbay children as opposed to holding vacancies.

It is anticipated that the increase in the in house fostering sufficiency will be accurately reflected in the annual report of 2017-2018.

Recruitment and Marketing Strategy and Campaign:

A review of the recruitment and marketing strategy was undertaken in January 2017.

The focused work undertaken to improve relationships with the current foster carer cohort was a required first step to moving forward in order to support the much needed repair to the reputation for Torbay Fostering Service.

We are fortunate to have committed and experienced foster carers who demonstrate compassion and willingness to love and care for children, who we have needed to acknowledge have experienced a period of ongoing change which has been fraught with frustrations and difficulties.

The quarterly foster carer meetings with Head of Service and Interim Team Manager have supported the forming of a more trusting relationship and have encouraged Foster Carer participation in service and practice development.

The service, with the support of the foster carers, ran a competition for our children to produce the revised banner for our Fostering Service. This is now used on all Torbay Fostering communications and marketing materials.



The key change to our recruitment strategy was to ensure we promoted acceptance of interest in fostering in general and did not have a focused age or specific target group for the first stage of the campaign.

The important message was to reflect within our campaign that we were looking for prospective carers who would offer a child a home throughout their childhood recognising the need for stability in placements as a priority for all children in care.

The launch for our revised marketing campaign was planned to coincide with Foster Care Fortnight in May 2017.

In mid-March 2017 we promoted Torbay fostering Service through a radio advert actors Torbay, highlighting the message from a new campaign strap line of "Be the Best Carer".

The campaign was supported by our current foster carers with their presence being planned at the information events which have been scheduled throughout the Foster Care Fortnight dates in May 2017.

The effectiveness of this campaign and the expected increase in sufficiency to our in house fostering households will be reported on in annual report of 2017-2018. Early indications from interest following the radio advert show that this has been successful.

Summary and Review of progress since the December 2016 report:

During this period there has been continued focus upon practice improvement. Our peer review audits from our Hampshire colleagues report that there is clear evidence of management oversight and regular supervision on case records.

Alongside foster carers the team have established a new recording template for the supervision of Foster Carers and a specific audit tool is now being used to inform our knowledge of the service.

There have been practice improvements made with new process being embedded such as 'back up carer' scheme which affords assessment of foster carers family members to support children to remain in their home and be cared for by trusted adults known to them avoiding placement move for respite.

Ongoing practice development has progressed with the development of specific carer records on PARIS system being fully completed. Social worker analysis is now a recording field on all appropriate documents.

The Foster carer training review has been undertaken with participation of foster carers who have been instrumental in advising on the changes to be made.

Foster carers have commenced the review of support groups and to consider which regional support for all, alongside smaller foster carer led groups.

Support groups are to be considered for family to family carers and connected carers, recognising the difference of support needs in these carers households.

Fostering Changes train the trainer courses are planned for April/May 2017 following high attendance to the information event in January 2017.

**Fostering Changes
Implementation Plan – Stage 2**

May First Train the Trainer cohort completed by Kings College. Twelve trainers trained. This included Foster Carers.

May Training session for trainers
To review the 12 plus package

Course Delivery All cohorts will be open to all foster carers.

Cohort 1: September to December (Interviews and planning – August)

Cohort 2: November to February (Interviews and planning – September/ October)

Cohort 3: January- March (Interviews and planning – November/December)

Cohort 4: April – July (Interviews and planning – February/ March)

Additional CPD Additional Workshops to be offered from Spring Term.

Social Care Half day workshop to be offered in September for Fostering Social Workers

Workforce and Children Looked After Teams to provide underpinning knowledge of Fostering Changes. Safeguarding and Reviewing Service to be invited to attend. This is to be delivered by Helen, Lumi and Carol with support of Foster Carers.

Looking ahead to 2017/2018 the service will be:

Maintaining positive relationships with Foster Carers to ensure participation in Practice and Service Improvement

Refreshing, revising and driving forward an energetic recruitment campaign to attract prospective foster carers to Torbay Council's Fostering service

Reviewing and developing foster carer support groups (to include specific groups for connected carers and family to family), training for foster carer

Completing Practice Standards to ensure consistency and continued practice improvement

Developing systems to ensure data capture is improved and informs service development and reports for the service going forward

Reviewing and developing the foster carer's training program- increasing online resources

Reviewing and developing the foster carer's annual review process

Amanda White
Head of Service – Specialist Services



Meeting: Policy Development and Decision Group (Joint Commissioning Team)

Date: 14 December 2017

Wards Affected: All

Report Title: Brunel Academy Relocations Options Appraisal

Is the decision a key decision? Yes

When does the decision need to be implemented?

