**Torbay Safeguarding Children Board**

**Minutes**

**Chairperson: Ian Ansell**

**Date: 14th June 2018**

**Venue: Rooms 11 & 12, Paignton Library & Information Centre**

**Attendees:**

Ian Ansell (IA) Independent Chair, TSCB

Nick Hollins (NH) TSCB Business Manager / Business Manager Children’s

Services, Torbay Council

Alison Hitchings (AH) Careers Southwest

Andy Dempsey (AD) Director of Children’s Services, Torbay Council

Cllr. Julian Parrott (JP) Executive Lead, Children and Adult Services, Torbay Council

Anne Proctor (AP) Assistant Chief Officer, Devon Dorset and Cornwall Community

Rehabilitation Company & representing National Probation Service

Susannah Ford (SF) Public Health Lead, Torbay Council

Dani De Beaumont (DDB) Children’s Services Manager, Torbay Children’s Centres, Action for

Children

Sue Baldwin (SB) Head of Safeguarding, NEW Devon CCG

Nicky Bond (NB) Head Teacher, St Marychurch CofE Primary School

Jane Viner (JV) Director of Professional Practice, Nursing and Peoples Experience,

Torbay & South Devon NHS Foundation Trust

Cllr. Cindy Stocks (CS) Torbay Council

Liz Lawrence (LL) Safeguarding Lead, South Devon College

Rachael Williams (RW) Assistant Director, Education, Learning and Skills, Torbay Council

Cath Plewes (CP) TSCB Coordinator

**Apologies:**

Sheon Sturland A/Det. Supt, Devon & Cornwall Police

Sarah Tompinkson Headteacher, White Rock Primary School

Pete Brown Headteacher, St Cuthbert Mayne Primary School

Laraine Dibble Designated Doctor, South Devon & Torbay CCG

Richard Kirkup Manager, Checkpoint, The Children’s Society

David Moffitt represented by AP Assistant Chief Officer, Head of Devon & Torbay Local Delivery

Unit, National Probation Service

Caroline Dimond represented by SF Director of Public Health, Torbay Council

Anne Osborne Assistant Director, Torbay Children’s Services

Chrissie Slaney Lay Member

Steve Parrock Chief Executive, Torbay Council

Lynne Gooding Criminal justice, Partnership and Commissioning officer, OPCC

Claire Davies Principle Social Worker

Amanda Paterson Head of Service YOT, Torbay Council

Cathy Hooper Designated Nurse, South Devon & Torbay CCG

**Non-attendees:**

Penny Rogers Managing Partner, Safeguarding, Devon Partnership Trust

Chris Rogers South West Ambulance NHS Trust

Mandy Davies Devon & Somerset Fire and Rescue Service

Matt Caunter Head Teacher, Brunel Academy, Paignton

Pauline Newell CAFCASS

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| **Agenda Item 1 – Minutes and Actions of the previous TSCB Meeting** |

* 1. IA noted that the meeting would be AD’s last as he would be leaving Torbay following the Ofsted Inspection. IA formally thanked AD for all of his hard work not only for Children’s Services but the in promoting children’s welfare across Torbay.
  2. Minutes were agreed as an accurate record.
  3. **2017-09-14 5.21** AD advised that a meeting was taking place that afternoon between Police, The Children’s Society and Ofsted. A rich sets of performance data set had been provided for that meeting. AD advised that Ofsted are keen to hear about the multi-agency disruption strategies around CSE in Torbay as well as protection for any children involved.
  4. IA noted that as a Peninsula, there is consideration of widening MACSE forums to look at all forms of exploitation.
  5. **2017-12.14 4.2** NH updated that once the Business Plan for 2017/18 is formally closed by the Delivery Group on 2nd July, a report would be circulated to the Board following this. ACTION for NH.
  6. **2017-12-14 5.19** IA spoken to SS regarding this and he was reluctant for a letter to go out, as the Police had been undertaking some work with residential homes. IA agreed to follow this up with SS. AD reported that Devon, Plymouth and Torbay, through the Joint Youth Offending Management Board have agreed a joint protocol for providers to avoid criminalisation of Children Looked-After, AD questioned the timescales for rolling that protocol out and asked IA to ask SS when he speaks with him.
  7. **2018-03-08 5.5** AD apologised for not circulating the audits as requested. NH agreed to obtain these and to circulate after meeting. ACTION
  8. **2018-03-08 7.6** SB completed action.
  9. **2018-03-08 9.4** SB completed action.

