



2018-2023

Children and Young People's Plan

Protecting all children and giving them the best start in life

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1 Introduction

Torbay Council has an ambition of creating a prosperous and healthy Torbay. In meeting this ambition, the Council and its partners have a clear vision for children and young people which is articulated throughout its plans and strategies to ensure we take a consistent approach.

The Council’s Corporate Plan sets out as one of its Targeted Actions that it will **“Protect all children and give them the best start in life”**. This Children and Young People’s Plan has been drawn together with the involvement and support of a range of partners, stakeholders and young people, with the aim of improving our outcomes for children and families.

It is intended as an overarching plan for all services which directly affect children and young people in all of the communities which make up Torbay. It draws upon the evidence base provided by our Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Sufficiency Statement. It is underpinned by the plans of partner agencies, reflecting how we are working together to improve the lives of our children and young people.

The Children and Young People’s Plan aligns to the rest of the Council’s Policy Framework including the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy, Housing Strategy and the Economic Strategy.

Throughout the Plan consideration is given to the safeguarding of children and young people, their health and social care needs, their education and their futures as active, informed members of the community.

This Plan draws upon a wide range of existing plans and strategies for children and young people. It provides a strategic overview of key actions in those plans to ensure there is a coherence to the work of Children’s Services and its partners across Torbay. This includes:

- Children’s Services Improvement Plan 2018/2019
- Torbay Youth Justice Plan 2018/2019
- Torbay Strategy for Educational Excellence
- Torbay Accessibility Strategy 2017/2021
- Special Educational Needs and Disability Strategy 2016/2020
- School Effectiveness Strategy 2016/2020



2 Context

The Current Position

Torbay is located on the South Devon coastline and comprises of the three district communities of Torquay, Brixham and Paignton. As part of what has become known as the 'English Riviera', Torbay attracts thousands of visitors each year drawn to its harbours and beaches. Tourism and fisheries remain important elements within the local economy although this is diversifying to include electronics, photonics, and health and care provision. Road links have improved significantly in recent years with the opening of the South Devon Highway acting as a further stimulus to the economy.

Over recent years, Torbay Council has faced significant reductions in its budgets due to successive reductions in the funding it receives from Central Government, totalling around 40%. This has required difficult decisions in relation to the services it provides. However, within this context, Children's Services has been prioritised and benefitted from considerable support from central balances to deal with successive overspends. A Medium Term Financial Strategy was refreshed in February 2017 with the aim of bringing expenditure in line with comparators whilst continuing to ensure improvement activity is adequately resourced.

Torbay's population is 133,373 (2015 MYE) and estimated to rise to 148,500 by 2039, albeit this is a slower rate than that seen nationally. Older people make up a bigger proportion of the population than that seen in England as a whole and Torbay's population of over 70s is expected to increase by around 28.1% by 2025. In 2015, for every person of retirement age there were just fewer than 2 of working age, compared to 3 persons in the England average.

There are 24,789 children living in Torbay (Census Data 2011). In 2015, the birth rate was 10.3 per 10000 which is below the South West and national averages. The proportion of children aged between 5 and 14 is also expected to rise by 11% over the next 10 years, which is slightly higher than that seen across England.

Torbay comprises of areas with significant material wealth alongside areas of deprivation. The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2015 ranks Torbay as the 46th most deprived authority in England (out of 326) compared to 37th in 2013 and 41st in 2010. In terms of overall Multiple Deprivation, there are 14 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in Torbay which fall into the most deprived 10% nationally and 28 LSOAs in the most deprived 20%.

Levels of unemployment in Torbay are at 5.4% which is above the South West average of 4.1%, and national average of 4.8%. The percentage of young people aged 18-24 claiming Job Seekers Allowance is 3.7% and above the south west and the national averages. The Council commissions Careers South West which targets support to the most vulnerable young people, as well as funding other initiatives to get young people into employment. Around 23.6% of children in Torbay are classed as living in poverty.

