



Policy Development and Decision Group (Joint Commissioning Team)

Monday, 5 November 2018 at 2.00 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

Elected Mayor Oliver
Councillor Parrott
Councillor Stockman
Councillor Stocks

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) 207013**

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 - 12)
To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting of the Policy Development and Decision Group (Joint Commissioning Team) held on 1 October 2018.
- 4. Urgent Items**
To consider any other items the Chairman decides are urgent.
- 5. Early Years Sufficiency Annual Report** (Pages 13 - 76)
To consider the submitted report on the above.
- 6. Annual Adoption Report** (Pages 77 - 98)
To consider the submitted report on the annual adoption report.



Minutes of the Policy Development and Decision Group (Joint Commissioning Team)

1 October 2018

-: Present :-

Councillor Mills (Chairman)

Elected Mayor Oliver and Councillors Amil, Excell, Haddock, Parrott, Stockman and Stocks

(Also in attendance: Councillors Bye and Tyerman)

49. Apologies

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Ellery.

50. Minutes

The minutes of this Policy Development Decision Group held on 4 June 2018 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

51. Living Well with a Learning Disability in Devon

The Group considered the draft Living Well with a Learning Disability in Devon strategy which had been developed through the collaboration of partners in the Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) area. The Strategy built on the progress made since the publication of the previous joint strategy 2014-2017 and set out a refreshed approach to improving the lives of adults who have a learning disability in the wider Devon area. The Group noted that the draft Strategy had been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Board at their meeting on 26 September 2018, and recommended that the Mayor approve the Strategy.

The Group made the following recommendation to the Elected Mayor:

That the Living Well with a Learning Disability 2018-2022 strategy, as set out in Appendix 1 to the submitted report be approved.

That Elected Mayor considered the recommendation as set out above at the meeting and the record of decision, together with further information is attached to these minutes.

52. Private, voluntary and independent sector workforce strategy

The Group considered the submitted report which set identified current workforce capacity in the private, independent and voluntary sector. It was noted that the

strategy had been produced to provide a framework for further development. Whilst short term actions are being undertaken to support the present demand a series of projects will produce the details for a strategy that begins to address future change. The Group was advised that an update would be provided at a future meeting.

53. Memorandum of Understanding for Risk Share Post Contract

The Group considered the submitted report which provided an update on a review of the risk share agreement between Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust, Torbay Clinical Commissioning Group and Torbay Council for the delivery of adults health and social care. The report set out a draft Memorandum of Understanding for the continuation of the risk share agreement which had been considered and recommended for approval at the Overview and Scrutiny Board on 26 September 2018.

The Group made the following recommendation to the Elected Mayor:

That Torbay Council in principle commits to a further period of integrated care in order to improve outcomes for our community and officers are asked to continue the financial risk share as part of ensuring resources are used to best effect. Officers are asked to develop a detailed proposal for consideration and agreement by Torbay Council, Torbay Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust (TSDFT) by March 19.

That Elected Mayor considered the recommendation as set out above at the meeting and the record of decision, together with further information is attached to these minutes.

54. Children Looked After and Corporate Parenting Strategy

The Group considered the submitted strategy which had been developed alongside a number of other strategies and plans to ensure that the Authority delivers the objectives within the Torbay Children and Young People's Plan for all those that are in care.

The Group made the following recommendation to the Elected Mayor:

That the draft Looked After Children and Corporate Parenting strategy attached at Appendix 1 to the submitted report be approved and that Director of Children's Services be given delegated authority to make any final changes in consultation with key stakeholders, the Elected Mayor and Executive Lead for Children's Services.

The Elected Mayor considered the recommendation as set above at the meeting and the record of decision, together with further information is attached to these minutes.

55. Annual Youth Justice Plan

The Group considered the submitted report which set out the statutory requirement for each local authority to set out an annual plan for the delivery of the Youth Justice Service within their area.

The Group made the following recommendation to the Elected Mayor:

That the Youth Justice Plan 2018/19, as set out in the submitted report, be approved.

The Elected Mayor considered the recommendation as set out above at the meeting and the record of decision, together with further information is attached to these minutes.

Chairman

Record of Decisions

Living Well with a learning disability in Devon

Decision Taker

Elected Mayor on 01 October 2018

Decision

That the Living Well with a Learning Disability 2018-2022 strategy, as set out in Appendix 1 to the submitted report be approved.

Reason for the Decision

To promote the independence of people with learning disabilities and help people to achieve what matters to them and to ensure Devon is a place where people with learning disabilities live in the community of their choice, can access support when they need it that is close to home and helps them to achieve their goals, and are happy, healthy and safe.

Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 15 October 2018 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in Standing Order in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

Information

The attached draft strategy has been developed through the collaboration of partners in the STP Learning Disability and Autism programme. This strategy builds on the progress made since the publication of the previous joint strategy 2014-2017 and sets out our refreshed approach to improving the lives of adults who have a learning disability in wider Devon. It is deliberately high level in setting out the strategic intentions and desired outcomes for people with a learning disability in Devon to live well and thrive. The draft strategy that has been subject to engagement and includes the strategic themes from the STP 2 year update.

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

5 October 2018

Signed: _____
Deputy Mayor, Councillor Mills

Date: _____

Record of Decisions

Memorandum of Understanding for Risk Share Post Contract

Decision Taker

Elected Mayor on 01 October 2018

Decision

That Torbay Council in principle commits to a further period of integrated care in order to improve outcomes for our community and officers are asked to continue the financial risk share as part of ensuring resources are used to best effect. Officers are asked to develop a detailed proposal for consideration and agreement by Torbay Council, Torbay Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust (TSDFT) by March 19.

Reason for the Decision

To demonstrate that in principle to continue to be party to a financial risk share for the provision of health and care in the community for a further period, currently considered as a 5 year period.

Implementation

The decision will come into force and may be implemented on 15 October 2018 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

Information

The contractual and financial environment in operation in the local system since the formation of Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust as an Integrated provider of health and adult social care, is a multi-year block contract with a Risk Share Agreement, to which South Devon and Torbay CCG, Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust and Torbay Council are all parties. This contract at present sets the income level for the Trust for 2018/19 years and this level of income / expenditure is reflected in the respective plans of the CCG, Trust and Torbay Council.

The advent of Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STP) has required health and social care systems to work together to produce plans to deliver service and financial sustainability over the medium term.

The overall aim from this review is the continued development of the risk share arrangements in the community, including a review of delivery so far with a view to arriving at a place where the intentions and commitment of all parties is clear and negotiations start for the RSA which would need to be in effect from 1 October 2020.

This would require 3 way agreement and commitment to continuation of ASC contract and extension of RSA with the supporting financial framework effective 1st April. This secures continued investment in the integrated system since October 2015, and the contract for ASC since 2005; It is our intention that this would need to be negotiated and agreed by end of March 2019.

Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision

None

Is this a Key Decision?

Yes – Reference Number: I040566

Does the call-in procedure apply?

Yes

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

None

Published

5 October 2018

Signed: _____
Deputy Mayor, Councillor Mills

Date: _____

Record of Decisions

Children Looked After and Corporate Parenting Strategy

Decision Taker

Elected Mayor on 01 October 2018

Decision

That the draft Looked After Children and Corporate Parenting strategy attached at Appendix 1 be approved and that Director of Children's Services be given delegated authority to make any final changes in consultation with key stakeholders, the Elected Mayor and the Executive Lead for Children's Services.

Reason for the Decision

The Children Looked After and Corporate Parenting Strategy has been developed alongside a number of other strategies and plans to ensure that we deliver the objectives within the Torbay Children and Young People's Plan for all those that are in care.

Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 15 October 2018 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

Information

Torbay council believes that one of the most important responsibilities it has is to ensure the effective care and protection of those children that are looked after by the local authority.

The strategy builds on Torbay's commitment to multi-agency working knowing that the best outcomes for children looked after and carer leavers will be achieved through effective partnership working across the system. The Council, officers, foster carers, independent providers, our NHS and Education partners, the Police and voluntary sector organisations all contribute to improving the lives of our children and young people in care.

In relation to Corporate parenting the Ofsted inspection in July 2018 recognised some improvements in the services provided for Children in care and Care Leavers and particularly for those children where the permanency plan was for Adoption. The improvement in the Council's delivery of its Corporate parenting duty was also recognised but there continue to be areas that were not considered adequate in meeting the needs of the children and young people in care. The Corporate parenting strategy has included in the action plan the areas for improvement which have been identified by Ofsted relating to Children and Young people in care and Care leavers.

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

5 October 2018

Signed: _____
Deputy Mayor, Councillor Mills

Date: _____

Record of Decisions

Annual Youth Justice Plan

Decision Taker

Elected Mayor on 01 October 2018

Decision

That the Youth Justice Plan 2018/19, as set out in Appendix 1 to the submitted report, be approved.

Reason for the Decision

There is a statutory requirement for each local authority to set out an annual plan for the delivery of the Youth Justice Service within their area.

Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 15 October 2018 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

Information

Torbay Youth Offending Service co-ordinates the provision of youth justice services across Torbay.

Torbay Youth Justice Service is multi-agency comprising the Police, National Probation Service, health and Local Authority. Its work is overseen by a Joint Peninsula Partnership Board until recently chaired by the Director of Children's Services for Torbay and the chair has now been handed to Devon. In the coming year the oversight of the service will also occur via the Torbay Community Safety Partnership Board. The Youth Offending service works in partnership to achieve the national youth justice strategic priorities:-

- Preventing new entrants to the criminal justice system;
- Reducing re-offending;
- Increase victim and public confidence;
- Ensure the safe and effective use of custody.

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

5 October 2018

Signed: _____
Deputy Mayor, Councillor Mills

Date: _____



Meeting: Policy Development and Decision Group

Date: 5 November 2018

Wards Affected: All

Report Title: Early Years Sufficiency Annual Report

Is the decision a key decision? No

When does the decision need to be implemented? November 2018

Executive Lead Contact Details: Councillor Cindy Stocks, Executive Lead for Children's cindy.stocks@torbay.gov.uk

Supporting Officer Contact Details: Alison Botham, Director of Children's Services, Alison.botham@torbay.gov.uk

1. Proposal and Introduction

- 1.1 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).
- 1.2 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.
- 1.3 A copy of the Childcare Sufficiency Report (September 2018) is attached to this report at Appendix 1.
- 1.4 The full report demonstrates that there are sufficient childcare places in Torbay to meet the statutory duty to ensure sufficiency of places for children entitled to a funded place. However, there is a need for growth to accommodate the growing numbers of young children in Torbay through increased birth rates and migration from other areas (5% of the Torbay population are aged under 5 years old and may require a childcare place). There is also a need to accommodate children aged under 2 who are not yet funded.

2. Reason for Proposal and associated financial commitments

- 2.1 The Childcare Sufficiency Report 2018 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.
- 2.2 The Childcare Sufficiency Report 2018 takes into account significant changes in Government Policy including the ongoing expansion of Free Early Education

Entitlement (FEEE) for disadvantaged two year olds and the extended entitlement (30 hours per week) for working parents of three and four year olds which came into effect from September 2017.

- 2.3 Results show the population of children in Torbay is increasing. The average increase across Torbay is just under 10%, however some areas have seen a significant increase, especially certain wards within Paignton and Torquay. Future significant housing developments and population forecasts indicate a continuing growing demand for childcare, particularly in the Shiphay (Torquay) and White Rock (Paignton) areas which are experiencing significant growth now and in the future. The impact of welfare reform and pressure on parents to go back to work, particularly in more deprived areas, is likely to lead to changes in demand for childcare to meet the needs of parents.
- 2.4 It is important to note that as a small Local Authority, the residents of Torbay who need it tend to have a thorough knowledge of the childcare market in the area and make judgements based on first, second or even third hand experiences of providers.
- 2.5 In addition to this, there is a significant trend for parents who would rather wait for a place at their preferred provider or location (e.g. a nursery on site or close to their preferred school) than find an alternative provider or location. This results in many children not starting their early education until sometimes 2 or 3 terms after they become entitled – especially prevalent in the 2 year old entitlement. Torbay has a significant number of economically inactive parents of which more than 50% have actively taken the decision to stay at home for the purposes of caring for their children and home.
- 2.6 This has resulted in a difficulty in managing demand. Some providers have low occupancy and advertised vacancies are difficult to fill, whereas some providers have extensive waiting lists and are already full for their September 2018 intake at March 2018.
- 2.7 From the parent consultation in 2018 it became clear that there is an issue relating to holiday childcare for early years and school age children. 75% of respondents to the consultation indicated that they use childcare to enable them to work. Using the sufficiency data collated it is evident that term time, school-based provision is popular in the area, with school nurseries being full to capacity. Therefore it is important that the issues related to a lack of appropriate and affordable holiday childcare are addressed to accommodate working families who struggle for 12 weeks of the year.
- 2.8 The report contains an updated 2017 action plan which identifies progress made, in addition to the new 2018 action plan detailing the actions that will be taken to ensure childcare capacity continues to develop in line with demand.
- 2.9 Following its approval, the Childcare Sufficiency Report 2018 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.

3. Recommendation(s) / Proposed Decision

- 3.1 That the Elected Mayor be recommended to approve the Torbay Childcare Sufficiency Report (September 2018) set out at Appendix 1 to the submitted report enabling its publication.
- 3.2 That the Policy Development Decision Group (Joint Commissioning Team) receive an update on progress of implementing the actions in the Torbay Childcare Sufficiency Report at a future meeting.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Childcare Sufficiency Report (September 2018)

Appendix 2: Childcare Sufficiency Report (September 2018) Executive Summary

Background Documents

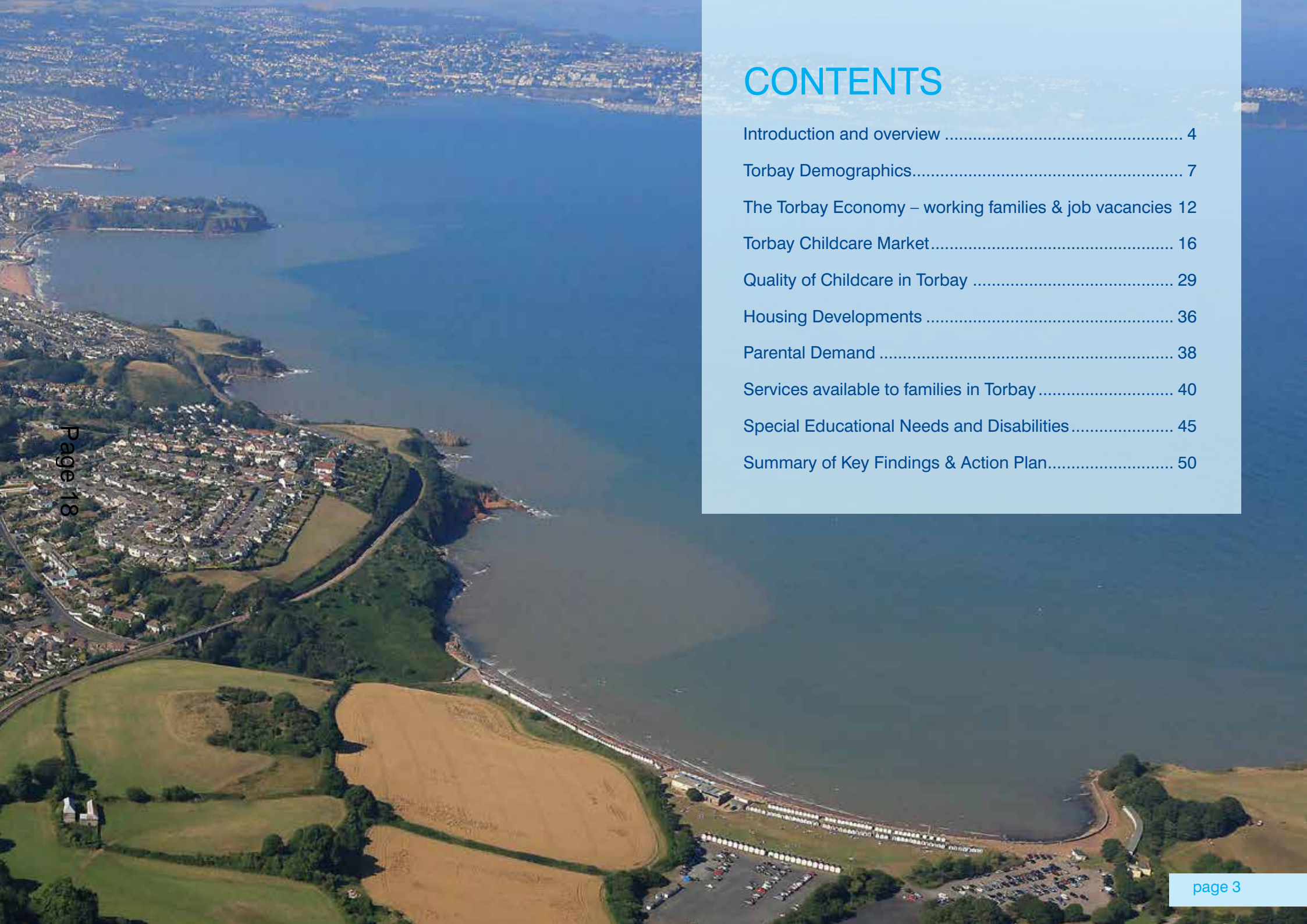
None

Torbay Childcare Sufficiency Assessment

September 2011

Agenda Item 5
Appendix 1





CONTENTS

Introduction and overview	4
Torbay Demographics.....	7
The Torbay Economy – working families & job vacancies	12
Torbay Childcare Market.....	16
Quality of Childcare in Torbay	29
Housing Developments	36
Parental Demand	38
Services available to families in Torbay	40
Special Educational Needs and Disabilities	45
Summary of Key Findings & Action Plan.....	50



INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

The Childcare Act 2006 places duties on all local authorities to secure sufficient childcare, so far as is reasonably practicable for working parents, or parents who are studying or training for employment, for children aged 0-14 (or up to 18 for disabled children). As part of these duties, Torbay Council is required to report annually to elected Council Members on how this duty is being met and to make this report available and accessible for parents.

This document summarises key priorities for Torbay, an overview of the local childcare market and local changes to the supply and demand of childcare in the Torbay area.

The 30 hours childcare initiative for working parents was implemented in September 2017 and has had a significant impact on the childcare market both in the first year and entering the second year of implementation. Both supply and demand have increased where some families have doubled the amount of childcare hours they are entitled to. The Childcare Sufficiency Report 2018 is particularly important given the significant changes that have taken place in recent years to Government policy. This includes the ongoing expansion of Free Early Education Entitlement (FEEE) for disadvantaged 2 year olds and the extended entitlement (30 hours) for working parents of 3 and 4 year olds and the increased pressure this places on providers to deliver more free and funded childcare.

