

Meetings: Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board/Health and Wellbeing Board

Date: 29 September 2025/25 September 2025

Wards affected: All

Report Title: Torbay Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report 2024/25

When does the decision need to be implemented? Immediately

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1. Purpose of Report

1.1 This report has been prepared to provide members with the latest Torbay Safeguarding Children Partnership (TSCP) Annual Report 2024/25.

2. Reason for Proposal and its benefits

2.1 Within the 2024/25 reporting period the TSCP arrangements were aligned with Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023 (WT2023) and updated TSCP Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements were agreed and published.

2.2 The TSCP produces an annual report that has been aligned with recent guidance updates and provides information on the following:

- The current governance arrangements and structure of the partnership.
- Torbay area profile and context.
- Reviews and inspections.
- Progress against statutory guidance.
- Independent Scrutiny.
- Financial arrangements.
- Feedback from statutory partners.
- Learning and development.

- Future planning, next steps and conclusion.

3. Recommendation(s) / Proposed Decision

That members note and endorse the contents of the Torbay Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report 2024/25 as set out in Appendix 1 to the submitted report.

4. Appendices

Appendix 1: Torbay Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report 2024/25.

5. Background Documents

N/A

Supporting Information

6. Introduction

6.1 Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023 (WT2023) arrangements, in respect of statutory safeguarding partners relating to a local authority area in England, are defined under the Children Act 2004 (as amended by the Children and Social Work Act, 2017) as:

- (a) the local authority.
- (b) an integrated care board for an area any part of which falls within the local authority area.
- (c) the chief officer of police for an area any part of which falls within the local authority area.

The TSCP 2024/25 Annual Report has been written under the updated WT2023 arrangements, however the Department for Education will be issuing a national reporting template in October 2025, with future Annual Reports being envisaged to follow that format.

6.2 The attached annual report provides updates on the activity of the TSCP over a 12 month period from April 1st 2024 to March 31st 2025.

7. Options under consideration

None

8. Financial Opportunities and Implications

8.1 The final TSCP funding arrangements for 2024/25 were agreed between the safeguarding partners and are detailed in section 8 of the attached report.

8.2 It should be noted that the unequal division of partnership funding arrangements has remained an item for debate between the three statutory partners during the current and previous reporting periods, but an agreed solution remains to be found. There is no nationally agreed funding formula to refer to, with guidance stating that Lead Safeguarding Partners should agreed local funding arrangements on an equitable basis.

9. Legal Implications

None

10. Engagement and Consultation

None

11. Procurement Implications

None

12. Protecting our naturally inspiring Bay and tackling Climate Change

None

13. Associated Risks

None

14. Equality Impact Assessment

None

15. Cumulative Council Impact

None

16. Cumulative Community Impacts

None