

Schools Forum Meeting Agenda

Thursday, 16 June 2022 at 9.00 am
to be held in Mezzanine Room 3, Tor Hill House, Union Street, Torquay, TQ2 5QW

Membership

Stewart Biddles	Tim Stephens
Lisa Finn	Jayne Jones
Sally Timmins	Steve Margetts
Steven Hulme	Kelly Sooben
Mike Lock	Sarah Tomkinson
Clive Star	Alex Newton
Jim Piper	

- 1. Apologies/Changes to Membership**
- 2. Minutes of the last meeting** (Pages 3 - 8)
- 3. Financial Report** (Pages 9 - 13)
- 4. Written Statement of Action - Progress Report** (Pages 14 - 18)
- 5. Safety Valve conversation feedback**
- 6. Presentation on the WSOA targets and associated financial plan**
- 7. Presentation on the work to review panels in place to help meet need early** (Pages 19 - 25)
- 8. Items for next meeting**

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

Mike Freeman, Clerk
Michael.freeman@torbay.gov.uk
01803 208579

9. Future meeting dates

- Thursday 13th October, 09:00
- Thursday 24th November, 09:00
- Thursday 19th January 2023, 09:00
- Thursday 23rd March 2023, 09:00
- Thursday 4th May 2023, 09:00
- Thursday 15th June, 09:00



Minutes of the Schools Forum

5 May 2022

-: Present :-

Stewart Biddles (Chair) Primary Academy Rep; **Lisa Finn (Vice-Chair)** Secondary Academy Rep; **Tim Stephens**, Primary Academy Governor; **Clive Star**, Secondary Academy Rep; **Jim Piper**, Primary Academy Deputy Head; **Alex Newton**, Secondary Maintained Head; **Steven Hulme**, PRU **Mike Lock**, Special Schools Head; **Jayne Jones**, Early Years Rep; **Steve Margetts**, Secondary Academy Head, **Sarah Tomkinson**, Primary Maintained Head; **Kelly Sooben**, Post 16 representative

-: Also in attendance :-

Rachael Williams, Assistant Director for Education, Learning and Skills; **Martin Phillips**, Director of Finance; **Dan Hamer**, Head of Vulnerable Pupils; **Dorothy Hadleigh**, Head of SEN; **Michael Freeman**, Clerk

1. Apologies/Changes to Membership

Apologies were received from Rob Parr. Stewart shared news that Ken Kies, Primary Academy Representative, has recently decided to take early retirement and has resigned from School Forum with immediate effect. Members gave their thanks to Ken for his contributions to School Forum and wished him well in retirement. Rachael said that she will be seeking a new Primary Academy representative in due course.

The Forum welcomed Kelly Sooben to her first meeting.

Action – Rachael to seek new Primary Academy Rep.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

Minutes of the last meeting held Thursday 5th May were agreed as a true record. Rachael

3. Financial Report

Rachael presented to members the latest Financial report, detailing a final outturn position of £3.174 million in deficit. The challenges are in relation to the EHCP's in year adjustments and the other packages for EHCP pupils and SEND personal budgets (bespoke packages).

A detailed breakdown on the Early Years block as well and the position moving

forward. We anticipate that the Early Years block will be in the region of £9000 overspent at the end of this that was overspent by about £9000. Members were asked to note that this is anticipated at this point because the final adjustment figures don't come through till July from the ESFA for the early years block. Given the nature of Early Years funding over the last 12 months trying to anticipate how the funding is going to work given the opening and closing of provisions during that period of time, It was felt that this was a relatively strong budget position to be in at the at the end of the year.

The most significant area of concern remains in the Higher Needs block. This is where we get challenged by the ESFA regarding our rates of EHCP's and our request for statutory assessments. Dorothy explained that when a new education, health and care plan is issued, there is a calculation that's done by the monitoring team regarding Element 3 funding. We are finding on an increasing scale that schools are not accepting that first calculation and coming back and requesting significantly additional Element 3 funding. School forum needs to be considering how to address that, needing to look at what schools are investing from the delegated pot rather than their overreliance on element 3 funding.

Independent schools fees have risen during this financial year. You would have noted in papers that we came forward and told you that Preston Bridge was opening in our area as a new Independent School. And we have seen some parents requesting that provision and we haven't had a counter argument or a counter offer for those children, which would have not been overruled at tribunal. So we have had to place some children in that independent provision as well.