Results show the population of children in Torbay is increasing. The average increase across Torbay is just under 10%, however some areas have seen a significant increase, especially certain wards within Paignton and Torquay. Future significant housing developments and population forecasts indicate a continuing growing demand for childcare, particularly in the Shiphay (Torquay) and White Rock (Paignton) areas which are experiencing significant growth now and in the future. The impact of welfare reform and pressure on parents to go back to work, particularly in more deprived areas, is likely to lead to changes in demand for childcare to meet the needs of parents.

Geography

This assessment is required to analyse the childcare market at a Local Authority and sub-locality level. Torbay is a small Local Authority therefore the sub-locality areas used in this assessment are the administrative wards. Torbay has a relatively small number of childcare providers, so analysing patterns of supply and demand at ward level allows more meaningful conclusions than had the geography identified been any smaller. An outline of ward boundaries is shown in the map to the side. Where data is not analysed at ward level, a town level analysis is conducted (Torquay, Paignton and Brixham).

Figure 1: Torbay Ward Boundaries

Torquay

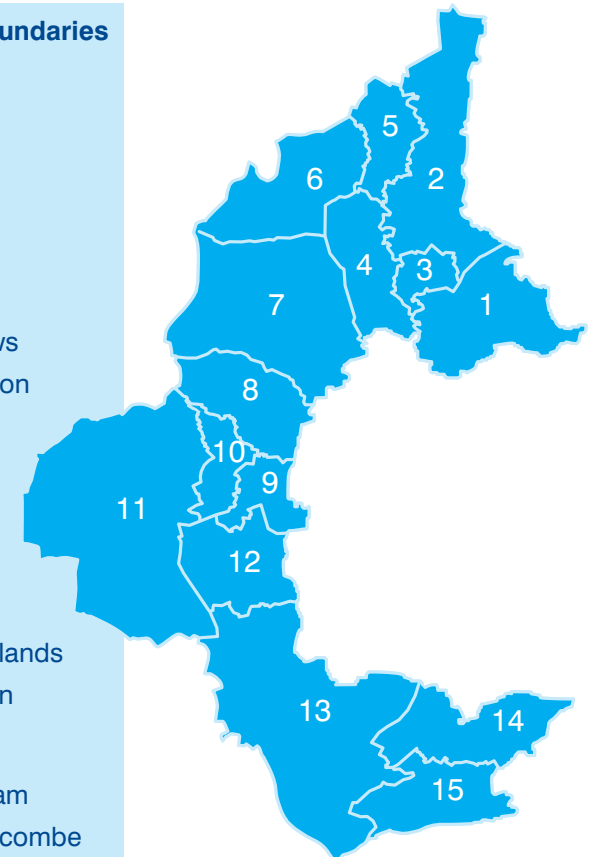
- 1 Wellswood
- 2 St Marychurch
- 3 Ellacombe
- 4 Tormohun
- 5 Watcombe
- 6 Shiphay with the Willows
- 7 Cockington with Chelston

Paignton

- 8 Preston
- 9 Roundham with Hyde
- 10 Clifton with Maidenway
- 11 Blatchcombe
- 12 Goodrington with Roselands
- 13 Churston with Galmpton

Brixham

- 14 Berryhead with Furzeham
- 15 St Mary's with Summercombe





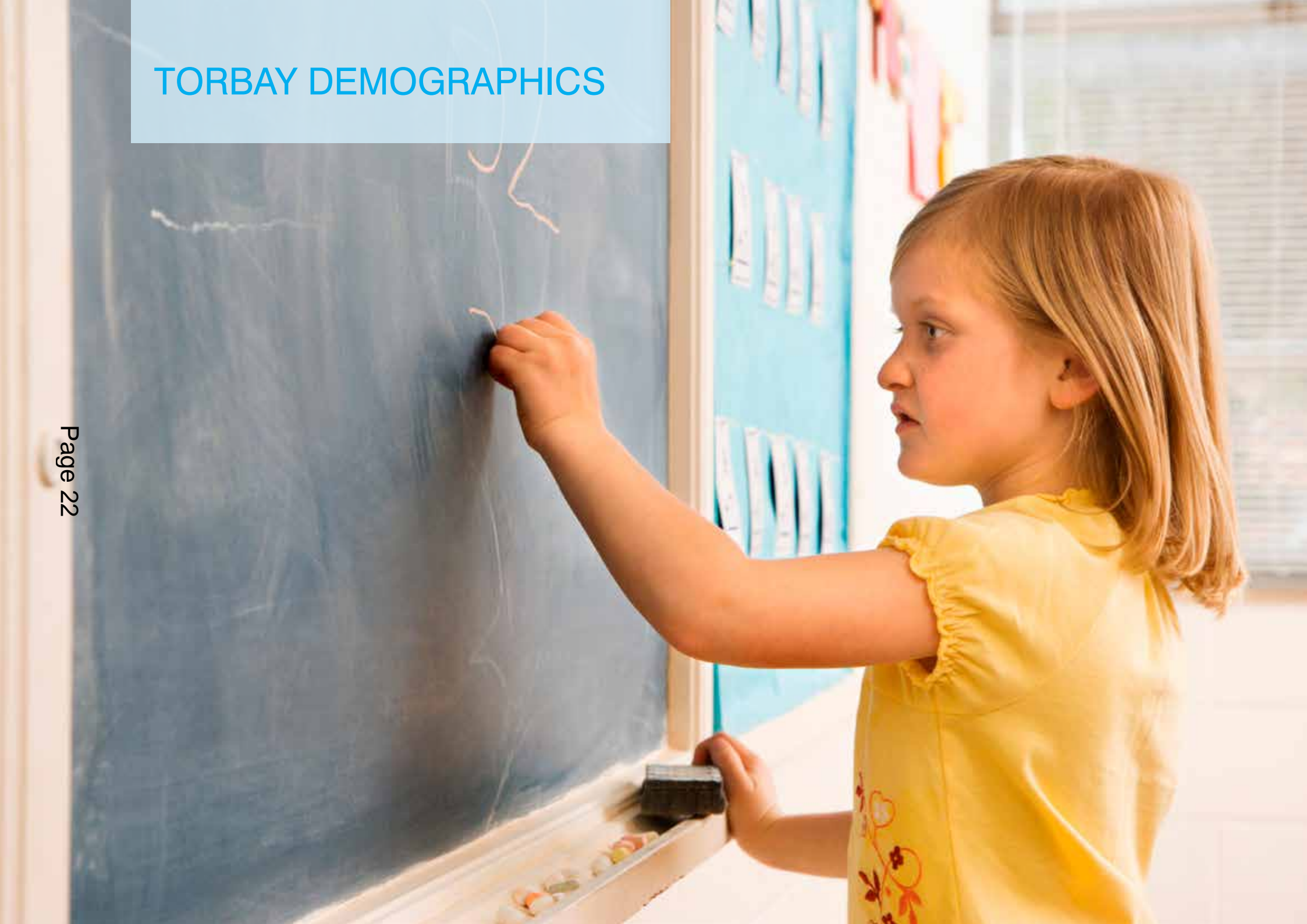
Torbay Local Intelligence

It is important to note that as a small Local Authority, the residents of Torbay who need it tend to have a thorough knowledge of the childcare market in the area and make judgements based on first, second or even third hand experiences of providers.

In addition to this, there is a significant trend for parents who would rather wait for a place at their preferred provider or location (e.g. a nursery on site or close to their preferred school) than find an alternative provider or location. This results in many children not starting their early education until sometimes 2 or 3 terms after they become entitled – especially prevalent in the 2 year old entitlement. Torbay has a significant number of economically inactive parents of which more than 50% have actively taken the decision to stay at home for the purposes of caring for their home or family.

This has resulted in a difficulty in managing demand. Some providers have low occupancy and advertised vacancies are difficult to fill, whereas some providers have extensive waiting lists and are already full for their September 2018 intake at March 2018.

TORBAY DEMOGRAPHICS



This is calculated using the 2011 census data and 2016 mid-year population estimates (these are the most recent figures available).

Torbay Population by town

	2011		2016		Total pop	0-4 pop
	Total pop	0-4 pop	Total pop	0-4 pop	%inc/dec	%inc/dec
Brixham	16,693	712	16,730	744	0.2%	4.5%
Paignton	49,021	2267	50,504	2,665	3.0%	17.6%
Torquay	65245	3711	66,649	3,941	2.2%	6.2%
TOTAL	130,959	6,690	133,883	7,350	2.2%	9.9%

These figures demonstrate a significant growth in the population of 0-4 year olds within Torbay since the last census in 2011. This growth will directly affect the number of childcare places required.

Torbay population by ward

Ward	2011		2016		Total pop	0-4 pop
	Total pop	0-4 pop	Total pop	0-4 pop	%inc/dec	%inc/dec
Berry Head-with-Furzeham	9331	371	9281	379	-1%	2.2%
Blatchcombe	10477	674	11287	789	8%	17.1%
Churston-with-Galmpton	6657	166	6741	210	1%	26.5%
Clifton-with-Maidenway	7133	380	7240	475	2%	25.0%
Cockington-with-Chelston	10636	584	10787	597	1%	2.2%
Ellacombe	7275	486	7375	563	1%	15.8%
Goodrington-with-Roselands	6910	247	7005	286	1%	15.8%
Preston	10194	467	10341	519	1%	11.1%
Roundham-with-Hyde	7650	333	7890	386	3%	15.9%
Shiphay-with-the-Willows	9525	706	10252	751	8%	6.4%
St Marychurch	11262	580	11544	543	3%	-6.4%
St Mary's-with-Summercombe	7362	341	7449	365	1%	7.0%
Tormohun	11592	670	11787	768	2%	14.6%
Watcombe	7178	421	7212	454	0%	7.8%
Wellswood	7777	264	7692	265	-1%	0.4%
TOTAL	130959	6,690	133,883	7,350	2%	9.9%

There are particularly significant increases in the 0-4 population in 8 wards (more than half of the wards), where the increase is more than 10%.

These considerable increases will have an evident impact on the sufficiency at local authority, town and ward level.

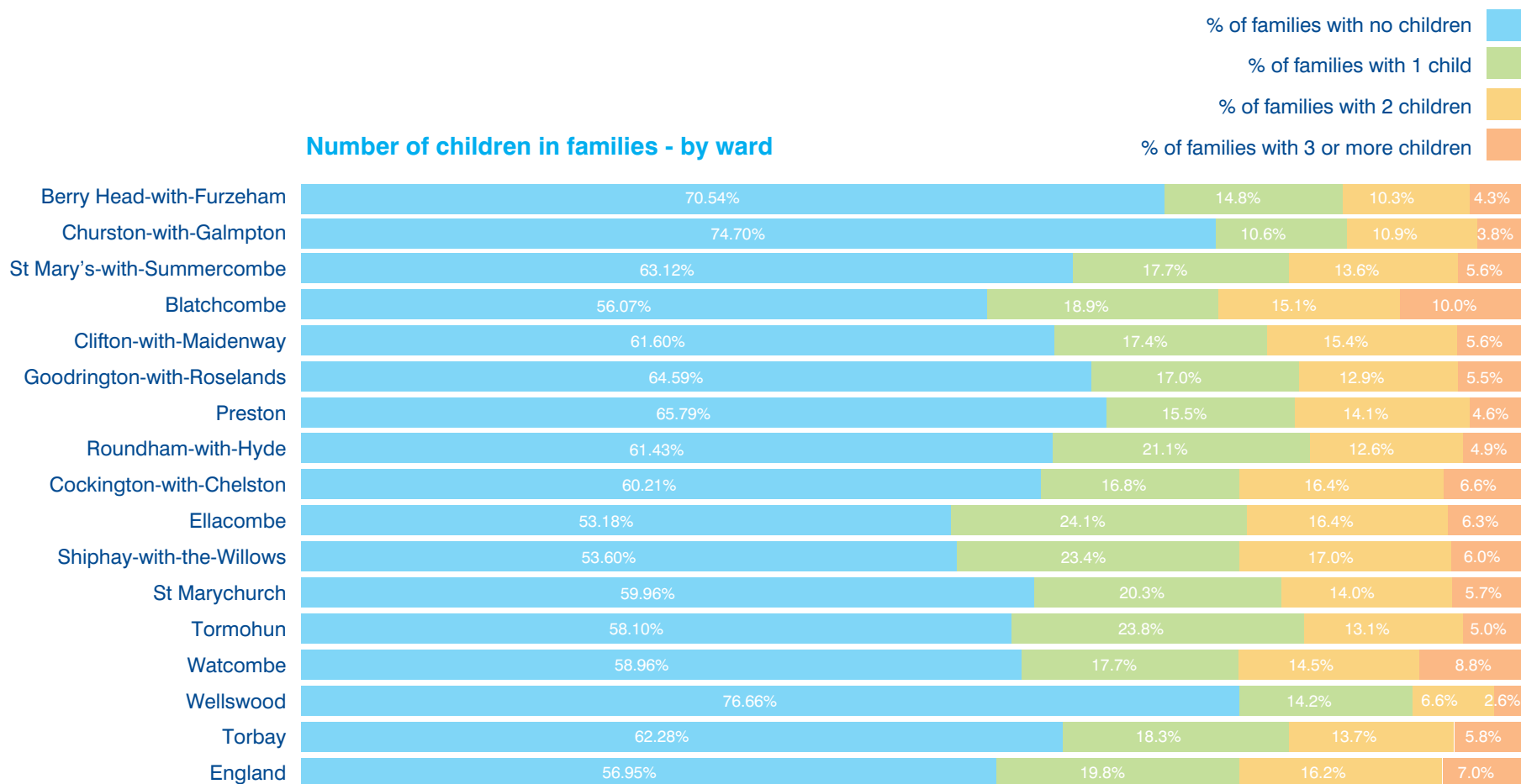
The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2014/5 has identified the following key issues affecting children in the Torbay area:

Key Issue	Context	Why it's an issue
Child poverty	Around 1 in 4 of children (23.6%) in Torbay live in relative poverty compared to around 1 in 5 (20.1%) across England.	Children living in poverty tend to experience poorer outcomes.
Childhood obesity	24.4% of children aged 4-5 are considered to have excess weight, this is compared to 22.2% in England. Children in Torbay have higher levels of long term health problems or disability.	Obese children are more likely to be absent from school due to illness and experience health related limitations and self-esteem issues. This has a direct impact on outcomes for children.
Children looked after	Torbay has amongst the highest rates of children looked after in England. The rate and number have been increasing in recent years with a particularly significant increase from 2017 to 2018.	Generally children in care continue to have poorer outcomes than the wider population.
Maternal behaviours	Just under a third of pregnant women in Torbay are measured as overweight or obese at their 12 week booking. 1 in 5 women in Torbay smoke during their pregnancy.	Positive maternal health is crucial for healthy development in the womb. The choices pregnant women make are crucial to the healthy development of the foetus.
School readiness and outcomes	There is a significant gap in early year's foundation stage between those eligible for free school meals and non-free school meal pupils. This gap continues to exist across the education pathway.	Generally, children who start school without developing vital readiness, tend to experience poorer outcomes.

The table above, taken from the Local Authority's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2018-20 shows that children in Torbay do not all receive a good start in life. Torbay has high levels of deprivation and a quarter of all children live in poverty. These issues continue as the child develops and grows which can lead to poorer outcomes in education. This has been proven to affect the child right through into adulthood, leading to poor achievement, worklessness or health problems.

Research has evidenced that high quality early education can have a positive effect on the educational, cognitive, behavioural and social outcomes of children in the short and long term. Therefore, it is important that those children who are living in poverty have access to good early years education and that there are sufficient places available to meet the demand.

The table below shows the number of families in Torbay and the number of dependent children in each:

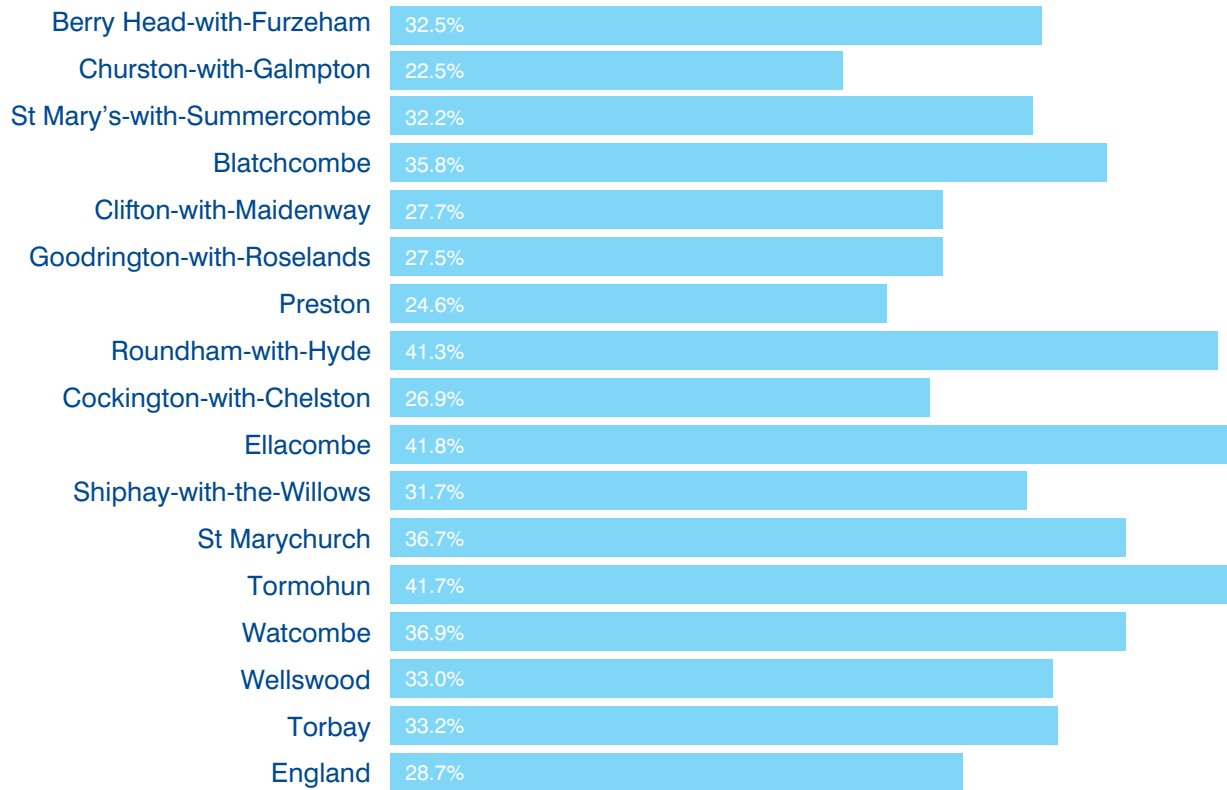


(source: Nomis)

This chart provides an overview of the family dynamics in Torbay. It demonstrates that in all areas of Torbay over half of the families have no children. This is likely to be due to the large numbers of older residents in Torbay (according to the JSNA there are over 44,000 residents over the age of 65 – 33% of the total population).

