

Meeting: Children's Overview and Scrutiny **Date:** 2 June 2025

Wards affected: All

Report Title: Torbay Children's Services Self-Assessment

When does the decision need to be implemented? For Information

Cabinet Member Contact Details: Cllr Nick Bye, Lead Cabinet Member Children's Services

Director Contact Details: Nancy Meehan, Director of Children's Services

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The 2024-25 Torbay Children's Service Self Evaluation of Practice sets out our self-evaluation against the Ofsted Inspection of Local Authority of Children's Services Framework and articulates what we know about the quality and impact of practice in Torbay, how we know this and our plans for the next twelve months to maintain and improve practice.

2. Reason for Proposal and its benefits

- 2.1 The report is provided as information only, and to invite discussion in relation to its contents.

3. Recommendation(s) / Proposed Decision.

1. That the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board endorse the Torbay Children's Service Self Evaluation of Practice 2024-25 as set out in Appendix 1 and that it is published in accordance with Council's requirements.

Appendices

Appendix 1: SEF 2024-25

Background Documents

Supporting Information

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The 2024-25 Torbay Children's Service Self Evaluation of Practice sets out our self-evaluation against the Ofsted Inspection of Local Authority of Children's Services Framework and articulates what we know about the quality and impact of practice in Torbay, how we know this and our plans for the next twelve months to maintain and improve practice.

2. Options under consideration

- 2.1 To consider the submitted draft report and make recommendations to the Cabinet.

3. Financial Opportunities and Implications

- 3.1 N/A

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 There are no legal implications as a result of the decision to endorse this SEF.

5. Engagement and Consultation

- 5.1 A priority of Torbay Children's Services is to enhance and develop the opportunities for participation, engagement and consultation with our children and families. Their feedback, through full audits, Panels and other mechanisms, is reflected within the self-evaluation.

6. Purchasing or Hiring of Goods and/or Services

- 6.1 N/A

7. Tackling Climate Change

- 7.1 N/A

8. Associated Risks

- 8.1 Should this report not be endorsed, there will no change in terms of the fundamental function of the service however the report would not be published, and could not be transparently shared with our children and families which would limit the ability of the service to share learning in respect of patterns and trends, and achieve clarity about the priorities for improvement.

9. Equality Impacts - Identify the potential positive and negative impacts on specific groups

	Positive Impact	Negative Impact & Mitigating Actions	Neutral Impact
Older or younger people	The SEF outlines the strengths, areas to strength and the priorities for the service, in addition to the vision and strategy to enhance service provided to children and families.		
People with caring Responsibilities	The SEF outlines the strengths, areas to strength and the priorities for the service, in addition to the vision and strategy to enhance service provided to children and families.		
People with a disability	The SEF outlines the strengths, areas to strength and the priorities for the service, in addition to the vision and strategy to enhance service provided to children and families.		
Women or men	The SEF outlines the strengths, areas to strength and the priorities for the service, in addition to the vision and strategy to enhance service provided to children and families.		
People who are black or from a minority ethnic background (BME) (Please note Gypsies / Roma are within this community)	The SEF outlines the strengths, areas to strength and the priorities for the service, in addition to the vision and strategy to enhance service provided to children and families.		
Religion or belief (including lack of belief)	The SEF outlines the strengths, areas to strength and the priorities for the service, in addition to the vision and strategy to enhance service		

	provided to children and families.		
People who are lesbian, gay or bisexual	The SEF outlines the strengths, areas to strength and the priorities for the service, in addition to the vision and strategy to enhance service provided to children and families.		
People who are transgendered	The SEF outlines the strengths, areas to strength and the priorities for the service, in addition to the vision and strategy to enhance service provided to children and families.		
People who are in a marriage or civil partnership	The SEF outlines the strengths, areas to strength and the priorities for the service, in addition to the vision and strategy to enhance service provided to children and families.		
Women who are pregnant / on maternity leave	The SEF outlines the strengths, areas to strength and the priorities for the service, in addition to the vision and strategy to enhance service provided to children and families.		
Socio-economic impacts (Including impact on child poverty issues and deprivation)	The ambition of the Fostering Annual report, particularly in respect of fostering recruitment, is to ensure that any child, no matter their level of need or their socioeconomic status, has access to the highest quality in-house fostering provision where possible.		
Public Health impacts (How will your proposal impact on the general health of the population of Torbay)	The provision of high quality Children's service can have a significant, positive impact on the longer term health outcomes for children.		

10. Cumulative Council Impact

10.1 None.

11. Cumulative Community Impacts

11.1 None