Dorothy noted that some of the Devon children placed at the independent schools provision have subsequently selected to move into a house in Torbay, meaning that these children come on to our financial pages as well, and that it wouldn't be right to then cease that provision or try to find an alternative for those children as well.

Mike Lock asked that given Torbay spend just over £3,000,000 on independent placements as a percentage how does that compare with other local authorities? Dorothy stated that this is low when compared to other LAs.

Officers are going through bespoke packages trying to look at whether those packages coming out of COVID can now be stepped down and children can return into a mainstream offer with support, as well as scrutinizing very closely any new requests for bespoke packages. Meetings are planned for the 9th and 10th June. Rachael asked that if anyone is keen to be part of that, to let her know.

Rachael asked members to note that the Special Schools block came in under spent this year and we have managed the numbers well in compared to our Commissioning at the start of the year. So congratulations to all involved. There has been significant demand for places as well and that was a positive part of the higher needs block that was that was managed effectively.

But it leaves us still in the position that we are in the £3.174 million deficit at the end of this year, with now a cumulative overspend of £8.999 million, ahead of the safety valve conversation due to commence with the ESFA on the 25th of May.

After conversations with authorities that have already been on the safety valve, Martin said that the safety valve agreement comes with significant challenge back to the local area to do things differently. The expectation ahead of the meeting on the 25th is that we will put forward a further savings plan to the ESFA. At the moment officers are going through the Written Statement of Action to identify any of those trajectories to then say where they would have financial implications. Rob and Martin are talking to our finance colleagues at Devon later on today to find out their experiences from their first meeting.

Members noted that although we are having safety valve conversations, we still can't expect that to necessarily happen. It is important to make sure that we are as successful as we can be in that process, and we need to be confident that it can be delivered and everybody in the system has to be working towards that same objective, so that we can secure the additional funding/support coming into the area.

4. DSG Allocation for 2022-23

Members were shown the DSG allocations for 2022/23, based on the principles that have been previously agreed at School Forum. Stewart thanked officers for the information.

5. SEND Green Paper

Rachael presented to colleagues the SEND green paper. Whilst it is helpful to have the direction of travel indicated by the Department for Education, members were disappointed in the detail that's now in the Green Paper given the fact it was so delayed in its publication, whilst recognising the need to respond to the challenges that it creates and the opportunities that it is creating.

It was felt from a School Forum perspective, that the Green Paper alludes to many of the issues that we have been discussing around how we build a culture of inclusive practice and how do we use all of our mechanisms to be able to make sure that children get the right support. Rachael noted similarities between the outcomes of our Local area SEND inspection and the Green Paper findings.

The Green Paper suggests that there's going to be a bigger push on mainstream education to use its notional send budget to meet the needs of children and young people. Where children and young people then have an Education, Health and Care Plan, they will be a national banding system for children and young people and a framework in which all local authorities will be expected to use to assign funding. The other aspect of financial note in here is that they are also going to ask local areas/school forums as the mechanism for funding that.

Rachael highlighted to members that one of the other key things that will drive spend within the document is preference given to parents to be able to select their own provisions. It was felt that a national EHCP document, coupled with a selection

and a choice mechanism built into that could potentially lead to a high number of tribunals where the LA disputes whether or not cost can be met differently or need can be met differently at different costs.

Rachael then proposed to forum that the LA makes available it's consultation response to all schools and heads within the Torbay, to encourage all of our Head Teachers, SENCOs and others to respond to the paper and the consultation document.

Dorothy reiterated the importance of submitting a local area response as part of the consultation, because the lobby groups that support parents in getting their views back to central government will be doing the same, shaping the actual Green Paper that is eventually submitted as legislation.

Dorothy has sent the Green Paper out to all schools and SENCOs prior to the next SENDCO forum on the 18th of May, in order to start to shape the response that we as a local area pull together before the end of the consultation process, which is in in July.

Members stated the importance of the Early Years sector being included in the response. Dorothy agreed and will talk to Early Years colleagues to extend an invite to the 18th May meeting.

Mike Lock shared details of a DfE presentation he attended last week on the Green Paper. He noted that The DfE are saying that the Green Paper is a consultation document, and that there's a lot of work to be done to become the finished article.

6. Written Statement of Action - SEND

Rachael was pleased to inform members that the first submission of our Written Statement of Action has now been accepted by both Ofsted and the CQC, saying that it is a really positive starting place to addressing the concerns of the local area send inspection so the document. The written statement of action sets out the direction of travel towards the eight areas of improvement required under the four pillars that was presented to members at the previous Forum.