Educational attainment in Torbay has continued to improve across all phases. Children receive a high quality start through access to a range of good and outstanding early years provision resulting in 70.6% of children achieving a good level of development against 69.3% nationally. Key Stage 2 results for 2016 were below national and regional comparators. The percentage of young people educated in Torbay's schools achieving 5 or more GCSEs at grades A* to C including English and Mathematics is 58.6% which is up on the previous two years and higher than national and regional. Following recent inspections 100% of mainstream secondary provision is judged to be good or outstanding.

Torbay has 4.4% of pupils with Statements or Education, Health and Care Plans compared to 2.9% nationally. Children in receipt of additional support achieve well at Key Stage 2 with Torbay ranked as the 27th best performing Local Authority in this respect.

The health and wellbeing of children in Torbay is mixed compared with the England average. Infant and child mortality rates are similar to the England average. Children in Torbay have average levels of obesity: 9.5% of children aged 4-5 years and 18.0% of children aged 10-11 years are classified as obese. Admissions for children for mental health conditions and self-harm were higher than England average in 2015/16.

Torbay Council was subject to a Statutory Direction in May 2016, with the Chief Executive of Hampshire County Council appointed as the Department for Education (DfE) Commissioner and Hampshire Children's Services as Improvement Partner. The DfE Commissioner chairs a multi-agency Children's Improvement Board (CIB) which meets on a six weekly basis and provides for oversight of improvement activity.

A robust improvement plan and enhanced performance management framework are now in place to ensure improvement and performance are determined by reference to national, regional and statistical comparators. This is evidencing sustained improvement against some of the key concerns raised at the last Ofsted inspection – particularly seeing children in a timely fashion, completion of assessments and plans, leadership and management oversight. Comprehensive performance reports are provided on a regular basis to the CIB, Executive Member, Chief Executive and Children's Services senior leadership and managers.

Our Family Intervention Service ensures that our family support resources are able to respond to the needs of families identified at Level 3 on the Torbay Safeguarding Children's Board's threshold of need. Our aim is to provide direct practical support to families to empower them to affect long term, sustainable improvement. The Local Authority's Supporting Troubled Families Programme is located alongside the Family Intervention Service and provides further support for families across all levels of need. The Family Intervention Service and Supporting Troubled Families programme work with multi-agency partners. The changes within Children's Services form part of the wider refresh of local early help arrangements across the Torbay Safeguarding Children Board partnership.

Our Children's Centres are delivered on a commissioned basis via Action for Children on a thematic delivery model. They provide a good mix of targeted and universal services and are well integrated within our early help strategy.

Our multi-agency safeguarding hub (MASH) is well established with police, social care, health and schools support services into a co-location arrangement. Decision making is timely and robust. The MASH has recently reconfigured to incorporate Early Help referrals through a 'single front door' model.

Mental health and well-being is acknowledged as a key local priority. Children's Services commission Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services practitioners who focus on providing additional support to children and families open to social care services. We work well with health colleagues and have developed a sub-regional commissioning strategy to ensure greater co-ordination, a tight focus on key priorities and deliver value for money, across a bigger footprint than the Local Authority.

We have worked with the Clinical Commissioning Group to improve the timescale for diagnosis for children with Autistic Spectrum Condition, resulting in stronger universal and specialist provisions being developed. Specialist Speech and Language Therapy Services are provided in a variety of settings. Access to these services in a timely manner remains a priority development. Children with disabilities have well co-ordinated support packages through effective referrals routes to physiotherapy and occupational therapy.

Torbay contributes towards a number of regional projects including the development of a multi area Youth Offending Management Board, a Regional Adoption Agency and Sector Led Improvement.

The voice of the child is key to our service improvement programme and we have successfully utilised a wide range of engagement techniques including digital technology, survey work, direct training of practitioners by

young people in care, focus groups and the Annual Democracy Debate to ensure this is successful. To further strengthen our approach, we have commissioned Checkpoint to deliver a range of advocacy, missing from home/care interviews and support services. We have in the last two years rolled out across social care and partners the 'Signs of Safety' model allowing for a strengths-based and safety-focused approach to Child protection in Torbay.

