



2018-2023

Children and Young People's Plan (Updated February 2021)

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 Strategy. 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 and participating 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 2019
- Torbay Youth Justice Plan 2020 (COVID contingency and recovery plan)
- 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 three district communities: 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. The Revenue Support Grant has reduced from £42m in 13/14 to £6m in 19/20. This has required difficult decisions to be made 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 with funding increasing from £28m in 13/14 to £47m in 20/21. Initially this was to deal with successive overspends and more recently to support the renewed improvement activity generated and led by the completely new management team. The Medium-Term Financial Strategy has been refreshed several times, with the aim of bringing expenditure into line with that of comparators while continuing to ensure improvement activity is adequately resourced. This strategy is currently on track to achieve its objectives, but the service is aware that a substantial proportion of its improvement work is funded by a DfE grant which, if discontinued, would require significant budgetary adjustment. A contingency plan has been developed for this eventuality.

As the second largest urban area in Devon, with a population of over 135,750 people, Torbay faces challenges typically associated with larger urban areas. These coupled with its coastal location, compound both the challenges and sensitivities of its economy.

Torbay has demonstrated a lower level of resilience to economic shocks compared with other areas across the country. Since the 2004 closure of Nortel, growth has consistently been behind that of its neighbours. The following recession of 2008/09 saw output fall by 4.7% with some issues persisting today.

Torbay lags behind the UK on many economic measures, it has experienced significantly lower levels of business growth of 13% compared to 30.6% nationally, employment growth of 9% compared to 10.4% nationally, and GVA growth of 7.5% compared to 28.8% nationally, since 2011.

GVA per head in 2018 (latest) is £14,599, ranking it the lowest in England by NUT3 areas, slipping from the third lowest in 2017. This represents 51.2% of the UK average, with the gap widening over the last 10 years. However, when comparing output per full-time equivalent (FTE) worker, economic performance is better at £42,600, but continues to lag behind the UK average.

Torbay's population is 133,373 (2015 MYE) and estimated to rise to 148,500 by 2039, albeit this is a slower rate of growth 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 areas with significant material wealth alongside areas of deprivation. Torbay is ranked the 48th most deprived in England, with 36,691 people living in the bottom 20% most deprived areas, equating to 27.4% of the population. The most deprived areas tend to be primarily concentrated around the centres of each of the three towns.

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 saw improvements across most phases in 2019.

Children receive a high-quality start through access to a range of good and outstanding early year's provision resulting in an increase in 2019 to 70.8% of children achieved a good level of development (GLD). Although slightly lower than national standards it is above those of statistical neighbours (i.e. other Local Authorities with similar characteristics).

Key Stage 1 results increased to 65% of children achieving the expected standard which was equivalent to national levels. In Phonics 84% of children achieved expected level, 2% above national.

Key Stage 2 results for 2019 increased 3% to 66% for the expected standard for Reading, Writing and Maths combined, which was 1% above national standards.

For secondary school pupils the average Attainment 8 score was 46.2 in 2019 which was above national. The percentage of pupils achieving grades 9-5 in English and Maths was 45%, 2nd highest when compared to statistical neighbours and 3% above national.

Following recent inspections, 100% of mainstream secondary provision is judged to be good or outstanding.

Torbay has 5.2% of pupils with Statements or Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP) compared to 3% nationally. Children with an EHCP performed well at Early Years with 8.7% achieving GLD compared to 4.4% nationally.

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 originally made 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 chaired the multi-agency Children's Improvement Board (CIB) which met on a six weekly basis and provides for oversight of improvement activity.