Blatchcombe shows a very high number of families with 3 or more children, closely followed by Watcombe. This could be linked to the type of housing available in these wards where, according to local authority records, a high percentage of properties are larger houses which accommodate larger families. According to research by the Public Health team, 30.2% of children in these wards live in poverty.

The chart below outlines the number of lone parent families in Torbay, broken down to ward level:



The chart above shows that there are a particularly large number of lone parent families in Roundham-with-Hyde, Ellacombe and Tormohun. These wards are areas with high levels of deprivation, with many ward areas being in the top 10% most deprived. These are also wards which have a higher percentage of jobseekers allowance claimants (see table on page 14) with those 3 wards having the highest percentage of adults claiming compared with the Torbay average. The statistics above also demonstrate that Torbay overall has a higher average number of lone parent families (33.2%) than the national average (28.7%).

THE TORBAY ECONOMY – WORKING FAMILIES AND JOB VACANCIES



The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) 2018-20 has identified the following key issues affecting the economy of Torbay:

Key Issue	Context	Why it's an issue?
Ageing Population	The number of people aged over 85 is expected to increase by around 56% over the next decade.	As we age our chance of developing different long term conditions increases. The impact of this could include increased demand on the health and care support.
Care and support	There are significantly higher levels of unpaid carers in the South Devon and Torbay population, many providing more than 50 hours care a week, and many in poor health themselves.	As the population ages, and people with disability and serious illness live longer, they are more likely to live at home. Going forward, we might expect community based care to rely increasingly on family and community members as carers.
Housing	Housing availability, quality, condition, suitability and affordability are an issue across South Devon and Torbay. 45% of Torbay residents are living in the most deprived quintile for indoor deprivation.	There are a range of health related conditions associated with housing in poor conditions.
Local economy	Whilst acknowledging that progress has been made, in 2011, Torbay's economic productivity, as measured through Gross Value Added, was amongst the poorest performing in the UK, at around 60% of the UK average.	Being in good employment is protective of health, whilst being unemployed contributes to poorer health and wellbeing. A poor performing economy has an impact on poverty and on health outcomes for the population.
Health	68% of adults in Torbay are overweight or obese. 14% of the Torbay population smoke. High levels of alcohol related hospital admissions in Torbay.	People with a long term condition are the most frequent users of health care services. With an ageing population, we might expect the number of people with a long term condition to increase.
Poverty	South Devon and Torbay has amongst the highest proportion of households in England identified as being on the edge of poverty, around 29% (45,000 households).	Households across South Devon and Torbay are less likely to be financially resilient to increasing prices. Being on the edge of poverty makes households more susceptible to debt and financial difficulties.

The information demonstrates that there are some factors affecting the Torbay economy which cannot be controlled; for example the large population of residents aged over 65. This impacts on the workforce availability as well as the demands of the workforce in Torbay. For example, there will be fewer adults of working age and also there will be a greater demand for people with caring abilities (nursing homes, home helps etc). Therefore, although the population is ageing in Torbay, it may also provide an opportunity for more jobs for those who are unemployed.

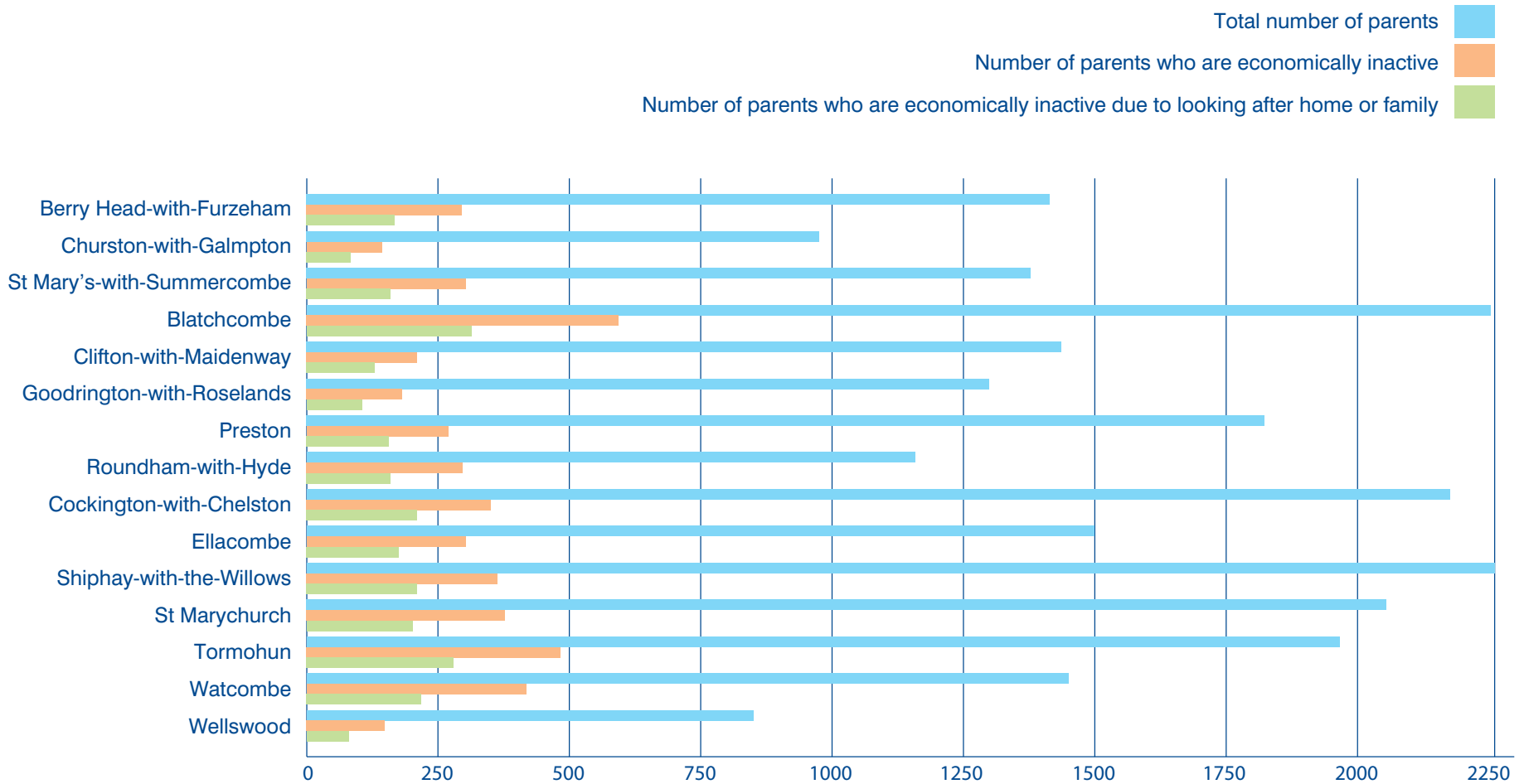
The table below shows the number of jobseekers allowance and universal credit claimants, broken down to ward level:

Ward / Area	No of JSA/UC claimants January 2014	No of JSA/UC claimants January 2015	No of JSA/UC claimants January 2016	No of JSA/UC claimants January 2017	No of JSA/UC claimants January 2018	2014-2016 average claimants	16-64 population	% of JSA/UC claimants of the 16-64 population
Berry Head-with-Furzeham	140	95	75	85	90	83	4,844	1.7%
Blatchcombe	220	140	115	125	140	127	6,639	1.9%
Churston-with-Galmpton	45	30	30	30	25	28	3,341	0.8%
Clifton-with-Maidenway	120	70	70	55	55	60	4,142	1.4%
Cockington-with-Chelston	180	120	95	100	85	93	6,198	1.5%
Ellacombe	290	215	185	155	175	172	4,676	3.7%
Goodrington-with-Roselands	80	40	45	40	40	42	3,921	1.1%
Preston	130	85	80	75	90	82	5,532	1.5%
Roundham-with-Hyde	325	225	200	190	200	197	4,732	4.2%
Shiphay-with-the-Willows	105	70	80	65	60	68	6,280	1.1%
St Marychurch	205	135	105	115	120	113	6,402	1.8%
St Mary's-with-Summercombe	90	70	60	50	75	62	4,068	1.5%
Tormohun	595	385	320	340	375	345	7,721	4.5%
Watcombe	160	110	115	80	95	97	4,108	2.4%
Wellswood	170	115	115	110	100	108	4,028	2.7%
Torbay	2,835	1,900	1,695	1,615	1,735	1,682	76,632	2.2%
England	1,004,480	687,110	612,855	618,830	677,225	636,303	34,856,126	1.8%

(source: Nomis)

There are 3 wards with high numbers of jobseekers allowance claimants (over 3.5%); Ellacombe, Roundham-with-Hyde and Tormohun. These 3 wards also have high numbers of lone parents and the highest number of job vacancies. These 3 wards have seen a reduction in JSA/UC claimants, with Ellacombe reducing by 1.2%, Roundham-with-Hyde reducing by 1% and Tormohun reducing by 1.1%. The overall number of JSA/UC claimants in Torbay has dropped by 0.4%.

Number of economically inactive parents - by ward



This chart demonstrates that in each ward there are a number of parents who have made an active decision to stay at home for varying reasons (the green bar), usually for childcare or to take care of the household. These numbers will not necessarily affect the number of 30 hour childcare places required in Torbay at the present time as these have taken an active decision to remain at home and this is unlikely to change significantly. The statistics which are likely to have the most notable impact on the childcare sufficiency in Torbay are the numbers of economically inactive (the red bar). These are the parents who the government are targeting to return to work. Watcome and Blatchcombe have a particularly high number of workless parents, with over 29% and 26% respectively being inactive. Similarly, Tormohun has 24% of its parents economically inactive. These wards will need particular attention during ongoing planning for the 30 hours childcare. These wards are also in areas of high deprivation, with some parts being in the top 10% of deprivation.

TORBAY CHILDCARE MARKET



As at January 2017 there are the following Early Years and Childcare Providers:

Type of Provider	Number of Providers	Potential Places
Full Day Care	20	934
Sessional Pre-schools	12	384
Maintained Schools and Academies with Nursery Classes	18	598
Nursery Units of Independent Schools	1	66
Childminders	82	246
TOTAL	133	2,228

**Potential places indicates the number of children a provider can take at any one time and is based on a provider 'moment in time' survey.*

Current supply of childcare (0-4) in Torbay

Private, Voluntary and Independent Childcare Providers spaces – by town (day nurseries and pre-schools)

Town	No. of children aged 0-4	Childcare places (0-4) available at a Private Nursery	Childcare places per 100 children	Average Occupancy Level (%)
Brixham	744	49	7	70.5%
Paignton	2,665	507	19	77.8%
Torquay	3,941	828	21	82.0%
TOTAL	7,350	1384	18.8	79.8%

School Nursery Class spaces – by town

Town	No. of children aged 0-4	Childcare places (0-4) available at a School Nursery	Childcare places per 100 children	Average Occupancy Level (%)
Brixham	744	96	13	94.2%
Paignton	2,665	229	9	88.6%
Torquay	3,941	273	7	96.4%
TOTAL	7,350	598	8	93.4%

Childminder (CM) spaces - by town

(It is important to note that this is an estimate only as childminder spaces vary widely according to their own preferences surrounding ratios, children's individual requirements for care, working hours and working days. The childminding market is also very changeable with many new start-ups and close downs throughout the year)

Town	No. of children aged 0-4	Childcare places (0-4) available at a Childminder	Childcare places per 100 children	Average Occupancy Level (%)
Brixham	744	48	6	70.1%
Paignton	2,665	111	4	72.2%
Torquay	3,941	87	2	81.1%
TOTAL	7,350	246	3	75.4%

Total 0-4 spaces (PVI, School and CM) – by town

Town	No. of children aged 0-4	Childcare places (0-4) available at PVI/School/Childminder	Childcare places per 100 children	Average Occupancy Level (%)
Brixham	744	193	26	74.6%
Paignton	2,665	847	32	76.4%
Torquay	3,941	1,188	30	84.2%
TOTAL	7,350	2,228	30	79.9%

Supply and demand for childcare for children aged 0-4 in Torbay by ward

Ward	No. of children aged 0-4	Childcare places (0-4) available at PVI	Childcare places (0-4) available in School	Childcare places (0-4) available at Childminder	Total Childcare (0-4) places available	Childcare places per 100 children	Occupancy Level (%)
Berry Head-with-Furzeham	379	29	52	24	105	28	73.4%
Blatchcombe	789	139	45	25	209	26	73.5%
Churston-with-Galmpton	210	51	40	18	109	52	91.5%
Clifton-with-Maidenway	475	0	26	22	48	10	71.3%
Cockington-with-Chelston	597	130	49	16	195	33	90.7%
Ellacombe	563	60	20	11	91	16	91.2%
Goodrington-with-Roselands	286	111	0	22	133	47	66.8%
Preston	519	80	0	13	93	18	71.8%
Roundham-with-Hyde	386	126	118	11	255	66	87.1%
Shiphay-with-the-Willows	751	288	76	6	370	49	91.8%
St Marychurch	543	257	50	21	328	60	71.5%
St Mary's-with-Summercombe	365	20	44	24	88	24	75.9%
Tormohun	768	20	26	22	68	9	78.3%
Watcombe	454	37	26	11	74	16	95.8%
Wellswood	265	36	26	0	62	23	86.8%
TOTAL	7,350	1384	598	246	2228	30	81.2%

All year round childcare analysis

Childcare supply and demand for children aged 0-4 for all year round places (AYR) in Torbay by town

This data is based on AYR places offered by day nurseries and AYR childminders.

Town	No. of children aged 0-4	AYR places available (0-4)	AYR places per 100 children	AYR Occupancy Level (%)
Brixham	744	38	5	79.1%
Paignton	2,665	392	15	74.4%
Torquay	3,941	680	17	77.4%
TOTAL	7,350	1,110	15	76.5%

Childcare supply and demand for children aged 0-4 for all year round places (AYR) in Torbay by ward

Ward	No. of children aged 0-4	AYR places available (0-4)	AYR places per 100 children	AYR Occupancy Level (%)
Berry Head-with-Furzeham	379	32	8	78.3%
Blatchcombe	789	117	15	74.6%
Churston-with-Galmpton	210	49	23	86.9%
Clifton-with-Maidenway	475	3	1	66.7%
Cockington-with-Chelston	597	40	7	99.8%
Ellacombe	563	60	11	83.5%
Goodrington-with-Roselands	286	94	33	65.2%
Preston	519	3	1	96.7%
Roundham-with-Hyde	386	126	33	66.8%
Shiphay-with-the-Willows	751	297	40	88.9%
St Marychurch	543	214	39	62.5%
St Mary's-with-Summercombe	365	66	18	80.0%
Tormohun	768	32	4	61.9%
Watcombe	454	37	8	92.7%
Wellswood	265	0	0	-
TOTAL	7,350	1,110	15	76.5%

Childcare supply and demand for children aged 0-4 for Term Time Only places (TTO) in Torbay by town.

This includes school nursery classes, pre-schools and childminders.

Town	No. of children aged 0-4	TTO places available (0-4)	TTO places per 100 children	TTO Occupancy Level (%)
Brixham	744	155	21	73.1%
Paignton	2,665	455	17	77.6%
Torquay	3,941	508	13	89.1%
TOTAL	7,350	1,118	15	81.8%

Childcare supply and demand for children aged 0-4 for Term Time Only places (TTO) in Torbay by ward

Ward	No. of children aged 0-4	TTO places available (0-4)	TTO places per 100 children	TTO Occupancy Level (%)
Berry Head-with-Furzeham	379	72	19	71.8%
Blatchcombe	789	85	11	72.9%
Churston-with-Galmpton	210	61	29	96.1%
Clifton-with-Maidenway	475	46	10	72.2%
Cockington-with-Chelston	597	160	27	86.1%
Ellacombe	563	33	6	95.1%
Goodrington-with-Roselands	286	40	14	68.4%
Preston	519	94	18	65.6%
Roundham-with-Hyde	386	125	32	97.3%
Shiphay-with-the-Willows	751	73	10	96.6%
St Marychurch	543	111	20	79.2%
St Mary's-with-Summercombe	365	78	21	74.5%
Tormohun	768	39	5	94.6%
Watcombe	454	36	8	96.9%
Wellswood	265	65	25	86.8%
TOTAL	7,350	1118	15	81.8%

2 year old funding entitlement

From the term after their second birthday some children are eligible for 15 hours free childcare per week for 38 weeks of the year (or an equivalent amount). The Local Authority has a duty to ensure that all children who want to take up this entitlement are able to do so.

This scheme became a statutory requirement from September 2014. Since this date the Department of Education (DfE) have estimated that 576 children in Torbay live in families who are eligible for a place on this scheme based on their financial circumstances.

Childcare supply and demand for free entitlement places (2 year olds) in Torbay by town

(Places available include private providers, schools offering 2YO places and childminders)

Town	2YO Population (estimate 2016)	No. of children potentially eligible for 2YO funding	% of 2YO population potentially eligible for funding
Brixham	140	49	35.0%
Paignton	530	195	36.8%
Torquay	781	332	42.5%
TOTAL	1,451	576	39.7%

(Source - ONS Mid-Year Population Estimates 2016)

Ward	2YO Population (estimate 2016)	No. of families potentially eligible for 2YO funding	% of 2YO population potentially eligible for funding
Berry Head-with-Furzeham	68	23	33.8%
Blatchcombe	159	69	43.4%
Churston-with-Galmpton	41	6	14.6%
Clifton-with-Maidenway	100	27	27.0%
Cockington-with-Chelston	126	30	23.8%
Ellacombe	107	59	55.1%
Goodrington-with-Roselands	50	23	46.0%
Preston	111	22	19.8%
Roundham-with-Hyde	69	49	71.0%
Shiphay-with-the-Willows	145	46	31.7%

St Marychurch	113	34	30.1%
St Mary's-with-Summercombe	72	25	34.7%
Tormohun	150	86	57.3%
Watcombe	89	57	64.0%
Wellswood	51	20	39.2%
TOTAL	1,451	576	39.7%

(Source - ONS Mid-Year Population Estimates 2016)

3 & 4 year old Universal Entitlement (15 hours)

From the term after their third birthday all children are eligible for 15 hours free childcare per week for 38 weeks of the year. The Local Authority has a duty to ensure that all children who want to take up this entitlement are able to do this.

