

Interim Children and Young People’s Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board Work Programme 2026/2027 V3 – for publication

Approved **18 May 2026** - Updated 16/3/2026 by Teresa Buckley

Items to be scheduled:

Date	Meeting	Issue	Outcomes and Objectives
To be confirmed	Children and Young People’s Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board	Adopt South West Annual Report	To receive the Adopt South West Annual Report
To be confirmed	Children and Young People’s Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board	Locality Model	Locality Model: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What lessons have been learned from the Locality Model Pilot and how can this be used to improve performance and consistency across all schools in Torbay? • What is being done to improve access to speech and language therapy? What is the impact of this work and how is the data demonstrating this?
TBC	Children and Young People’s Overview and Scrutiny	Family Hub Sustainability	To review the long-term sustainability of the three Family Hubs in Torbay and the early help services they provide including the role of the Learning Academy, better start for life, early years and wraparound childcare following the end of Government Funding.

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	Sub-Board		
TBC	Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board	Update on Mockingbird Pilot	To review the success of the Mockingbird Pilot and next steps
TBC	Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board	RISE	To receive an update from the Department for Education on the details the governance and key performance indicators (KPI's) of the projects covered by RISE.
TBC	Spotlight Review	Young People's Voice	To undertake a spotlight review to hear the voice of young people. Detailed scope to be developed.

Timetable of Meetings

Date	Meeting	Issue	Outcomes and Objectives
18 May 2026	Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board	Regional Adoption Agency Joint Scrutiny Group Annual Report	To receive the Report of the Regional Adoption Agency Joint Scrutiny Group

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18 May 2026 (TBC)	Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board	Children's Continuous Improvement Board Update	To receive an update on the Children's Continuous Improvement Plan and Children's Reforms
18 May 2026	Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board	Young People's Drug and Alcohol Services	To review access to Young People's Drug and Alcohol Services Key lines of enquiry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How is access to Young People's Drug and Alcohol Services Promoted? • How is drug safety taken into account? • How has this impacted on young people's health and wellbeing?
18 May 2026	Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board	Early Years Sufficiency (six monthly)	To review the sufficiency of Early Years placements Key line of enquiry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What action is being taken by the Council to influence the market and ensure that there are sufficient early years places available to meet the demands across the whole of Torbay? • What is happening regarding preparedness for the new requirements coming into force in September? • Do we have over capacity of placements with the falling birth population?
18 May 2026 (TBC)	Children and Young People's	Youth Justice Service (six monthly)	To receive an update on the Youth Justice Service and consider the Youth Justice Service Annual Plan and make recommendations to the Cabinet.

Date	Meeting	Issue	Outcomes and Objectives
	Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board		<p>Key lines of enquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What work or activities are being undertaken to reduce anti-social behaviour? • What is the current situation with the premises? • What is the number of first time entrance to the service and what is being done to reduce this? • What diversionary work is planned for the Summer holidays? • What is the role of the Youth Service what they are delivering for young people? • What open access youth provision is currently available to young people, not just via the Youth Services but on a wider scale?
18 May 2026	Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board	Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board Work Programme 2026/2027	To approve the initial Work Programme for the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board for 2026/2027.
27 July 2026	Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board	Children's Services Self-Assessment	To review the draft Children's Services Self-Assessment which provides an annual position on performance of Children's Services.

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27 July 2026	Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board	Fuel Poverty Pilot	Results of Fuel Poverty Pilot be presented to a future meeting (requested 19 January 2026).
28 September 2026	Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board	Regional Fostering Hubs	To consider the impact of Regional Fostering Hubs.
28 September 2026	Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board	Torbay Local Area Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) (six monthly)	To receive update on Torbay Local Area Special Educational Needs (SEND) Joint Inspection Improvement Notice. Key lines of enquiry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To consider the action plan arising from the SEND Inspection Update carried out in March 2025. To consider the impact of the review of home to school transport and how children with SEND are being supported to travel to and from school. (Agreed at Overview and Scrutiny Board 13 August 2025)
28 September 2026	Children and Young People's	Exploitation and Children Missing (six monthly)	To receive an update on Exploitation and children missing

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	Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board		The report to include a case study to show the difference that has been made to children and their families and provides an update on the move of the Exploitation Team within the communities. (requested at meeting on 29.9.25)
28 September 2026	Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board	Exclusions and Absence (six monthly)	<p>To review exclusions and absence.</p> <p>Key lines of enquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To receive the latest qualified exclusion data and the views of those children who have been excluded. • To receive an update on the new Local Authority Attendance Duties and Home Education. • To receive an update on children on a part time timetable (including the numbers coming off a part time timetable) or on roll but not attending children, children educated other than at school (EOTAS) and children educated through Alternative Provision. • Breakdown by gender and age of primary school children Elected Home Educated (EHE); • Identification of children who have not started school in EHE; • Number of pupils on free school meals who are excluded or suspended; • Number of suspensions due to uniform issues; • Support available during exclusions/suspensions and whether children are actually at home; • Detailed information on Year 11 pupils and actions to reduce school changes; and • Whether EHE children are known to the Exploitation Team. • What support is given to early years providers, primary and secondary schools where English is a second language? How is the effectiveness of the support being monitored?