STRENGTHS	ISSUES	OPPORTUNITIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Educational outcomes at all Key Stages are generally in line or above national averages and good progress is being made to close the gap for vulnerable learners ▪ A multi-agency safeguarding hub was established in March 2015 and is providing an effective multi-agency front-door for referrals, including targeted help ▪ An extensive programme of Signs of Safety (SoS) has been delivered to social care practitioners and has extended to partner agencies to provide a consistent multi-agency approach towards risk ▪ Good progress has been made in meeting the SEND reform agenda with all Statements now transferred to EHCP. There is a good level of timeliness with new EHCPs and high levels of confidence and satisfaction reported by parents. ▪ Our Early Help Strategy has been revised with thresholds which are well understood and applied by or with partners as appropriate ▪ Solid foundations have been established to support sustainable improvement in social care provision informed by a comprehensive performance dashboard and QA framework which enable managers at all levels to identify issues and intervene ▪ Our Youth Offending Service is performing well with low rates of custody, reduced reoffending and first time entrants ▪ Timeliness of access to local CAMHS Services is significantly improved. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Social care practice needs to be more consistent in delivering good quality plans and assessments and evidencing impact the situation of the child ▪ Our populations of children looked after and subject to child protection plans remain high and further work is needed to bring these in line with comparators ▪ The gap in educational attainment between our vulnerable learners and their peers is closing however more work is needed ▪ Torbay has higher rates of under 18 conceptions than in England ▪ Excess weight in reception age children is high, with one in four being overweight or obese ▪ Hospital admissions for 5-24 year olds for injuries, self harm and alcohol misuse are significantly higher than the England average ▪ Torbay experiences higher proportions of children living in poverty compared with England ▪ One in five mothers in Torbay smoke during pregnancy ▪ More children provide levels on unpaid care and support in Torbay than the England average ▪ Health outcomes have not improved in a number of areas for many years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Children’s Services working with the Department for Education Commissioner in entering into a partnership with Plymouth City Council to provide for sustainably improved outcomes for children and young people ▪ A Local Education Board (LEB) bringing together the local authority and educational providers across all phases will be established as the local mechanism to drive school improvement ▪ A new commissioning project has commenced bringing together children’s centres, school nurses, health visitors and family support within an integrated service model for 0-19 year olds ▪ Work is underway with Play Torbay and youth trustees to develop a comprehensive youth offer for children and young people fully integrated with our education, SEN and social care improvement activity ▪ Torbay Council, working with a number of south west local authorities, will be entering into a regional adoption agency as the basis for future service provision ▪ Work has commenced with our post 16 providers to develop an Education/Employment Pathway to ensure we maximise opportunity for our children and young people. ▪ Work has commenced with our schools to review our SEN provision and support its continued development to meet the needs of Torbay children and young people ▪ Further multi agency training around early and targeted help processes will help strengthen understanding.

Views from children and young people

The local authority and its partners have recognised the need to ensure that the views and wishes of Torbay's children and young people are at the heart of our commissioning, delivery and service development work.

We have recently embarked on a number of major consultation exercises with children and young people to better understand the lived experience of children and young people in our community. Working with Play Torbay and the Community Development Trust, the 'Imagine Torbay' project has engaged around 500 young people and focused on their aspirations for play and youth provision.

The final report will be written up during May and June 2018, however, some initial key messages are set out below. Our children and young people want to:

- Have fun
- Be safe
- Be with friends.
- Be looked after by people who care for them
- Have a good education
- Eat healthy and nutritious
- Be encouraged and supported to do activities and exercise that interests them

Children's Services and local partners working through the Local Safeguarding Children's Board have also commissioned Healthwatch Torbay to undertake a major exercise that aims to engage between 1500 and 2000 young people over the next twelve months. This important piece of work will be based less on the quality of service provision and more on the experiences of children and young people regardless of gender, locality, age or other determinants to obtain an exhaustive appreciation of the lived experiences of our children and young people.