The Written Statement of Action had over 550 Contributions which were put into the writing of the Written Statement of Action, and Rachael thanked members, as well as Head Teachers, SENCOs and Early Years providers for joining in those Co-production meetings to come up with the plan and the agreements moving forward.

It was explained that the Written Statement of Action will be led by a SEND Strategic Partnership Board which then reports our Torbay Council cabinet. Underneath the Written Statement of Action is the four pillars of improvement (joint commissioning, inclusion, transitions and the improvement of quality and EHCP's), each of those will have separate areas of work. Rachael said that SEND family voice Torbay have been newly established and they are part of the SEND strategic partnership as well. There are a huge number of working groups that will need to be

established, some of them will complete fairly promptly, others will be ongoing pieces of work as well.

In terms of the Written Statement of Action process any work that was done by School Forum has been included within, and officers are now working through this to identify any of the savings connected to each of the rows.

Members asked whether they could we have a little bit more detail about what these groups actually mean, Rachael agreed to ask our project manager to pull over the detail from the work and give a brief statement under each one.

The Forum thanked Rachael for her update and felt it positive that the Written Statement of Action has been accepted first time.

Action – Further detail of what each group is/does to be presented to members at next Forum.

7. EHE legal advice

A letter from Mark Maries, Senior Lawyer at Torbay Council, was shared with the Forum. Although members were disappointed by the detail of the letter, in terms of Forum moving forward, it is important.

Stewart reiterated the need to make sure that the decisions we make have a proper legal basis and we're acting appropriately and carrying out our duties appropriately. The senior lawyer for Torbay Council has said that they provided advice that there was a mechanism to recharge for elective home education in 2018 and Stewart felt that from a Forum perspective, that's what we need to know. It was acknowledged that it would have been good to have the detail and what that basis was underneath, but if the senior lawyer for Torbay Council is saying that that basis was there, then Forum has to accept that.

Alex queried the detail in the Letter there's a mechanism to be able to recharge, but recharge for what? The argument from the secondary heads was recharging for a child who has left when the money is going to them, whereas our view was when that money is not going to the child who is left it is simply a fine. That child who's left is not costing the local authority any money. They've moved out of area. They've gone to a different school.

Stewart acknowledged Alex's comments, but stated that from a Forums point of view what we have to say is did we act legally and the senior lawyer is saying we did. Schools will have questions over that, and I think they need to take them up, individually or jointly with the authority, but separate to Forum.

Steve Margetts explained that he has spent a lot of money on getting legal advice on this, and intended to continue to pursue it from a legal perspective, putting it back in the hands of the barristers to challenge the Local Authority.

Stewart thanked members for their comments but felt the need to for School Forum to move on from this issue. It was agreed that the Local Authority would meet with secondary forum representatives and outside of the meeting. The outcome would then be brought back to Forum.

**Action – Establish a meeting on EHE recharge with Secondary Reps
Present back conclusion to Forum in due course.**

8. Items for next meeting

- Update on the Written Statement of Action
- Safety Valve update
- Resolution proposal to EHE recharging

9. Future meeting dates

- Thursday 16th June, 09:00
- Thursday 13th October, 09:00
- Thursday 24th November, 09:00
- Thursday 19th January 2023, 09:00
- Thursday 23rd March 2023, 09:00
- Thursday 4th May 2023, 09:00
- Thursday 15th June, 09:00

Financial Report School Forum 16th June 2022

Introduction

The following report contains a detailed breakdown of the final outturn position of the Local Area for 2021/2022. The report enables members to note the in-year position and the significant factors contributing toward the spend. The report covers the following items

- Forecast Outturn Position 22/23
- Contextual information regarding Early Years Block
- Contextual information regarding Higher Needs Block
- Position and Recommendations

Forecast Outturn Position 2022/2023

Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) funded activities are currently forecast to **overspend by £2.711m**.

The following table details the main areas of both over and under spend. Many of these budgets are demand led and will be monitored during 22/23 and revisions reported accordingly.