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28 September 2026	Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board	Torbay Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report	<p>To consider the Torbay Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report</p> <p>To include feedback on the June repeated safeguarding dip sampling from the Core Groups e.g. around long term neglect.</p>
23 November 2026 (TBC)	Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board	Youth Justice Service (six monthly)	<p>To receive an update on the Youth Justice Service and consider the Youth Justice Service Annual Plan and make recommendations to the Cabinet.</p> <p>Key lines of enquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What work or activities are being undertaken to reduce anti-social behaviour? • What is the current situation with the premises? • What is the number of first time entrance to the service and what is being done to reduce this? • What diversionary work is planned for the Summer holidays?
23 November 2026	Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board	Early Years Sufficiency (six monthly)	<p>To review the sufficiency of Early Years placements</p> <p>Key line of enquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What action is being taken by the Council to influence the market and ensure that there are sufficient early years places available to meet the demands across the whole of Torbay? • What is happening regarding preparedness for the new requirements coming into force in September?

Date	Meeting	Issue	Outcomes and Objectives
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do we have over capacity of placements with the falling birth population? (Requested at meeting 18 November 2024)
23 November 2026	Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board	Children's Emotional Wellbeing and Support with a Focus on SEND	To review the support for children's emotional wellbeing with a focus on Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), including the NHS Devon Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing Strategy and Plan. Key lines of enquiry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To review the outcomes framework for mental health in schools (Torbay Lead for Mental Health Team to be invited). • To consider access to mental health services for children and young people diagnosed with autism. • To consider how the community and voluntary sector is being supported to assist families when young people are on waiting lists for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) or who don't meet the threshold. • How has access to CAMHS improved? • When is it expected to take less than 18 weeks to receive an CAMHS assessment? • What action is being taken to reduce waiting lists to ensure young people get access to support sooner? • How has access to the Schools Mental Health Programme been improving outcomes for young people?

Date	Meeting	Issue	Outcomes and Objectives
			Invite member(s) from Schools Mental Health Team to future meeting when discussing CAHMS (requested 17 November 2025 meeting).
23 November 2026	Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board	Fostering Annual Report	To consider the Fostering Children Annual Report and make recommendations to the Cabinet.
18 January 2027	Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board	One Devon's Children's Strategic Approach and Action Plan	To receive an annual update on the implementation of the One Devon's Children's Strategic Approach and Action Plan (added Sub-Board 29 January 2026)
18 January 2027	Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board	One Devon's annual update on long term conditions for children and young people	<p>To receive an annual update from One Devon on long term conditions for children and young people (requested Sub-Board 29 January 2026).</p> <p>Key line of enquiry: What is the current position regarding neurodiversity support?</p>
18 January 2027	Children and Young People's	Ofsted Report	To receive the Ofsted Report

Date	Meeting	Issue	Outcomes and Objectives
	Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board		
15 March 2027	Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board	Torbay Local Area Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) (six monthly)	<p>To receive update on Torbay Local Area Special Educational Needs (SEND) Joint Inspection Improvement Notice.</p> <p>Key lines of enquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider the action plan arising from the SEND Inspection Update carried out in March 2025. • To consider the impact of the review of home to school transport and how children with SEND are being supported to travel to and from school. • What are the expectations on Torbay Council following the Government's changes to SEND? • To receive an update on the SEND Reform Plan? <p>(Agreed at Overview and Scrutiny Board 13 August 2025) (Note: Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Board to be invited to the meeting for this item – requested at monthly O&S meeting on 3.9.25)</p>
15 March 2027	Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board	Exclusions and Absence (six monthly)	<p>To review exclusions and absence.</p> <p>Key lines of enquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To receive the latest qualified exclusion data and the views of those children who have been excluded. • To receive an update on the new Local Authority Attendance Duties and Home Education.

Date	Meeting	Issue	Outcomes and Objectives
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To receive an update on children on a part time timetable (including the numbers coming off a part time timetable) or on roll but not attending children, children educated other than at school (EOTAS) and children educated through Alternative Provision. <p>Key lines of enquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • breakdown by gender and age of primary school children in EHE; • identification of children who have not started school in EHE; • number of pupils on free school meals who are excluded or suspended; • number of suspensions due to uniform issues; • support available during exclusions/suspensions and whether children are actually at home; • detailed information on Year 11 pupils and actions to reduce school changes; and • whether EHE children are known to the Exploitation Team.
15 March 2027	Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board	Exploitation and Children Missing (six monthly)	<p>To receive an update on Exploitation and children missing</p> <p>The report to include a case study to show the difference that has been made to children and their families and provides an update on the move of the Exploitation Team within the communities. (requested at meeting on 29.9.25)</p>

Annual reports to Cabinet to be circulated to Sub-Board as useful background documents:

- Local Authority Designated Officer Annual Report
- Independent Reviewing Officer Annual Report