Town	Approx no. of eligible 3+4YO
Brixham	325
Paignton	1,126
Torquay	1,598
TOTAL	3,049

(Source - ONS Mid-Year Population Estimates 2016)

3 & 4 year old Universal Entitlement (30 hours)

The entitlement to 30 hours funded childcare for working families is now in the second year of implementation. Upon entering the second year it remains a priority to ensure that there are enough, high quality places available for parents who need them. In the first year of implementation, Torbay did not receive any formal complaints from parents who were unable to access a childcare place.

Town	Approx no. of eligible 3+4YO
Brixham	524
Paignton	351
Torquay	78
TOTAL	953

*source – Torbay 2018 summer headcount data

Some consideration needs to be given to the number of children entitled to 2 year old funding who become entitled to 3 year old funding when they turn 3 years old.

Total number of funded 2YOs in autumn 2017 who became 3YO funded in spring 2018	Number of funded 2YOs in autumn 2017 who became entitled to 30 hours in spring 2018	% of funded 2YOs who became 30 hours funded in spring 2018
134	45	34%

Total number of funded 2YOs in spring 2018 who became 3YO funded in summer 2018	Number of funded 2YOs in spring 2018 who became entitled to 30 hours in summer 2018	% of funded 2YOs who became 30 hours funded in summer 2018
177	30	17%

Since the implementation of the 30 hours extended entitlement, the majority of providers do not allocate places for specific age ranges. Therefore it is necessary to look at the places available overall compared to the number of children (2, 3 and 4 year olds) who will be entitled to a funded place.

Town	No. of children potentially eligible for 2YO funding	Approx no. of eligible 3+4YO UNIVERSAL	Approx no. of eligible 3+4YO EXTENDED	TOTAL number of 15 hour places required	Number of places available	Number of places per 100 children	Average Occupancy Level %
Brixham	49	325	524	374	386	43	74.6%

Paignton	195	1,126	351	1,321	1,694	101	76.4%
Torquay	332	1,598	78	1,930	2,376	118	84.2%
TOTAL	576	3,049	953	3,625	4,456	97	79.9%

The table above allows analysis of the number of individual 15 hour places required. One funded 2 year old will take one 15 hours place, a universal 3 year old will take 1 funded place and an extended child will take another 15 hour place. For this purpose, the number of available places per day has been multiplied by 2, on the assumption that one place in a childcare provider would be able to accommodate 2 children across a week. The numbers of children entitled to 30 hours is based on estimates using the summer term data which is the busiest term of the academic year.

It is therefore evident that Torbay has sufficient childcare places to accommodate the need in the area and given the occupancy levels, there is also some room to accommodate increased demand. More detailed recommendations can be found within the summary and action plan.

Access to Wraparound and holiday childcare for working parents

Many parents need wraparound and holiday childcare for school age children to enable them to be able to work. Wraparound childcare is defined as childcare before school (usually from 8am) and after school (usually from school finish time to 5 or 6 o'clock).

The wraparound care places available in Torbay are outlined below:

Before School

Type of Provider	Number of Providers	Potential Places in BEFORE school care (each day)	Current Occupancy (%)
School	28	1166	57.6%
Private Providers	8	185	53.9%
Childminders	33	100	41.5%
TOTAL	69	1,451	48.1%

After School

Type of Provider	Number of Providers	Potential Places in AFTER school care (each day)	Current Occupancy (%)
School	23	818	56.7%
Private Providers	9	189	64.9%
Childminders	42	142	48.8%
TOTAL	74	1,149	53.2%

Across Torbay 28 out of 30 primary schools offer before school care and 23 offer after school care (2 schools have private providers on site who offer this care). This enables working parents to access wraparound care with relative ease. The information above shows that there is sufficient space in before and after school care offered to meet the needs of working parents. Torbay does not currently have any known issues surrounding the sufficiency of wraparound care for school aged children.

Holiday Childcare

Type of Provider	Number of Providers offering a holiday childcare scheme
School	2
Private Providers	11
Childminders	41
TOTAL	54

54 providers in Torbay offer some form of holiday childcare for children of all ages.

The type of childcare available varies significantly from provider to provider. For example a school may commission an external company to deliver holiday clubs for children aged 5-11 years old, whereas a childminder might offer one or two places depending on their ratios for each day.

The parent consultation asked several questions in relation to holiday childcare and there are some clear themes generated from the responses, a summary of which can be found below:

“Lack of suitable holiday provision for their age group”

“I can’t use the holiday clubs locally because the costs mean it’s not worth working”

“Holiday clubs are expensive and do not cater for the ages or hours needed”

“Finding places where she will know somebody or run activities that she will enjoy which is also affordable is difficult.”

“I am trying to find Holiday options right now and cannot find anything that will suit all 4 children as they are aged between 2 and 6. Every holiday I have to stop working which is also why I am self employed. However, for this summer holiday I cannot do that I have to find a solution.”

“Nowhere advertises for holiday care and the schools are shut so don’t provide any extra services in School holidays”

“Difficult to find suitable holiday clubs or childcare just for during the school holidays”

“I rely on family members, grandparents & older siblings”

“limited availability, expensive, times not ideal, activities uninspiring”

“We’re very fortunate to have grandparents who can help, when they can’t we have to take time off work as there is no other way.”

“Holiday childcare is fairly difficult due to cost and availability, mainly availability.”

There are 3 common themes running through the responses from parents; availability, affordability and quality. It is evident that there is not sufficient holiday childcare for children in Torbay and this is addressed in the action plan at the end of this document.

Migration in Torbay for Childcare

The table below shows migration across Torbay for childcare; i.e. the percentage of children who attend a setting in their home ward, who travel within their home town to a setting and who travel outside their home town to a setting. This information is valuable when considering Torbay childcare sufficiency as a whole and at town level.

WARD	% of children attending a setting in their residential ward	% of children attending a setting within their residential town	% children travelling to setting in a different town
Berry Head with Furzeham	20%	36%	44%
Blatchcombe	37%	53%	10%
Churston with Galmpton	59%	34%	7%
Clifton with Maidenway	4%	83%	13%
Cockington with Chelston	74%	25%	2%
Ellacombe	28%	69%	3%
Goodrington with Roselands	43%	54%	3%
Preston	42%	42%	16%
Roundham with Hyde	57%	37%	6%
Shiphay with the Willows	50%	45%	5%
St Marychurch	68%	27%	4%
St Mary's with Summercombe	58%	8%	35%
Tormohun	9%	85%	6%
Watcombe	2%	98%	0%
Wellswood	31%	69%	0%

The above information is also set out in towns below:

TOWN	% of children attending a setting in their residential ward	% of children attending a setting within their residential town	% children travelling to setting in a different town
Brixham	39%	22%	39%
Paignton	39%	51%	10%
Torquay	40%	57%	3%

Cost of childcare across England

	Nursery for under 2s for 25 hours	Childminder for under 2s for 25 hours	Nursery for 2+ year olds for 25 hours	Childminder for 2+ year olds for 25 hours
Inner London	£183.56	£174.47	£155.14	£154.11
Outer London	£145.44	£134.03	£135.71	£135.36
South East	£141.70	£131.16	£121.82	£120.12
South West	£116.36	£119.22	£108.18	£107.35
East Midlands	£109.61	£109.53	£94.36	£94.35
East of England	£122.20	£122.13	£106.41	£104.28
North East	£122.30	£118.11	£106.20	£106.02
Yorkshire and Humber	£105.30	£103.37	£96.16	£95.78
North West	£101.83	£101.19	£88.98	£90.89
West Midlands	£108.52	£106.41	£98.72	£97.09
Scotland	£109.68	£108.60	£114.33	£112.75
Wales	£116.18	£116.02	£100.22	£100.38
England	£124.73	£120.66	£110.61	£109.95
Britain	£122.46	£119.47	£107.41	£109.44
TORBAY	£114.00	£105.50	£114.00	£105.50

Source: Childcare Survey 2017 – Family and Childcare Trust

This information demonstrates that the cost of childcare across Torbay is reasonable compared with regional and national averages.

QUALITY OF CHILDCARE IN TORBAY

Page 45

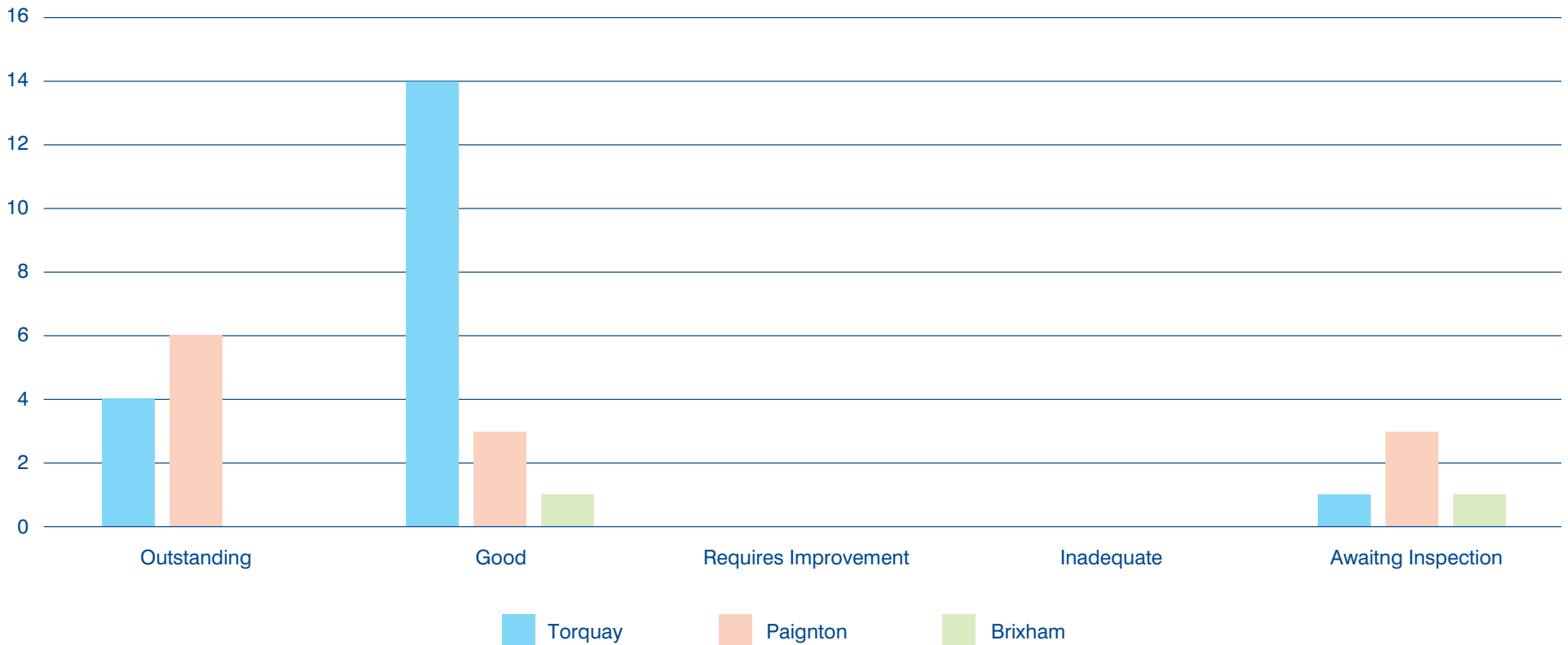


The table below demonstrates Nursery Ofsted grades by town:

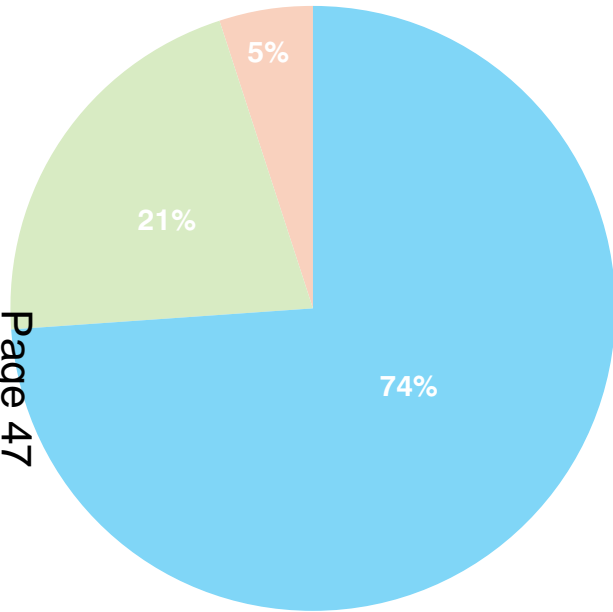
OFSTED Grade	Torquay Nurseries		Paignton Nurseries		Brixham Nurseries	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Outstanding	4	21%	6	50%	0	0%
Good	14	74%	3	25%	1	50%
Requires Improvement	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Inadequate	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Awaiting Inspection	1	5%	3	25%	1	50%

In Torbay all providers are Ofsted rated 'Outstanding' or 'Good'. This means that the children in Torbay receive their early education in a high quality setting. There are a small number of settings who are awaiting their inspection.

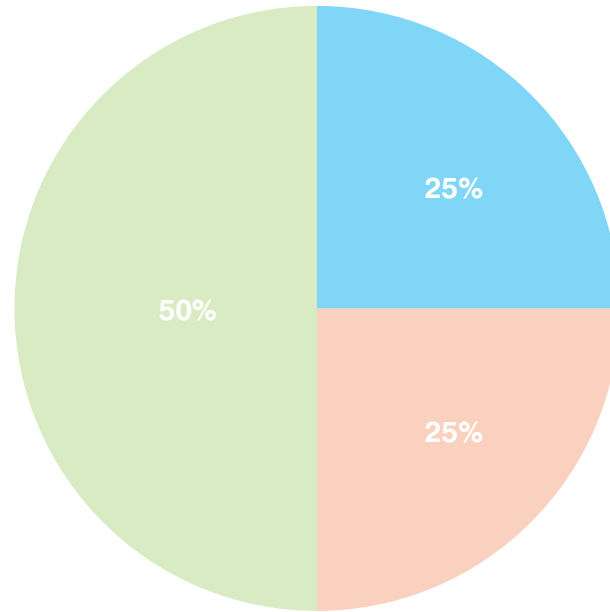
Nursery Ofsted Grades by Town



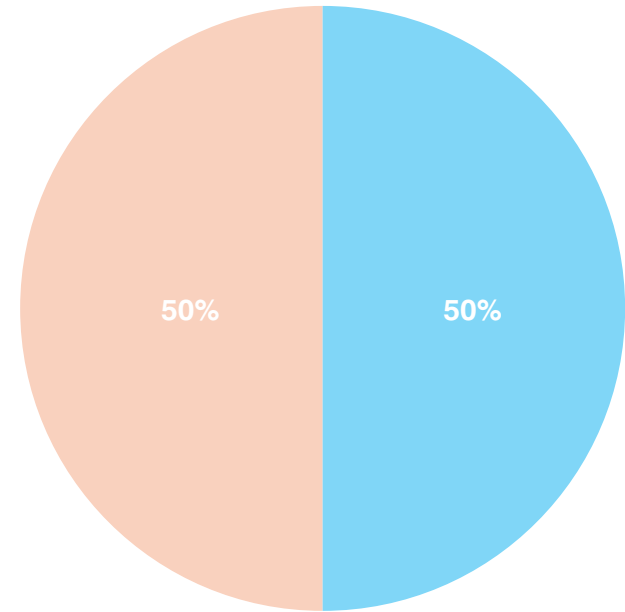
Torquay Nurseries Ofsted Grades



Paignton Nurseries Ofsted Grades



Brixham Nurseries Ofsted Grades



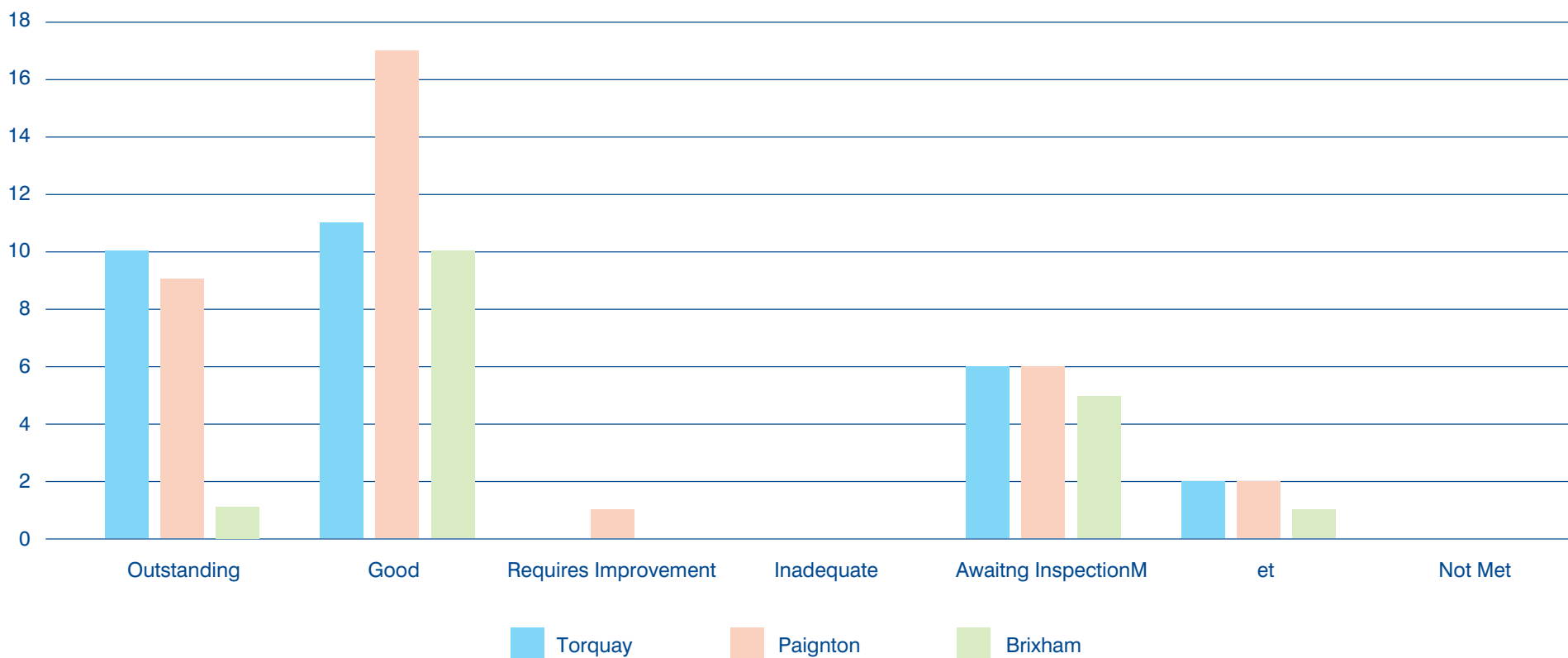
Outstanding Good Awaiting Inspection

The table below demonstrates Childminder Ofsted grades by town:

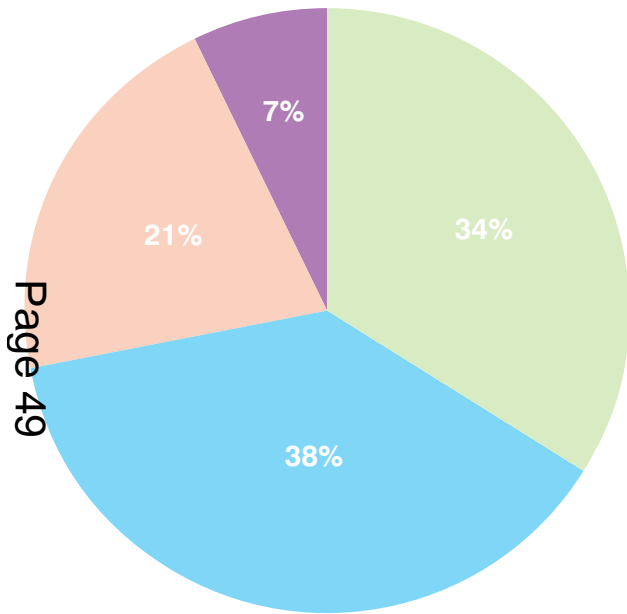
OFSTED Grade	Torquay CMs		Paignton CMs		Brixham CMs	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Outstanding	10	34%	9	26%	1	6%
Good	11	38%	17	49%	10	59%
Requires Improvement	0	0%	1	3%	0	0%
Inadequate	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Awaiting Inspection	6	21%	6	17%	5	29%
Met	2	7%	2	6%	1	6%
Not met	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

The largest proportion of childminders in Torbay are Ofsted graded 'Outstanding' or 'Good'. There is 1 childminder within Torbay who is Ofsted graded as 'Requires Improvement' and is receiving support. There are a large number of newly registered childminders following a recruitment drive to encourage new childminders to start up, therefore these childminders are awaiting their Ofsted inspection.