This will be a signature piece of work informing our commissioning and service development work over the coming years. A separate but related aim is to work with Healthwatch Torbay to build the infrastructure to ensure that this engagement is sustained and meaningful over the longer term.

3 Objectives

Objective

The objective of this Plan is:

To ensure all of our children and young people are safe, happy and healthy in order that they can reach their full potential.

Principles

We will measure all of our work against the impact that it will have on children and young people and, reflecting on the principles with the Council's Corporate Plan, the principles within this Children and Young People's Plan are:

- We will use our resources where they will maximise the impact on the child or young person
- We will use prevention and innovation to reduce the impact on children and families from key risks such as domestic abuse, alcohol/substance misuse and child exploitation
- We will take an integrated and joined up approach towards commissioning and delivery for children and families
- We will be an effective and trustworthy corporate parent to all the children or young people who are in our care.

Torbay Council will also be an effective and trustworthy corporate parent to all the children or young person who are in our care. We will know our children, their needs, talents and aspirations and promote their interests. We will hold high aspirations for their futures, expect the best for and from them and support them in becoming independent, confident adults.

Priorities

To deliver the objective of this Plan there are four inter-connected priorities which will ensure that we protect all children and young people and give them the best start in life.

Priority 1: Children get the best start in life

We will develop an integrated service offer that brings together our school nursing and health visiting services, Children's Centres and other child and family support services. This will seek to provide a holistic offer to families as their needs emerge and at the earliest opportunity.

We will ensure that tackling child poverty is key to our Economic Strategy and Health and Wellbeing Strategy. There will be a particular focus on addressing the underlying causes of deprivation in those communities most impacted. An emerging area of work is food poverty and we are piloting some innovative approaches towards addressing this within our most disadvantaged communities. Our Economic Strategy aims to ensure that Torbay will build on its strengths to deliver economic growth, tackle inequality and create change in the area that benefits everyone who lives here.

Affordable and safe housing is recognised as a key priority to assist with the well-being and health of families. We will work with families to help prevent homelessness at the earliest opportunity, building on the legislative requirements of the Homelessness Reduction Act. We will develop a service across Housing and Children's Services to provide an integrated approach.

The appropriateness of suitable housing is just as important to young people including care leavers or those that may already find themselves homeless. Work will continue to support these individuals, through a specialist service also focusing on mediation.

Priority 2: The impact on children and families from domestic abuse, alcohol/substance misuse and all forms of child exploitation is reduced

We will continue to develop a multi-disciplinary model for family support which complements children's social care work with co-located or embedded expertise around substance misuse, domestic abuse and sexual violence, adult mental health and child and adolescent mental health.

Our revised Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy focuses on developing preventative approaches, maximising referrals and improving take-up of perpetrator and victim programmes. This sits alongside a re-commissioning approach that places the impact on children at the heart of future service provision.

We will continue to work in partnership with the Police, schools, health services and the voluntary sector to address all forms of complex safeguarding issues including criminal and sexual exploitation, radicalisation, and trafficking.

Priority 3: Education outcomes for all children and young people are improved

We will work with local educational providers, schools, Ofsted and the Regional Schools Commissioner for South West England through our Local Education Board to drive improvements in attainment and progress for children and young people in Torbay and maximise inward investment in local educational provision.

We will work with schools and educational providers through our Higher Needs Recovery Group and Schools Forum to ensure that services for vulnerable learners and those with Additional Educational Needs are of high quality and are contributing towards closing the attainment gap with their peers.

We recognise that there are increasing opportunities in Torbay, and across the South West, to access higher learning and associated employment opportunities. We are committed to developing a robust education and employment pathway to maximise those opportunities for our young people. Within this, care leavers and children in our care will be a particular priority.

Priority 4: Young people are healthy, make positive choices and influence their own future.

We will continue to develop our engagement across partners with children and young people to ensure that they are fully informed around their entitlements and are able to access health, education, employment and training opportunities.