This arrangement ended following a second inspection by Ofsted (in June 2018) that found insufficient evidence for Inspectors to amend their original judgement that Children's Services were 'inadequate overall'. This second judgement of inadequacy generated a much changed and strengthened approach to improvement which resulted in a new Director of Children's Service being appointed along with a new senior leadership team to lead the changes, the appointment of a new Commissioner with experience of leading a service from inadequacy to outstanding and the development of a much revised and strengthened Improvement Plan and Sufficiency Strategy. Both the plan and the strategy, which are underpinned by child focused performance management and

quality assurance frameworks address in full the recommendations of Inspectors while going much further to put firmly into place the mechanisms to lead Torbay Children's Services to an era of delivering sustainable good or better services to children and their families. 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. Comprehensive performance reports are provided on a regular basis to the CIB, the Commissioner, the Cabinet and Scrutiny panel, the Executive Member for children, Department for Education Officials, the Chief Executive and Children's Services and corporate senior leadership and managers.

Torbay's Targeted Help Service leads on ensuring 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. This is a partnership response to whole family support and the Local Authority contributes to this partnership delivery through the Family Intervention Team. The Local Authority's Supporting Families Team is located alongside the Family Intervention Team and provides further support for professionals and families at level 2 on the Torbay Safeguarding Children's Board threshold of need. The Targeted Help Service, Family Intervention Team and Supporting Families Team 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.

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.

Torbay's multi-agency safeguarding hub (MASH) is well established with police, social care, health, schools support services and probation into a co-location arrangement. Despite significantly increased demands, decision making is now consistently more timely and robust though it is accepted that improvements are still necessary to achieve the consistently high standards that are required. The MASH has recently reconfigured to incorporate Early Help referrals through a 'single front door' model supplemented by an Early Help (referral) Panel process.

Mental health and well-being remain a key local priority. Torbay has a joint contract with CCG and Devon LAs for CAMHS and we work together strategically. Work in underway with managers and commissioners to clarify what services are being provided and to ensure that the contract meets Torbay children's needs. The target date for completion of this review and to clarify our position is December 2020.

The timescale for diagnosis for children with Autistic Spectrum Condition is being missed in too many cases and urgent work with the CCG is being undertaken to address the causes of the delays. 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 generally have co-ordinated support packages through effective referrals routes to physiotherapy and occupational therapy though there is room for some improvements.

Torbay also 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 are re-energising our approach and strengthening our engagement techniques including digital technology, survey work, direct training of practitioners by young people in care, focus groups and for children living in care we are developing the role of Corporate Parenting by the council and children and young people will play a key role in shaping the future of this

part of the service. We are committed to children and young people having a much stronger role in determining the services they access and central to this is the introduction of Restorative Practice as Torbay's social work model. All social care staff are being trained and the model replaces Signs of Safety which failed to gain sufficient traction to bring about the desired improvements in practice and management. Our investment in the strengths-based restorative approach is central to our commitment to place children at the heart of all that we do. To further strengthen our approach, we have commissioned Checkpoint to deliver a range of advocacy, missing from home/ care interviews and support services.

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 ▪ The multi-agency safeguarding hub that was established in March 2015 is providing an effective multi-agency front-door for referrals, including targeted help ▪ An extensive programme of Restorative Practice training is being delivered to all social care practitioners and extended to partner agencies to provide a consistent multi-agency strengths based approach to our work with children and their families ▪ All Statements now transferred to EHCP. There is a good level of timeliness with EHCPs completion ▪ Following extensive consultation and work with partners, our Early Help Strategy has been revised and is being launched with a multi-disciplinary Board overseeing its diverse range of support offer ▪ Solid foundations have been established and welcomed by the DfE and Ofsted 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 in relation to custody and reoffending rates and the number of first-time entrants to the service. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Although improvements have been made, social care practice needs to continue its work to achieve greater consistency in delivering good quality plans and assessments and evidencing impact on the situation of the child ▪ Our populations of children looked after and subject to child protection plans remain comparatively high. Positive work continues to improve community based services that is impacting upon numbers without compromising safety ▪ 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"> ▪ A new Children’s Services management team working with the Department for Education Commissioner and consultants offers an opportunity to achieve 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 ▪ The commissioning project bringing together children’s centres, school nurses, health visitors and family support within an integrated service model for 0-19 year olds will become an essential element of an integrated Early Help offer ▪ Torbay Council, working with a number of south west local authorities, has entered into a regional adoption agency as the basis for future service provision ▪ Work is progressing 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 message 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 then named, Local Safeguarding Children's Board (now reconstituted as Torbay's Safeguarding Partnership 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 was 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. The report is 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. Reflecting the Council's Corporate Plan, the principles within this Children and Young People's Plan are:

- to use our resources where they will maximise the impact on the child or young person
- to 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
- to deploy an integrated and joined up approach towards commissioning and delivery for children and families
- to be an effective and trustworthy corporate parent to all the children or young people who are living 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 individual, 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.