Budget Heading	Budget	Actuals to date	Projected Outturn	Over / (Under) Spend
Early Years 2, 3 & 4 yr old payments – PVI's & Academies	£5.668m	£1.195m	£5.668m	£0k
Early Years – ALFEY	£295k	£104k	£295k	£0k
Early Years – Pupil Premium & Disability Access Fund	£159k	£10k	£129k	(£30k)
Early Years – 5% retained element	£338k	£63k	£320k	(£18k)
Joint Funded Placements	£450k	£96k	£450k	£0k
Recovery of funding from schools for Excluded Pupils, Medical Tuition Service and Elective Home Education	(£175k)	(£0k)	(£175k)	£0k
Independent Special School Fees	£3.562m	£835k	£3.562m	£0k
Other packages for EHCP pupils and SEND personal budgets	£1.512m	£285k	£1.512m	£0k
Payments to / recoupment from other authorities for Special School places	(£125k)	£7k	(£125k)	£0k
Medical Tuition Service / Virtual School / Hospital Tuition / Vulnerable Students Team	£1.587m	£348k	£1.587m	£0k
School contingencies (Planned pupil growth, NQT induction etc)	£128k	£31k	£128k	£0k
EHCP in-year adjustments (see separate paper for details)	£550k	£231k	£598k	£48k
Special Schools / High Needs in-year adjustments (see separate paper for details)	£400k	£478k	£475k	£75k
School Intervention / Commissioning (includes School Improvement Grant)	£121k	£24k	£121k	£0k
Business Support	£201k	£28k	£184k	(£17k)
Senior Management, Admissions, EAL / Travellers, SACRE	£321k	£49k	£309k	(£12k)
Visually impaired / Hearing impaired / Advisory Teachers	£198k	£16k	£163k	(£35k)
Deficit DSG budget set for 22/23	(£2.7m)			£2.7m
Total – Forecast Outturn Position 22/23				£2.711m

Early Years Block

Take up of early years placements have returned within the early years sector to pre-pandemic rates. There remains sufficient early years provision to meet the numbers of children that are eligible for early years placements.

Some Early years providers continue to make representation to the Local Authority regarding the additional costs that are being experienced. Where representations have been received an individual response is provided. We continue to ensure that all money is promptly passed to the sector and only the statutory 5% is retained by the Authority to run the early years and associated services. The national early years funding situation continues to be raised at regional and local levels.

New initiatives are being released by the Department for Education for the early years sector. These initiatives are designed to help workforce retention and give greater professional development opportunities. The initiatives are being centrally funded with the Local Authority acting in the role of guide and co-production with the commissioned delivery partners.

Higher Needs Block

Torbay continues to have a greater number of children requiring additional support up to and including a special school place than the funds available in the higher needs block can meet. Although the normal pressures on additional requests for support remains, there has been some changes within the blocks reported at the previous forum. The most significant area of concern is the **EHCP in year adjustments**.

Education, Health & Care Plan Funding for 21/22 & 22/23			
	21/22	22/23	Increase / (Decrease)
Number of pupils with EHCP	463	512	49.00
Number of FTE's with EHCP	407	463	56.00
	£	£	£
Funding below £6k allocated through school formula elements	2,426,210	2,774,332	348,122
Funding above £6k allocated as a top-up per eligible pupil	2,206,696	2,967,540	760,844
EHCP Contingency	340,000	550,000	210,000
In-Year adjustments			
April	214,516	133,189	(81,327)
May	92,973	97,442	4,469
June	76,491	28,685	(47,806)
July	52,297	23,016	(29,281)
August	32,649	26,432	(6,217)
September	281,701	160,427	(121,274)
October	43,591	49,765	6,174
November	43,590	39,567	(4,023)
December	30,737	27,608	(3,129)
January	(4,276)	(2,023)	2,253
February	22,417	14,328	(8,089)
March	(1,973)	(461)	1,512
Total - In-Year adjustments	884,713	597,975	
Projected (underspend) / overspend	544,713	47,975	
Notes	Based on April - May 22 in-year adjustments, and an average of the past 3 years (21/22, 20/21 & 19/20) per month for the remainder of the financial year, it is anticipated the EHCP contingency will overspend by		47,975

The request for additional funding to enable children and young people to be admitted to school continues to be a trend.

Bespoke Packages of Support

A new panel has been established to review all children and young people that have a bespoke packages of education in place. The panel in time will review every individual package and aim to secure a re-integration plan where appropriate.

The panel has set out the following priority groups

- Primary aged children (Reviewed July 2022)
- Existing year 7 children (Reviewed July 2022)
- Children on a mainstream role but accessing a greater proportion of alternative provision

Any new requests for bespoke packages will go through rigorous review with a view that these will only be funded in extreme circumstances.

Special School Profile

The following table details the special school profile. This spend is in line with the budget.