We are working with local partners to improve our offer to ensure that children and young people experience good emotional health and wellbeing

We will work with the Torbay Youth Trust and Play Torbay to develop our youth offer to ensure there are opportunities available to young people at the times and places they need.

We will ensure that all children and young people are provided with opportunities that inspire them. This, in turn, will create the long term change which is needed to make Torbay a prosperous and healthy place in which to live and work.

4 Governance Arrangements

The governance and oversight of this Children's and Young People Plan rests with Torbay Council. However, we recognise that to achieve the best outcomes for our children and young people, we must work with our partners across the public, private and voluntary sectors.

A Children's Improvement Board, chaired by the Department for Education Commissioner, and bringing together senior representation from local partner agencies has been in place over the past two years to oversee improvement activity. The Children and Young People's Strategic Steering Group comprises representatives from education, social care, health and youth justice sectors and has recently been established to develop effective arrangements for the commissioning and delivery of responsive, integrated services for children and young people after the CIB steps down. It will aim to deliver services which maximise the outcomes for all children and young people and their families. It will look to narrow the gap in the outcomes between children who are vulnerable and/or from disadvantaged background and their peers and will focus on addressing the causes and effects of child poverty and on promoting effective prevention and early intervention.

The Children and Young People's Strategic Steering Group will be accountable to the Council's Executive via its Health and Wellbeing Board. It will oversee the implementation of this Plan and will ensure that the needs of children and young people are reflected in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

The Steering Group will also provide for end-to-end overview of a wide range of multi-agency groups, plans and strategies for children and young people including the Youth Justice Plan, Educational Improvement Plan, Special Educational Needs Plan and Children's Services Improvement Plan.

The terms of reference of the Steering Group are included as an Appendix to this Strategy.

5 Action Plan

Priority 1: Children get the best start in life

Action	Responsibility	By when?	Impact Measure
Deliver the 0-19 Commissioning Strategy and integrated holistic service for families	Assistant Director – Children’s Safeguarding/Head of Education, Learning and Skills	September 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Families will have access to a holistic services with service provision focussed on the family unit Reductions in the numbers of families entering the high intensity part of the system
Successfully transition adoption services into a Regional Adoption Agency	Assistant Director – Children’s Safeguarding	October 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A greater number of children will achieve permanence through adoption in a more timely manner alongside more consistent support for adoptive families
Work with Torbay Youth Trust and Play Torbay to develop an Edge of Care intervention	Assistant Director – Children’s Safeguarding	June/July 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children and young people on the edge of care will have access to a youth work/play based model of support Reduced family or placement breakdown
Work in partnership with under-fives providers to maintain and improve the number of children accessing good or better early years provision	Early Years and Childcare Service, Early Years Providers	Reviewed on an annual basis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sufficient high quality capacity in place to meet local demand Children starting school with good levels of development
Work with Children’s Centres, Early Years Providers and parents to ensure maximum take up of the targeted two year old scheme and 3&4 year old entitlements	Early Years and Childcare Service	Reviewed on an annual basis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take up rates above the national or statistical comparators %Children starting school with good levels of development
Develop an integrated way of working across Housing and Children Services to ensure effective early intervention with Families.	Director of Adult Services and Housing/Director of Children’s Services	May 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A smooth transition between Children’s and Housing Services when families are at risk or are homeless. An increase in the number of families that are prevented from becoming homeless.

<p>Ensure adequate supply of support and accommodation for young people aged 16-24 including care leavers, young parents and homeless young people through the recommissioning of services.</p>	<p>Director of Adult Services and Housing</p>	<p>May 2019</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A smooth transition for care leavers into permanent accommodation • Ability to manage and prevent homelessness, hence undertaking meaningful prevention activity.
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Priority 2: The impact on children and families from domestic abuse, alcohol and substance misuse and all forms of child exploitation is reduced