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 four 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 Partnership Group is accountable to the Council's Executive via its Health and Wellbeing Board. It is charged with overseeing 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 terms of reference of the Partnership Group are to be revised and updated and will be included as an Appendix to this Strategy.

4 Action Plan

Priority 1: Children get the best start in life

Action	Responsibility	By when?	Impact Measure
Deliver the 0-19 Commissioning Strategy in conjunction with the wider Early Help offer and integrated holistic service for families	Assistant Director – Children’s Safeguarding/Head of Education, Learning and Skills	December 2020	<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 to prevent escalation and the need for care	Director of Children's Services	December 2020	<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 Restorative Practice model as a key driver for improved social care practice and outcomes for children	Principal Social Worker	December 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
Continue to develop our workforce, learning from best practice, to improve outcomes for children and young people	Director of Children's Services/Head of Learning Academy	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	Director of Children's 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 within a wider framework for people with multiple complex needs which also includes adult homelessness and drug and alcohol services. placing impact for the child at the heart of future service provision	Children's Services Lead Commissioner	December 2021	<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

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

Action	Responsibility	By when?	Impact Measures	Progress update
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	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%	SCAP completed annually, pupil projection figures conducted termly, school capacity board in place and meeting, new builds and place planning agreed through council capital programme

Action	Responsibility	By when?	Impact Measures	Progress update
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	<p>A comprehensive range of options is available locally to meet the needs of Torbay pupils with a Special Educational Need</p> <p>Outcomes for SEN pupils are at or above statistical or national indicators</p> <p>Higher Needs Block funding pressure has been addressed</p>	<p>Greater ranges of provision are now in place through enhanced resource bases connected to mainstream schools and academies. Special school free school being delivered in partnership with Devon for ASC.</p> <p>Sixth day provision enhanced and outreach services set up for</p> <p>No data for 2020, but outcomes improved in 2019 to above national rates</p> <p>Ongoing pressures with a separate task group, school forum plan and governance.</p>
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 	<p>School standards board in place, commissions established for individual schools where needed. Primary learning partnership established but ongoing engagement impacted by Covid.</p> <p>No data for 2020 but improved outcomes for some key stages in 2019.</p>

Action	Responsibility	By when?	Impact Measures	Progress update
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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivered with projects completed across a range of provision. Impact report published and provided to release new funding. Bidding windows continue to be offered and panel decision making in place.
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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TTSA and ASTA boards continue to drive CPD agenda. Torbay well placed to influence boards and all boards are now part of Teaching Schools South West. TSSW board includes our needs analysis and workforce plans emerge from this. Torbay has both an English Hub and an named specialist Maths Hub lead driving change. Aspirant leadership programmes are in place and delivered with the research school.
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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This will be picked up in Post 16 review being taken to the Local Education Board in October 2020

Action	Responsibility	By when?	Impact Measures	Progress update
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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VSGB continue to scrutinise the work of the school and achievement grades. Tracking of individual progress against targets in place. Strong outcomes noted for some children, predicted grades have been good for some children at KS4. Entry into university and higher courses stronger in 2020. VS conducted analysis against REES research and board aware of factors that impact on under attainment. This is part of the ongoing plan.

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.	Director of Children’s Services/Head of Regulated Service 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.
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

Action	Responsibility	By when?	Impact Measures
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 • Post 16 review of achievement and progress to commence in October 2020
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.

