

## **Update on The Pledge**

**Date prepared:** 14 March 2022

**Meeting:** Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Board

**Date of meeting:** 28 March 2022

### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1 To provide an update on the Pledge launch event and associated communications.

### **2. Update**

- 2.1. Torbay's Cared for Community came together to celebrate the commitment of the Youth Pledge made by Torbay Council and partners.
- 2.2. On Tuesday 7 December Torbay's Cared for Community hosted a small celebration to mark the commitment of the Youth Pledge. This corporate promise is made by Torbay Council and partners to the Cared for and Care experienced children and young people of Torbay.
- 2.3. The small celebration took place at The Boathouse in Preston with a festive meal and games, following the latest COVID-19 safety guidelines. Council Leader, Steve Darling; Head of Regulated Services, Becky Thompson and Cllr Judith Mills, Member of the Corporate Parenting Board were also in attendance. As valued members of the Cared for Community, a selection of foster carers also joined in the with pledge celebration.
- 2.4. This community event followed on from a series of engagement initiatives to launch the Youth Pledge with the Cared for Community including three podcasts with involvement from the Corporate Parenting Board.
- 2.5. The pledge outlines principles for Torbay Council and partners to follow as a corporate parent such as always acting with honesty and approachability, in addition to tangible commitments like accessibility to dental appointments, educational and healthcare plans (Appendix A).

- 2.6. Torbay Children's Services are still currently looking for a wide range of new foster carers to care for local, vulnerable children who are unable to live with their birth families. Torbay foster carers are financially supported with an allowance to meet the needs of the foster child and receive training and ongoing support from a dedicated fostering Social Worker and an experienced foster carer as a mentor.
- 2.7. Pledge leaflet (Appendix B) designed for wide dissemination to Children's Services teams and for sharing with cared for CYP.