Action	Responsibility	By when?	Impact Measures
Continue to develop our multi-agency model for Children in Need/Child Protection work through embedded/linked practitioner resources for domestic abuse, substance misuse, CAMHS, youth services and adult substance misuse	Assistant Director – Children’s Safeguarding	CAMHS/DA/Substance Misuse – September 2018 Adult mental health/floating support – January 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services for children and families will provide a whole family response with social care practitioners supported by expertise to tackle parent and carer issues • Reduction in the numbers of children requiring to become accommodated • Increased in the number of cases stepped down to Early Help or Targeted Support
Continue to integrate the Signs of Safety model as a key driver for improved social care practice and outcomes for children	Principal Social Worker	April 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and families experience consistency in the response they receive and understand what needs to change • Improved practice evidencing positive change for the child
Work with Plymouth City Council, through our partnership agreement, to develop our workforces, learning from best practice within both authorities, to improve outcomes for children and young people	Director of Children’s Services	Reviewed on an annual basis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and families experience consistency in the response they receive and understand what needs to change • Improved practice evidencing positive change for the child • Increased workforce stability, reduced dependency on agency staff
Continue to develop our permanence planning including the quality and stability of placements offered our children looked after	Assistant Director – Children’s Safeguarding/Head of Specialist Services	Reviewed on an annual basis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good use of adoption, SGO, reunification as routes to permanence • Outcomes for children looked after – education, employment, health etc – at or above statistical or national comparators • Placement stability at or above statistical or national comparators

Action	Responsibility	By when?	Impact Measures
Recommission our Domestic Abuse services (TDAS) placing impact for the child at the heart of future service provision	Children's Services Lead Commissioner	April 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced impact on child and young people in families where domestic abuse has been an issue Improved practice evidencing positive change for the child
Develop and implement a Child in Need Protocol with local partners working through the Torbay Safeguarding Children's Board	Director of Children's Services and TSCB partners	June 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cases managed at the right level in the system underpinned by a clear understanding of agency roles and responsibilities Children and families experience consistency in the response they receive and understand what needs to change

Priority 3: Education outcomes for all children and young people are improved

Action	Responsibility	By when?	Impact Measures
Continue to develop accurate pupil projections and deliver the Schools Capital Programme to ensure that sufficient mainstream and specialist places are available to meet population demand moving forward	Head of Education, Learning and Skills/TDA	Phased approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupil projections are accurate enabling the local authority to meet its duty to have sufficient, accessible school places with a margin of between 5-10%
Continue to deliver the Special Educational Needs Strategy to drive forward the development of inclusive practice and improved outcomes for vulnerable groups.	Special Educational Needs & Disability Health and Social Care	Ongoing 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A comprehensive range of options is available locally to meet the needs of Torbay pupils with a Special Educational Need Outcomes for SEN pupils are at or above statistical or national indicators Higher Needs Block funding pressure has been addressed
To develop system leadership and collaborative capacity across the education system in Torbay, engaging with regional partners, local leaders and accountable bodies to share local priorities and gaps.	Head of Education, Learning and Skills	Reviewed on regular basis via the Local Education Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Education Board effectively commissions support for system-wide issues and school-to-school based support. Outcomes for pupils, particularly vulnerable learners, continue to improve
Deliver the Schools Accessibility Strategy to ensure that accessibility to the curriculum, the physical environment and information for disabled pupils is central to the delivery of services.	Head of Education, Learning and Skills	Reviewed on regular basis via the Complex Needs Panel/Higher Needs Recovery Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each school in Torbay has an individual accessibility plan in order that children and young people with learning difficulties and disabilities can participate in the same opportunities as any other child or young person in Torbay.
Continue to work with both the Torbay Teaching School Alliance, All Saints Teaching School, Local Leaders of Education, Regional Schools Commissioner and Ofsted to develop improvement capacity sector led.	Regional Schools Commissioner/ Ofsted/ Teaching Schools/ Local Authority	Ongoing 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outcomes for pupils, particularly vulnerable learners, continue to improve Maximise inward investment via school improvement funding (SIF) into Torbay schools Our educational workforce is well supported through a continuing programme of school improvement activity
Support South Devon College's growth into higher education opportunities offering more educational opportunities for our young people and our workforce	Local Authority	Phased approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the proportion of Torbay pupils obtaining a Level 4/5 qualification