Special School and other High Needs funding adjustments for 22/23

	Combe Pafford	Combe Pafford	Mayfield School	Mayfield Chestnut	Mayfield Total	Brunel SEMH	Burton AP	B & B Total	Totals	Totals £
Number of places - January 22	262		263		263	56	55	111.00	636.00	
Number of pupils - January 22	264		261		261	47	39	86.00	611.00	
Number of places - September 22	265		263		263	56	55	111.00	639.00	
Initial Place led funding		2,637,500			2,630,000	560,000	550,000	1,110,000		6,377,500
Initial Pupil led funding		1,551,207			2,924,760	816,672	495,105	1,311,777		5,787,744
Initial pupil specific additional funding		61,673			162,744	36,800		36,800		261,217
Previously Teachers Pay & Pension Grants		174,075			173,580	36,960	36,300	73,260		420,915
Other funding - Outreach / 6th day provision / rent					318,093			0		318,093
Pupil Premium		141,105			182,435	35,460	32,505	67,965		391,505
Total initial funding		4,565,560			6,391,612	1,485,892	1,113,910	2,599,802		13,556,974
In-Year adjustments	Pupils	Funding £	Mayfield Pupils	Chestnut Pupils	Funding £	SEMH Pupils	AP Pupils	Funding £	Pupils	Funding £
April	264	103,334	231	32	23,830	51	48	183,759	626	310,923
May	264	(823)	229	33	(963)	50	47	(27,565)	623	(29,351)
June									0	0
July									0	0
August									0	0
September									0	0
October									0	0
November									0	0
December									0	0
January									0	0
February									0	0
March									0	0
Total In -year pupil / place led adjustments		102,511			22,867			156,194		281,572
Enhanced Provision (in-year changes in pupil top-ups)										(1,487)
Enhanced Provision (in-year increases in place numbers)										8,333
Preston Enhanced Provision - Teaching Support Sept 22 - Mar 23										15,243
Excluded Pupils / 6th Day Provision (Sept - Mar)										70,158
In-year pupil specific additional funding		37,761			66,279					104,040
Total - In-Year adjustments		140,272			89,146			156,194		477,859
Special School / High Needs contingency budget										400,000
Current balance (under) / over										77,859

Position

The forecast outturn position of the Local Area continues to be of significant concern. The position remains volatile and continued actions need to be taken to try and mitigate spend.

The in year overspend of the DSG is £2.711m

The cumulative overspend of the DSG is now £8.999m

Recommendation and Decisions

It is requested that Schools Forum:

1. Note the financial position and continue to work with the Local Authority to address the spending profile.
2. School Forum engage with the Local Authority in the co-production and delivery of the recovery plan for the Safety Valve agreement.

Rachael Williams

Divisional Director Education, Learning and Skills

Written Statement of Action Update Report - School Forum 16th June 2022

Introduction

The Local Area SEND Inspection took place in November 2021 with an outcome that required a written statement of action to be co-produced and delivered by the Local Area. The Written Statement of Action was approved by Ofsted and the CQC in April 2022 and work has started at pace to ensure that the outcomes can be achieved in line with the commitment made in the statement. The work of the WSOA is integral to the work of School Forum and the delivery of a further reduced and efficient higher needs block.

The report is brought to Forum members to outline the progress that is being made in each of the workstream areas and to offer the opportunity for discussion, beyond the education representation that is present within each workstream group.

The full Written Statement of Action can be found at <https://www.torbay.gov.uk/media/18021/torbay-written-statement-of-action-final-version-33-14th-april-2022.pdf>

Summary of Progress and Actions reported to SEND Board 22nd May 2022

Task Name	LO/AO	Duration	Start	Finish	% Work Complete	RAG
Focus Area 1 - JSNA	LS/NM	261 days	Wed 13/04/22	Wed 12/04/23	0%	
1A Create a JSNA Data Group	JC/BB	35 days	Wed 13/04/22	Tue 31/05/22	5%	Started
1A.6 Ensure monthly updates to the JSNA	MG/JC/BB	253 days	Wed 13/04/22	Fri 31/03/23	5%	Started
Focus Area 2 - Joint Commissioning	NM/TF/JT	523 days	Fri 01/04/22	Tue 02/04/24	0%	
2A Establish a Joint Commissioning Group	HP/TT	13 days	Wed 13/04/22	Fri 29/04/22	100%	Green
2A.1 Create a joint vision of commissioning	TT	57 days	Wed 13/04/22	Thu 30/06/22	5%	Started
2A.5 Identify best practice for contract monitoring and performance	TT	123 days	Wed 13/04/22	Fri 30/09/22	5%	Started
2C Address the overspend in the High Needs Block	RW	383 days	Wed 13/04/22	Fri 29/09/23	5%	Started
Focus Area 3 - SEND Strategy	NM/DA	362 days	Wed 13/04/22	Thu 31/08/23	0%	
3A Establish a SEND Strategy Group to develop a co-produced aspirational vision	RW/HP	57 days	Wed 13/04/22	Thu 30/06/22	5%	Started
3A.2 Refresh the local offer content	DHd	273 days	Wed 13/04/22	Fri 28/04/23	5%	Started