Executive Lead Contact Details: Councillor Julien Parrott, Executive Lead for Adults and Children, 293217, julien.parrott@torbay.gov.uk

Supporting Officer Contact Details: Andy Dempsey, Director of Children's Services, 208949, andy.dempsey@torbay.gov.uk

1. Proposal and Introduction

1. Brunel Academy (formerly known as Torbay School) is a 60 place Special School for pupils with Social, Emotional and Mental Health Difficulties (SEMH). In February 2015 Council determined that Brunel Academy needed to be relocated for the benefit of the school and its pupils. The decision acknowledged the limitations of the existing site in meeting the needs of some of the most vulnerable pupils in Torbay.
2. It had previously been proposed to relocate Brunel Academy to the Parkfield site, however, the decision of Council not to approve the relevant planning application means this cannot now take place. As a consequence, further work is needed to explore what options are available in addressing the deficiencies of the current site in Paignton. Following a meeting with the Academy Sponsor, Catch 22, and representatives from school leadership, this paper also encompasses the Hillside and Polsham sites to ensure all site elements within the Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) offer are considered within a co-ordinated strategy.

2. Reason for Proposal

- 2.1 Brunel Academy is currently located on Torquay Road, Paignton. The site area of the school is 4,332m² against a DfE recommended size of 10,160m² for a school of this size and character. The lack of space, particularly outdoors, creates significant difficulties for school leadership in meeting the needs of its pupils, particularly the vocational needs of older children.

- 2.2 In 2015, the Council purchased land at Brookfield Close adjacent to Brunel Academy with the original aim of providing a larger site for the new single form entry primary, for which funding has been agreed by the DfE. The recent planning decision for Parkfield rules out the relocation of Brunel to that site requiring other options to be considered.
- 2.3 Attached at Appendix 1 is a summary of options that have been explored in identifying an alternative solution for Brunel, including, where relevant, the additional capital that would be required. This acknowledges that the £2.3m available from Schools Capital Funding would be insufficient to relocate and rebuild the facility currently on Torquay Road in a manner that would address its current deficiencies.
- 2.4 Following the planning decision in May, the school leadership has been working with the local authority and educational providers to explore how pupils' needs can be met in the interim. This includes the use of facilities at Parkfield and access to the use of mainstream and special school facilities by Brunel pupils which is gradually developing into an expansive programme of activity. Whilst this activity cannot provide a complete solution to Brunel's needs it could form part of the wider strategy for SEMH pupils alongside any proposals for investment in the current premises or a relocation/rebuild.
- 2.5 The Director of Children's Services and Head of Education, Learning and Skills, recently met with Catch 22 and the Trust Chief Executive in order to review the current position. Whilst welcoming the Council's intention to explore options for Torquay Road, their strong view is that any emerging plan should encompass the sites at Polsham and Hillside which also form part of the SEMH Multi Academy Trust. Their assessment is that the problems on these sites are as significant, if not more so, than Torquay Road and that investment in the latter, in isolation, would not provide a sustainable solution that meets the longer term needs of SEMH pupils in Torbay. A more comprehensive piece of work could also encompass the work that has now commenced with SEMH pupils accessing parts of their curriculum 'off site' thereby offsetting some of additional premises capacity that would otherwise be required.

3. Recommendation(s) / Proposed Decision

That the Deputy Mayor be recommended:

- 3.1 That the options appraisal for Brunel Academy is extended to encompass the Polsham Key Stage 3 and Hillside Key Stage 4 alternative provision sites in order to develop an holistic response that makes best use of the resources available, whilst maximising outcomes for SEMH pupils. This work to be completed early February 2018 with the outcome to be presented to a future meeting of the Policy Development and Decision Group.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Brunel Academy Site Options Appraisal October 2017 (exempt)

Background Documents

Council Report & Decision Review of School Places 26/2/15

<http://www.torbay.gov.uk/DemocraticServices/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=370>