Action	Responsibility	By when?	Impact Measures
To implement the Virtual School Governing Body “Raising Attainment Plan” to continue to enhance the outcomes of Children Looked After and to ensure accountability for the money received through pupil premium plus	Virtual School & Virtual School Governing Body	Annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcomes for Children Looked After and particularly any vulnerable learners continue to improve and the gap with their peers reduces • Increased awareness amongst educational providers of issues such as attachment which can impact on learning

Priority 4: Young people are healthy, make positive choices and influence their own future

Action	Responsibility	By when?	Impact Measures
Continue to develop the offer to Torbay care leavers from the Local Authority and its partners	Assistant Director – Children’s Safeguarding	Reviewed on a regular basis via Corporate Parenting Group and Senior Leadership Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Care leavers have improved outcomes in relation to education, employment, training and personal and social development Proportion of care leavers in employment, achieving higher level qualifications, staying put etc
Continue to develop our support arrangements for those young people moving to Adult Services to help them realise their potential.	Director of Children’s Services/Director of Adult and Housing Services	September 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A smooth transition between Children’s Services and Adults Services Young people moving into Adults Services have their needs well met
Continue to deliver the requirements of the Annual Youth Justice Plan for Torbay, working within the Joint Youth Offending Team Board with Plymouth and Devon	Director of Children’s Services/Head of Service – Early Help and Youth Offending	Reviewed on a quarterly basis via the Joint Youth Offending Service Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved governance and viability for the Youth Offending Team with overall practice improved and efficiencies made through sharing resources.
Expand engagement between business and schools through developing the MADE pilot project	TDA Head of Education	Annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased take up of science and technology educational, training and employment opportunities
Commission Ready for Work training schemes targeted towards our care leavers, as well as those in our deprived wards	TDA Head of Education	Annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the proportion of our care leavers accessing education, employment and training
Work with schools and other partners to expand the provision of information advice and guidance to young adults through the Torbay Works Programme	TDA Head of Education	March 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the proportion of children and young people accessing information, advice and guidance
Develop the Education/Employment Pathway to maximise opportunity for our children and young people post 16 and onwards	Local Education Board	2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educational providers are clear on the full range of post 16 options including higher learning, apprenticeships and employment opportunities. Maximise take up by Torbay young people of higher learning, apprenticeships and employment opportunities

Action	Responsibility	By when?	Impact Measures
Deliver the Healthy Weight Strategy, including increased physical activity for children, healthy eating and delivery of healthy schools and early years.	Health and Wellbeing Board	2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased physical activity by children and young people • Childhood obesity levels better than statistical or national comparators
Deliver the Physical Activity Strategy to increase activity and reduce sedentary behaviour in children	Director of Public Health	2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased physical activity by children and young people • Childhood obesity levels better than statistical or national comparators

Appendix 1: Corporate Parenting Standards

Torbay Council will be an effective and trustworthy corporate parent to all the children or young person who are in our care. We have adopted a set of standards which will be met across the Council. These will assist in enabling us to meet the objectives and priorities of our Children Looked After and Corporate Parenting Strategy.

The Council's Senior Leadership Team will identify, progress and monitor any actions required across the Council to ensure that these standards continue to be met.