Focus Area 4 - Self-evaluation for the effectiveness of the SEND Strategy	NM/DA	513 days	Wed 13/04/22	Fri 29/03/24	0%	
4A Build on the partnership quality assurance process	RS	144 days	Wed 13/04/22	Mon 31/10/22	5%	Started
Focus Area 5 - Values led, shared culture and co-produced SEND system	NM/DA	209 days	Thu 14/04/22	Tue 31/01/23	0%	
5A Establish a Culture Group	RW/HP	34 days	Thu 14/04/22	Tue 31/05/22	5%	Started
Focus Area 6 - Ensure lived experience informs all operational and strategic work	NM/DA/JW/TF/LS	339 days	Wed 13/04/22	Mon 31/07/23	0%	
6A.2 Make improvements in the use of both written and spoken language	RS	56 days	Wed 13/04/22	Wed 29/06/22	5%	Started
6B Ensure that there is shared communication through the local offer	DHd	339 days	Wed 13/04/22	Mon 31/07/23	5%	Started
Focus Area 7 - Ensure leaders across area understand the impact of culture work and hold each to account.	NM/DA	362 days	Wed 13/04/22	Thu 31/08/23	0%	
7C Move away from 'them and us' culture to develop a shared approach using a published programme of workforce development and training	SW/BM	123 days	Wed 13/04/22	Fri 30/09/22	5%	Started
Focus Area 8 - Ensure we understand and embed the lived experience of families.	NM/DA	296 days	Wed 13/04/22	Wed 31/05/23	0%	
8A Establish a group of partners (within the Culture Group) to produce a Co-production Charter/Strategy	DHd/SG	78 days	Wed 13/04/22	Fri 29/07/22	5%	Started
8B Create opportunities to allow professionals working with families in education, social care and health to work with parents, carers and young people to hear and understand the 'lived experience' of families	RS	273 days	Wed 13/04/22	Fri 28/04/23	5%	Started
8B.1 Create a partnership communication plan	KS/AC/JG	78 days	Wed 13/04/22	Fri 29/07/22	5%	Started

Focus Area 9 - Implement a 'tell it once' approach	NM/JT	253 days	Wed 13/04/22	Fri 31/03/23	0%	
9A Within the SEND Strategy group: review the processes within SEND across all agencies and schools to take a 'tell it once' approach	SE/HP	56 days	Wed 13/04/22	Wed 29/06/22	5%	Started
Focus Area 10 - All stakeholders to be committed to the principles of working together	NM/DA	339 days	Wed 13/04/22	Mon 31/07/23	0%	
10A Develop a plan to ensure health and social care advice is embedded in EHCPs	DHd/RS	78 days	Wed 13/04/22	Fri 29/07/22	5%	Started
10B Ensure EHCPs reflect the provision available from the voluntary and community sector where appropriate	DHd	78 days	Wed 13/04/22	Fri 29/07/22	0%	Red
10D The Council and CCG issue a public statement of commitment	KS/AC/JG	57 days	Wed 13/04/22	Thu 30/06/22	5%	Started
10E The Council and CCG to agree respective senior officers, within SEND Strategic Board, with lead responsibility for co-production in their organisations, who receive regular reports on the outcomes of the quality assurance framework for co-production	NM/DA	24 days	Wed 13/04/22	Mon 16/05/22	90%	Green
Focus Area 11 - The Graduated Response is used effectively	NM/JT	471 days	Wed 13/04/22	Wed 31/01/24	0%	
Focus Area 12 - Identification of availability of support for social, emotional and mental health and wellbeing	NM/JT	273 days	Wed 13/04/22	Fri 28/04/23	0%	
Focus Area 13 - Exclusion Data is examined sufficiently to direct input so that exclusion rates are reduced.	NM	210 days	Wed 13/04/22	Tue 31/01/23	0%	
Focus Area 14 - There is a comprehensive approach to	NM/DA/JW	644 days	Wed 13/04/22	Mon 30/09/24	0%	

