



**Meeting: Cabinet**

**Date: 13 July 2021**

**Wards Affected: All**

**Report Title: Children's Services – Sufficiency Strategy**

**Is the decision a key decision? No**

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

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## **1. Purpose and Introduction**

- 1.1 This report is being presented to provide members with an update on the progress of the Children's Services Sufficiency Strategy (2019) and present the update 3 year sufficiency Strategy 2021/24.
- 1.2 Cabinet members will recall that the Sufficiency Strategy was launched in November 2019. It was detailed in nature, based entirely upon local evidence and national research and set out challenging targets that if achieved would support strongly Torbay's ambition to become a good or better local children's service authority and ensure that we were able to balance the Children's services budget.
- 1.3 It reflected the desire to meet the needs of all children and young people who come into contact with Early Help and Statutory Services and focused upon addressing many of the concerns that were raised by Ofsted in their last inspection which took place in June 2018, some of which were carried forward from recommendations contained in the report of their previous inspection which was published in 2015.
- 1.4 Despite the restrictions placed upon us by COVID-19, the service has been able to find ways to drive forward creatively thus mitigating many of the unprecedented challenges that we have faced.
- 1.5 The new 3 year Sufficiency Strategy sets out, against the key strands, the progress we have made and the 'next steps' we are taking to ensure we deliver good quality service and living arrangements for our children. Where it is possible to do so, we also include costings, cost reductions and savings.

## **2. Proposed Decision**

2.1 That the Sufficiency Strategy 2021-2024 be approved.

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### **Supporting Information**

***Children's Services Sufficiency Strategy 2021/24 - appendix one.***