

Clerk: Governance Support
Telephone: 01803 207013
E-mail address: governance.support@torbay.gov.uk
Date: Monday, 21 March 2022

Governance Support
Town Hall
Castle Circus
Torquay
TQ1 3DR

Dear Member

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD - MONDAY, 28 MARCH 2022

I am now able to enclose, for consideration at the Monday, 28 March 2022 meeting of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Board, the following reports that were unavailable when the agenda was printed.

Agenda No	Item	Page
8.	Exploitation Update	(Pages 82 - 88)

Yours sincerely

Governance Support
Clerk

Children and Young People's Scrutiny Board

Child Exploitation Update

29th march 2022

Katie Buckley

Child Exploitation Team Manager – Children's Services

Achievements - 6 months

- ▶ Multi Agency partnerships – high challenge and support
- ▶ Review of processes and policy for identifying, assessing and recording child exploitation
- ▶ Review of function, efficiency and membership of 3 exploitation forums completed in 2021
- ▶ Regular local exploitation profiles written, being shared and scrutinised in strategic forums
- ▶ Cross-border working
- ▶ Training has started – based on local and national learning
- ▶ Barnardo's and Checkpoint engaged via 0-19 Commissioning
- ▶ Contextual peer group and location mapping – improved assessment and understanding
- ▶ TSCP website reviewed

Challenges

- ▶ Combining Multi agency data to enhance local profile
- ▶ Embedding pace of change into partnership workforces
- ▶ Exploitation Toolkit performance (70% toolkits in date not achieved yet)
- ▶ Contextual Safeguarding Framework needed (referral, structure, resources)
- ▶ Implementing national learning at pace
- ▶ Staffing across partnership placing partnership Exploitation Leads under pressure
- ▶ Addressing domestic abuse, substance misuse and vulnerability of parents
- ▶ Embedded exploitative networks in Torbay needing to be tackled via organised planning and resources
- ▶ Educational attendance/engagement and poor mental health of children identified as being exploited

Hidden impact of COVID

- Impact on professional visibility in families who may be vulnerable to grooming/cuckooing
- Impact on face to face Return Home Interviews being offered (although now resolved)
- Recruitment/grooming didn't stop when some of our services were severely hindered – resulting in needing to 'catch up' as we got back to full business
- Online grooming and exploitation continued
- Impact on mental health (whole population)
- Impact of reduced school attendance - visibility of children and engagement in learning

Next steps - Children's Services

- Introduction and embedding of refreshed practice expectations and processes
- Toolkit performance – continue to tackle
- Learning from audits into Top 20 undertaken in December 2021
- Learning from RHI dip sampling undertaken in December 2021
- Criminal Exploitation prevention – support service or project??
- Consider recommendations relating to Liquid Logic records system improvements for missing and child exploitation

Next steps - Torbay Safeguarding Partnership

- ▶ Multi Agency Training beginning regarding local processes and local profile
- Incorporate good practice examples into strategic discussions
- Long term (3 year) strategic plan
- Transition to adulthood planning
- Contextual Safeguarding framework
- Consider improvements to children with SEND re: identification and response to child exploitation and missing episodes
- Review referrals into Checkpoint services for children with exploitation toolkits
- Continue work with YOT to compare data re: weapons and substance misuse
- Peninsula MACE forum development

Thank you for your time

- ▶ Any questions/comments??
- ▶ Please note that data/updates on local profile can be available on the day of this presentation.