**NETWORK MEETING HELD AT THE BEEHIVE - PAIGNTON ON 27TH SEPTEMBER 2018**

Our Network Meeting Minutes are now available electronically on the Torbay Website below: Please ensure the Minutes are accurate and any additional information you have requested to be circulated to the Network is up-to-date and current. All forms are available on this site.

<http://www.torbay.gov.uk/children-and-families/services-and-support/supporting-troubled-families/>

Additional resources that can be accessed to support your families are available from the Family Service Information for Torbay (FIS) is also available: [fis.torbay.gov.uk](http://www.fis.torbay.gov.uk).

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1. **Introduction & Terms of Reference Review**

Introductions of individuals and their role. All present were satisfied with regards to the Network Meeting and happy with the structure. The previous Minutes read and correct. Many thanks to Rachel and Action for Children for the use of their room for our meeting.

1. **Vikki McGeough – Supporting Troubled Families Co-ordinator**

Vikki introduced herself to everyone having returned from Maternity Leave.

* GCSX Email – Torbay Council Ending on March 2019

The Government is dropping GCSX, torbay.gov.uk is now encrypted when exchanged over the Internet. However, please be vigilant about documents going out, password protect if needed. MASH now send out confirmation when emails are received.

STF – Indicators/Criteria

* Attendance

A high percentage of non-attendance at 64%, of which 52% were from deprived wards of 15 in total. The figures are obtained through the EMS Stats Register of children with less than 90% attendance. Government Target is 90% and School Target is 95%. It was noted that 90% is equivalent to only 1 day off, so schools should count this over the previous year.

* Domestic Abuse & Historical Abuse – mention was made of the impact left on families when a

perpetrator had left the family home, this is now included for STF criteria if the professional feel the family are still suffering from the impact of DA even when the perpetrator has left the family home.

* Operation Encompass –schools invited to sign up

It is an Early Intervention partnership between school and police that supports children and young people exposed to DV and/or DA. It is a process used to inform schools when the police have attended an incident in the homes of their pupils since the previous school day. However, sometimes the calls to school are 2/3 days late. (Tina Cross -TDAS will raise this at the meeting in Exeter and will feedback).

* Recovery Plan

Vikki explained to everyone that the STF programme ends in 2020 and that it was important we meet Government targets within the next 6 months. We have 1,187 but need this up to 3,000 by 31st March 2019. We are looking at better ways of identifying families at Level 2. We now need to identify more families at Level 2 through the Nomination Process. Plan going forward is for Supporting Families to pilot up to 3 CCW’s to support the Nomination Process at Level 2.

* The Nomination Form (Amended to STF Information Form) see Attached:

STF Leaflets have been updated there is one for Organisations and the other for Families. See Attached:

1. There is no additional work at Level 2, the outcome is to sustain the family at that level and prevent them going into Level 3.

Levels 3/ 4 are Targeted Help and MASH. Be conscious where the family is when completing the form. The SF data Team have a wider picture of monitoring difficulties/support, if in doubt call the Targeted Help Consultation Line 208525.

* Forms & Information on our Website, please email [Victoria.McGeough@torbay.gov.uk](mailto:Victoria.McGeough@torbay.gov.uk) come forward with

ideas and/or suggestions to improve this and how it works with Partners/improvements etc.

All recommendations at the meeting will be looked at and processed where applicable.

1. **Guest Speaker – Richard Morris (Community Fire Safety Officer)**

Richard discussed Home Fire Safety Check and that they had additional funding available for this project. The Fire Service will visit homes to do a home fire safety check and fit smoke alarms etc. They are currently awaiting referrals from professionals. Information is available from Website: [www.dsfire.gov.uk](http://www.dsfire.gov.uk/) or contact Richard direct Contact: [rmorris@dsfire.gov.uk](mailto:rmorris@dsfire.gov.uk).

**Question** raised if Fire Service offer advice regarding Housing situations if substandard? No, Advice on Legislation and control can be offered but fire safety cannot be enforced on domestic dwellings unless in a dwelling that is deemed to be of multiple occupancy (Flats). The Fire Service cannot provide or help regarding rehousing however, the Service does have a Welfare Safeguard Team.

Important Information regarding Fire Safety Check Form

Process has changed. There is a Freephone number which is independent to Partnership’s on the form.

There is also a unique quote Reference Number (156), this recognises that you are a professional person when booking the service. **Important**: Consent must required from the family to carry out a visit. Richard requested that partners make the call whilst they are with the occupier as they will on most occasions be able to book an appointment at the same time. The Fire Safety Officer confirmed there is presently no Newsletter for Parents and that they do not carry out talks in schools with children. However, they can visit catchment areas (schools) where a family and/or persons are known for fascination of fires, fire incidents and can visit a school within that area. Richard would welcome ideas to bring things forward. Please email either Steve Leech or Richard.

1. **Guest Speaker – Gina Wilson – TDAS & Specialist Health Visitor Substance Misuse**

Available to families and anyone over 18 years. Younger persons are managed through Checkpoint. They have Open Access usually around a week or two and to interpreter’s if required. They supply safe storage box for those on methadone where children are involved within the family. They also have a maintenance flagging system at A & E in Torbay where methadone is prescribed. Home visits are available, Steve Humphries is the contact or apply online for Referral or self-referral. Question raised that it would be useful to put on the referral that this can be put in a different language format. (noted and will feedback to the Team). Website Link: [www.tsdft.uk/0-19](http://www.tsdft.uk/0-19) further information in attached folder.

1. **Guest Speaker – Angie Manning – “What’s Your Problem”**

Agency started 2015, it is a Community Interest Company through Social Enterprise.

1. Community to Access
2. Justice expert advice & Support
3. Legal Advice/Specialist Advice/Help in Court etc.
4. Parent Responsibility – safeguarding of children
5. Foundation / re access / etc. i.e. housing

Typical Cases: Employment, Housing, Consumer Rights, Welfare Rights, Court Proceedings, Family Court. Domestic Abuse and Court Orders (no fee). Child Arrangement Orders, help getting representation, Assessment Legal Aid, Consultation Barrister in hand for legal matters. The Agency cannot give Legal advice but can offer support).

They are based in Belgrave House, 2 Winner Street, Paignton. Website: [www.whatsyourproblemtorbay.co.uk](http://www.whatsyourproblemtorbay.co.uk/) or email [info@whatsyourproblemtorbay.co.uk](mailto:info@whatsyourproblemtorbay.co.uk) . A Flyer is available in attached folder.

Unfortunately some attendees were unable to find the venue in time and others found difficulty in parking. Therefore in response to the needs of the Network our **next Meeting will be at Parkfield Youth Centre on**

**24th January 9.30 a.m. to 12.00 p.m.**