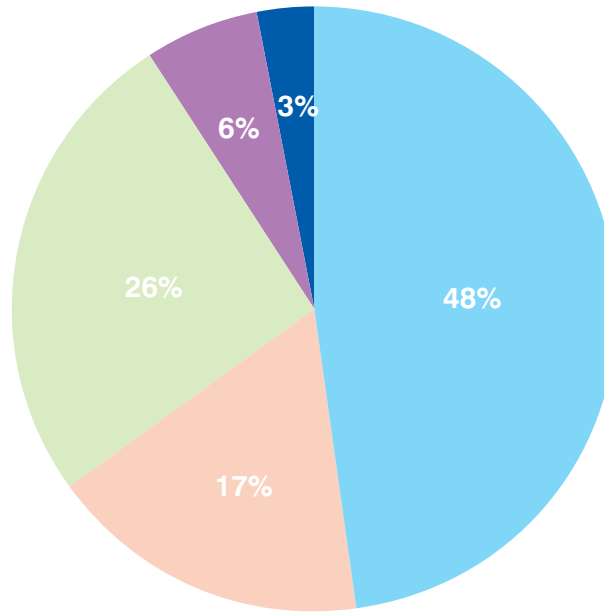
Childminder Ofsted Grades by Town



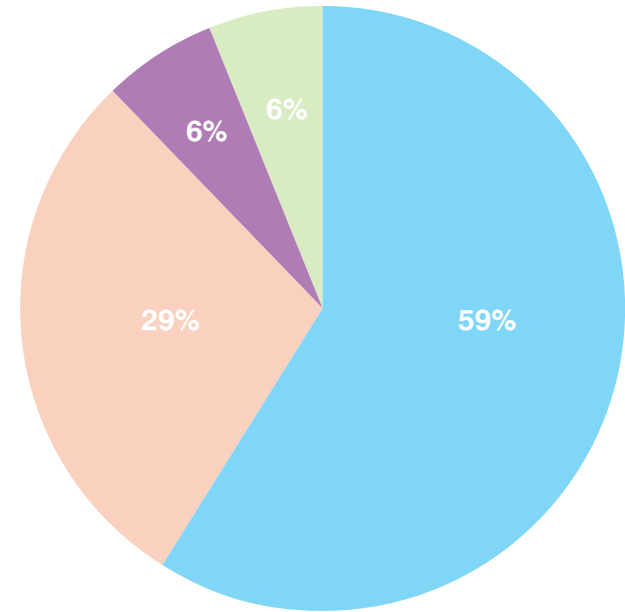
Torquay Childminders Ofsted Grades



Paignton Childminders Ofsted Grades



Brixham Childminders Ofsted Grades



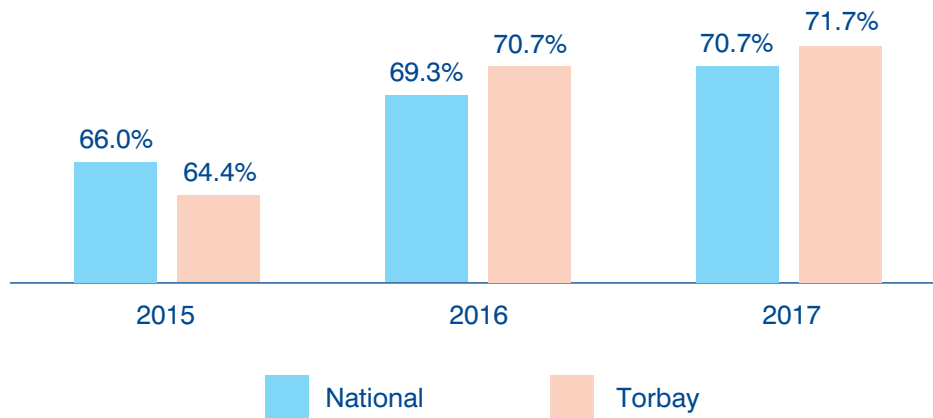
Outstanding Good Awaiting Inspection Requires Improvement Met

Data on Children achieving a Good Level of Development (GLD)

Children are defined as having reached a good level of development at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) in the Reception year, if they have achieved at least the expected level for the Early Learning Goals (ELGs) in the prime areas of learning (personal, social and emotional development; physical development; and communication and language) and the specific areas of mathematics and literacy.

The chart below indicates the percentage of children in Torbay and nationally achieving a good level of development (GLD) at the end of their Reception year:

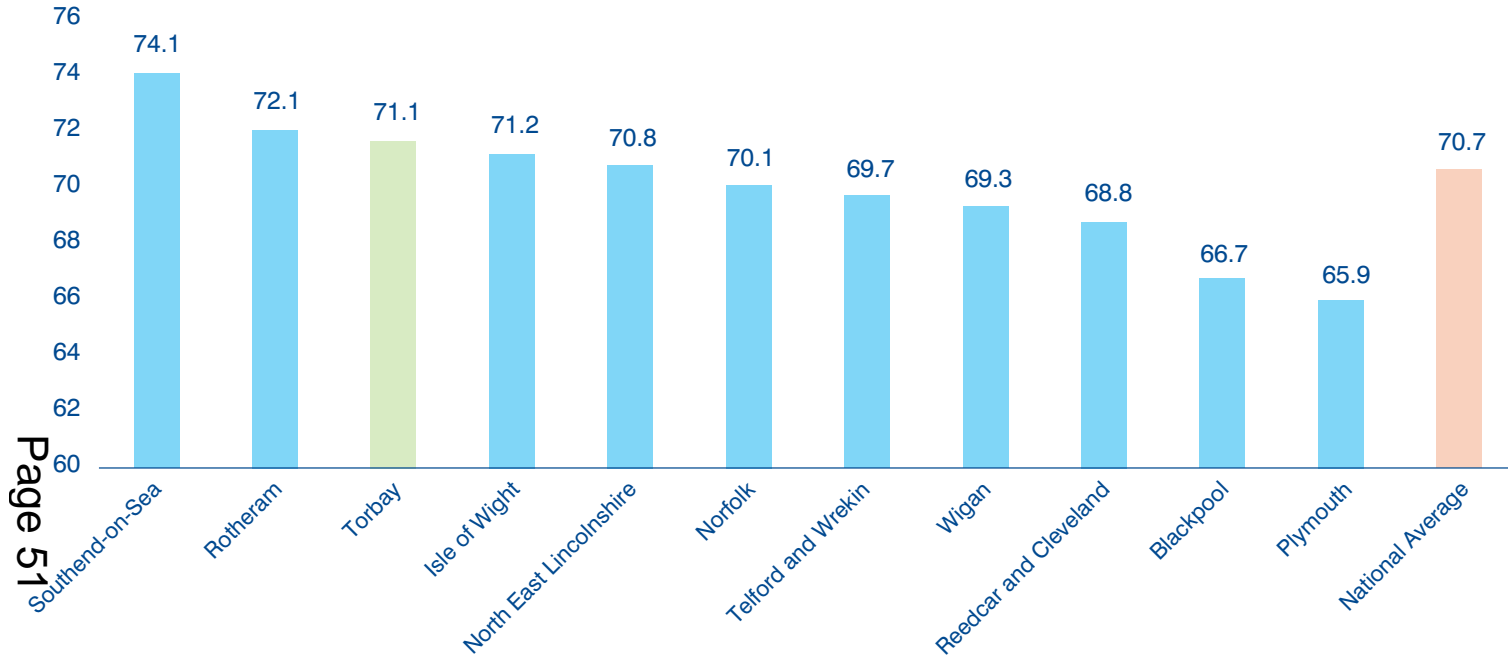
GLD Data at the end of Reception



At a local level, 71.7 % of children achieved a good level of development at the end of Reception in 2017; demonstrating a continued upward trend across Torbay, now scoring above national average.

The chart below shows Torbay's performance of GLD achievement in comparison with statistical neighbours:

Percentage of all children achieving a GLD in Torbay and statistical neighbours



In comparison to our statistical neighbours Torbay is the third performing Local Authority and is performing above national average.

HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS



Below is a table demonstrating numbers of housing completions broken down by town, per year since 2011/12:

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Subtotal
Torquay	176	252	77	161	125	791
Paignton	53	204	207	231	150	845
Brixham	27	45	18	16	51	157
Total	256	501	302	408	326	1793

Below is a table estimating the number of additional childcare places required as a result of the new housing developments:

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Torquay	2.51	3.60	1.10	4.50	3.4
Paignton	0.76	2.91	2.96	6.40	4.0
Brixham	0.39	0.64	0.26	0.50	1.4
Total	3.66	7.16	4.31	11.40	8.8

This shows that the current impact of housing developments in Torbay has a minor influence on the number of childcare places required. There are some new housing developments planned between 2016 and 2019 in Torbay. All new housing developments in Torbay are planned for and analysed to ensure that in the schools planning process, the additional school/childcare places are planned for. There are plans for Torbay to build 2 new schools by 2019 to accommodate the growing number of children in the area. Any new schools will have nursery provisions for ages 2 – 5 years old.

There is a growing trend that the new housing developments, especially in the Paignton area, are attracting more families with young children than originally anticipated. Additional work in these areas has been undertaken to extend existing and develop new early years places.

PARENTAL DEMAND

Page 54



The Local Authority consulted with parents in June 2018 to establish demand and needs for childcare within Torbay.

An overview of the results from the survey can be found below:

- 408 responses to the questionnaire
- 333/408 have children aged under 5 years old – 82%
- 45/408 have a child with a special educational need or disability (SEND) – 11%
- 308/408 use childcare to enable them to work – 75%
- 5/408 cannot access a place in their chosen childcare provider – 1%
- 33/408 find childcare expensive and unaffordable – 8%
- 85/408 need childcare before 8am – 20%
- 25/408 need childcare after 6pm – 6%
- 13/408 need childcare overnight – 3%
- 36/408 need childcare over the weekend – 9%
- The average spend on additional childcare hours is £99.26

Page 55
These are some of the parent comments:

"I am very happy with the service provided by my daughter's nursery. It is too expensive for us to use for all the days I work so my mum looks after my baby two days a week."

"Nursery fees were very high but the quality of the care provided was exemplary. Childcare vouchers and salary sacrifice schemes made it possible for me to use this childcare and work the hours needed to remain in my profession."

"The funding has been a massive financial help, saving me £135 per week. I have been able to send my son to a wonderful nursery for two days a week and a childminder who can offer earlier sessions to support my earlier shifts at work. Financial support and the ability to work aside, 30 hours of good quality child care is priceless for my son who has come on leaps and bounds in every area of development, he will be four years and three months when he enters reception year and is soundly school ready which I believe is due to having access to the school's nursery. I greatly appreciate the 30 hours funding, it has been a life saver for me and my son."

"Exceptional level of care provided by childminder with a range of activities on offer."

"My son is 6 always use grandparents to help with child care can't afford anything else"

The requirement for very early or very late childcare is extremely small, as is the requirement for overnight and weekend childcare. Whilst it is evident from the responses that the childcare market in Torbay largely meets the needs of parents. Torbay has not received any formal complaints from parents that they are unable to access a suitable place for their child, although the consultation did identify that parents of children with SEND find it more difficult to access a suitable place. More can be found on this in the SEND section of this report.

A high-angle, top-down photograph of six diverse children of various ethnicities and ages, all smiling broadly and looking upwards towards the camera. They are huddled together in a circle, with their heads touching. The children are wearing colorful clothing: a pink shirt, a light blue shirt, a green shirt, and a red shirt. The background is a bright, overexposed white, creating a clean and positive atmosphere.

SERVICES AVAILABLE
TO FAMILIES IN TORBAY

Family Information Service

The Family Information Service (FIS) provides up to date information to families about childcare, activities and advice and support services in Torbay. It can be accessed by anyone online through fis.torbay.gov.uk, via the free phone line, 0800 328 5974, by email, fisenquiries@torbay.gov.uk, and face to face in the reception area on Union Street in Torquay. Details of Ofsted registered childcare in Torbay are received by the FIS directly from Ofsted and additional information is added by childcare providers.

The FIS offers support to any family looking for childcare including those claiming funded hours for 2, 3 and 4 year olds. Advisors within the FIS are able to find out about particular vacancies and arrange visits for families who find it more difficult to arrange a place.

The FIS holds details of many other activities and events such as sports clubs, uniformed groups, children's centre services and youth groups that may support children, young people and their families while they are growing up. As part of the SEND reforms, Torbay Directory also hosts the Local Offer for education, health and social care providers from to enable families to access more detailed information about services available for children and young people with a special educational need or disability.

Within the parent consultation, parents were asked how easily they were able to access information about childcare providers. The majority of parents responded that they were able to locate suitable information about childcare providers through the internet and a quarter of respondents who use the internet have used the FIS website to look at childcare provision. There were some suggestions for ways to improve this service and some general comments which have been shared with the FIS team for review and development where appropriate:

"Have a central website where people can go on and rate people they have used. Builds up recommended babysitters too as nowadays so difficult to trust anyone"

"I think Torbay Council have a wealth of information on their website available which is easy to access and user friendly."

"Provide clear information to all employers that they can include for employees on their return to work."

"Provide information to health visitors to pass on. Maybe have a dedicated web page on website listing all available childcare providers with prices and reviews etc."

"Ask childminders to keep up to date vacancies on the childcare website"

"Have a website that shows all childcare options. Where they are with a map and ratings from ofsted as well as parents/ carers comments. It would make it easier to compare them and find the most suitable place for our children. Similar to the way we can compare schools in the area on your website."

Children's Centres

Torbay Children's Centres have centres in Torquay, Paignton and Brixham offering drop-in, workshops, Stay & Plays, Play Cafes, antenatal sessions and fun activities for families with children under 5 years old. The aim of all Children's Centres within the locality is to improve outcomes for young children and their families by:

- Reducing inequalities in child development and school readiness
- Improving parent's aspirations, self-esteem and parenting skills
- Improving child and family health and life chances

Children's Centres contribute to ensuring that every child gets the best start in life. They also work towards better opportunities for parents, and a stronger and safer community.

Early Help

The Early Help Service guides and assists children and families and professionals through the process of getting the right help to meet need. Early Help is delivered in the following ways:

1. Early Help professionals Consultation Line

Since 1st August 2017 the Early Help Consultation Line has been in operation. The line is designed to provide advice to professionals who think that they have a family in need of Early Help. The consultation line is manned by a duty Social Worker who is able to provide advice and signposting for services that might be of support to the families that you are working with. The number to call is 01803 208525 and the line is open weekday mornings from 9am - 12pm.

2. Targeted Help Pathway

There are two pathways into Targeted Help. The first is when a family are stepped down from statutory intervention at level 4 to Targeted Help at level 3 and the second is through the MASH.

When the level of need is more complex and involves two or three needs that require several services to work together, then a Targeted Help Request for Service should be completed and submitted to the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).

The Early Help process guides and assists children and families and professionals so that they can get the right help to meet need. The MASH screens all referrals and ensures that Targeted Help is the right level of support to offer, and that there is enough information in the Request for Service. Information on thresholds and levels of need can be found in TSCB Threshold Document. For further information please see MASH Operational Procedures.

When completing a Targeted Help Request for Targeted Support assessment it's critical that this is discussed with the family and consent is gained from the family prior to making the request. If you are unsure of the level of need please contact the Consultation Line for advice.

3. Targeted Help Panel

Once a request for Targeted Support has been screened and reviewed by MASH. This will be passed to Targeted Help. The Targeted Help panel is a weekly multi-agency meeting which explores and discusses support requests. The aim of the panel is to make decisions about support and intervention for children and families and identify the most appropriate service to allocate a Targeted Help Co-ordinator to work with the family.

The panel is attended by a wide range of professionals from the public sector, community and voluntary services. The panel will provide relevant information about children and young people already known to them and discuss the best support plan for the family.

Once it has been determined during panel who the Targeted Help Co-ordinator is, the Targeted Help Team record this information on both multi-agency panel minutes and on the child's record. The Targeted Help Team will review the progress made against the plan initially at 6 weeks and up to a maximum of 12 weeks.

The review will ascertain whether support is still being provided, who is working with the family and whether the support is proving effective in meeting the family's needs. The case will remain open on the children's data base until any support or intervention has been completed and the outcome recorded.

4. Targeted Help Co-ordinator and Team Around the Family

Team Around the Family

A Team Around the Family (TAF) is a term used when a family is receiving support from a range of people who are working together to improve outcomes for a family. The support being provided to a family could include Universal Services, targeted intervention or support via the Community or Voluntary Sector.