1. There is a golden thread through the Council's Strategic Vision, Corporate Plan and Children and Young People's Plan that clearly articulates our aspirations for children looked after and care leavers.
2. Key decisions, policies, procedures and performance in relation to Children's Services are subject to robust scrutiny and oversight through the Council's decision making and scrutiny processes.
3. Elected members and senior officers participate within a programme of corporate parenting training to equip them to understand how corporate parenting can be accommodated within their respective portfolios.
4. Priority interviews are offered to children looked after and care leavers for apprenticeships and work experience opportunities within Torbay Council, prior to these being advertised externally.
5. Dedicated support, advice and guidance is provided to care leavers to assist or sustain them in employment.
6. Employment opportunities are made available to care leavers, alongside apprenticeships, within Torbay Council and its commissioned services.
7. Locally commissioned services for adults including mental health, substance misuse and domestic abuse have child safeguarding as an integral element within service provision, with support measures in place for adults who have caring responsibilities.
8. Family focused interventions such as 'Pause' or 'Breaking the Cycle' are available in Torbay to support families to provide effective parenting when capacity is compromised by health related issues.
9. As vulnerable groups that do not readily access services, care leavers and young offenders have direct support from community/primary health care services.
10. Torbay Council housing policy explicitly acknowledges care leavers as a vulnerable group, with appropriate support provided.
11. Care leavers are provided with individualised support to ensure they are in suitable and safe accommodation.
12. Care leavers have an exemption from Council Tax until the age of 25.
13. Care leavers and children looked after receive support to access cultural, sporting and leisure activities free of charge or at a reduced rate.

14. The achievements and progress of our children looked after and care leavers is recognised and celebrated on a regular basis, in accordance with their wishes and preferences.
15. The work of the Community Safety Partnership acknowledges that children looked after and care leavers are vulnerable groups who can become over represented within the criminal justice system and work together to avoid this.
16. Local arrangements for identifying and case managing adults who may pose a risk to children are fully integrated through a robust multi-agency tasking model.

Appendix 2: Children's Services Strategic Steering Group

Terms of Reference

Purpose

The Children and Young People's Strategic Steering Group is responsible for:

- The development of effective local arrangements for the commissioning and delivery of responsive, integrated services; and,
- Fulfilling the duty under the Children Act (Section 10) to promote co-operation between Torbay Council and local partners.

Aims

- To deliver better, integrated service that maximise outcomes for **all** children and young people, and their families.
- Narrow the outcome gap between children who are vulnerable and/or from disadvantaged backgrounds and their peers; on addressing the causes and effects of child poverty; and on promoting effective prevention and early intervention.

Functions

- To develop and promote a shared strategic vision that improves outcomes for local children, young people and their families in Torbay, as set out in the Children and Young People's Plan.
- To oversee the development, implementation and review of the Children and Young People's Plan, and the development of an Annual Action Plan to implement key priorities.
- To ensure the development of a commissioning framework and investment plan to support implementation of agreed priorities identified in the Children and Young People's Plan.
- To oversee that the joint commissioning arrangements recently put in place, supported by a robust assessment of need, shared resources and pooled budgets where appropriate.
- To develop 'joined up models of delivery focussed when appropriate on the family unit'.
- To drive the development of an effective workforce development strategy which supports the delivery of priorities set out in the Children and Young People's Plan.
- To ensure that the development of services is informed by the views, participation and active engagement of local children, young people, their families and carers, and reflects the diverse needs of Torbay's communities.
- To inform the Health and Wellbeing Board on issues relating to Children and Young People and to ensure the needs of children and young people are reflected in the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
- To monitor the effectiveness of local arrangements to meet the SEND reforms.

Membership

The Steering Group will be chaired by the Executive Lead for Children's Services. The Vice-Chair will be the Director of Children's Services who will also be the Lead Officer for the Group.

In addition, the Steering Group will comprise of senior representatives from the following organisations/services:

South Devon and Torbay Clinical Commissioning Group
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Devon and Cornwall Police
Career South West
Public Health
Children's Social Care Services

Education, Learning and Skills Services
Further Education
Secondary Headteachers
Primary Headteachers
Special School Headteachers
Faith/Voluntary Sector
Torbay Safeguarding Children's Board

Accountability

The Group will report to the Health and Wellbeing Board through which it is also accountable to Torbay's Council's Executive. It will, in turn, receive reports from a number of subsidiary groups such as the Joint Youth Offending Management Board, Corporate Parenting Forum, Child Health and Education Forum, Local Education Board.

Frequency of Meetings

The Group will meet at least 4 times per year.

Review

The Terms of Reference will be reviewed on an annual basis.