1.10 **2018-03-08 11.2** LD completed action.

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| **Action:** | **By whom:** | **Deadline** |
| 1.5 **2017-12.14 4.2** Report on the closure of the 2017-18 Business Plan to be circulated to the Board | NH | End July 2018 |
| 1.7 **2018-03-08 5.5** Children’s Services CP Audits to be circulated to partners | NH | End June 2018 |

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| **Agenda Item 2 – Child Protection – Information Sharing project (CP-IS) update** |

2.1 AD provided an update report, as circulated with the agenda. It is expected that the PARIS issue is likely to be fixed in August 2018, to allow for the project to move forward in Torbay.

2.2 SB reported that Devon, Plymouth & Cornwall are all live and discussions have been happening regarding the risks for Torbay not being live. Nationally roll out of the CP-IS is much lower than expected to date. Devon & Plymouth staff have been told to check the system, but not to rely on this if the individual has a Torbay address.

2.3 AD confirmed that Torbay Council is committed to ensure that the CP-IS is implemented. Children’s Services are planning a move away from PARIS.

2.4 Update at the next meeting. ACTION

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| **Action:** | **By whom:** | **Deadline** |
| 2.4 A further update on the progress of the CP-IS in Torbay for the next meeting | Alison Botham / Laraine Dibble | September 2018 |

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| **Agenda Item 3 – Children’s Improvement Board Update** |

3.1 The latest Children’s Improvement Board took place on Tuesday 12th June 2018. Discussion took place around the future of the CIB following the completion of the Ofsted inspection. It is expected that the CIB work will be divided between the TSCB and the Children’s Strategic Group, in addition joint opportunities with Plymouth may become apparent once the Local Area Arrangements start to be implemented in March 2019.

3.2 John Coughlin was clear that there will be at least one more meeting 30th July 2018, and following that an exit strategy will be devised.

3.3 JP stated that the CIB had come a long way in 18 months, and didn’t want to see the impetus being lost as there is a need to continue the progress on the improvement journey.

3.4 AD noted that the future of the CIB will be dependent upon the outcome of the Ofsted inspection.

3.5 AD commented that it was important that partners remained committed to the TSCB, and it is incumbent upon IA to ensure that partners continue to prioritise their attendance at these meetings.

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| **Agenda Item 4 – TSCB Board Priorities & Business Plan 2018/19** |

4.1 The TSCB Business Plan was considered by those present.

4.2 IA advised that the separation of abuse and exploitation into separate priorities was to ensure there was a focus on child abuse, as this appeared to be becoming lost in the wider exploitation remit.

4.4 JP stated that there had been two cases of FGM in the bay, but he was unable to identify the ages of the victims to know whether they were children or adults. JP advised that a means for girls / women to come forward and disclose is needed and he has spoken to Jason Preece about this matter. JP questioned where FGM would fit in with the four priorities of the Board. It was agreed that the issue sits with the MET Subgroup. The MET Subgroup Chair Si Costin will speak with JP around this matter. ACTION

4.5 JV reported that the Torbay & South Devon NHS Foundation Trust have a mandated training plan around identification of FGM, preparing staff and providing for the escalation of cases of FGM. Individually most organisations will be training on FGM, however the question is whether this is being brought together in a cohesive narrative across the partnership in Torbay.

4.6 AD noted that Torbay needed to join in a wider area forum to deal with low frequency / high complexity issues. IA noted that the Peninsula CSE Steering Group has been running successfully for a number of years. Now with the intention to move MACSE to become a wider MACE forum, it may be beneficial to move the Peninsula CSE Steering Group to become a wider Exploitation Steering Group.

4.7 NH noted that whilst Priority 2 covers Early Help, the intention is to move the Governance of Early & Targeted Help to the new Children’s Strategic Commissioning Group. RW confirmed that the proposal to move governance was because the TSCB does not have a commissioning function. The TSCB will continue to receive reports in respect of Early and Targeted Help to ensure it has oversight of how well it is functioning.

4.8 For Priority 3, partners need to have an understanding and awareness of both Exploitation and County Lines in order to understand what is being done about them and how effective the work is.