the provision of post 16 opportunities						
14C Build on the existing transition protocol between children and adult services to enable young people to be supported as they move from one service to another including decision making and resolution arrangements.	BT	35 days	Wed 13/04/22	Tue 31/05/22	5%	Started
14D Analyse 'ceased' plans and 'excellent' EHC plans to identify what has worked well and what could be better and share this practice, including feedback from young people and what worked for them.	HS/RS	188 days	Wed 13/04/22	Fri 30/12/22	5%	Started
Focus Area 15 - The assessment process results in high quality EHCPs and annual reviews	RW	339 days	Wed 13/04/22	Mon 31/07/23	0%	
15a Within the SEND Strategy Sub-Group	DHd	188 days	Wed 13/04/22	Fri 30/12/22	5%	Started
15A.1 Establish an end-to-end review of EHCP and Annual Review processes using SEND FVT and partners as critical advisors (cross ref to: 14G)	DHd	188 days	Wed 13/04/22	Fri 30/12/22	5%	Started
15A.2 Review the current formats for seeking parent, carer and young people's views to ensure it is fully accessible and seeks a breadth of information and implement, building in the 'tell it once' action (cross ref to 16E and 9A)	KS/AC/JG	57 days	Wed 13/04/22	Thu 30/06/22	5%	Started
15C Build on current practice to develop a rigorous multi-disciplinary quality assurance process with partners which establishes a baseline of the quality of EHCPs.	HS	78 days	Wed 13/04/22	Fri 29/07/22	5%	Started
Focus Area 16 - There is high quality co-produced advice from all providers.	NM/DA	339 days	Wed 13/04/22	Mon 31/07/23	0%	

16B Review the processes within SEND across all partners to enable a 'tell it once' approach, so families are required to give information once.	BT	57 days	Wed 13/04/22	Thu 30/06/22	5%	Started
Focus Area 17 - There is a clear thread through plans that reflects the desired outcomes for the young person	NM/SO	339 days	Wed 13/04/22	Mon 31/07/23	0%	
17B Attach greater importance to each child and young person's aspirations so that they are fully considered and are individual to their plan.	HS	78 days	Wed 13/04/22	Fri 29/07/22	5%	Started
Focus Area 18 - There is a learning and development programme for all teams to address consistency.	NM/DA	123 days	Wed 13/04/22	Fri 30/09/22	0%	

27 actions were due to have started in April 2022, of which 27 have been reported. 26 have been started (97%). For all those actions where we have an update, meeting dates and future actions have been identified. Given the short deadline and the Easter break there has been an excellent response to requests for updates and additional information.

The representation of schools and colleges has now been provided by phase associations. Individuals are being invited to meetings to ensure that the education sector are able to co-produce and design the system collectively.

Conclusion

Much work has already progressed to ensure that the right systems are in place to take forward the work across all professional agencies. The views of parents/carers and young people are being sought and brought to the working groups. Continued engagement and proactive attendance/contributions to the work is essential to secure the pace of change required.

Association meetings need to ensure that their nominated representatives have a mechanism to feedback so that the direction of travel and key decisions are being appropriately considered.

1. Note the financial position and continue to work with the Local Authority to address the spending profile.
2. School Forum engage with the Local Authority in the co-production and delivery of the recovery plan for the Safety Valve agreement.

Rachael Williams

Divisional Director Education, Learning and Skills



Changing Outcomes for Vulnerable Pupils

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A proposal to seize the opportunity to further work collaboratively to identify and meet need at the earliest opportunity.

Agenda Item 7

Rationale



There are a range of panels and processes operating to provide school places for children in Torbay. The current panels are not impacting on improving outcomes for children or young people. The current panels lack the opportunity for collaboration and working in partnership, to support the cultural change to drive forward an inclusive system. With the exception of the Medical Panel, these panels are almost exclusively attended by education professionals as a single agency. This leads to a lack of breadth in decision making and limited access to specialist advice when making potentially life changing decisions.

At the same time, reporting from the work of these panels is irregular and generally on request. This leads to a lack of clarity around oversight and scrutiny.

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The model contained herein is intended to:



Ensure the best outcomes for all children.

Secure coordinated support from all partners.

Support the WSOA Inclusion and Culture threads.

