**Torbay Safeguarding Children Board Minutes**

**Independent Chair: Mr I Ansell**

**Date: 9th March 2016**

**Venue: Madison Suite, Carlton Hotel, Torquay**

**Present:**

Heather Parker TSDNFT

Maria Kaspryzk DPT

Jacqui Jensen Torbay Council

Ian Ansell Independent Chair

Richard Kirkup Children’s Society

Matt Tookey St Margaret Clitheroe School

Richard Williams Torbay Council

Amanda Paterson Youth Offending Team

Alex Drennan National Probation Service

Keith Perkin Devon and Cornwall Police

Julien Parrott Torbay Council

Karen Grimshaw TSD CCG

Gail Rogers Torbay Council

James Tisshaw Torbay Council

Sue Matthews Public Health

Suzy Wright TSCB (Minutes)

**Apologies** – Anne Proctor, CRC; Tom McCulloch, Action for Children; Chrissie Slaney, Faith Sector; Jane Viner, TSCFT

1.1 Ian Ansell introduced himself as the new Independent Chair and welcomed members to the meeting. He then set out the agenda for the day, making specific reference to the recommendations of the recent Ofsted report and the need for the Board to make improvements.

**Agenda Item 2 - Presentation on Children’s Services Improvement Plan**

2.1 Richard Williams and Jacqui Jensen introduced the Children’s Services Improvement Plan following the recent Ofsted inspection and talked through the Ofsted improvement process and the DfE Improvement process.

2.2 Torbay will be working with Hampshire County Council going forward as part of the improvement process.

2.3 There was discussion about the need to ensure that work relating todomestic abuse, neglect, mental healthand sexual abuse is joined up across all Torbay strategic meetings and partners, in order to prevent duplication and overlaps.

**Agenda Item 3 - Presentation on Supporting Families and Early Help**

3.1 James Tisshaw and Gail Rogers gave a presentation on Supporting Families and Early Help.

3.2 There was discussion about the need to embed best practice across the partnership and interest in the new scoring approach being adopted for those individuals receiving support through Supporting Families, including children

3.3 Members asked for an update to be brought back to the next meeting on progress around Supporting Families and the new Early Help project in Brixham.

**Agenda Item 4 - Presentation from the Children’s Society**

4.1 Jim Davies from the Children’s Society presented on ‘The Good Childhood Report’.

4.2 There was discussion about using the report to tackle some of the issues of threats to young people (especially females) in Torbay. Board members discussed the need to look at the way young people and adults interact especially in the evening /on the night-time scene.

4.3 It was felt that the Children’s Society Report should be fed into CSE group work and act as an indication of what it is like for children and young people in Torbay. Members were keen for another survey to be conducted in 2016.

**Agenda Item 5 - Minutes of Previous Meeting and actions arising**

5.1 The minutes of the last meeting were agreed.

**Agenda Item 6 - TSCB Improvement Plan**

6.1 The draft Improvement Plan was discussed and a number of amendments requested. (see separate document). The Chair agreed to produce and circulate a revised version for members to approve.

**ACTION:** The Chair to revise and circulate the Improvement Plan by 25 March.

**Agenda Item 7 - TSCB Business Plan 2016/17**

7.1 The Chair led a discussion on the process to draft the TSCB Business Plan for 2016/17. Members reviewed the five action areas within the Plan for 2015/16 and considered whether any of these needed to be continued.

7.2 Board members were asked for written feedback to be provided to the TSCB by the 25th March. Feedback is required from all members on the following:

1. Any additional areas to be included in the 2016/17 Business Plan, over those already included within the Improvement Plan
2. How to ensure the voice of the young person is heard
3. Any comments on how TSCB operates, including the meeting structure (the relationship between the Board and Executive and the Sub Group arrangements), process and membership

**ACTION:** All members to provide feedback on the above three areas.

7.3 A question had been raised with the Chair before the meeting about Quality Assurance processes followed on behalf of the TSCB. Members discussed the importance of having a meaningful process that added value to our understanding of the quality of the services being delivered by partners. Consideration was given to the volume and frequency of audits, the demands on agencies and the need to ensure agencies are co-operating constructively. It was agreed that best practice in other areas will be examined and practitioners involved where appropriate.

**ACTION**: The Chair to make arrangements for QA process elsewhere to be reviewed.

7.4 Options for priorities within the new business plan going forward were discussed. Ideas for priorities included:

* Early Help
* CSE and Child sexual abuse
* Neglect
* Domestic Abuse

Emotional well-being (more of a mental health context – to include self-harm)

7.5 The target for the first draft of this year’s business plan is the end of April once the new Practice Manager is in post.

**Chairs Signature**

As Independent Chair of the Torbay Safeguarding Children Board, I agree that these minutes are an accurate representation of the discussion and decisions that took place at this meeting.

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| Signature | Date: 11th March 2016 |
| **Mr Ian Ansell** |

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| **Agenda Item** | **Minutes No** | **Action** | **Action Owner** | **Deadline** |
| 6 | 6.1 | The Chair to revise and circulate the Improvement Plan by 25 March. | Ian Ansell | 25th March 2016 |
| 7 | 7.2 | Board members were asked for written feedback to be provided to the TSCB by the 25th March on the three areas identified. | All Members | 25th March 2016 |
| 7 | 7.4 | The Chair to make arrangements for QA process in other areas to be reviewed.  | Ian Ansell |  |