4.9 JV advised that there was a good presentation at the TSAB regarding County Lines. It was agreed that a County Lines presentation to the next Board meeting would be helpful. ACTION for CP to get the TSAB presentation and ask for similar, but child focussed for the September 2018 Board meeting.

4.10 AD noted that Claire Davies, Principle Social Worker and Neil Holden, Head of Service have been tasked to undertake a review of Signs of Safety. Once completed a report will be brought back to the Board for consideration before any decision is made regarding its use.

4.11 In addition to the priorities within the Business Plan, background work is in progress in relation to the joint working between Torbay and Plymouth Children’s Services.

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| **Action:** | **By whom:** | **Deadline** |
| 4.4 Si Costin to contact JP regarding what work the MET Subgroup are currently doing in respect of FGM | Si Costin | End July 2018 |

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| **Agenda Item 5 – Serious Case Reviews – Capacity of TSCB Business Unit** |

5.1 NH provided an update regarding the serious case reviews.

5.2 NH submitted a paper for discussion.

5.3 JV confirmed that she would look within her organisation to try and identify someone who could be seconded to support the TSCB Business Unit. If this is not possible, she is happy to financially support a fixed term post.

5.4 AD stated that he agreed that the Local Authority would also try to identify some resource in kind. AD asked whether it was possible to reduce the number of subgroups that are attached to the Board to free up coordinator time.

5.5 JV noted that there are currently 4 or 5 Adult Serious Case reviews ongoing and this is created a lot of stress in the system for partners.

5.6 IA confirmed that the TSCB are considering a join up of Online Safety with MET. There will also be some exploration of whether the Training Subgroup could be joined up with Plymouth, going forward.

5.7 RW noted that merging some of the subgroups may allow for a greater participation from partner agencies.

5.9 RW stated that as a chair of a subgroup, she want members to understand that the work is done back in organisations not in the subgroup meeting itself. NH concurred and advised that the TSCB are in the process of developing job descriptions for Board and Subgroup members to help them to understand their role.

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| **Agenda Item 6 – TSCB Performance Report** |

6.1 JP stated that the report was useful and had raised a number of issues. JP felt that it would be useful to understand the data in terms of the number of children effected.

6.2 AD stated that there would were some parts of the report that required more accuracy, particularly in respect of domestic abuse reporting and use of the term ‘domestic violence’

6.3 It was noted that Operation Encompass numbers were lower than expected, and an update on how well Operation Encompass was working would be provided to the next meeting in September 2018. ACTION – police.

6.4 JV noted the disproportionate numbers of looked after children in Torbay. AD advised that the looked after population in Torbay had remained relatively static until October / November 2017. Since then there has been a net growth of 40+. At the last monitoring visit, Ofsted concluded that of all those children brought in to care, all were appropriate. Most were babies with injuries, and larger sibling groups.

6.5 AD added that edge of care support was beginning to improve in Torbay, with the introduction of the 0-19 strategy and voluntary organisations such as Play Torbay working with families around those difficulties.

6.6 AD stated he had been attempting to raise a concern with the Health & Wellbeing Board about parents whose ability to parent was improved due to mental health and drugs and alcohol issues. AD advised that he had been requesting an agenda item for two years, and it has again been deferred from the September 2018 agenda. IA stated that he would support AD in getting this discussed at the Health & Wellbeing Board.

6.7 RW added that increases in Health and Social Care Plans is another issue that she would like seen discussed at the Health and Wellbeing Board.

6.8 JV commented on the numbers of hospital admissions for drug treatment. AD suggested that links with the Young Persons Drug and Alcohol Team had seen a reduction in presentations at A&E. AD added that Torbay does have a substance abuse problem in its young people population.

6.9 In respect of the Performance Report paragraph 3.2 AD stated that he would like to understand the reasons that bail was refused, the quality of decision making, nature of request to the Local Authority and whether the Local Authority responded accordingly. AD asked for the breakdown to be provided by end June 2018. ACTION

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| **Action:** | **By whom:** | **Deadline** |
| 6.3 Update report on Operation Encompass to be provided to the next meeting | Sheon Sturland | September 2018 |
| 6.9 Police colleagues to provide a breakdown of the numbers of incidents where children and young people have stayed overnight in the Torbay Custody suite, to include the reason that bail was refused, the quality of decision making, the nature of the request to the Local Authority and whether the Local Authority responded accordingly. | Phil Rigg | End June 2018 |

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| **Agenda Item 7 – TSCB Training report** |

7.1 NH presented a report in respect of Training as circulated with the agenda.

7.2 JV questioned whether the DCFP had approved DPTs single agency approach. NH stated that he did not have that information to hand, but that DPT had made the decision to train their own workforce, as they had a considerable number of professionals who required the training.