A family's needs could be anything from an educational issue, a health difficulty, financial worries or perhaps housing, which require more than two or three professional's expertise. A Team Around the Family should be supporting any family need or difficulty that impact on children and without being addressed could affect a child's developmental milestones and outcomes in the future. Through working with a Team Around the Family, children's support needs and difficulties can be addressed together to avoid things escalating. If a parent or carer is worried about lots of aspects of their life and the situation they feel may become unmanageable, this is when through the support of a Team Around the Family, they can feel supported and enabled to manage things progressively, until all needs have been addressed.

Targeted Help Co-ordinator

Within a Team Around the Family the Targeted Help Co-ordinator will provide advice, support and guidance to the family within the context of their role, while working closely with other agencies to create a Single TAF Plan. With a family's involvement a Targeted Help Co-ordinator coordinates

services so needs are addressed progressively without feeling overwhelming. The Targeted Help Co-ordinator speaks to relevant professionals and organises an initial meeting so parents or carer's and young people (if they wish to be involved) and agencies can meet to develop a Single TAF Plan. The family is supported to take part in this process and is consulted with throughout.

Once a Team Around the Family meeting has taken place and a plan is created, the family and the professionals involved will have joint responsibility for achieving outcomes to reduce the level of need and any potential difficulties within the family situation.

The Team Around the Family then continue to talk to each other regularly, with the family continuously being involved to ensure things are 'on track' and the right support is in place at the right time.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES

"All children and young people with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) should be able to reach their full potential in school. They should also be supported to make a successful transition into adulthood, whether into employment, further or higher education or training"

Department for Education



11% of the respondents to the parent consultation reported that they have a child with SEND. The consultation included SEND specific questions of which a summary of responses can be found below:

When asked how easy it is to locate suitable childcare for children with SEND, 50% of the respondents who have children with SEND reported it is 'difficult' or 'very difficult' to find a suitable place. Those who responded 'difficult' or 'very difficult' were asked for additional information around this and below is an example of some of the responses:

"my daughter has disabilities so needs more support than others. this means the cheaper and more fun childcare provisions are unable to meet her needs."

"I haven't been able to find anywhere small enough to suit my child, or that I would trust to meet his needs"

"Child with autism needs routine and familiarity. Struggles in a busy and unfamiliar environment. Has difficulty separating from parent until strongly bonded with carer and new situation. Cost is also a major issue. When distressed she may lash out at younger sibling which is difficult for people who are unfamiliar with them to manage in a childcare setting."

"Private setting not being willing to always take SEND children on"

Access to childcare for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

To respond to the growing demand for support of children with SEND in Torbay, the Council provides settings with the opportunity to receive additional funding called Activity Led Funding for Early Years (ALFEY funding). This funding provides financial support to settings to allow them to be inclusive of all children and provide extra support and resources for children with SEND; even if they do not have a statement or EHCP. The settings Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo) makes an application to the Early Years Team. The application is assessed by a panel and funding is allocated as appropriate to the setting based on an hourly rate percentage which is judged by the child's level of need.

This funding can provide financial support for 1:1 care for children or allow equipment and resources to be purchased to support the setting in delivering inclusive early education for the child. The result of this funding is encouraging all settings in Torbay to be fully inclusive, improving parental confidence and reducing demand for places in Torbay's only specialist SEND school, Mayfield. In 2017/18 the Local Authority provided over £225,000 to Torbay settings to support inclusion of children with SEND, supporting between 75 and 100 children each term.

The Torbay Local Offer describes the services and support for children and young people with SEND and helps their families to make informed choices about the support they receive. The Torbay SEND team includes 4 case workers who provide regular support to children and young people with complex special educational needs within an early years, school or further education setting. Case workers are responsible for coordinating new requests for statutory education, health and care plan assessments. The SEND team also has Education Health & Care Plan Officers who are responsible for drafting new ECHPs in response to requests for statutory assessment.

The SEND team are responsible for ensuring that special educational provision is made available to children who need it following a statutory assessment.

A statutory Assessment is a process where information is collected from the parents, child/young person and professionals. This then allows the Local Authority to gain a clear picture of the education, health and care needs of the child/young person. A request for statutory assessment can be made by a parent or requested by a child's school/setting. This can be done by downloading and completing the 'Request for Statutory Assessment Form'. The Authority will then consider whether to carry out an assessment. Requests are considered by the 'SEND Panel' which includes SENCOs, an Educational Psychologist and Health and Social Care representatives. The decision as to whether to carry out a statutory assessment remains with the Authority.

If the team decide to conduct an Education, Health and Care assessment then an SEN Officer will be appointed. This will be the person who keeps parents updated on their child's assessment. The SEN Officer will meet with them, listen and collate any additional information they may have. As well as this, education, health and care professionals involved with the child or young person will be asked to submit information as their contribution to the plan. When all of the information has been gathered, those involved in the assessment stage, along with parents, will propose the support needed for the child or young person to achieve their required outcomes. This will be recorded in the child's Education, Health and Care Plan. The SEN team do not teach the child or young person, but will support the educational institution that they attend by a monitoring and review process, which helps to ensure that their needs are being met and that educational progress is being made.

This approach allows all schools and settings to be as inclusive as possible and respond to the needs of all children.

For children with severe and profound learning difficulties or disabilities there is the possibility of attending Mayfield Special School which accommodates children from age 2 to 19 years old. Admission to the school is decided by the Local Authority and is based upon the above process for SEND statutory assessments. Those with more severe difficulties who cannot be accommodated in a mainstream school will instead receive their education in this fully inclusive format.

Torbay provides the following services for children as part of the Local Offer:

- Educational Psychology – Torbay's Educational Psychologists (EPs) have had experience working with children or young people and have also had additional training and experience in how children and young people learn and develop. They work closely with teachers and parents to help children who are having difficulties with learning and general development, including reading, writing, spelling and numbers; emotions and behaviour; making relationships with other children and adults. The EPs offer teachers, and in some cases parents, suggestions about how they can help their child's development and learning. The advice that they offer to teachers is usually to suggest ways to improve a child's learning or behaviour and ways to help children with learning difficulties to cope with their work in class.
- Children's Disability Service – This service comprises a specialist team of occupational therapists, social workers and community care workers, key workers and physiotherapists to support children under 18 with disabilities as well as their families. The team's work also includes the management and support of holiday play schemes, Saturday clubs and sitting services. The Inclusion Worker is also based within this team.
- Portage and Early Support Service - Portage is a home teaching service for families who have a pre-school child who has additional needs

or a disability. The success and popularity of portage is based on the fact that it promotes parents as the key figure in the development of their child. All Portage schemes are built around four main activities weekly home visiting by a trained home visitor, weekly written teaching activities designed for each individual child and parent, teaching and recording carried out by the parent and regular supervision of the home visitor. Home visitors liaise with any other people involved with the child to make sure everyone is working to common goals. Portage have regular meetings with parents and other professionals involved to monitor progress and celebrate achievements.

- Hearing Support – This service provides advice and guidance to families of hearing impaired children. Home visits are available for pre-school aged children and the service provides training for nurseries and schools.
- Special Needs Play scheme and Saturday Club – This is a free service available through a referral process and is aimed at children with severe to profound physical and/or learning difficulties. The service is available Monday to Saturday.
- Speech and Language Service – This service aims to enable the members of the population of South Devon with communication disorders and their related conditions to achieve and maintain their communication potential by offering assessment, diagnosis, therapy and support. The service is provided, following a referral, to children with speech or language disorders/delay, severe learning difficulties, disorders following an injury, maxilla facial disorders (e.g. cleft palate), mild to moderate hearing loss, disorders of fluency (stammering), voice disorders or feeding difficulties.

A SEND specific action plan can be found at the end of this document.

SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS & ACTION PLAN

This report demonstrates that there are sufficient childcare places to meet the requirements for funded children in Torbay. There is not a great deal of capacity, especially in school nursery classes, so there is a need for growth to accommodate the growing numbers of young children in Torbay, through increased birth rates and migration into Torbay from other areas. There is also a need to accommodate children aged under 2 who are not yet funded. Taking this into account alongside the fact that Torbay has just enough places to accommodate funded children, sufficiency of places will likely still be an issue which could be particularly prevalent in some wards. However, Torbay is able to meet its statutory duty to ensure sufficiency of places for children entitled to a funded place across the local area as a whole.



A summary of each ward is outlined in the table below:

Ward	Ward summary and notes	
	Population information and deprivation data	Childcare Places and Occupancy
Berry Head with Furzeham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small increase in population of 0-4 year olds - 2.2% • More than 70% of this ward is comprised of families with no children; older, retired couples • Over a fifth of parents in this ward are economically inactive • 44% of this ward is considered to be a deprived area (top 30%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 28 places per 100 children • 73.4% average occupancy • 26.6% available occupancy • There are very few all year round childcare places in this ward
Blatchcombe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant increase in population of 0-4 year olds – 17.1% • 10% of this ward is comprised of families with 3 or more children; 34% of families have 1 or 2 children • Over a quarter of parents in this ward are economically inactive • 20% of this ward is in the top 10% deprivation (the highest level of deprivation) • 87.8% of this ward is in the top 30% deprived 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 26 places per 100 children • 73.5% average occupancy • 26.5% available occupancy
Churston-with-Galmpton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant increase in population of 0-4 year olds – 26.5% • Almost 75% of this ward is comprised of families with no children; older, retired couples • This ward has the lowest number of lone parent families • This ward has the lowest percentage of jobseekers allowance claimants in Torbay – 0.8% • This is an affluent ward which has no areas in the top 30%. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 52 places per 100 children • 91.5% average occupancy • 8.5% available occupancy • The occupancy of the term time only childcare spaces in this ward is 96.1% • The occupancy of the all year round childcare spaces in this ward is 86.9%
Clifton-with-Maidenway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant increase in population of 0-4 year olds – 25.0% • 23% of the ward is in the top 30% of deprivation. The rest of the ward would be considered more affluent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 places per 100 children • 71.3% average occupancy • 28.7% available occupancy • There are very few all year round childcare places in this ward
Cockington-with-Chelston	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small increase in population of 0-4 year olds - 2.2% • 23% of the ward is in the top 30% of deprivation. The rest of the ward would be considered more affluent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 33 places per 100 children • 90.7% average occupancy • 9.3 available occupancy • There are very few all year round childcare places in this ward • The occupancy of the all year round childcare spaces in this ward is 99.8%

Ward	Ward summary and notes	
	Population information and deprivation data	Childcare Places and Occupancy
Ellacombe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant increase in population of 0-4 year olds – 15.8% This ward has the lowest number of families with 0 children – 53.2% Over 40% of families are lone parent in this ward This ward has one of the highest percentages of jobseekers allowance claimants in Torbay – 3.7% Over a fifth of parents in this ward are economically inactive Approximately 55% of the population of 2 year olds in this ward are potentially entitled to 2 year old funding 82.9% of this ward is in the top 30% most deprived 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 16 places per 100 children 91.2% average occupancy 8.8% available occupancy The occupancy of the term time only childcare spaces in this ward is 56.1%
Goodrington-with-Roselands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant increase in population of 0-4 year olds – 15.8% 20% of this ward is in the top 30% of deprivation. The rest of the ward would be considered more affluent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 47 places per 100 children 66.8% average occupancy 33.2% available occupancy
Preston	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant increase in population of 0-4 year olds – 11.1% This is an affluent ward which has no areas in the top 30% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 18 places per 100 children 71.8% average occupancy 28.2% available occupancy There are very few all year round childcare places in this ward The occupancy of the all year round childcare spaces in this ward is 96.7%
Roundham-with-Hyde	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant increase in population of 0-4 year olds – 15.9% Over 40% of families are lone parent in this ward This ward has one of the highest percentages of jobseekers allowance claimants in Torbay – 3.7% Over a quarter of parents in this ward are economically inactive Approximately 71% of the population of 2 year olds in this ward are potentially entitled to 2 year old funding 44% of this ward is in the top 10% most deprived 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 66 places per 100 children 87.1% average occupancy 12.9% available occupancy The occupancy of the term time only childcare spaces in this ward is 97.3%
Shiphay-with-the-Willows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small increase in population of 0-4 year olds – 6.4% This ward has no areas in the top 30% of deprivation. 65% of this ward is in the 30-40% deprived bracket 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 60 places per 100 children 71.5% average occupancy 28.5 available occupancy
St Marychurch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small decline in the number of 0-4 year olds - -6.4% 35% of this ward is in the top 30% most deprived 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24 places per 100 children 75.9% average occupancy 24.1% available occupancy

Ward	Ward summary and notes	
	Population information and deprivation data	Childcare Places and Occupancy
St Mary's-with-Summercombe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small increase in population of 0-4 year olds – 7.0% • Over a fifth of parents in this ward are economically inactive • 35% of this ward is in the top 30% most deprived 	There is currently capacity within the ward to meet some level of increased demand for childcare places or increased hours of attendance for children entitled to 30 hours childcare.
Tormohun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant increase in population of 0-4 year olds – 14.6% • Over 40% of families are lone parent in this ward • This ward has one of the highest percentages of jobseekers allowance claimants in Torbay – 3.7% • Almost a quarter of parents in this ward are economically inactive • Approximately 57% of the population of 2 year olds in this ward are potentially entitled to 2 year old funding • 99.8% of this ward is in the top 30% of deprivation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 places per 100 children • 78.3% average occupancy • 21.7% available occupancy • There are very few all year round childcare places in this ward • The occupancy of the term time only childcare spaces in this ward is 94.6%
Watcombe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small increase in population of 0-4 year olds – 7.8% • Over 28% of parents in this ward are economically inactive • Approximately 64% of the population of 2 year olds in this ward are potentially entitled to 2 year old funding • 67.1% of this ward is considered to be the top 10% most deprived. • 81.5% of the ward is in the top 20% of deprivation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 places per 100 children • 95.8% average occupancy • 4.2% available occupancy • There are very few all year round childcare places in this ward • The occupancy of the term time only childcare spaces in this ward is 96.9% • The occupancy of the all year round childcare spaces in this ward is 92.7%
Wellswood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very small increase in population of 0-4 year olds – 0.4% • 76.7% of this ward is comprised of families with no children; older, retired couples; this is the highest percentage in Torbay • 19% of the ward is in the top 30% of deprivation. The rest of the ward would be considered more affluent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23 places per 100 children • 86.8 average occupancy • 13.2% available occupancy • There are no all year round childcare places available in this ward

Town	Safeguarding 2YO funded Places	Planning for children with SEND
Torquay	<p>Torquay has been in receipt of capital funding to create new nursery places which has increased provision of places. Currently the average occupancy in Torquay is high, at 84.2%. This does mean that the places in Torquay for funded 2 year olds are at risk and work needs to be undertaken to improve access to places for these children. Families who are eligible for the 2 year funding offer may be less able to travel further to access a place, therefore if a place is not available in their residential ward this may act as a barrier to accessing provision, therefore increasing access in all wards is important.</p>	<p>All early years settings in Torbay are as inclusive as possible. Some settings allocate places specifically for children with SEND and others work on a case by case basis offering places to children with SEND in the same way that they would for any child, regardless of level of need.</p> <p>A SEND inclusion fund (called Alfey Funding) is available for settings who feel they require additional funding to support children with individual needs. The budget available has been increased to ensure that children with SEND who are entitled to 30 hours funding can be accommodated for the extra hours where applicable.</p>
Paignton	<p>Paignton has been in receipt of capital funding to create new nursery places which has increased provision of places. Across the town there is capacity (around 25%) to accommodate additional demand as well as continuing to accommodate current numbers of children. With this in mind, 2 year funded places could be at risk in the town, although it is noted that certain wards have higher levels of risk than others. Families who are eligible for the 2 year funding offer may be less able to travel further to access a place, therefore if a place is not available in their residential ward this may act as a barrier to accessing provision.</p>	<p>Childcare settings are also able to apply for a Disability Access Fund for funded 3 and 4 year old children who are in receipt of Disability Living Allowance.</p>
Brixham	<p>Brixham has low numbers of childcare places per 100 children, but also has capacity within settings to accommodate more children. Support will be offered to providers in Brixham to start accepting or to take more funded 2 year olds. There is also a childminder campaign to recruit new childminders who will accept all funding entitlements. Currently Brixham is not considered to be 'at risk'.</p>	

Update on 2017 Action Plan

Action	Who is responsible	What resources are required	Update and progress
Meet with schools to discuss extending daily opening hours or operating all year round to accommodate children eligible for the extended entitlement.	The Early Years Team School Heads and Early Years Leads	The Early Years Team capacity (5% DSG allocation)	Time was taken throughout 2017-18 to meet with schools and provide support in accommodating working parents. 2 primary schools accommodate children all year round. 1 further school will be providing all year round childcare from September 2018.
Meet with private providers to discuss extensions of property or satellite sites to create new spaces.	The Early Years Team Schools Planning Team (identification of potential new sites) Early Years Providers	The Early Years Team capacity Schools Planning Team capacity Capital funding to support providers in extending and creating new places	The Local Authority supported one private provider to develop and extend their premises; tripling their available occupancy over a 3 year period. There is no capital funding available to private providers at the present time, therefore uptake of this has been low.
Support providers with developing their offer (2YO/universal/30 hours) to ensure a balanced offer which is inclusive of all entitlements.	The Early Years Team	The Early Years Team capacity (5% DSG allocation)	The Early Years Team have supported providers throughout the year to develop their offer to be inclusive of all entitlements. This is both through telephone support and visits. The team is confident that all settings are as inclusive as they are able to be, in line with their business plans and occupancy levels.
Identify council-owned properties which could be renovated and commissioned to a provider.	Schools Planning Team	Schools Planning Team capacity	This is an ongoing action. In the last year no properties have been identified as suitable to form a nursery building. In addition, there is minimal resource available to fund the alterations which would be required.

Support and encourage currently registered childminders to accept children who are entitled to early years funding	The Early Years Team Childminding Community	The Early Years Team capacity (5% DSG allocation)	The Childminding Development Worker visits all registered childminders annually and provides support and encouragement to accept funded children. The number of childminders accepting funding is at the highest it has ever been, with 68% of childminders claiming funding in summer 2018. Only a small number of childminders have a business plan which does not include funded children. The majority of childminders who do not claim funding do not claim because they have no children in the age range for funding.
Encourage new childminders to register to specifically provide 30 hours childcare or wraparound care.	The Early Years Team Job Centre Plus Team Childminders	The Early Years Team capacity Jobcentre Plus capacity & swift identification of suitable candidates	The Early Years Team has recruited 9 new childminders since September 2017. There are several more childminders who are awaiting their registration visit from Ofsted. There is currently a backlog with Ofsted which is causing delays which the LA has no influence over.
Continue with the EFA funded Capital Projects	Torbay Development Agency Settings involved Early Years team Identified providers	The Early Years Team capacity Schools Planning Team capacity Appointed contractors	Torbay had 2 EFA Capital Projects, both of which are now open and running. Both new centres have been extremely well received by the community and are proving to be a nursery of choice for parents.

