

**Torbay Together Locality Network Meeting**  
**Brixham – Thursday 8th July 2021, 3pm – 5pm**

**Via Teams**

**Minutes**

**Attendance and Apologies**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Attended / Apologies</b>
Mark Gray (Chair)	Peopletoo	<b>Attended</b>
Lorrie Layne	Torbay Council	<b>Attended</b>
Jonathan Oliverio	Youth Genesis	<b>Attended</b>
Karen Collins	Adopt South West	<b>Attended</b>
Mark O'Connell	Apricot Centre Wellbeing Service	<b>Attended</b>
Nicky Simmons	SWFV	<b>Attended</b>
Felicity Thomas	TMRF	<b>Attended</b>
Tanny Stobart	Play Torbay	<b>Attended</b>
Emily Ingle	DWP	<b>Attended</b>
Jenny Lyons	DWP	<b>Attended</b>
Luke Bryson	DWP	<b>Attended</b>
Sharon Walker	St Cuthbert's Mayne School	<b>Apologies</b>
Christine Guy	Brixham YES	<b>Apologies</b>
Andrew Wade	Brixham YES	<b>Apologies</b>

**Welcome and introductions**

The group were welcomed to this first Locality Network meeting for Brixham with the “business as usual” agenda.

**1. Early Feedback about the Early Help Model in Practice – focussed discussion on how we can make the model work in practice**

Early feedback around the new Early Help process was sought. Group members attending this meeting had not had cause to use the new pathway as yet. However, it was agreed to detail the key points of discussion from the Torquay and Paignton meetings earlier in the week as these would still be relevant to Brixham network members. These included:

- The phrase “targeted help” has been phased out and only “early help” is being used to cover all levels of early help, from levels 1-3
- The Early Help Assessment is now effectively the “referral form” into MASH
- Engagement with Early Help is voluntary and therefore consent by the family is essential not just from a process point of view but from the point of view of their

meaningful engagement (i.e. if they haven't consented they won't engage anyway). It is fine to record the family's consent as having been gained verbally.

- "Referrals" are still to be made to the MASH for the time being. There is an aim to work towards developing the Community Helpline as the front door to early help, but this is in the early stages of development – further progress will be brought to these networks as we have it
- Partners should contact Lorrie Layne, Community Engagement Officer, for advise if they are unsure whether to complete an Early Help Assessment / referral, or for advice about any other connection that they could make that would support the family. It is not necessary to do this if they are sure that a multi agency response is required or if they know the single agency that they need to connect with.

**Action: It was agreed to circulate the Early Help Assessment Form and Early Help Plan template out with the minutes**

## 2. Feedback from Early Help Implementation Board

### Training

Partners were reminded of the offer of training for Restorative Practice which was circulated last week. We are keen to embed Restorative Practice as a key principle of Early Help and hence encourage partners to access either form of training, which are:

- A 3 day course delivered by L30 will enable learners to understand the key principles and values of restorative practice as a way of 'being' by providing interactive learning opportunities to acquire and practice the skills needed to understand and use restorative practice effectively in a variety of settings. It will also give you a better knowledge and understanding of the key theories, principles and values which underpin the restorative approach. It is aimed at front line practitioners who will be working directly with our children and families perhaps at an early help or statutory CIN/CP level. The dates for this are **15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> July 9.30am till 3.30pm via zoom.** Places can be booked via [Sophie.deSousa@torbay.gov.uk](mailto:Sophie.deSousa@torbay.gov.uk) with the names and email address of the two identified staff members you wish to attend training Please note that **full** attendance is required on all 3 training dates to be eligible to attend. Once we have an idea of numbers we will then be able to confirm via email how many spaces we can allocate your organisation.
- An online Restorative Practice basic awareness courses (4 hours) which can be booked via the I learn website <https://torbay.learningpool.com/course/view.php?id=893> which is aimed at those who would benefit from an awareness of the model and theory but don't necessarily need the in-depth Deep Dive 3 day course. Dates for this course can be found below:

Date	Time	Virtual Platform
2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2021	9:30am – 1:00pm	Zoom

13 <sup>th</sup> July 2021	9:30am – 1:00pm	Zoom
20 <sup>th</sup> July 2021	9:30am – 1:00pm	Zoom
23 <sup>rd</sup> September 2021	9:30am – 1:00pm	TBC
<b>Further dates available on the course page at the above link</b>		

### Community Helpline and IAG Portal

The group were informed that it was still very much the plan to work towards the Community Helpline as the “front door” to Early Help, and alongside this consider the Torbay Together IAG portal as the key source of Early Help information online. A business case needs to be developed for both of these to understand what is needed to resource these and what steps need to be taken to make them happen. Adult Social Care in the process of developing their front door within the Community Helpline and the Board have agreed that we should develop our business case but in terms of moving towards any type of implementation, that we should let the Adult’s element bed down first so as not to impact on the effectiveness of their implementation, and potentially compromise the implementation of the Children’s element.

### Key Points from Discussion

It was agreed that a central point for shared information would be useful for locality network members, where copies of documents from the Implementation Board but also from the Network meetings themselves could be held, as well as the most up to date Early Help documentation. It was agreed that we could explore this.

***Action: To explore a central point for information as discussed.***

### **3. Key Priorities in Brixham Locality**

The group had an initial discussion about the key emerging trends and priorities in Brixham. This is standard agenda item to ensure that any key messages are fed up to the Early Help Board so that ultimately we can start to evidence and address key gaps. It is also an opportunity for partners to be informed of any services that they may not have been aware of. Key points of discussion included housing being identified as a key issue, both housing stock and supporting people to maintain their housing / tenancy.

Mark Gray stated that there is a Housing Officer situated within the Early Help Service who can support families in maintaining appropriate housing and preventing eviction.

**Action: It was agreed to invite the Early Help to the September network meeting so that they can explain their role and the support that they can give.**

Lorrie Layne suggested that there could be the development of a “core offer”, based upon that locality’s priorities, that could form part of the development of the Hubs.

#### **4. Reducing Parental Conflict**

Emily Ingle and Jenny Lyons presented a session on Reducing Parental Conflict. Please see the attached slides that were presented.

The group was then informed of the Happy Families, Happy Families Service that they can refer into.

*Please note – the further information and documents relating to the Happy Families, Happy Futures service will be sent separately to the minutes so that they do not get “lost” amongst other meeting documents. It will also help group members save the documents and information more readily in one place.*

The group really valued this sessions and Emily and Jenny were thanked for their presentations. It was stated that these network meetings were very much about presenting things that got the group thinking but also promoted services that they can refer to.

#### **5. Training and Development**

In addition to the information regarding Restorative Practice training, the group was informed of the progress towards Early Help Assessment and TAF training. Key points:

- The Early Help Assessment and TAF training will be two separate 2 hour sessions, delivered once a month between September 2021 and February 2022. Participants will only need to book on once – the subsequent months will be the same training session but designed between September and February to give as many people as possible the opportunity to attend.
- Dates beyond February will be arranged for those who need a “top up” or for new starters
- An action from this meeting is for these dates to be agreed and then the group informed of these dates and how they may sign up for them on i-learn.

#### **6. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 15th September, 3pm – 5pm.

It was also stated that we could consider meeting in person if restrictions allow.