7.3 SB stated that a training needs analysis had taken place and DPT had identified a number of staff who attend multi-agency Level 3 training, the rest of the workforce undertake single agency training. SB noted that this also happens in the acute trust in Devon, following a training needs analysis. SB noted that the single agency training is monitored and quality assured by the CCG.

7.4 IA advised that Devon & Plymouth asked for a contribution up front to provide training, whereas Torbay operate a ‘pay as you go’ system.

7.5 RW & NB noted that Torbay Level 3 Safeguarding Training does not provide information about bespoke Torbay practices, like Signs of Safety and referring into the MASH etc.

7.6 Following a discussion, members of the meeting felt that it would be beneficial to look at joining up of training with Devon.

7.7 Given the small attendance at the meeting, NH agreed to write out to partners to ask for views from those not present. ACTION

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| **Action:** | **By whom:** | **Deadline** |
| 7.7 NH to write out to partners to ask their views regarding whether or not the TSCB should continue to offer Level 3 multi-agency training as at present, or whether consideration of a collaboration with Devon would be preferable | NH | End July 2018 |

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| **Agenda Item 8 – Early Help update** |

8.1 RW presented the report as circulated with the agenda, on behalf of AO.

8.2 RW advised that impact was hard to measure, and this would be the next challenge. Support at Level 2 is being delivered to families across the partnership, including within Voluntary and Community Sector organisations, and data around this is not currently captured in one place.

8.3 There are still gaps in services for Level 2 families and a move to sit under the Strategic Commissioning Group would start to help to address these.

8.4 JP questioned how Level 2 and Level 3 and Neglect Strategy are linked, where the children cross over.

8.5 AD noted that schools, particularly primary schools, were feeling very exposed. John Coughlin had mentioned that there may be a ministerial visit to Torbay, and these issues needed to be raised in that forum. At present families have nowhere to take their issues other than to the school.

8.6 IA advised that a clear plan and Governance Framework needed to be devised for Early & Targeted Help to transition to the Children’s Commissioning Group, this needs to be done in a managed way to ensure that each group knows which parts of Early & Targeted Help they are responsible for overseeing.

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| **Agenda Item 10 – AOB** |

10.1 None

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| **Action:** | **By whom:** | **Deadline** |
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| **Chairs Signature** |

As Chair of this Torbay Safeguarding Children Board Subgroup, 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: 2nd July 2018 |
| **Ian Ansell** |

**Torbay Safeguarding Children Board Subgroup Actions**

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| **Agenda Item** | **Minutes No** | **Action** | **Action Owner** | **Deadline** |
| 1 | 2017-12-14 4.2 | NH to update the Business Plan adding in some narrative for the next meeting.  Report on the closure of the 2017-18 Business Plan to be circulated to the Board | NH | End July 2018 |
| 1 | 2017-12-14 5.19 | IA to liaise with Police and Social Care colleagues to consider whether he still needs to write to residential providers in Torbay in relation to Missing Children reports. | IA | September 2018 |
| 1 | 2018-03-08 5.5 | AD to send Children’s services CP Audit reports to NH for circulation to the Board.  Children’s Services CP Audits to be circulated to partners. | NH | End June 2018 |
| 2 | 2018-06-14 2.4 | A further update on the progress of the CP-IS in Torbay for the next meeting | Alison Botham / Laraine Dibble | September 2018 |
| 4 | 2018-06-14 4.4 | Si Costin to contact JP regarding what work the MET Subgroup are currently doing in respect of FGM | Si Costin | End July 2018 |
| 6 | 2018-06-14 6.3 | Update report on Operation Encompass to be provided to the next meeting | Sheon Sturland | September 2018 |
| 6 | 2018-06-14 6.9 | Police colleagues to provide a breakdown of the numbers of incidents where children and young people have stayed overnight in the Torbay Custody suite, to include the reason that bail was refused, the quality of decision making, the nature of the request to the Local Authority and whether the Local Authority responded accordingly. | Phil Rigg | End June 2018 |