2018 Action Plan

Action	Who is responsible	What resources are required	What are the potential barriers
Support schools with nursery classes for 3 and 4 year olds to extend their offer and accept 2 year olds.	The Early Years Team School Heads Early Years Leads	The Early Years Team capacity (5% DSG allocation)	Staffing ratios Space to extend
Meet with schools to discuss extending daily opening hours and operating all year round to support working parents and accommodate children eligible for the extended entitlement.	The Early Years Team School Heads Early Years Leads	The Early Years Team capacity (5% DSG allocation)	Extending opening hours – staffing
Support schools to develop their holiday childcare offer to support working parents	The Early Years Team School Heads Early Years Leads	The Early Years Team capacity (5% DSG allocation)	Working through holidays - staffing
Meet with private providers to discuss extensions of property or satellite sites to create new spaces.	The Early Years Team Schools Planning Team (identification of potential new sites) Early Years Providers	The Early Years Team capacity Schools Planning Team capacity Capital funding to support providers in extending and creating new places	Lack of available capital to provide contribution or match funding for capital projects Lack of available, suitable space for expansion
Identify council-owned properties which could be renovated and commissioned to a provider.	The Early Years Team Childminding Community	The Early Years Team capacity (5% DSG allocation)	This exercise has been undertaken over the last 3 years. There is a lack of suitable property in Torbay (i.e. with outdoor space) and minimal resource to perform the alterations required.
Support and encourage currently registered childminders to accept children who are entitled to early years funding	The Early Years Team Childminding Community	The Early Years Team capacity (5% DSG allocation) Jobcentre Plus Capacity & swift identification of suitable candidates	
Encourage new childminders to register to specifically provide 30 hours childcare or wraparound and holiday childcare.	The Early Years Team Jobcentre plus Team	The Early Years Team capacity Jobcentre Plus capacity & swift identification of suitable candidates	
Support providers with children with SEND and encourage all providers to continue to be fully inclusive.	The Early Years Team The SEND Team	The Early Years Team capacity (5% DSG allocation) The SEND Team capacity	

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Torbay Childcare Sufficiency Report

Executive Summary 2018

Overview

The Childcare Act 2006 places duties on all local authorities to secure sufficient childcare, so far as is reasonably practicable for working parents, or parents who are studying or training for employment, for children aged 0-14 (or up to 18 for disabled children). As part of these duties Torbay Council is required to report annually to elected Council Members on how this duty is being met and to make this report available and accessible for parents.

The full report demonstrates that there are sufficient childcare places to meet the requirements for funded children in Torbay. There is not a great deal of capacity, especially in school nursery classes, so there is a need for growth to accommodate the growing numbers of young children in Torbay, through increased birth rates and migration into Torbay from other areas. There is also a need to accommodate children aged under 2 who are not yet funded. Taking this into account alongside the fact that Torbay has just enough places to accommodate funded children, sufficiency of places will continue to be an issue which could be particularly prevalent in some wards. 5% of the Torbay population are aged under 5 years old and may require a childcare place. Torbay does not have sufficient capacity to accommodate all children however, Torbay is able to meet its statutory duty to ensure sufficiency of places for children entitled to a funded place across the local area as a whole.

Key Changes in 2018

The entitlement to 30 hours funded childcare for children from working families is entering the second year of implementation. The last sufficiency report in 2017 was published before the new entitlement was implemented and used forecast data on a 'worst case scenario' basis. Now that we are entering the second year of implementation we have more accurate data which has allowed us to be more precise in our calculations for the coming year. Last year we were anticipating a significant issue with sufficiency of places; this did not happen and we are now forecasting that we will break-even for spaces for funded children.

From the parent consultation in 2018 it became clear that there is an issue relating to holiday childcare for early years and school age children. 75% of respondents to the consultation indicated that they use childcare to enable them to work. Using the sufficiency data collated it is evident that term time, school-based provision is popular in the area, with school nurseries being full to capacity. Therefore it is important that the issues related to a lack of appropriate and affordable holiday childcare are addressed to accommodate working families who struggle for 12 weeks of the year.

Achievements in 2018

Torbay Council has a duty to ensure that children have access to high quality provision for their early year's entitlements. Torbay is proud that all private nurseries and pre-schools in Torbay are graded either good or outstanding by Ofsted (or they are newly registered and awaiting their first inspection). Torbay is also pleased that 99% of the childminders are also Ofsted graded good, outstanding or are awaiting their first inspection. Only 1% of the childminders are graded requires improvement.

2018 saw the 2 EFA funded capital bid projects come into fruition, with 2 primary schools opening brand new nursery provision. These 2 projects created a total of over 100 new nursery places in new, purpose built accommodation.

Torbay Council provided capital funding to a private provider in the area which supported them financially to extend their premises and triple their available places for 2-5 year olds. This provider has also achieved an outstanding grade in their Ofsted inspection following the development.

Provider engagement has been excellent with 100% of the Torbay providers offering funded places for up to 30 hours per week for their children, depending on their entitlement. This is compared with a national average provider engagement figure of around 80%.

Take up of the early years funding entitlements remain stable with take up of 2 year funding entitlement at 70%, universal 15 hours for 3 and 4 year olds at 99% and the take up of the extended entitlement of 30 hours at around 92%.

Future

To ensure that Torbay Council continues to meet its sufficiency duty it will:

- Continue to assess sufficiency data and carry out agreed actions to ensure a comprehensive approach to planning sufficient early years and childcare provision in the local area
- Continue to monitor the quality of childcare in Torbay and respond accordingly if providers achieve a requires improvement or inadequate grade
- Continue to market and promote the free early education for two, three and four year olds to increase take-up of places and hours
- Embed the actions listed in the 2018 Sufficiency Action Plan into the Education and Early Years Strategic Plans



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

Date: 5th November 2018

Wards Affected: All

Report Title: Annual Adoption Report

Is the decision a key decision? No

When does the decision need to be implemented?

**Executive Lead Contact Details: Cindy Stocks, Executive Lead for Children and Housing, cindy.stocks@torbay.gov.uk
Supporting Officer Contact Details: Alison Botham, Director of Children's Services, 01803 208949, alison.botham@torbay.gov.uk**

1. Proposal and Introduction

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Members on the area of social care activity within adoption.

2. Reason for Proposal

2.1 There continues to be a sustained government focus upon adoption as part of permanence planning in order to secure better outcomes for children by increasing the choice of adopter, avoiding drift and delay and improving post adoption support.

2.2 Torbay has continued as an active member of Adopt South West (AdoptSW) The focus of the last year has been meeting the timescale of the transition to the Regional Adoption Agency, Adopt SW, for the 'go live' of 1st October 2018.

2.3 Attached is the annual report for adoption activity summarising activity between 1st April 2017 – 31st March 2018.

2.4 After 8 years of continued progress Torbay will, by 2017/18, continue to have exceeded the national threshold for the average time taken between entering care and the child moving in to their adoptive placement. Compared to the position as at 2010-13 (715 days) to the position as at 2015-18 (382 days) children are, on average, waiting 333 days less on this measure. Over the same period Torbay has also reduced by 174 days the average time taken between receiving the court authority to place and the finding of a match (information based on the 3 yearly average 2010-13 (334 days) to 2015-18 (160 days)).

2.5 As a small authority, Torbay has struggled to recruit adopters and it is hoped that the work underway to further develop a regional approach will provide a greater pool of adoptive families, to meet the needs of particular cohorts of children, from which Torbay can draw and enable the service to share resources around common areas of activity such as recruitment and marketing. At a local level, key areas for development include increasing the numbers of foster to adopt placements and ensuring that planning for adoption commences at the earliest opportunity, particularly for unborn or newly born children where this represents a positive option.

3. Recommendation(s) / Proposed Decision

3.1 The Policy Development and Decision Group is recommended to:

- note the Annual Adoption Report 2017/18;and,
- agree to receive updates on progress to a future meeting as part of Member oversight of the establishment of the Regional Adoption Agency.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Annual Adoption Report 2017/18

Torbay Council
Children's Specialist Services

Adoption Service
Annual Report
March 2017 – April 2018
(Draft for DCS approval)

Owner:	Amanda White
Authors:	Amanda White – Head of Service
Compiled by:	Amanda White
Version:	5
Date:	July 2018

Contents:

Section Number	Title	Page Number
1	Summary and looking forward	2
2	Service Development overview	4
3	Regional Adoption activity	6
4	Adoption performance	8
5	Adoption Panel	15
6	Adoption Support Service	16

1. Summary and Looking Forward

- 1.1 This report provides an overview of activity delivered by Torbay Children's Services Adoption Service for the period 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2018. Following approval by the Children's Services and Corporate Leadership Teams, the report will be considered for approval by the Mayor's Executive as part of the Council's governance responsibilities for Children's Services.
- 1.2 There continues to be a sustained government focus upon adoption as part of permanence planning in order to secure better outcomes for children by increasing the choice of adopter, avoiding drift and delay and improving post adoption support.
- 1.3 Torbay has continued as an active member of Adopt South West (AdoptSW) The focus of the last year has been meeting the timescale of the transition to the Regional Adoption Agency, Adopt SW, for the 'go live' of 1st October 2018.
- 1.4 Whilst maintaining the expected adoption activity within Torbay Adoption team/agency the Team Manager and Head of Service, as part of the operational and steering groups, have supported the development of processes and expectations of practice in the regional model.
- 1.5 The development of practitioner focused groups on alignment of good practice models and processes for the Regional Adoption Agency have continued with champions being established within the team to ensure Torbay's children and family's needs are central to planning.
- 1.3 During 2017/18 21 children were placed for adoption which is an increase from the previous year of 17 (2016/2017). It is also noted that year on year there has been a steady increase in the number of children being placed with special guardians. Performance in this later regard has improved and is now at levels seen in similar authorities.
- 1.4 Torbay Adoption team have continued to work with Adopt South West in ongoing recruitment activity as well as having Torbay focused events. A specific joint event 'Have a Heart' campaign saw adoption and fostering teams joining forces to run a competition for artwork from children and families. This art work was then used in recruitment and marketing events across Torbay schools and at the main hospital.
- 1.5 Despite this active recruitment we have seen a decrease in our enquiries and in our sufficiency and adopter numbers being approved. Whilst this active recruitment is maintained it should be noted that Torbay does not delay in matching and actively seek adopters through other adoption agencies, including Voluntary agencies to ensure children do not wait for permanence.
- 1.7 The government have continued to make available funds through the Adoption Support Fund and Torbay have continued to make successful applications on behalf of families they support and will continue to access the fund while the government funding is available.

1.8 Our priorities for 2018/2019 are:

Key Priority/Action	Timescale for Completion
Confirm the division of functions that will be retained by the Local Authority and those that will be delivered by the Regional Adoption Agency.	To be completed by end of July 2018
Working with RAA colleagues, develop and implement clear operational interface between the Local Authority and RAA to support the division of functions within the model.	To be completed by September 2018.
Continue to develop the RAA governance, strategic steering and operational meetings up to RAA go live in October 2018	RAA governance arrangements to be sufficiently robust to support initial operating capability by October 2018.
Develop and deliver a program of practitioner and manager briefings for Children's Services on the RAA, its functions and the actions underway to support IOC in October 2018.	To be completed by end of August 2018
Develop and deliver a program of training for Team Managers, Social Workers and IROs to ensure RAA effectiveness and ensure key competencies are in place.	To be completed by end of September 2018.
Working through the RAA continue to develop post adoption support for adopters.	Initial development work to be completed by December 2018.

2. Service Development Overview

- 2.1 Improving our adoption performance has been a key element in our improvement journey since the overall inadequate judgment January 2016 within which the Adoption judgement was one of requires improvement. This improvement activity has been supported by Hampshire as our improvement partner and informed by the learning from our Ofsted Monitoring visits.
- 2.2 The Adoption Team Manager has also had a direct link to an experienced Adoption Team Manager from Hampshire and has worked to improve our understanding of Adoption performance data and enhance management direction and oversight.

Overview of achievement against 2016/2017 priorities:

To strengthen and improve our Foster for Adopt practice ensuring early permanence is considered for all children where it is appropriate within their plan

Support child care teams with the delivery of workshops on Early Permanence, Permanence Planning, Sibling Assessments and Quality requirements for the Child Permanence Report

- 2.3 In March 2017 we had a revised policy, practice guidance and a tool to support permanence planning for social workers. A Foster for Adopt checklist criteria was implemented to support child care social workers in identifying early in the process those children where early referrals should be made.
- 2.4 Workshops held for all child care social workers across teams and the IRO's assisted in supporting their learning and to promote early permanence. Confidence in this practice has grown however it is clear that the role of Torbay Panel, as well as, the child looked after review process will be key to bringing early permanence to the forefront in care planning.
- 2.5 Within this year the delivery of workshops has been hindered by the changes in child care teams of both social workers and team managers. The focus going forward remains for the workshop training to continue with a reframe later in the year to incorporate the processes and interface with the Regional Adoption Agency.

To broaden our recruitment strategy undertaking joint campaigns with the fostering service to increase opportunities to raise awareness of adoption.

- 2.6 Joint campaigns have been undertaken which have included a page within a health magazine which is distributed across all GP practice within Torbay.

- 2.6 As part of the run up to National Adoption week the Fostering and Adoption teams joined forces to run a competition for children adopted or in care to produce art work based on the theme of 'Have a Heart'.

The art work produced was then displayed as part of marketing and recruitment campaigns for adopters and foster carers within the main local hospital and within several schools across Torbay.

- 2.7 Whilst it is acknowledged that there has been no significant increase in recruitment of adopters within this year, the joint campaign raised the profile of adoption and also fostering in Torbay.

Further develop our expertise in making applications for children and families to the ASF in order to support outcomes in adoption and SGO placements where assessment identifies the need

- 2.8 Making applications for the Adoption Support Fund, to support children and families where assessment indicates a need, is embedded within the team and led by the Assistant Team Manager. Improvement has been made in our link to the national framework and this continues to strengthen our understanding of the criteria required, which in turn avoids delay in accessing funding to support families in need. Work has continued to extend this to Special Guardians.

Develop a clear audit tool for adoption cases to inform practice development

- 2.9 The development of an audit tool specifically tracking timeliness of the adoption planning in respect of adopters was developed and finalised in October 2017. The audits informed the team manager of the need to standardise practice expectations of case recordings to reflect each stage of the adopters journey.

Further develop data reports to inform service delivery and requirements for development

- 2.10 To support both professional and service development the Adoption Team Manager took opportunity to link with the Adoption Manager for Hampshire, and also with Somerset following their inspection by Ofsted, to consider the development required in Torbay. Management reporting from the PARIS system have been reviewed and improved to ensure that the manager has all the information to support tracking of KPI's. Monthly performance packs include the data against the KPI's which has improved understanding across services of the importance of early permanence decisions for children.

3. Regional Adoption Activity

- 3.1 Torbay has continued to be an active member of AdoptSW alongside Plymouth City Council, Devon County Council and Somerset County Council (joined in 2016).
- 3.2 The decision for the creation of a Regional Adoption Agency achieving a one-step approach to a single authority host was revisited in December 2017 by the Governance Board. This followed feedback from the DfE and Devon reinstating their position will be acting as the single authority host for the region 2018 – 2020.
- 3.3 All 4 Local Authorities further revised the timetable for 'go live' of the RAA with the date of 1st October 2018 being agreed. Cabinet sign off for all 4 Local Authorities are planned to be completed by mid-April 2018
- 3.4 The RAA has provided communication for all staff involved in Adoption as well as others in Children's Services. This is key in ensuring a successful transition and providing newsletters and specific communication updates to be cascaded within the 4 local authorities, overseen and agreed via the steering and governance group.
- 3.5 A staff learning event took place in February 2018 providing Adoption staff from all regions the opportunity for updated information, networking opportunities with other local authority staff.
- 3.6 One of the suggestions from the staff event in February was collaboration and sharing of research. The Dept. of Education have already put this in place along with other Regional Adoption Agencies, we will be participating in a national evaluation which the DfE have commissioned with Ecorys UK and the Hadley Centre for Adoption and Foster Care Studies at Bristol. This work will explore how the new agencies are reaching their potential and help all involved address some of the challenges in the adoption system. Focus will be on the recruitment of adopters, matching the needs of waiting children and matching timeliness and the provision of adoption support services.
- 3.7 The next phase of joint panels is going live from 1st March 2018. The Panel Advisors, Panel Administrators and the RAA project team have worked closely together with the Adoption Panels of Plymouth, Devon, Somerset and Torbay and have now started to operate as "joint" panels. This means that applications and matches can be heard at any of the Adoption Panels across the Region using the same documentation. This will provide greater availability of panels with the aim of ensuring that there are no delays in decision making for children.

Adoption Performance

Torbay Adoption Team

- 4.1 The move to the establishment of a Regional Adoption agency has impacted upon the stability of staff in the Adoption team, however key core staff have remained in post which include;
- Permanent experienced Team Manager
 - Permanent experienced Assistant Team Manager
 - Permanent experienced family finding/child care social worker
 - Permanent experienced support staff including specialist letterbox co-coordinator

Experienced agency social workers have been employed to fill vacancies where there have been gaps in sufficiency to meet core adoption activity.

- 4.2 The team remain actively involved in Practice Improvement meetings as part of the Regionalisation project with the Team Manager leading for Torbay within the Operations group. The core business of the Adoption Team remains:
- marketing and recruitment of adopters
 - assessment of adopters, matching and placement support
 - step parent adoption assessment and court work
 - adoption support pre and post adoption order
 - family finding, matching and placement of children (including the child looked after social work role)
 - support for adopted adults

Marketing and Recruitment:

- 4.3 Recruitment of adopters has remained a challenge despite revising and rethinking marketing strategies and we have experienced a lower number of enquiries in this year compared to the last two years.
- 4.4 Recruitment of adopters has continued with local 'drop in' information events at local libraries, as well as, maintaining the more successful venue of Ivybridge. Marketing and recruitment has been undertaken through Adopt South West, alongside the other 3 Local Authorities.
- 4.5 Adopt South West has a comprehensive website with a link to Torbay's own revised and improved adopter focused web pages.

- 4.6 A revised marketing and recruitment strategy pooled resource and events with adoption and fostering teams in Torbay. These included local profile enhancing events such as shopping centre campaigns and having an advert within a health magazine which is distributed across all GP practice within Torbay.
- 4.7 As part of the run up to National Adoption week the Fostering and Adoption teams joined forces to run a competition for children adopted or in care to produce art work based on the theme of 'Have a Heart'. The art work produced was then displayed as part of a marketing and recruitment campaign based within the main local hospital and within several schools across Torbay.
- 4.8 Whilst it is acknowledged that there has been no significant increase in recruitment of adopters within this year, the joint campaign raised the profile of adoption and also fostering within Torbay.