Develop a regular pattern of reporting for strategic policy making

The System

**Children's
Continuous
Improvement Board**

**Local Education
Board**

SEND Board

**Section 19
Outcomes
and Places**

**In Year
Movements
Fair Access
Referrals
Reintegration
from AP**

**Oversight of
Multi-agency
responses.
Outcomes and
Placements fm AP**

**Elective Home
Education
Oversight**

**Suspension
and
Exclusion
Report**

**Attendance
and Absence
Trends**

Termly reports to inform strategic oversight and panel priorities.

Medical Panel

Placement Panel

Secondary At Risk

Primary At Risk

**One panel meeting
every 2 weeks in
term time.**

**One panel meeting
every 2 weeks in
term time.**

**One panel meeting
every 2 weeks in
term time.**

**Two town-based
panels meeting
every month.**

Four focusses over five panels to ensure all children have a suitable school place and outcomes are improved.

All Panels have an overriding duty to ensure all children have a suitable school roll and outcomes are improved.

Panel Purpose

Medical Panel

This panel will make decisions on referrals under section 19. This may lead to:

- Ensuring the area graduated response is being implemented.
- Support for continuing attendance in school.
- Targeted tuition for a fixed period.
- A place at MTS.

Any of these may form part of a multi agency support plan with interventions from across partners.

Placement Panel

Placement Panel will take referrals from:

- Schools under the fair access protocol.
- The LA seeking to place children without a school place.
- Alternative Provision seeking to reintegrate children after successful interventions.

They will also receive reports outlining in year movement, including the use of managed moves and direction off site under section 29.

Secondary at Risk Panel

Identify and support children at risk of repeat suspension and/or exclusion and work collaboratively to change the outcome.

Identify and support children at risk from severe persistent absence and work collaboratively to change the outcome.

Provide support and challenge to schools and partners in applying the agreed behaviour thresholds and graduated response.

Ensure appropriate referrals to and support from all partners.

Oversee allocations to behaviour support programmes

Primary at Risk Panel

Panels are 'Torquay' or 'Paignton and Brixham'

Identify and support children at risk of repeat suspension and/or exclusion and work collaboratively to change the outcome.

Identify and support children at risk from severe persistent absence and work collaboratively to change the outcome.

Provide support and challenge to schools and partners in applying the agreed behaviour thresholds and graduated response.

Ensure appropriate referrals to and support from all partners.

Oversee allocations to behaviour support programmes

Panel Membership

Medical Panel

HoS VPT
DCO
CAMHS senior officer
MHST senior officer
SEN senior officer
Early Help SM
Social Care SM
Secondary Head
Primary Head
School SENDCO
MTS senior leader
Education Psychologist

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DMO – Termly for oversight and consideration of removal from roll.

Placement Panel

HoS VPT
SEN senior officer
Admissions Tm Leader
Secondary Head
Primary Head
Burton Academy senior leader.
YJS Education Officer
VS Advice and Guidance Officer

Reps from referring schools as req'd

Secondary at Risk Panel

HoS VPT
SEN senior officer
Early Help SM
Social Care SM
Senior leader from each secondary school.
Burton Academy senior leader
YJS Education Officer
Education Psychologist
Family Hub Rep
Speech and Language Rep
VS Advice and Guidance Officer

Primary at Risk Panel

Panels are 'Torquay' or 'Paignton and Brixham'

HoS VPT
SEN senior officer
Early Help SM
Social Care SM
Senior leader from each primary school.
Mayfield school senior leader
Education Psychologist
Family Hub Rep
Speech and Language Rep
VS Advice and Guidance Officer

Panel Membership

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MHST senior officer
SEN senior officer
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MTS senior leader
Education Psychologist

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VS Advice and Guidance Officer

Four papers - perhaps as a PID - to launch the remodelling.

Steps

Medical Panel

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Probably the panel most aligned to the proposal.
Existing task and finish group to step up and, when adopted, align the work with that of the other panels.

Placement Panel

This panel exists and will need to be enhanced with partners.

Step down the LA pre panel and, potentially, move the panel to a more appropriate time. Current time is aligned for convenience of schools.

Secondary at Risk Panel

Base the work on the existing Secondary Peer group.

Timings to be reviewed as with the Placement Panel.

Hold a ½ termly best practice forum to maintain the 'guest speaker' element of the existing model.

Work with Burton Academy, TASH and Schools Forum to ensure effective, whole area, implementation of an outreach programme.

Primary at Risk Panel

Base the work on the existing Town Peer Groups.

Timings to be reviewed as with the Placement Panel.

Work with TAPS to ensure the best practice dissemination is developed.

Work with Mayfield School and the Behaviour Outreach Lead and Early Help to develop an enhanced offer that can be allocated by the panel.