Assessment/Approval of Adopters

Period	Initial Enquiries	Applications received	Adopters Approved
1st April 2014 – 31st March 2015	155	9	9
1st April 2015 – March 2016	74	10	7
1st April 2016 – March 2017	75	8	7
1 April 2017 – March 2018	40	12 (5 couples 2 singles)	6 (3 couples)

- 4.9 The national picture is outlined in quarter 3 by Adoption and Special Guardian Leadership Board. It is reported that there were 760 registrations to become an adopter in quarter 3; a decrease of 4% from quarter 2 when there were 790 registrations to become an adopter. The number of families approved for adoption had increased from 680 in quarter 2 to 740 in quarter 3; an increase of 9%.
- 4.10 As outlined within the annual review of 2016/2017 geographically the fact that Torbay is a small unitary authority between Devon, Plymouth and the voluntary agency Families for Children does impact adversely upon the number of adopters coming through. It is anticipated that the Regional Adoption Agency

will be of benefit to Torbay. In respect of efficiency of recruitment and approval of Adopters.

- 4.11 Whilst active recruitment is maintained it should be noted that Torbay does not delay in matching and actively seek adopters through other adoption agencies, including Voluntary agencies to ensure children do not wait for permanence. This is evidenced in the adoption scorecard data which shows continued improvement in timeliness of children moving onto adoption and securing permanence.

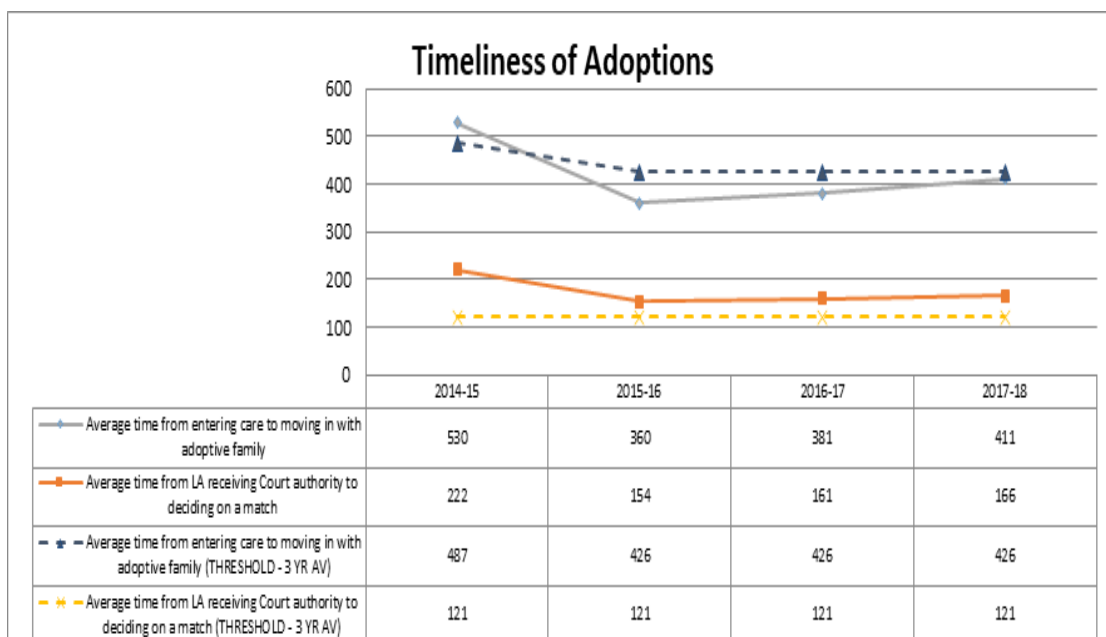
Step Parent Adoptions:

- 4.12 Torbay Adoption Team continue the function of accepting referrals from families where a 'step-parent' wishes to adopt their partner's child/ren. During 2018/19, Torbay received 11 enquiries for step parent adoptions down slightly from the 13 received in the previous year.
- 4.13 The function of providing this service will need to be reviewed in line with the Regionalisation model, as well as, in light of the trajectory being seen that is an increase in numbers of these adoption referrals and its impact upon capacity.

Inter-country Adoptions:

- 4.14 There were 2 enquiries for inter country adoptions to be considered within this period.
Going forward from October 2018 this service function will be within the RAA.

Timeliness of Children's Adoption Plans



- 4.15 The table above details information collated as part of what is termed the Adoption Score Card. Of which there are 2 key national measures. The first is the time taken between entering care and being placed. The second relates to the time taken between the placement order and the decision on a match. Whilst the table above shows the annual position which did see timeliness decrease slightly across both measures Torbay is judged based on a 3 yearly average. When published in early 2019, Torbay's 2015-2018 performance will show Torbay to have continued to improve and potentially be at a level that is out performing our statistical neighbours and the national position. The table below shows the future national scorecard results for Torbay:

Indicator	Torbay 2013-16	Torbay 2014-17	Torbay 2015 -18	National Average 2014 -17	Statistical Neighbour Average 2014 -17
A1: (3yr) Average time between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family (days)	511	418	382	520 Threshold 426	446

A2: (3 yr) Average time between a local authority receiving court authority to place a child and the local authority deciding on a match to an adoptive family (days)	206	172	160	220 Threshold 121	197
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- 4.16 A third key timeliness measure relates to children who wait less than 14 months between entering care and moving in with their adoptive family. During 2017/18 this declined to 60% from 71% in the previous year, however nationally this information is calculated on a 3 yearly average. In 2019 when the data is published it will show Torbay's performance for the period 20/18 to be 69%, which compares favourably to the latest national performance at 53% and that for comparator authorities at 62%.
- 4.17 After 8 years of continued progress Torbay will, by 2017/18, continue to have exceeded the national threshold for the average time taken between entering care and the child moving in to their adoptive placement. Compared to the position as at 2010-13 (715 days) to the position as at 2015-18 (382 days) children are, on average, waiting 333 days less on this measure. Over the same period Torbay has also reduced by 174 days the average time taken between receiving the court authority to place and the finding of a match (information based on the 3 yearly average 2010-13 (334 days) to 2015-18 (160 days)).
- 4.18 Torbay Adoption Service improvements on timeliness also needs to be considered against the national picture for adoption where there is a decline in adopters being approved. Of particular significance is the fact the Torbay has enabled the adoption together of multiple sibling groups (2 siblings groups of 3 children and 2 sibling groups of 2).
- 4.19 This year Torbay managed to secure 20 adoptions which is up on last year. A key focus within adoption placement matching is enabling siblings to remain together and where this is not possible, placing as close as possible geographically to afford best outcomes for contact as appropriate. This cohort of children included sibling groups where matching to adopters required time and careful consideration; children who had remained at home up to the final hearing upon which separation was granted with Placement Orders being made; finding of fact hearings delaying the 26 week process within the court arena which therefore created delay in affirming permanence plans. Going

forward we see that timescales for matching will also be affected adversely by the significant medical needs of children with care plans for adoption.

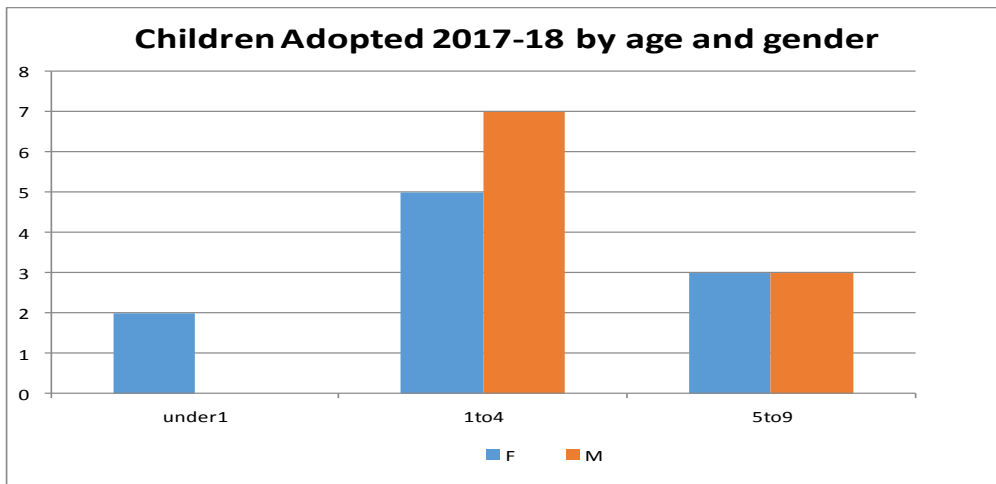
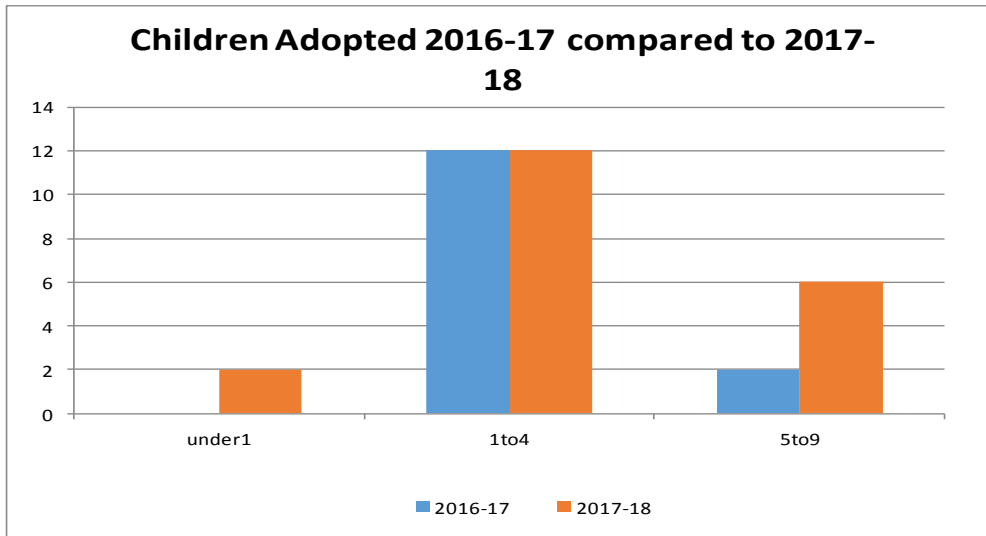
Percentages of children adopted from care

Date	Total number of children looked after	Percentage of all children who left care who were adopted	Statistical Neighbour Average	National Average
31/3/12	195	5%	17%	13%
31/3/13	221	11%	19%	14%
31/3/14	249	17%	20%	17%
31/3/15	305	15%	23%	17%
31/3/16	279	23%	19%	15%
31/3/17	273	13%	19%	14%
31/3/18	327	20%		

4.20 In 2017/18 of the 102 children that left care 20 children (20%) left due to an adoption order being granted which was a increase on the previous year. Within the previous year's Annual report it was projected that new ADM decisions and Placement Orders would potentially plateau with the likelihood that we would not see the same high numbers of children adopted from care.

4.21 Within 2017/18 21 children were placed for adoption compared to 17 the previous year.

Profile of Children Adopted 2017/2018



- 4.22 Adoption Orders were made for 20 children in the period of 2017/2018 of these there were 2 sets of 3 siblings and 1 sibling group of two, the rest of the adopted children were singleton placements.
- 4.23 There has been a conscious effort that adoption planning has been considered for all children regardless of their age.
- 4.24 13 children were placed for adoption within 2017/2018, 11 were singleton placements and there was 1 set of 2 siblings.
- 4.25 Torbay have continued year on year to successfully place sibling groups together and for the year 2017/2018 we have not experienced any adoption disruptions whether this be prior to or post placement/adoption order.

Agency Decision Maker (ADM) Decisions:

- 4.26 There is a requirement of the Adoption Agency to ensure that any plan of adoption for a child is agreed by the Agency Decision Maker.
- 4.27 The Adoption and Special Guardianship Leadership Board Quarterly data suggests that the number of new decisions has continued to fall nationally from 1160 in quarter 2 2017/18 to 1140 in quarter 3 2017/18; a decrease of 2%.
- 4.28 In contrast to the national trend of decrease in ADM decisions there were 28 made in this year, there having been 15 in 2016/2017.

Placement Orders:

- 4.29 The number of placement orders made by the court in 2017/2018 stayed the same as 2016/2017 (22). This was in line with the projection of the national picture that Placement Order numbers would decline during the period.

Fostering For Adoption:

- 4.30 Since May 2017 Torbay has progressed 10 children into foster for adopt placements.

Looking Ahead:

- 4.31 Our adoption activity data is evidencing continued increase in adoption plans and placements moving forward into 2017/2018.
- 4.32 We have been successful in increasing our achievement of Foster for Adopt placements for children with four children being placed.

5. Adoption Panel

- 5.1 There has been a successful transition to stage 1 of joining panels with a virtual panel system. Torbay fostering and adoption panel central list has been a success and there have been three new members recruited.
- 5.2 The Independent Panel Chair Rachel Cook, has continued in the role, allowing for consistency in the function of the panel. The Panel Chair has fulfilled the requirement of providing an annual report of adoption activity.
- 5.3 As we have move towards a Regional Adoption Agency (Adopt SouthWest), joint Panels were implemented with effect from March 2018. A joint panel requires quoracy of 6 members (as opposed to 5 not a non-joint panel).
- 5.4 A joint panel can make recommendations in relation to Torbay cases and cases from the other local authorities who comprise Adopt SouthWest (Devon, Somerset and Plymouth) in relation to;
- *approval of applicant adopters*
 - *matches of children with approved adopters*
 - *relinquished babies*
- 5.5 Torbay was the first local authority to take a match of a Torbay child to a 'different' local authority joint adoption panel within Adopt South West. On 28 March 2018 Torbay presented a match to the Devon joint panel. By taking the match to the Devon joint panel, Torbay avoided delay for the child as Torbay's adoption panel meets monthly. Devon joint panel meets twice a month.
- 5.6 The panel remain comfortable with providing robust scrutiny and challenge to the Adoption Service. There have been no recommendations made by the panel and/ or decisions by the Agency Decision Maker that have resulted in a referral to the Independent Review Mechanism. (The Independent Review Mechanism is an independent body which can review the decision of the Agency Decision Maker if challenged by the individual).
- 5.8 Rachel Cook, Panel Chair, along with some panel members have been involved in practice based workshops to consider realignment of process and panel practice which has supported the successful implementation of regional panels.

6. Adoption Support Services

- 6.1 The team provide a range of adoption support to families, birth families affected by adoption, families living in Torbay who have adopted children and also to adoptive families outside of the area with whom we have placed Torbay children. (Up to 3 years post adoption order as identified in the Adoption Support Plan).
- 6.2 The Adoption Service provides birth relative counselling service and offer a 'drop in' support group. It is noted that engagement is low with both services and there is a requirement to continually follow up on referrals being made. The RAA will pose opportunity for some further independence in the birth parent counselling service.
- 6.3 The Adoption Team provide a service for birth families with regard to post adoption contact. This contact can be indirect through the letter box service and may be between birth and adoptive families only or may be with the child or siblings. Some direct contact takes place between adopted children and family members. This is a busy service and is managed on a day to day basis by a specialist community care worker.
- 6.4 The Adoption Service has a total of 242 children on the letterbox database; there are 1623 contacts set up, of which 1102 are active. The differential could be due to some young people having reached 18 years of age and the letterbox being closed. this could be they have reached 18 years. Currently we are supervising and facilitating 8 direct contacts with birth relatives and adopters and children.
- 6.5 There were 26 referrals for an Adoption Assessment of Need during 2017 - 2018 The majority of these referrals relate to children and young people who require direct work and support with life story work. Currently the service provides support to 67 adoptive families living in Torbay.
- 6.6 As had been noted in the report of 2015/2016 we have reviewed our support groups taking into consideration engagement and viability to maintain a service.
- 6.7 Being a small unitary local authority continually poses the challenge of efficiency versus the requirements of the adoption regulations for adoption support provision. We work in collaboration as part of Adopt South West to ensure opportunities to share resources and support functions are maximised. The RAA will go further in offering a wider range of support opportunities across the region to ensure appropriate interventions are available at the time a family require.
- 6.8 The adoption support service currently run three adopters social groups a year that are well attended. Additionally there are three adopted young person's groups which have a varied age group attending. An adopter led support group has been set up with the first one being facilitated by Torbay Adoption Support Team, with the plan for these to become adopter led.

- 6.9 Adopters are offered training opportunities on a variety of topics. This year there has been one therapeutic parenting course followed by a support group and a 90 minutes consultation opportunity for adopters who have attended.
- 6.10 The Adoption Team provides a service for adopted adults to access their adoption records as well as counselling in relation to these where required and advice on tracing birth relatives. Recent changes in legislation have meant that relatives of the adopted person can also request access to the adoption records of an adopted adult. In this period 5 adults were supported with access to records.

Therapeutic Support

- 6.11 Every child that is adopted has life story work undertaken and there is a statutory requirement to provide the life story book. These are completed by community care workers within the adoption support team. These take a significant proportion of the adoption support time.
- 6.12 The Adoption Team has a part time play therapist. There is provision for six children to receive direct play therapy, alongside a consultation service and Sensory Integration Assessments. This service is well used within the Adoption service and also within the CLA permanence team. The Play Therapist facilitates the therapeutic Parenting Course for Torbay.
- 6.13 The Adoption service provides Theraplay which is an attachment based model of working directly with children and adopters to build and develop the attachment between the child and their adoptive parent. An assessment is undertaken to assess the attachment relationship within the adoptive family and provide specific intervention for the family.
- 6.14 The Adoption Team have successfully developed, a Therapeutic Parenting course with input from the Play Therapist who has led the course. This is well subscribed to by adopters but is also open to foster carers for Torbay who are bridging to adoption or supporting children with complex needs. This would have been an area which would be priority to further develop within the adoption service however this is will now be considered within the development of the RAA.

Adoption Support Fund

- 6.14 The government have continued to make available funds through the Adoption Support Fund aimed at further supporting adopters with accessing therapeutic support for their adopted children.
- 6.15 Torbay have continued to make successful applications on behalf of families they support and will continue to access the fund while the government funding is available. In the period of 2017/18 36 applications were made and were successful in receiving funding of £76,000 in this financial year.
- 6.16 From 1st April 2016 the ASF was extended to include therapeutic support for

children placed with special guardians where the child has been looked after immediately prior to the Special Guardianship Order being made. Torbay have supported 3 special guardianship families within this financial year.